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Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, MAY 25.

MR. DUNCOMBE'S MOTION.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE had a great number of petitions to present in favour of the motion of which he had given notice, and he thought he should best consult the convenience of the House by, at this stage of the proceedings, merely stating the numbers by which they were signed, the places whence they came, and their general prayer. The largest petition he had the honour to offer to the House was signed by rather more than 1,300,000 of the industrious classes—(hear, hear);—and the other petitions, signed by 48,848, proceeded from Manchester, Newport, Chorley, Stockton, Congleton, Cardiff, Northallerton, Bolton, Montrose, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Daventry, Dublin, Chester-le-street, Blackwood, Newbury, Chester, Derby, Stroud, Bristol, and Northampton; and their prayer was first, that an humble address be presented to her Majesty praying that she would be graciously pleased to give immediate directions for the liberation of all prisoners now confined in the several gaols in Great Britain for political offences; secondly, that a free pardon be granted to Frost, Williams, and Jones, who were now suffering expatriation in a penal settlement; and thirdly, having done all this, they prayed that the House would adopt the People's Charter without any alteration.

After some small talk and some sneering, by a big whiskered buffoon, who affected to be anxious for the prayer of the National Petition to be read, though Mr. Duncombe had assured him and the House that it was just the same as one which had been read,

Mr. DUNCOMBE said, the Hon. and Gallant Gentleman had disavowed any intention of treating the petition with levity, and he was bound to believe him. But he must say that he had never seen a finer imitation of levity, or anything which looked more like turning the petitions of the people into a jest. Whatever might be the fate of the petition which he now had the honour of commenting upon, whatever decision the House might come to, it would ill become him, having presented a petition signed by between 1,300,000 and 1,400,000 of the industrious inhabitants of this country, and it would ill become that House to receive such a petition, leaving all the allegations it contained undiscussed, and its prayer totally unheeded, by those who called themselves the representatives of the people. He, therefore, earnestly solicited the attention of the House to the contents of that petition. He was well aware of the difficulties of the course he had proposed to take, and that he might be told he was trenching on the prerogatives of the Crown. But he had authority for stating that there were times when it became the duty of the representatives of the people to advise the Crown on the exercise of its prerogative. There was a difficulty in finding a precedent exactly in point; but to show that there were cases in which the House might interfere and advise the Crown to exercise its prerogative, he would refer to the case of Sir Manasseh Lopez, who was convicted of gross bribery and corruption by that House, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. In 1820 the Noble Lord the Secretary for the Colonies moved for an address to the Crown, praying for a remission of the sentence. The motion was objected to by the Tories of that day, as an interference with the prerogatives of the Crown; and the Noble Lord argued this and said, that as the prosecution had been instituted by the House of Commons, and Sir M. Lopez had been guilty of a breach of the privileges of the House, therefore the House was the proper party to interfere. But how was the Noble Lord met? He was answered by Mr. Wynn, who was always considered an authority in that House, and he regretted that the Hon. Gentleman was not in his place on the present occasion. Mr. Wynn said, "he felt that it was extremely unpleasant to oppose a motion of this description, and to endeavour to thwart the disposition of lenity which the House might feel towards any particular offender. Every gentleman must wish to show mercy and forbearance, as far as justice would permit, but the case in point was not one in which, consistently with their duty, with the forms of Parliament, and with propriety, they could interfere. Cases might exist in which the House might in justice be called on to advise the Crown to interpose its prerogative of mercy, in the same way as they might offer advice with respect to any other prerogative; for the House had a right to advise the Crown on matters connected with all its prerogatives."—(Hear, hear.) That was the opinion given by Mr. Wynn, and it was supported by Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning. The Noble Lord withdrew his motion. But it appeared that the individual in question was liberated before the expiration of the term of his imprisonment upon the payment of a heavy fine, although he had been guilty of that gross offence, that grossest of offences—bribery. There was, then, some warrant for the motion he was about to submit to the House; and he conceived that the House was called upon to interfere. because the Government could not of its own impulse liberate these prisoners more than they could Sir M. Lopez. His motion, he would observe, was confined to home prisoners, persons confined in the gaols of England, Scotland, and Wales. But the petitioners went further than that, and prayed for the liberation of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and that the House would adopt the principles of the Charter. He told the individuals who wished him to present the petition, that if they mixed up the case of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and the Charter, they would greatly prejudice the cause which he believed they had so much at heart. Last year, when the Hon. Member for Westminster brought forward his motion for the release of Frost, Williams, and Jones, it was negatived by a large majority, only five members, he believed, voting in favour of it. Consequently, he had told the petitioners that it would be of no use to propose any motion of that kind; and in reference to the principles of the Charter, he had made the mildest propositions with regard to the extension of the franchise, which were also rejected by large majorities. (Hear, hear.) He wished there had been such majorities against those measures which had tended to disfranchise electors. He trusted, then, that the petition would be discussed in reference to the home prisoners alone. Many of these persons had suffered more than twelve months' incarceration, and had been subjected to the severest rigours and the most degrading treatment; even felons were not visited with such cruelties and indignities as they were compelled to endure. The petitioners alluded to the cases of various persons, contrasting them with the cases of the imprisoned Chartists. They spoke of a peer of the realm having been lately and justly acquitted, as they said, by a jury of peers, upon a charge of felony, because it was so loosely brought as to be incapable of justifying a verdict against him. They contrasted the sentence passed upon some of the Chartists with the sentence passed upon Lord Waldegrave and Captain Duff. (Hear.) It had come to the knowledge of some of the relatives of Captain Duff that his name had been mentioned in the petition, and within the last hour he (Mr. Duncombe) had received a memorandum from some relatives of that gentleman, stating that though Mr. W. Duff had been sentenced in the Court of Queen's Bench to six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of £25 for the alleged offence of being a party to a brutal assault upon a policeman at Twickenham, he was entirely innocent of the grave part of the offence, but that this could not be made manifest at the trial from his unwillingness to expose other parties to punishment. The memorandum went on to state that though Captain Duff was present at the first period of the affair, he was not at the second disturbance, nor at the third occurrence; that the whole of the proceedings were at present undergoing a thorough investigation, and that it would be fully proved that two gentlemen who had escaped were the parties who had been guilty of the assault. He hoped, then, that no advantage would be taken of the allegation in the petition relating to this gentleman. He believed, however, that considerable excitement prevailed in the public mind upon this subject; and how could it be otherwise? From the 1st of January, 1839, there were 444 individuals convicted of political offences. Of these twelve had been transported, 398 had been released, one had died soon after his confinement, and thirty-three were remaining in prison. What had tended chiefly to excite public sympathy were the accounts which the 398 men who had been released had given to their friends of the indignities and cruelties to which they were subjected during their confinement. It was, therefore, most natural that the friends of those still in prison should make an effort, and a great and determined effort, to save them from the same cruel treatment to which those other persons had been subjected. (Hear, hear.) Many of those who had been relieved had been relieved chiefly on the ground of extreme ill health. One of them named Hoey had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Wakefield house of correction, but he remained there but one year. He stated that he was liberated in consequence of an ulcer in his leg, which was brought on by cruelty and bad diet, and he had become a confirmed invalid for the remainder of his life, though he never had had a day's illness before he went into gaol. While there the inmates were made to rise at half-past five o'clock in the morning and go into an open yard, where one bucket of water was made to serve for the washing of fifty individuals, and the towels were never fit for use after the third or fourth person had washed. The allowance was one pint of gruel and half a pound of bread for breakfast, dinner, and supper; on Sundays five ounces of meat were allowed. The most cruel restraint was imposed upon the prisoners, so that that they could not attend to the most imperative wants without permission of the keeper, and for the slightest deviation from that rule the miserable supper would be stopped, and solitary confinement added for a repetition of the offence. William Henry Smith, who was confined in Preston House of Correction, gave an account of immense quantities of medicine he had taken, and numerous blisters and plaisters that had been ordered for him in gaol; he was at length released on bail to the amount of £700. Now, in requiring such exorbitant bail from such persons, it would seem that their condition in life was entirely forgotten. (Hear.) Why, higher bail could scarcely be asked of Sir F. Burdett, or some of those other gentlemen who had been confined in former times for political offences, than had been demanded of these working men. (Hear.) Another case was that of an individual named Love, who was now confined in the Penitentiary, and whose chief ground of complaint was that he had been misled by a solicitor to plead guilty to the charge of high treason. A petition had been presented in favour of this individual, signed by one hundred and fifty clergymen, bankers, merchants, and others of the town of Newport. This man was sentenced, along with five others, to transportation for life, which was commuted to imprisonment for five years in the Penitentiary. He had still three years and seven months of his time to go through, and had always borne an excellent character for sobriety and honesty, until he had been seduced in an evil hour by the Chartist leaders to join in the attack on the Westgate Inn at Newport, where he was severely wounded. The name of the solicitor was Geach, who had since been transported for forgery. He had advised his client to plead guilty, telling him that he would get off with seven months' imprisonment, but the unfortunate prisoner had been sentenced for five years. He asked the House if it was right that persons imprisoned for merely political offences should be treated in a manner worse than felons? When horse-stealers, forgers, and utterers of base coin were condemned to imprisonment, it was limited to a term of one year, but political offenders were kept in prison for from twelve months to three years. Felons when released were not asked to enter into any surety to keep the peace, but the persons for whose case he entreated the consideration of the House were bound in heavy recognizances after they had fulfilled the term of their confinement. (Hear, hear.) He wanted to know if anything could be gained by keeping those individuals any longer in prison. The severity of punishment ought to be regulated by the test of public opinion, and he would maintain that that was opposed to the further imprisonment of these persons. He thought they had suffered punishment enough, and he was sure the House was too enlightened to expect that persecution could put down public opinion. It was the neglect of the House to the complaints of the people that had produced Chartism. He begged the House to recollect that this would probably be the last occasion on which they would receive a petition signed by so many thousands of their countrymen. He had discharged his duty by stating the prayer of the petitioners; he should leave the case in the hands of the House, trusting that the opinions that would be expressed, and that the vote that would be come to, would cause general joy and satisfaction to those countless thousands throughout the country, who were waiting with breathless hope and anxiety the results of their deliberations. He begged to move that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to take into her merciful consideration the case of all persons confined for political offences in England and Wales.

Mr. LEADER seconded the motion.

Mr. F. MAULE agreed with his Hon. Friend who had just addressed the House, that the motion related to a subject of deep interest. He wished, in the first place, to advert to a sentence in the prayer of the petition which had just been presented, bringing a charge against the House of having treated with levity and frivolity the petition for the National Charter. He had been in the House when that petition was presented, and he could bear his testimony that no signs of levity or frivolity had been shown by the House on that remarkable occasion. The attention of the House had been ably directed to the petition by the then Member for Birmingham, in a manner which insured the approbation of all parties in the House, however they might differ from him as to the prayer of the petition. He was glad to see that there was every disposition in the House to receive the present petition with that gravity which the subject of it demanded. It was the petition of a large body of the working classes, of whom he might say, that whatever their faults had been in the unfortunate situation in which they had been placed, they had at least conducted themselves during the late months of privation and suffering in a manner that insured the respect of their countrymen—(cheers)—even though many might think that the demands which they made for political privileges were somewhat exaggerated, and could not now be conceded. With regard to the interference of the House of Commons with the prerogative of the Crown, his Hon. Friend had quoted a case which he did not think had much bearing on the present. He alluded to the occasion on which his Noble Friend near him had taken an active part in favour of Sir Manasseh Lopez. He certainly did not dispute the right of the House of Commons to advise the Crown on the exercise of any of its prerogatives, but he much questioned the expediency of interfering frequently, or under any but the most urgent circumstances. That House had the greatest interest that the prerogative of mercy should not be exercised indiscriminately, or for any bad purpose, but if the House were to advise the Crown to exert the prerogative on special occasions, he was afraid that circumstances might arise in which parties out of doors might be encouraged to the commission of offences under a hope of impunity, which could not, and would not, be realised. (Hear, hear.) Under these circumstances he could not reconcile himself to the course proposed by his Hon. Friend. With reference to the treatment of the persons confined for political offences, in no case had any sentence been carried into effect more severely than was prescribed by the judge, and required by the regulations of the prison of which they were inmates. There had been no desire on the part of the Government, the judges, the juries, or the magistrates, to inflict punishment on those misguided individuals for the sake of revenge. (Hear, hear.) If any attempt had been made by the Executive Government to curtail the privileges of the people, to interfere with the right of meeting in public, which they possessed, and he trusted always would possess. and to prevent them from making known their grievances to the authorities of their country, then there might have been some excuse for the proceedings resorted to in 1839 and 1840. But no such disposition had been manifested, and it was with regret that he saw those meetings, begun in a constitutional manner, gradually assuming an unconstitutional appearance, and leading to outbursts of sedition, which at last rendered indispensable the interference of Government. Government then made use simply of the powers which the law confided to them; they called for none of an extraordinary and dangerous kind, but resolved to depend on the integrity and impartiality of the judges and juries. If all the relics of the punishment which the various offenders had incurred were now to be swept away, it would be by no means an encouragement to jurymen to discharge their duty fairly when the hour of difficulty again came, although he hoped such an hour never would arrive. It was hardly just to call such crimes as high treason and serious breaches of the peace by the mild name of political offences, which was generally understood of matters of a less grave nature. There had been 450 offences connected with Chartism, and in 379 cases the parties had been convicted. Not one of these had suffered the extreme penalty of the law (hear, hear), and nine of the more atrocious offenders had had their sentences commuted to transportation for life. Where the sentence could be mitigated, conformably with the exigencies of justice, Government had not been reluctant to exercise the prerogative of mercy. To four persons a full pardon had been granted; four others were excused from finding recognizances after the full term of their sentence had expired; two had had the time of their imprisonment shortened, and four had been removed to gaols where the discipline was less severe. With respect to the three individuals of whom so much had been said, and whose proceedings he believed had tended so much to retard the advancement of civil liberty, he should be deceiving the House if he were to hold out any hope that he should be a party to advising any remission of the punishment they had incurred. With regard to those three individuals, he could hold out no hope whatever that the Royal prerogative of mercy would be extended to them. His Hon. Friend who had brought forward the present motion had alluded to the Charter; but he (Mr. Fox Maule) thought that his Hon. Friend would have done better if, instead of asking the House of Commons to pass it, he had given the House an opportunity of discussing it. There was one part of the Charter for which he (Mr. F. Maule) had given his vote in that House—there were other portions of it, however, to which he could not give his support. At all events, the Charter embraced topics not now to be discussed. As to the question at present before the House, he trusted his Hon. Friend would feel, that having awakened the attention of the Government to this matter, it was not necessary to press his motion to a division, which could not improve the condition of the individuals whom it was the object of his Hon. Friend to benefit. There was a complaint that his Hon. Friend had made to which he must advert. It had been said that Mr. Feargus O'Connor and Mr. Bronterre O'Brien had not been sentenced to hard labour, while others not standing in the same position in society had been condemned to that additional punishment. It was to those sentenced to hard labour to which the motion of his Hon. Friend had reference; and allusion had been made to the case of Hoey. Now, though sentenced to hard labour, he had only been two weeks on the treadwheel, and after that time all his labours had been confined to the keeping a certain portion of the prison clean and in proper order. His Hon. Friend had drawn a comparison between the punishment awarded to Captain Plunkett and Captain Duff, and that by which those to whom the present motion had reference were decreed to expiate their offences. It was sufficient for him (Mr. F. Maule) to state that, outrageous as had been the conduct of one of those individuals, he had suffered more than the mere sentence pronounced, by the fact of having been twice passed over, when, if out of custody, he would have been the first for promotion. At all events, both those gentlemen received no more indulgence than Mr. F. O'Connor enjoyed while in the custody of the Marshal of the Queen's Bench Prison. It did not occur to him that there was any other point upon which it was necessary for him to make an observation. He deeply regretted the circumstances under which the individuals to whom the present motion had reference were placed; still he could not consent to be a party to address the Crown in their behalf, and therefore he trusted his Hon. Friend would not compel him to give a vote against this proposition. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. O'CONNELL supported the motion.

Mr. LEADER supported the motion. There was a growing opinion in the country, an opinion which he had heard maintained in the many public meetings he had recently attended, that in this country there was one law for the rich and another for the poor. This feeling was justified by the results which had followed, the trial of Lord Cardigan in the House of Peers, and of Lord Waldegrave and Captain Duff before another tribunal. Compare their sentences with that pronounced upon and suffered by Lovett and Collins. The latter had suffered all the horrors of the stringent rules of a Warwick gaol, while Lord Waldegrave and his friend were outside the walls of the Queen's Bench Prison, entertaining their friends, and suffering no other inconvenience than being prevented attending the Derby. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) The Government had carried the Reform Bill by agitation, and it was too bad that the working classes, who were still unrepresented, should, for their agitation with a view to reform, be subjected to these punishments. At all events, guilty as they had undoubtedly been according to the strict letter of the law, their sentences were about to expire, and it would be a mere act of grace if the Government would now remit the remainder of their incarceration.

Mr. GILLON was of opinion, that the majesty of the law had been already sufficiently asserted in the persons of those now under confinement; no evil could arise from mitigating the sentences by a remission of the remainder of the punishment. He concurred with the Hon. Member for Finsbury in relying on the good sense of the working classes, and he was satisfied such an act of clemency would open their eyes, and induce them to dissolve the disgraceful alliance into which they had entered with the Tories. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HUME considered that the law had been too severely exercised in the instance of the Chartists, who were now aware that they had acted unconstitutionally. He trusted the Government would reconsider the sentences which were passed, for he was of opinion that a well-timed act of mercy now would give satisfaction to millions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WARBURTON thought it was not right to confound the general class of political offenders with particular individuals whose crimes were of a more atrocious character. The names of Frost, Jones, and Williams should not be mixed up with the present motion. The persons in whose favour the present motion was made had been treated with a rigour formerly unknown to the law, and with that consideration he thought the Government ought to consent to shorten the period of their imprisonment. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WAKLEY could not help remarking the silence which had been observed on this question by Hon. Gentlemen on the opposite side, when a word from the Right Hon. Baronet would prove so effective. (Hear, hear.) The Hon. Member the Under Secretary of State, alluding to the working classes, said that they should seek redress of their grievances, not by violence, but through the legitimate channel of an appeal to their representatives. He would, however, remind the Hon. Gentleman, that the working classes had no representatives in that House—(hear, hear),—and that was the reason why they were so feverish and restless under the evils which they endured. Those who made the laws made them light and easy to themselves, but pressing heavily upon the working classes.

Sir R. PEEL denied the right of the preceding speaker to call on him for a statement of his opinion; but he should not shrink from expressing it. It was, that the House of Commons ought not to interfere with the prerogative of the Crown in the administration of criminal law. On that constitutional ground he must resist this motion. He opposed no obstacle to the due consideration of these cases by the Crown, although he hoped that in that consideration the Ministers would not suffer themselves to be warped by a desire of popularity.

Sir DE LACY EVANS supported the motion.

Sir B. HALL and Mr. AGLIONBY supported the motion.

Lord SANDON conceived that there were good reasons why the house should not carry out its sympathy in this case. A question of the very highest importance was involved in the motion, for nothing could be more dangerous than on the eve of an election to use such a question as the means of canvassing for votes.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the motion, on the ground that the prisoners had not been convicted on prosecutions by the House.

Colonel SIBTHORP opposed the motion.

Mr. WARD pointed out that the length of time during which this petition had been in preparation was an answer to the suspicion that it had been brought forward by way of canvass for the approaching election. But he entreated Mr. Duncombe not to take a division, lest he should injure the chance of the prisoners.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE replied.

The House then divided, when the numbers appeared—

For the motion.............. 58
Against it.................. 58

But the Speaker having given his casting vote with the "noes," the motion was consequently lost.

Chartist Intelligence.

GRAND CHARTIST DEMONSTRATION AT THE CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Last Monday was a great—a glorious day for the people, who on that day proved to their tyrants and oppressors that Chartism was as strong, as vigorous, and as influential, as when those brutal tyrants attempted, in Birmingham, to bludgeon and sabre the people out of their rights, and into tame submission. The country is aware that Monday was the day appointed, by the Chartists of London, to hold an aggregate and public meeting. The timid and the wavering predicted that the meeting would be a failure. The enemy prayed that it might be so. Pseudo friends ridiculed the idea of holding such a meeting in London. But the Chartists felt confident that it would prove such a demonstration as would teach a sound moral lesson to their rulers, and would tell them in accents of thunder, that the men of England—that the strength of the country—that the real and only faithful supporters of the Throne and Constitution, and that the bone and sinew of the land, were not to be trampled upon by tyrants, or crushed to the earth by oppressors. That demonstration proved that the metropolis is one of the strongest holds of Chartism.

Seven o'clock in the evening was the hour appointed for taking the chair. Shortly after that hour the great room of the Crown and Anchor was crowded to suffocation by as respectable an assembly as ever met within its walls. At half-past seven there could not be less than three thousand persons in the room, while the stairs and avenues leading to it, and even the Strand, were crowded with others anxious to witness the proceedings.

At the close of the proceedings the proprietor was asked how many attended there that evening, when he replied that not less than from 10,000 to 12,000 persons passed in and out of the room that night. The galleries and platform were crowded with ladies.

The meeting was no more remarkable for its numbers than for its peaceable and orderly demeanour. During the whole proceedings the slightest disturbance did not take place, nor was the least interruption offered. This feature in the meeting of "the miscreant Chartists," presented a strong contrast to the one lately held in the same place by Dan and his myrmidons.

Mr. JAMES EDWARD NAGLE, a working man, and an Irishman, was called to the chair, amidst loud and reiterated cheering. Silence having been obtained,

The CHAIRMAN rose and said that on looking at the bill which contained the business of the evening, he ascertained that their duty of that evening was of a threefold character, yet it struck him that they had another important duty to perform. (Hear, hear.) They met there to declare, in the face of Europe, that Britons must and shall be free. (Cheers.) They should not recede one step aside from their vantage ground, which was gained for them by the tortures, the sufferings, and the blood of 500 martyrs. (Cheers.) It was a glorious spectacle to behold so large a meeting, composed of men of all religions, who came forward to co-operate, not for faction, but to discharge a high and important duty. He hoped that there was no Irish rebellion in that meeting. (Hear, hear.) It was in their power to put down any party who would attempt to create disunion. (Hear, hear.) He came forward divested of all party feeling, and determined to do justice. If any one wished to address the meeting, he should be heard, whether he opposed or favoured them. (Hear, hear.) All should be listened to with the same degree of attention. The Chartists at all times had arguments with which to meet their opponents. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he implored of all who addressed the meeting, to proceed with that attention, that steadiness, that calmness, and that deliberation which the resolutions which they had to propose required. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ROSE, a delegate, proposed the first resolution, "That it is the opinion of this meeting, that no Government is deserving of the confidence of the people, who have unconstitutionally broken down the spirit of the law by introducing an army of foreign spies and bludgeon men, who have deprived the poor of all protection, and under pretence of relieving have imprisoned them in the accursed bastiles, who have denied the workmen the constitutional shield of the suffrage possessed by their ancestors, and who, while contemplating other acts of aggression, treat the petitions of the people with studied indifference and contempt." (Cheers.) He most cordially supported that resolution. He never knew so imbecile a set of men as were the present ministers and the present members of the House of Commons. [Our space compels us, however reluctantly, to omit the speeches, which were of the most stirring and yet rational and sensible character, and produced on the immense audience an effect of the most lasting and gratifying kind.]

Mr. SMART, a delegate, seconded the resolution, in a speech replete with humour and sound sense. In the words of the Church liturgy they may exclaim, "We have done the things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and there is no health in us." (Cheers.)

Dr. M'DOUALL next presented himself and was received with the most deafening cheers which continued several minutes. He said it was not necessary for us to plead at this time our right to revenge upon the Government of the country. All were aware that their lives and their liberties had been sacrificed by the Whigs. (Hear, hear.) But a change had taken place. The principles of the Charter had spread through the land, and Chartism had entwined itself around the necks of the factions which would die in its grasp. (Cheers.) He need not tell them that the Chartists have got in their hands the electoral power. He need not tell them that the Chartists had within themselves that balance of power which enabled them to say what Government shall rule the destinies of this great and mighty nation. (Hear, hear.) We had to deal with a cold blooded heartless Government, that deprived us of the right of petition, trampled upon us when we complained, was indifferent to our distresses, and which has sacrificed the best interests of the country at the altar of avarice. (Hear, hear.) The game that has been so long played on the land by Whiggery, has received its death blow. The petition of one million of men has been refused, to be presented to the Queen. (Hisses.) Is there an instance on record of such tyranny. In Russia; even in Turkey, that seat of despotism, the King or Queen receives and hears the complaints of their subjects. (Hear, hear.) Petition, which by the constitution is the just right of every man, has been denied to the country by the Whigs, and thus they attempt to deprive the people of a right, without which life, liberty and fortune, are not only unsafe but actually destroyed. (Hear, hear.) But he perceived amongst the working men of the land a principle arising—a principle of liberty which is wafted across the broad wave—a principle which is inculcated at every fireside and in every cottage—a principle that has aroused the spirit and unfurled the proud banner of freedom, and which has infused into the minds of the people, a determination to follow that banner to the overthrow of opposing obstacles. (Hear, hear.) The people have a power in their hands which they will not abuse—a power which the Whigs and Tories fear and hate. (Hear, hear.) They dared not listen to the complaints of the people, but ere long they will be compelled, not only to listen to them, but to redress them also. If we look into the interior of the House of Commons, we will see on one side the representative of the landed interest, and on the other the representatives of bricks and stones, while there is not to be found one representative of labour—of that which produces the wealth, the affluence, and the luxury with which the land abounds. (Hear, hear.) Is that fair representation? (No, no.) Thus it is that their oppressors are enabled to steal from the poor man his wages—to oppress him, and to deal in every manner most cruelly and unjustly with him. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of the police force, the Doctor said—If we turn to Lord John Russell's history of the British Constitution, we will find him saying that liberty is not endangered by a military power, but that liberty could only be endangered and despotism established by the introduction of a police force. (Hear, hear.) Yet Lord John Russell, the determined friend of liberty, introduced that very force, for the purpose of crushing liberty. (Hear, hear.) Yes, with his Coercion Bill for Ireland, which, at the sound of the curfew bell, compelled the inhabitants of that country to keep within their homes; and that curfew bell will, ere we close our eyes in death, be also, I am afraid, heard in England. In Ireland the people were obliged to keep within their homes after eight o'clock, or death was their lot. They could not, after that hour, even have lights in their houses. (Hear, hear.) On one occasion, a party of dragoons, who were scouring the country, observed a light in a small cottage. They approached the window, and without inquiring whether watch was keeping at the bed of sickness, or over the corpse of some dear friend, four of those ruffians levelled their carbines, and without giving the order for extinguishing the light, fired in upon the family. (Dreadful sensation of horror!) When the day dawned there was seen the innocent child dappling its little fingers in the grey and ensanguined hair of its murdered grandfather. (Cries of "horrid, horrid, shame, shame.") I do not speak without facts to support me. In the Bull Ring, Birmingham, I witnessed the despotism of the police. A grey-headed officer of three-score and ten years of age, was on his way home towards the Bull Ring. He was stopped by the police who asked him where he was going. Pointing to his house, at the door of which his wife and children were anxiously awaiting his return, he said, "I am going to my house, my home, to which I am entitled to go as it is my castle, which it is the right of every Englishman to have." The policeman immediately struck him down, and left his grey hairs covered with blood. (Cries of "horrid, horrid, shame, shame.") The moment that I witnessed that act of brutality, I raised my hands to heaven, and swore eternal vengeance against the man who introduced that foreign force, and that accursed system into the land. (Loud cheers.) The worthy Doctor next fell foul of the New Poor Law, and then passed to the "free trade" policy, and to the corn, sugar, and timber clap-traps of the "bloodies," continuing a most merciless and raking, but skilfully directed fire, upon the factions for a great length of time, amidst the hearty and reiterated plaudits of the meeting.

Mr. SANKEY, late Member of the old Convention, supported the resolution in a most able speech.

The resolution was then put and carried amidst loud cheers.

ALLOA.—GLORIOUS TRIUMPH OF CHARTISM OVER THE CORN LAW REPEALERS.—The middle class men of Alloa are perhaps the most apathetic and indifferent of their class, which the country can produce upon national politics; but the announcement of Lord John Russell, in the House of Commons, that he would introduce a modification upon the present Corn Laws, had the effect of partially arousing them from their slumbers. The Alloa Whigs met in their secret divan, and, after sundry deliberations, the majority proposed to accept the Ministerial project of a fixed duty. A portion who call themselves Whig-Radicals, with one distinguished apostate from Chartism, agreed that they would accept of nothing less than a total and complete repeal of the Corn and all Provision Laws. So far all went on well; but when this party met, they found they were called upon to contend with three distinct parties. The Tories, opposed to all change; the Whigs, who will go no further than the Ministerial project; the Chartists, who look upon all these as so many trading political knaves. Whether in their deliberations they thought of a public meeting, we know not; but the first shape their proceedings assumed was a printed petition, placarded on the walls of the town, claiming to be the petition of the inhabitants of Alloa, accompanied with a hand-bill, coaxing, threatening, and flattering the people to sign it. The town crier alarmed the people with his instrument, the underlings in the shops and factories carried the petition through the factories, threatening certain results if the men did not sign. The Committee of the Charter Association, feeling they were called upon now to act in defence of the public, and their own principles, from this aggression of blind zeal and petty tyranny, sent the crier through the town, and announced that they would hold a public meeting to discuss the respective merits of Chartism and Corn Law repeal, as a cure of our national evils. They knew no hall in the town would hold those that would attend; they, therefore, met under the blue vault of Heaven on the evening of Friday last. At the hour of meeting there could not be less than two thousand on the ground, with a large sprinkling of middle class Whigs and Tories. Mr. David Thompson being moved to the chair, opened the business of the meeting in a few pointed remarks. He stated clearly the position they were in, the duties they had to perform, and his determination to obtain a fair hearing for all who would address the meeting. It may be stated that a middle class apostate Chartist vaunted he would attend the meeting, to justify his conduct, and, through the power of his thrilling eloquence, swell the ranks of Corn Law repealers. The Chairman called upon Mr. Abram Duncan to open the business of the evening. He did so by reviewing their hand-bill, and their petition, and never did any party receive such an exposure; his powerful and calm cutting sarcasm, with his local knowledge of the puppets who moved behind the Corn Law screen, was a perfect treat to all haters of pious chicanery and political tergiversation; he then read the three following resolutions:—1. "That we, the inhabitants of Alloa, in public meeting assembled, declare our detestation and abhorrence of every species of monopoly, more particularly the monopoly of legislation, and the various other monopolies which have arisen from this irresponsible class of legislators; from the maladministration of government, in their hands, has sprung a National Debt of eight hundred millions sterling, and is still increasing; a national taxation which might support all the governments in Europe, if honestly administered; corn and provision laws, which have pillaged the poor to ten times the extent they have benefitted the rich; with a variety of other monopolies, too complicated to enumerate, upon foreign and colonial productions." 2. "Having examined the source from whence these manifold national evils have sprung, past experience convinces us that the present House of Commons is determined to uphold and perpetuate these abuses; witness the division of the House last Wednesday, which confirmed the sugar monopoly by a majority of 36." 3. "Having no reasonable ground of hope that the present electoral body are willing to recognise the rights of the people to the franchise, we, the slave class, are unalterably determined to break up every ministry formed in the House of Commons, till the Charter becomes the law of the land." Mr. D. supported them with the most powerful and varied illustrations from the present state of the country; his address lasted for upwards of an hour and a half; friends and foes seemed rivetted to the spot. At the conclusion of the address three unanimous bursts of cheering testified how delighted the audience were with the treat they had received. The chairman then asked for any Corn Law Repealer to come forward and speak in defence of their past and present conduct; but, although many of them were present, all on their part was dumb show; even the apostate who vapoured so highly up to the hour of meeting, sunk into his native nothingness. We have no ill will towards him, but as he has bubbled on every stream for years back, he has sunk into one of the shallowest streams in Scotland. Mr. James Douglas then came forward in a speech of great eloquence and energy, and moved the adoption of the resolutions; Mr. George Paterson briefly seconded them. The chairman then asked a show of hands for their adoption; a forest of hands was upheld. The chairman then asked again for the gentlemen of Corn Law Repeal to come forward and manfully state reasons for their conduct, but the corn creaks were dumb. Three hearty cheers were then given to Mr. A. Duncan, for his address; three for the Charter, three for all incarcerated prisoners, and three hearty cheers for the chairman. It is considered, among all parties, that this meeting shows a strength of Chartism in Alloa that its enemies never dreamed of, and many of its friends had doubts of. Many of the Corn Law Repealers now declare that, if beat at this attempt at repeal, they will join the Chartists, as the only means left them to save the nation.

WARRINGTON.—A meeting was held here by appointment on Thursday night; it was convened by the following placard:—"The People's Charter. A public meeting will be held in the Chartist Room, Union-street, Bank-street, May 20th, and a lecture will be delivered by Mr. James Leech, Chartist Missionary for South Lancashire, shewing the superiority of the People's Charter over the fallacies of the Corn Law repealers, and will be glad to meet any Corn Law repealer on the above subject. The chair to be taken at half-past seven o'clock." Mr. James Savory was appointed Chairman. The Chairman, after reading the notice of the meeting, said that he felt highly gratified, as a working man, in being selected to fill that office, and after a few more preliminary observations, he introduced Mr. Leech, who said that he would give an opportunity to any Corn Law repealer present, at the close of his lecture, to ask questions relative to what he might say, or if they chose to discuss the subject with him, he challenged any Corn Law repealer to step on that platform, and he would discuss the question with him half an hour alternately, and he would give his opponent the choice which of them commenced. No person accepted the challenge, and Mr. Leech commenced in a strain of unanswerable argument, which lasted for an hour, proving the fallacies of the Corn Law repealers, and said that it was not the Corn Laws that ruined the working classes, but machinery that supplanted their labour, and a cruel and unjust competition between masters to undersell one another. He proved, previous to the Corn Law being put on in 1815, the wages decreased in a corresponding degree to what they have done since—that nothing but the People's Charter was calculated to benefit the working classes, as a means of giving them their just rights; and advised all present to be no more guiled by Whig and Tory agitations and promises, but seek their own redemption, by making the Charter the law of the land. During this admirable lecture he explained the competitive system at full length; he exposed the factory system in all its horrors; he exposed Whiggery in a ludicrous style, which made a deep and sensible impression on the working men present. Mr. Crosfield, a Corn Law repealer, got on the platform, and said that he was for Universal Suffrage and Vote by Ballot; he was a friend of the working classes, and he did not see that a repeal of the Corn Laws would be detrimental to getting the Charter. He argued that England was calculated for a manufacturing country, and the workshop of the world, if the monopoly in corn were abolished, and a free trade given to manufactures. Mr. Leech replied that those who were not with us for the agitation of the Charter were against us; and, for his part, he thought the people of England had too much work already, and cautioned the people against being the slaves of the whole world, by our working population being confined in those hell-created steam-mills and factories, which stunted our rising generation, and was the means of degenerating his countrymen to a diminutive stature unparalleled in the history of man, and advised them to look after tilling their own land; and if there were any beauty in the fields, the hills, the meadows, the smiling vallies of corn in our own dear country, let them enjoy the healthful, invigorating occupation of cultivating our own lands, instead of being confined in cotton-traps. Mr. Crosfield appeared satisfied with Mr. Leech's reply, as he adopted the usual mode of his brethren of the saintish faith—silence. The next champion of the repeal was Mr. Ryland, the Secretary of the Warrington anti-Corn Law Association. He asked Mr. Leech whether cheap bread was not preferable to dear bread?—whether a repeal of the Corn Laws would not stop foreign manufactures and foreign competition?—whether it would not give increased stimulus to the trade of this country, &c.? Mr. Leech answered in an argumentative speech, which occupied half an hour, and said that cheap bread was far preferable to dear bread; a child would know that. He quoted different authors in support of his position; and their own writers contradicted and condemned their own proceedings. He successfully rebutted the fallacy of our competing with foreigners without bringing the wages of this country lower than what they are, with the present taxation over our heads. He concluded by advising every person present to enroll themselves members of the Society. This meeting was decidedly the best ever held in Warrington, and will do much good. After the lecture, three cheers were given for the lecturer, and three cheers for Feargus O'Connor, Esq., after which the meeting quietly separated.

CARDIFF.—*At the weekly meeting of the Chartists of this town, the following resolutions were passed*:—1. "That we continue to place full confidence in Feargus O'Connor, and the *Northern Star*." 2. "That the Executive Council be requested to give their best attention to 'exclusive dealing,' as noticed and recommended by Feargus O'Connor, in the *Star*, of the 15th of May." 3. "Though the endeavours of the Convention, to have a personal interview with the Queen at the presentation of the memorial, have hitherto been with little success, yet, we are satisfied they have done the utmost in their power towards effecting it."

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday afternoon, Mr. G. Binns lectured at the Life Boat House, to a good audience. His subject was, the duties of the people at the approaching elections.

NATIONAL PETITION.—The petition from Sunderland was despatched on Sunday with 8558 signatures attached, and one from Bishop and West Auckland, with 780 signatures.

ELECTION PROSPECTS.—The *liberal* Whig and Corn Law Repealers of Sunderland are in a pitiable dilemma. They have no candidate in the field to represent their sentiments, and none available, with the slightest chance of success, unless they would start a Chartist Corn Law Repealer, such as Col. Thompson; against this the pride, prejudice, and illiberality are powerful obstacles. All, however, must eventually succumb to interest. Andrew White retires. Alderman Thompson and David Barclay, of London, have declared themselves candidates, and their friends seem disposed to coalesce. Both of them are Tories, differing only in the shadow of a shade. Extinction is therefore the doom of the liberal Whigs, unless they will unite their interest with that of the masses.

DURHAM.—All parties are actively stirring here. The Tories have two, and the Whigs one candidate in the field; will the Chartists do their duty, having issued placards, calling on the electors to withhold their votes for the present, and announcing their intention to bring out a Chartist candidate. Let other places imitate the priest-ridden city of Durham.

GLASGOW.—A numerous meeting of the directors of the Lanarkshire Universal Suffrage Association was held in the Chartist Hall, College Open, on Monday last, at eight o'clock in the evening, Mr. Martin in the chair, for the purpose of hearing the correspondence of Mr. Cullen, and deciding upon the propriety of requesting him to remain some time longer in the Convention. Several letters from that gentleman were read by Mr. Brown, Secretary, in which he described a scene betwixt Daniel O'Connell and himself at an out-door meeting of the Leaguers in Covent Garden, and when Mr. Cullen told him to his face that he dared not appear at any public assembly in Scotland, it called forth loud cheers, and universal cries of "True, true." Mr. Cullen's description of the trading politicians, and the divisions into moral, physical, and "new movement" Chartists of London, was listened to with marked attention, and loud cries of "Hear, hear." Mr. Cullen seems anxious to return home. A letter was also read from Mr. Wall, Secretary to the Convention, stating that a vote of thanks had been given to Mr. Cullen for his patriotic exertions since he joined the Convention. A discussion then took place relative to his longer stay, or immediate return from the Convention, in which Messrs. Dixon and Walker, of Glasgow, Messrs. Colquhoun and Wright, of the North Quarter, Mr. Moir, of Tilefield, Mr. Isaac, of Calton, Mr. Rodger, of Bridgeton, and several others, took a part; during which Mr. Rodger moved—"That this meeting request Mr. Cullen to remain in the Convention until after the presentation of the National Petition, and that he be recommended to move that an address be drawn up by order of the Convention, setting forth an outline of their proceedings since they assembled, and stating their opinion of the best steps which the country should pursue for carrying the Charter; after which, that they take immediate measures to dissolve." This being seconded, was unanimously carried. It was afterwards agreed that a large public meeting of the inhabitants of Glasgow be held, to consider of the best line of policy they should pursue in the case of a General Election. Mr. Rodger stated that the Chartists of Bridgeton had resolved to canvass the electors of that populous suburban district in a few days. After some other local business had been settled, the meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

DUBLIN.—The Charter Association of this place, held their annual weekly meeting on Sunday last, Mr. O'Malley in the chair; he opened the business of the meeting, by pointing out the duty which Chartists had to perform. He said that every Chartist ought to make his family circle a Chartist meeting, to expound to them its principles, and by such means to form a new race of agitators, adding that "as the old cock crows the young ones learn." The following resolution was moved by Mr. O'Connor, and seconded by Mr. Woodward, "That the thanks of this meeting are due and hereby given to Messrs. Martin and Cleave for their manly and patriotic conduct at the Repeal humbug meeting, in confronting, charging, and convicting, to the satisfaction of every honest man, the author, and now the enemy of Chartism, Daniel O'Connell." A letter from Mr. Clark, of Stockport, was read, relative to the base, brutal, and physical-force conduct of the anti-unionists of Manchester, on Monday, the 17th inst., which, to say the least of it, would be disgraceful to men, even in a savage state.

DEWSBURY.—At the weekly meeting of the Chartists, held in the large room, over the Co-operative Stores, on Tuesday night last, the following resolutions were passed:—"That we hereby tender our best thanks to Mr. William Martin, and Mr. John Cleave, for the manly manner in which they met the base traitor, Daniel O'Connell, in his own den, at the Crown and Anchor, Strand, London, in showing him and his friends when and where he acted as a traitor to the people; also that we pledge ourselves, individually and collectively, to support our unalterable friends, Feargus O'Connor, and the Rev. Wm. Hill, editor of the *Northern Star*, so long as they pursue that straightforward course, from which they have never yet deviated."

NEWCASTLE.—Abortive efforts are being made here to bring out "brown bread Joseph;" but "it won't do;" the Chartists "won't bite," nor allow themselves to be bitten.

KILBRIDE.—The Chartists, at this place, have passed a strong resolution, denunciatory of the "new move," and complimenting the Editor of the *Northern Star*. Mr. Malcolm, whose name stood on the document, and to whom a packet of cards for the "new move" association had been sent, has returned the cards, declined all further connection with "the concern" and declared, in a letter to Mr. Lovett, his gratitude to O'Connor and the Editor of the *Star*.

CHESTERFIELD AND BRAMPTON.—The Chartists of these towns have voted thanks to O'Connor, and the Editor of the *Star*, for their unceasing exertions in the people's cause.

OLDHAM.—Messrs. Cartledge and Leech lecture here on Sunday, in the afternoon and evening.

HANLEY (POTTERIES).—The faction is thoroughly thrashed here. A tremendous meeting of not fewer than 30,000 was held on Monday. Every means, fair and unfair, had been resorted to for the purpose of ensuring a Whig triumph at this meeting. Whig masters marshalled their workmen on their own premises, and marched them with music playing and banners flying straight like cattle to the ground. The High Bailiff took the chair; but in spite of every effort, all their resolutions were rejected, and the people's amendments carried by triumphant majorities. The first amendment, denouncing the Corn Laws, but declaring their repeal to be useless to the people, even if effected, without the Charter, the Chairman declared, in spite of a most palpable majority, to be not carried. The second one, declaring the Ministers to be unworthy of confidence, he was compelled to admit was carried by a large majority. To have denied it would be too barefaced. The third resolution was—"That this meeting protests against the partial conduct of the High Bailiff, in substituting the minority for the majority, and orders that copies of this protest be sent to M.P.'s, and to the *Star* and the *Times* for insertion."

LEICESTER.—Our meetings continue to be increasingly attended; and, in addition to seeing Chartism prosper in the borough, we have the pleasure of knowing that a revival of its interests is taking place in the villages. Last Sunday, Mr. Cooper, editor of the *Illuminator*, delivered addresses at Belgrave and Thurmaston—two considerable villages in the neighbourhood—to attentive audiences; and, on Monday, he addressed a large crowd at Wigston, a populous village, four miles from Leicester, abounding with half-starved stocking weavers; the poor fellows feel their miseries keenly, and are setting about forming an association.

Forthcoming Chartist Meetings.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Binns will lecture at the Life-boat House, and Mr. Williams in the evening, at half-past six, at the Golden Lion room, Queen-street, Sunderland.

WEST RIDING.—Mr. Harney will lecture during the next week, on Monday, at Sowerby; on Tuesday, at Keighley; on Wednesday and Thursday, at Halifax; on Friday, at Queenshead; and on Saturday, in Mount Zion school-room, Bradford.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Wednesday, the 2nd day of June, the Rev. J. Jenkinson will deliver a Chartist Total Abstinence Lecture, at the Guildhall, which the Mayor, Mr. Williams, has kindly lent us for the occasion.

Mr. JULIAN HARNEY lectures at Middleton in the afternoon, and again in the evening of Sunday, (to-morrow.)

LITTLE-HORTON.—A Chartist Temperance meeting will be held on Sunday next, at Little-Horton Green. To commence at two o'clock in the afternoon.

MANCHESTER.—Messrs. Charles Connor and C. Doyle will lecture in Brown-street Chartist room, Manchester, on Sunday evening, (to-morrow,) May 30th. Mr. James Cartledge will lecture at the Chartist Tailors' and Shoemakers' room, on Sunday (to-morrow.)

HALIFAX.—Mr. Harney will lecture at Halifax on the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday, the 2d and 3d of June, and at Queenshead, on Friday, the 4th.

CHARTIST INTELLIGENCE OMITTED IN OUR LAST FOR WANT OF ROOM.

CITY OF LONDON.—The Chartists of this locality, whose meetings have been for some time holden at the Dispatch Coffee Rooms, Bride lane, Fleet-street, now hold their meetings every Tuesday evening, at the Political and Scientific Institute, 55, Old Bailey.

SALFORD.—The cause goes on here gloriously; meetings are held and lectures delivered by one or another almost continually. The spirit of the people is kept fully up, and shows itself in almost all forms. The fashion of white hats is being again brought up, to distinguish the friends of truth and justice from those of class legislation. Mr. Smithurst, of Oldham, the talented Chartist lecturer, whose exertions for the cause in that neighbourhood have been visited with the loss of his employment, has set up Chartist hat manufacturer, making them with the emblems of the cards of membership in the bottom of the hat. He has taken several orders from Oldham. They have appointed a committee, one half electors and the other non-electors, to commence active operations to bring forward a Chartist candidate, and teach the brace of plundering factions, that the Chartists are resolved to do business on their own account. They have sent £1 7s. 1d. to Mrs. Frost, and are taking steps to have an oil painting of the immortal Emmett, and another of O'Brien, to ornament their rooms, or to be used as flags. The Co-operative stores still go on; and the Salford Chartists are very anxious that their system may be adopted as soon as possible.

PATH-HEAD, MIDLOTHIAN.—The Charter agitation finds all places, and this among the rest:—A public meeting has been held, which was addressed by several friends from Dalkeith; add at which a very good spirit was manifested, and 100 signatures obtained to the petition. Some tracts were distributed, and we hope much good may have been done.

BIRMINGHAM.—A numerous meeting was held in Freeman-street, on Wednesday evening, at which resolutions were passed. eulogising the exertions of the Convention, exhorting them to remain in London till the petition shall have been presented, and promising support. The Birmingham Chartists call upon the whole country to follow them in cheering on and supporting the Convention.—THE FROST RESTORATION COMMITTEE have passed and confirmed unanimously, the following resolution:—Resolved, "That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Convention, requesting them to get up a numerous and influential deputation to wait on Lord Normanby, requiring of him, whether he will procure an audience of her Majesty for the deputation on behalf of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and, in case of his refusal, that the deputation take into consideration the propriety of appointing three persons, residing in London, who shall present them the next Levee day, as this committee has no confidence in Lord Normanby.

THE CHARTISTS RESIDENT IN DARTMOUTH-STREET and the vicinity, had a meeting last week in Mr. Taylor's house. An interesting and instructive lecture was delivered to them by Mr. W. D. Taylor. It was was determined to meet there regularly on Tuesday evenings.

LIVERPOOL.—The Chartists here have formed a discussion class, which meets every Sunday evening, in the large room of Musgrave's Coffee-house, at eight o'clock.

ARNOLD (NOTTINGHAM.)—At the weekly meeting, on Monday, it was resolved unanimously, "That the Chartists of Arnold pledge themselves to stand by the National Charter Association of Great Britain, and countenance no man, or set of men, that would set on foot any other movement—that they will never cease agitating till the Charter become the law, and the political victims be enlarged—that they place unbounded confidence in Feargus O'Connor, and condemn the base wretches who would injure that patriot's character—that they will stand by O'Connor and the *Star* till death, presuming them to persevere in the cause they have hitherto pursued—that they highly approve the conduct of those members of the Convention who protested against Mr. Collins—that they treat scornfully the base effort now making to injure O'Connor through the sides of Frost—and that they thank the Editor of the *Northern Star*, for his noble advocacy of the people's cause."

WORCESTER.—The Chartists met at their room in Friar-street, on the 19th, and passed resolutions, condemnatory of the "trap for the unwary" set by certain friends—operatives—in the form of a petition against the Government Tariff Bill, in which the repeal of the Corn Laws is insidiously lugged in as a remedy for the evils of the commercial system. The Chartists of Worcester were not to be so caught. They saw the hook and, consequently, threw aside the bait with very little ceremony. A correspondent writes us that the tariff question excites much attention among the working men of Worcester and its neighbourhood. It is nonsense to talk of remodelling the commercial system, with any view to the advantage of the "workies," while the "sharks" possess all the power of law making. Whatever advantage might be obtained from a revision of the tariff would *now* be an advantage only to the factions; not to the people. Let the people secure their Charter, and then it will be time enough to look into matters of detail legislation.

MANSFIELD.—The Chartists here, anxious to do something for the prolongation of the Convention sittings, waited upon sundry "friends" among the middle classes; but quickly found out their mistake. The people must hope nothing from any but themselves. The National Petition has been signed here by 1,581 males, and 1,098.

YORK.—On Tuesday evening, the 18th instant, the Chartists of this city met in the large room occupied by the Forester's, situate in Straker's-passage, Fossgate, where they now hold their weekly meetings, Mr. Demaine in the chair, when, after the usual business of the meeting, an investigation of the conduct of Mr. Charles Stuart, a member of the Council, took place, in consequence of the part he had taken in the electioneering movements of Mr. Barkley, a candidate for the representation of this city, by calling upon the Chartists of York to support that genteman, without having previously put the question, "would he support the People's Charter in case of his being returned to Parliament?" A majority of the Council considered that Mr. S. had acted inconsistently by so doing, and requested him to attend a special meeting of the Council, for the purpose of explaining his conduct on that occasion. The meeting he attended, but refused to give any explanation, and treated the Council with contempt—insisting, that if any charge was brought against him it should be at a public meeting. Tuesday being the night of public meeting, a charge was accordingly made against him by Mr. Cordeux, for inconsistency of conduct in the proceeding as above stated. Mr. Stuart then entered into a defence of his conduct by charging the Council with, what he termed, audacity and imprudence, in daring to call his conduct into question, and entered into a defence of Mr. Barkley's principles, stating that because he advocated the Ballot, denounced bribery, and admitted the right of the Suffrage, he ought to be supported by the Chartists of York. He charged the Council with dragging him before the public that night, and concluded by declaring that *so long as* Mr. Barkley maintained the principles he expressed at the meeting on Friday, he cared not by what name he called them, he should support him. After a few remarks from Mr. Burley, in answer to a charge of inconsistency brought against him by Mr. Stuart, in the course of his address, for having moved and carried an amendment in favour of Universal Suffrage, at the late Whig meeting, without having previously acquainted the Council of his intentions, although the circumstances rendered it impossible for him to do so, Mr. Cordeux rose to reply, and expressed his sorrow that Mr. Stuart should have indulged in so much passionate invective, instead of giving a calm explanation of his conduct; in fact, he considered it no explanation at all. Mr. Stuart had contended that because Mr. Barkley advocated the Ballot, he ought to be supported by the Chartists of York. He (Mr. C) thought different,—many of the Whigs, who are our most inveterate enemies, being strenuous advocates of the Ballot. With respect to his denouncing bribery, both Whigs and Tories had denounced the system, even with the bribe in their hands. Mr. B., he agreed, had admitted the right of the Suffrage; but when he heard him with the same breath boast of his intimacy with, and friendship for, such men as O'Connell and Hume, the former having offered to bring 500,000 men from Ireland, to put down Chartism, whilst the latter advocated coarse food as good enough for the working classes, he felt justified in saying that the Chartists of York had no reason for placing confidence in such a man. Was it not a fact that the whole of Mr. Barkley's Committee were opposed to the Charter? and had not the chairman of that Committee refused to sign the petition for the restoration of Frost, Williams, and Jones, when solicited to do so by Mr. Stuart himself, only a few days previously, alleging, as his reason, that the Government were perfectly justified in the course they had taken against those exiled patriots? Mr. Stuart had stated that he had been dragged before that meeting by the Council. This he (Mr. C.) denied, as it was his own determination, and contrary to the wish of the Council. Mr. Stuart, he contended, had not refuted the charge brought against him; in short, the fact of Mr. S. having called for three cheers for Mr. Barkley, and neglecting to call for the same honours, more justly due, to our noble patriot F. O'Connor, was of itself inconsistent with the principles which Mr. Stuart professed, and concluded by moving the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Burley, "That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the conduct of Mr. C. Stuart, in attending a public meeting of Mr. Barkley's and calling upon the citizens of York to support that gentleman, without having previously put the question whether or not be would support the People's Charter in case of his return to Parliament, was highly censurable, and that we the members of the National Charter Association will not place confidence in any man, or any set of men, who advocate principles short of the whole Charter." Mr. D. Halton proposed, and Mr. James Webster seconded the following amendment, "That we the members of the National Charter Association do place the utmost confidence in Mr. Stuart on that occasion, and do, therefore, return him our hearty thanks." The original motion was carried with only two dissentients.

BRISTOL.—The Chartists of this city, at a meeting in the Hall of Science, after a lecture by Mr. Vincent, passed a resolution to the effect that "the Convention finish their business before they return home."

PLYMOUTH.—The Corn Law humbugs have been soundly beaten here by the "wakies,"

MONMOUTH.—Mr. Black, of Nottingham, have been lecturing and preaching here with considerable effect.

DERBYSHIRE.—Mr. Bairstow labours, with great success, in this county; lecturing, preaching, and privately exhorting wherever he may be. The Charter, the whole Charter, and nothing less than the Charter, his one continued text and theme. The present communication contains notices of his lecture at Ockbrook on Friday, the 14th, his sermon at Derby, in the Market-place, to more than 2,000 persons, on Sunday, the 16th, and his lectures at Burton-on-Trent, on Monday and Tuesday, when he had a glorious triumph over the brutality and obscenity of the "respectables."

WILSDEN.—A Radical meeting was held at this place on Monday evening, Mr. Thompson in the chair. The meeting appointed a committee of three persons, Benjamin Hartley, William Cawcroft, William Eastwood, wool-combers, and a secretary, George Bairstow, weaver. It was unanimously agreed that they join the National Charter Association as soon as possible; and that they repose unbounded confidence in, and give their best thanks to Feargus O'Connor, and the Editor of the *Northern Star*.

STOCKPORT.—The Council beg leave to tell their brethren, that as the ill winds which have so long dispersed the Chartists of this district, like the accursed simoom, have now blown over us, and that we are again uniting, determined to put all obstruction and division down, and taking principle as our guide, we are determined to put down all those party differences and personal squabbles which have so long distracted the good and holy cause in our district; we therefore earnestly call upon all our brethren and sisters—Chartists, to arouse from their apathy and enable us once more to place Stockport in the position she *once* held, and no longer be a laughing-stock for the parties who are opposed to us, and who tell us that Chartism is at discount.—The Rev. John Williams Morris is delivering a course of lectures on the parliamentary history of England and Ireland, from the earliest period on record, down to the present time.

YEOVIL.—There was a meeting of the Chartists held at this place, on Monday the 17th instant, which was not very numerously attended; but the zeal which was displayed towards the holy cause that we espouse, by those who were present, made amends for the smallness of the number. The object for which we met was very important; inasmuch as the proceedings of that meeting decided, whether the Chartists of this town should continue to be an organised body, acting in co-operation with each other; or whether we should for the future be considered as a few isolated innividuals, each following his own particular views. The business of the meeting was as follows:—A short time after we commenced the Chartist agitation in this town, we took a room to meet in, thinking by so doing, we should have a better opportunity of making known our principles, and, that it would be the means of augmenting our numbers; but in consequence of the apathy manifested by the working classes of this town towards the Chartist cause, and the retrogade motion of some of our members, we have incurred a heavy debt. The subject for discussion was, the best-mode of liquidating the same; and to decide upon our future movements. Mr. Hewlett was called to the chair. The Chairman then proceeded to read a very encouraging letter from our worthy secretary, Mr. Bainbridge, who was unavoidably absent, when the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to, proposed by Mr. Stevens, and seconded by by Mr. Wheadon, "That it is necessary for the future welfare of this society, that we should know our resources; we do therefore request the class-leaders to go round to the members of their classes, who are in arrears with their subscriptions, and apply to them for the same, and if they do dot pay them immediately to be considered as no longer members of this society." Proposed by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Mr. Tucker, "That considering the embarrassed circumstances under which we are now labouring, we do enter into a voluntary subscription to help to pay the above debt." After which some of the members volunteered to pay 3d. per week extra, until the debt was discharged, rather than see the society become defunct. It was the opinion of the members present, that much good might be effected if we had a talented missionary down in the west; to make known the truths of Chartism, and to awaken the dormant energies of the people. But unfortunately it is not in our power to support one; we think that it would not be the worst money which will be spent by the Executive Council, if they have the funds at their command, in sending one down here.

GLASGOW.—A meeting was held on the 17th, in the Universal Suffrage Hall, College open, at eight o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of transacting business connected with Charter movements. After the Vice-chairman of the Lanarkshire Universal Suffrage Association had taken the chair, the Secretary, Mr. Brown, read the minutes of last meeting and the correspondence of their delegate in Convention. Some other matters of a private and pecuniary nature having been disposed of, Mr. C. M'Ewan rose to state that the members of the Chartist Church had applied to Mr. Brewester to preach a sermon to that congregation, which he had done, the subject being the Scottish Poor Laws, and the rights of the poor to subsistence from the soil that gave them birth. For so doing, the Presbytery of Glasgow had taken up the affair, which they had referred over to the Presbetery of Paisley, the upshot of which is that Mr. Brewester is to be tried before the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, for a misdemeanour, and he runs a pretty good chance of being kicked out of the Establishment altogether. He concluded by recommending that a public meeting be called in the Bazaar, in order to afford Mr. B. an opportunity of lashing his brethren of the "black coats and cravats so white." Messrs. Ross, M'Farlane, &c., supported the proposal. On the other hand, Messrs. Dickson, Chisholm, and others, thought it was a subject which ought to be taken up by the members of the Chartist Church, and not by the Lanarkshire Association; upon which Mr. A. Pinkerton remarked, that as a great number of persons not at all friendly to Chartism would attend to hear the disclosures of Brewester, they should take that opportunity of making them swallow the Charter, as the only means of getting rid of the corrupt system altogether. This proposition was at once agreed to, as well as the holding of the meeting in contemplation. Messrs. Moir, Pattison, M'Farlane, M'Ewan, Jack, and Malcolm were then proposed as candidates to move and second the Charter. Mr. Pattison was objected to for the part he had taken in the debate on the New Move. This was over-ruled, as Pattison had always been a consistent Chartist, whatever opinions he thought proper to hold regarding the characters of Lovett and Collins; besides, it was contended that as far as Glasgow was concerned, they had decently interred the remains of the New Move on the night of the 10th instant, and they had mutually agreed to allow its ashes to sleep for the future in silent repose; and so far as Mr. Malcolm was also concerned, he had lately shown such strong Whiggish propensities, that it was a question whether the great body of the Chartists would listen to him or not. Similar objections were expressed against Mr. Jack. Mr. Moir and Mr. Pattison were then appointed to move and second the Charter. A committee was also elected to get up the meeting. A vote of thanks was then given to the Chairman, when the meeting dissolved.

MANCHESTER.—An important meeting was held in the Chartist Rooms, Tib-street, on Monday evening last; the room was crowded to excess. The chairman, after a few remarks on passing events, said he would introduce the speaker who was about to address them, hoping that they would give him a candid and fair hearing, and at the conclusion, if he advanced anything contrary to truth, any one would be at perfect liberty to object to it, and he, as chairman, would pledge himself to obtain for him, or them, a peaceable hearing. (Cheers.) Mr. Charles Connor then rose, and said he came there at the request of his friends to address them that evening, and in doing which he claimed a right which he himself was willing to give to every man, namely, the freedom of speech; and because he professed to be the advocate of a measure that would, when obtained, give the same justice to one man as another, whatever might be his country, his class, his creed, and his colour—a measure for the adoption and carrying out these principles, which would be for the benefit of the human race. There was a spirit abroad which all the opposition in the world could not quench, and a train of circumstances at work which would ensure success in the end, and that the people would never rest, nor be led astray, by anything less than the Charter. (Loud applause.) The principles of the Charter were known to them all. They had been so often and so well explained to them that it would be a waste of time for him to attempt to dwell upon them. He would, therefore, leave that subject to men much better qualified than he was, and would proceed to examine who the actual producers of wealth were. (Hear.) The producing class are those who toil in the fields, mines, workshops, and fisheries, creating or procuring food, clothing, houses, and other necessaries, for the sustenance and convenience of society. Now, what was *the condition of all those producers of human food?* One would naturally suppose that those who produce all the food of man—through whose hands the whole must necessarily pass—would be able to lay hold of as much as might satisfy their wants, (that is the working portion of them); but it is a fact, which could not be controverted, that those who produce all the food of society, are miserably fed.—Mr. C. then proceeded to depict the privations to which the manufacturers and artizans of this country are subjected, and then proceeded to enquire into the remedy he said:—Some tell us that a repeal of the Corn Laws would banish starvation, give every man plenty of work, raise wages, and make working-men *comfortable. How was this to be done? They never* take into consideration the rapid progress of machinery, and the hundreds of hands which are thrown out of employment every week, and the machinery which was being every week got up in this country for foreigners. The speaker then adverted to the average consumption of cotton, &c., which has been frequently alluded to of late, in the discussion of the subject adverted to. He read the petition from "Fielden's Factory Curse," and entered upon a variety of topics through which our space will not allow us to follow. He concluded amid loud cheers. The chairman then gave out the notices, and several letters and placards were read from different parts of the country, which showed that the people were up, and at their post, and which received the plaudits of the assembly. Mr. Griffin rose to move the following resolution; he merely read and moved it, which was loudly cheered at the close, "That this meeting is of opinion that the sop thrown out at the eleventh hour by the base, hypocritical, scurvy, doubled tongued, treacherous, unprincipled, rapacious, shameless, unblushing, hollow, tyrannical, greedy, insincere Whigs, is done for the purpose of deluding and deceiving the people to misgovern the nation. In taking a retrospective view of their conduct, we find that they came into power with pledges of economy, retrenchment and reform. They said that the working classes were robbed, plundered, and enslaved by the Tories, who are hoary in crime, wrinkled in misrule, blind in prejudice, cruel in power, patronised for mischief, presumptuous in self-will, the hated, the despised, the vilified, the vituperated, the blackened, the blasted, the humiliated, the detested monsters. The Whigs were well supported by the people for four years, and had a sufficient majority to carry any measure for the bettering of the condition of the many; instead of which the organ of the Whigs, Lord John Russell, declared the reform a final measure, notwithstanding the promises they (the Whigs) made when out of power, to wit, that if the people would assist for the obtainment of the Reform Bill they in return would assist the people to obtain a full measure of justice for the people, and that they would never rest satisfied until the enslaved millions were in possession of those rights which truth, reason, and the laws of God and nature entitle them to. In opposition to which, when they considered themselves sufficiently fortified, they, by their acts and conduct told the people in language too plain to be misunderstood, that may go to the devil for further indulgencies. They have forced upon the people the infernal New Poor Law Bill, and to coerce the people in subjection, and to carry it down their throats whether or not, they established bodies of rural police; they transported the Dorchester labourers and the Glasgow cotton-spinners; have imprisoned four hundred of our industrious countrymen for telling the truth. By their tyranny and oppression, they have driven a vast amount of capital abroad, and thousands of the cleverest artisans to compete against and ruin us; they being either too short-sighted or dishonest to foresee and avoid it. They have held out all manner of inducements, and have fitted up ships for thousands to emigrate. When the narrow-minded, superstitious, and bigoted Tories left office, there was a clear surplus revenue of £2,665,000, which the Whigs have not only extinguished, but have actually created a deficiency of £940,000, besides adding to the National Debt £60,000,000, and consequently increased the interest. They gave a deaf ear to white slavery, by treating their petitions with scorn and contempt, and voted £20,000,000 for the emancipation of black slavery. They voted a German woman £100,000, and voted for £50,000 for another German pauper. They have added a great number of Peers, augmented the Pension List, and increased taxation £5,000,000. They have coerced Ireland, and slain the Canadians. They gave £70,000 for building stables for horses, and only voted £30,000 for national education. They have brought the country to a most wretched condition. In 1832 the working classes were denominated by the Whigs as wise, industrious, and peaceable subjects; but they are stigmatised now as seditious, rebellious, and disaffected. Rents and taxes have increased, while wages have decreased. The commercial condition of the country is most lamentable. The working classes are the only classes taxed, yet poorly fed, thinly clad, wretchedly housed, and treated like slaves. They deserve the contempt of every true lover of his species, for their recent base, unprincipled, flagitious, unconstitutional, decency—defying, hypocritical, meanly cruel, sneakingly malicious, spitefully revengeful, and waspishly venemous treatment of Feargus O'Connor, O'Brien, and the rest of the incarcerated Chartists, and for kidnapping and banishing Frost, Williams, and Jones. Having taken a view of their conduct while in office, and found by experience that they have forfeited the confidence reposed in them, and believe them incapable of governing the country with comfort and satisfaction to the public, this meeting is determined to put no further trust in them." Mr. James Leech said there was not a sentence in it but what he perfectly agreed with. It gave no quarter to either Whigs or Tories, and he hoped the working classes would endeavour to maintain their own position in society, and scorn both parties. The resolution was carried amid loud applause.—Mr. Mahon moved the next resolution, "That the Editor of the *Star* be requested to give a full report of the meeting, coupled with a request that the *Dundee Chronicle*, the *Weekly Dispatch*, and the *Scottish Patriot*, the two *Chartist Circulars*, the *Odd Fellow*, *Cleave's Gazette*, and the *Dublin World*, would copy the resolutions, in order to show the sentiments of the Chartists of Manchester respecting both factions, Whigs and Tories." A person from the body of the meeting seconded it, and when put it was carried unanimously. Mr. Butterworth and two others also addressed the meeting. A vote of thanks was given to Charles Connor, and the meeting broke up, well satisfied.—[We received a very lengthy report of the above named meeting, but such is the demand upon our space and the importance of passing events, that we have been reluctantly compelled to curtail the report.]

[We have inserted the resolution, above, *verbatim*, not feeling ourselves at liberty to alter the phraseology; yet we cannot, and shall not, undertake to justify the unnecessary use of such a redundancy of harsh terms, however merited by the factions.]

BROWN-STREET CHARTIST ROOMS.—The Rev. W. V. Jackson preached here on Sunday evening last. The rev. gentleman produced a glorious feeling upon the minds of his audience by encouraging them to persevere through good and through evil report, until the Charter becomes the law of the land, and the people of this country are comfortable in body and mind. He afterwards announced that a public tea party would be held in the Brown-street Rooms, on Thursday in Whitsun week, for the benefit of that tried, valued, uncompromising, and noble patriot, now in Chester Castle, William Benbow.

STOCKPORT.—COURTING THE "DEAD" CHARTISTS.—A short time ago the Whigs boasted that the Chartists were *dead;* but now, alas! the poor Whigs are so far reduced in their probabilities of sticking to place, that they are praying, beseeching, and begging the support of the "dead" Chartists at the coming election; this must convince plain John Campbell that there has been a resurrection, and therefore the day of judgment must be at hand; prepare then, ye Whigs; an offended, insulted, and *oppressed judge, in a united people. Chartists,* be up and doing, and remember the tender mercies of "the base, brutal, and bloody Whigs."

LANARK.—CORN LAW AGITATION *versus* CHARTISM.—The Corn Law party to give every semblance of popularity and importance to their movement, attempted to get the Provost and magistrates at their head, but in this they failed, as will be seen in the sequel. The declaration of ministers was hailed as a God-send, but they were not competent for the task, inasmuch as they did not dare to meet the public, lest they might sustain a defeat. Their first attempt was the getting up of a requisition to the magistrates to convene a public meeting, for which they got upwards of 400 signatures, in answer to which the magistrates declined to interfere, but granted the use of the County Hall, for the said purpose. The next step was the invitation of two or three dozen of the requisitionist, under a pretext of a preliminary meeting, preparatory to a public one, who met on Monday, the 17th inst. When Mr. A. Hislop, ex-baillie, was called to the chair. The Chairman said something like the following. "Well, Gentlemen, I suppose ye a' ken what yere a' here about; it is in order to get up a petition about the Corn Laws." He took out a letter, and read it to the meeting, which he had got express from Glasgow that morning; it was from Mr. Murray, Corn Law Secretary, which urged him to get up a meeting, and to procure as many signatures as possible. The letter also contained the draft of a petition, and he was anxious the meeting would adopt. After a good deal of desultory conversation about a general meeting in terms of the requisition, Dr. Shirley reminded the meeting that a number of gentlemen had met in Edinburgh for the same purpose, and were annoyed by a set of fellows (meaning the Chartists) who were so impertinent as almost to push the chairman from the chair. When the Learned Doctor had concluded his luminous speech, the chairman advised them to take Doctor Shirley's advice, adding, if you had been at a meeting that I attended in the West Church, when Mr. Gillon was here, you would not think of calling any more public meetings. The Chairman seems to have had a vivid recollection of the signal defeat which they sustained in December, 1838, when the Chartists carried a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Gillon, M.P. in a meeting called by the Whigs themselves, although they were assisted by a Tory justice of the peace. Mr. J. Cunningham stated that they had nothing to fear from the Chartists, for they had sufficient moral power to put them down. Notwithstanding, the Chairman proposed "That this meeting adop the Glasgow petition presently, and have no more meetings about it."—Seconded by Dr. Shirley. Mr. J. Simpson moved, "That we call a public meeting, in terms of the requisition." Only two voted for the amendment.

MRS. FROST.—Mr. John Cleave desires us to say that he has received for Mrs. Frost the following sums:—Mr. George Hall, late of Wakefield, 2s. 6d.; collected by F. Green, 1s. 6d.; Mr. G. Medley, 1s.; J. Hentley, 1s.; Maria Day, 6d.; Brutus, 2s. 6d.; Typo, 6d.

SARAH CLAYTON

MOST Respectfully informs the Inhabitants of SHEFFIELD and its Vicinity, she has commenced NEWSVENDING, and Retailing other Articles, hoping, by unremitting assiduity in Business, to merit the confidence and support of the Chartist Friends in Sheffield, and the Public at large, assuring them all Orders for their Papers and Cheap Publications will be promptly attended to.

S. C. begs to tender her grateful acknowledgments to her numerous Friends, for their past sympathy and support, whose commands will at all times have her best attention.

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TO THE CHARTISTS OF LONDON.

A GRAND BALL and CONCERT will take place in the MARYLEBONE and PADDINGTON WORKING MEN'S HALL, No. 5, CIRCUS-STREET, MARYLEBONE, on WHIT-MONDAY, MAY 31, 1841, in Aid of the Funds of the above Hall, which has been taken at a very great expense by the Members of the National Charter Association, for the purpose of holding their meetings in; when the Committee pledge themselves that no exertion shall be wanting on their part to render the Evening's amusement as effective as possible. In the course of the Evening, a selection from "Wat Tyler." Mr. TIPPER, a Chartist, will sing the favourite Song of "The War Cry;" and several Comic Songs in character, by Mr. THOMAS.

Double Tickets, to admit a Lady and Gentleman, 1s. 6d.; Single Tickets, 1s.; to be had at the following places:—Mr. Christopher, George-street, Foley Place; Mr. Savage, Mechanic's Institution Tavern, Circus-street; Mr. Ford, 17, High Row, Knightsbridge; Mr. Murray, 18, Fitzroy Place, New Road; Mr. Lunn, New End, Hampstead; Mr. Ross, 20, Regent-street, Kennington Cross; and Mr. Lovett, Sec. Pro. Tem., 18, Shouldam-street.

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44, ALBION STREET, LEEDS.

IN CASES of SECRECY consult the TREATISE on every Stage and Symptom of the VENEREAL DISEASE, in its mild and most alarming forms, just published, by Messrs. PERRY and CO., SURGEONS, No. 44, Albion-street, Leeds, Private Entrance in the Passage; and 4, Great Charles-street, Birmingham, and given gratis with each Box of PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, price 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per Box, containing a full description of the above complaint, illustrated by Engravings, shewing the different stages of this deplorable and often fatal disease, as well as the dreadful effects of Mercury, accompanied with plain and practical directions for an effectual and speedy cure, with ease, secrecy, and safety, without the aid of Medical assistance.

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The rash, indiscriminate, and unqualified use of Mercury, has been productive of infinite mischief; under the notion of its being an antidote for a certain disease, the untutored think they have only to saturate their system with Mercury, and the business is accomplished. Fatal error! Thousands are annually either mercurialized out of existence, or their constitutions so broken, and the functions of nature so impaired, as to render the residue of life miserable. The disorder we have in view owes its fatal results either to neglect or ignorance. In the first stage it is always local, and easy to be extinguished by attending to the directions fully pointed out in the Treatise, without the smallest injury to the constitution; but when neglected, or improperly treated, a mere local affection will be converted into an incurable and fatal malady. What a pity that a young man, the hope of his country and the darling of his parents, should be snatched from all the prospects and enjoymetns of life by the consequences of one unguarded moment, and by a disease which is not in its own nature fatal, and which never proves so if properly treated.

It is a melancholy fact that thousands fall victim, to this horrid disease owing to the unskilfulness of illiterate men, who, by the use of that deadly poison, mercury, ruin the constitution, cause ulceration, blotches on the head, face, and body, dimness of sight, noise in the ears, deafness, obstinate gleets, nodes on the shin bone, ulcerated sore throats, diseased nose, with nocturnal pains in the head and limbs, till at length a general debility of the constitution ensues, and a melancholy death puts a period to their dreadful sufferings.

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BLINDNESS.

MR. BAXTER has left Liverpool, and may be consulted Daily at his Residence, Bridgeman Place, Cockerill Spring, Bolton, (personally, or by Letter, pre-paid,) upon all Cases of Ophthalmia, or Inflammations, Specks, &c., Amaurosis or Dimness of Sight, cured without Surgical Operation, or any restraint of Diet or Business.

N.B. Mr. B. may be consulted at the White Horse, in Southgate, Halifax, Yorkshire, on Monday and Tuesday, the 10th and 11th of May.

TESTIMONIALS.

No. 12, Union-place, Clayton-st., Liverpool.

Sir,—I take the opportunity to write to you, to inform you how my brother's eyes are getting on, Alexander Frazer, (that was blind through inflammation and thick films, and was declared incurable at Glasgow,) that called upon you at Bolton. He can now see to read the smallest print, for which I feel truly grateful to you, Sir, for my brother's progress in sight, as well as many more friends in Glasgow.

Given in my handwriting, this 2nd day of August, 1840,

JOHN FRAZER,
No. 98, Gallowgate, Glasgow, Scotland.

Sir,—For the good of the public, and, especially unto those who are labouring under the distressing malady of blindness, I here insert that my daughter, Mary Leech, 15 years of age, was blind, through a violent inflammation and films, and was in the Staffordshire Infirmary for a length of time, where she was severely blistered, leeched, &c., until her eyes were sunk in her head; and, after that, golden ointment was applied to her eyes with care, but all to no service. But, hearing of your ability as an oculist, and the cures you had performed, I wrote for one pound's worth of your eye medicines, giving every particular of her case, on the 1st of April, 1840; and, thank God, in one month, she could see to read the smallest print, and has remained perfect ever since. And, Sir, my youngest daughter Emma had very bad eyes at the time, and they are perfectly cured by your medicines.

Given in my handwriting, this 14th day of January, 1841,

WILLIAM LEECH,
Amicable-street, Tunstall,
Staffordshire Potteries.

☞ Mr. Newbrooks, in High-street, Tunstall, desires to state that he is perfectly restored to sight, and is happy that he had the chance of meeting with your valuable medicines.

Sir,—Being blind (Amaurosis) of the right eye and very deficient of sight of the other, it being gradually failing for years, and in my 70th year, I had given up all hopes of ever being restored to sight again; but, hearing of the cures you were performing in Liverpool, induced me, Sir, to place myself under your care, and I can with pleasure inform the public that, after being under your treatment for one month, I can now see to read tolerable sized print, without the aid of glasses.

Given in my handwriting, this 28th day of January, 1841,

FREDERICK HAMILTON,
No. 39, Charlotte-street, Liverpool.

Mrs. Price, Dance Street, Copperas Hill, Liverpool, 53 Years of Age, blind (Amaurosis) for Three Years, and in such a state of Debility, that she could not rise from her chair without help, but after patiently persevering in Mr. B.'s mild treatment for Five Months, she is restored to sight so as to distinguish any object: moreover, she can walk about and perform part of her domestic duties, and keeps still improving both in Sight and Health, and will be glad to answer all inquiries on the same. Sanctioned to be inserted, for the good of others, on Thursday, 18th of March, 1841, as she cannot write herself.

N.B. Every satisfaction will be given from the above patients by a personal visit; but, as they have been both at expence and trouble through numerous letters, it is necessary that those who wish to *obtain more information, should inclose one shilling* when they write to them.

OLD PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

MORE PROOFS that this noted Medicine will restore to health the afflicted, and *continue* in sound health the *recovered*.

Read the following from a soldier, discharged from her Majesty's service as incurable, after having the advice of the most celebrated physicians:—

"To the Proprietors of Old Parr's Pills.

"Gentlemen,—I feel it a duty I owe to you and to the Public at large, to acknowledge the *astonishing* benefit I have received from taking 'Old Parr's Pills.' I was for nearly nine years in the 52nd Regiment of Foot, but was discharged in the year 1839 as incurable, after having the best advice her Majesty's service afforded, being pronounced consumptive; I then returned home to Hinckley, where my attention was attracted to Old Parr's Pills. I was induced to purchase a 2s. 9d. box, and from that moment I date a renewal of my life; for on taking one box, I immediately began to recover, and two 2s. 9d. boxes more completely cured me.

"I am, yours most obediently,
"JOHN OSBORN."

Witness—James Burgess, Bookseller, &c. &c., Hinckley.

The following extraordinary case of cure has been communicated to the Wholesale Agent for Parr's Life Pills, at Nottingham:—

Mrs. Joseph Simpson, Church Hill Close, Old Lenton, near Nottingham, has been severely afflicted for the last thirty years, with a violent cough, and difficulty of breathing. The affliction has been so severe that she could not fulfil her usual domestic obligations. She took cold when only fifteen years old, and the cough never left her till she took Parr's Life Pills. She had tried almost every kind of medicine, and had taken laudanum in large quantities, but nothing afforded relief.

She heard of Parr's Pills about last Christmas, and as soon as she had taken about half a box, she found herself completely cured, and was never affected in the slightest manner during the severe weather that followed, and is now better in health than she has ever been in her life.

This cure does indeed appear miraculous, but for the satisfaction of the most incredulous, she has kindly consented to answer any inquiries, either by personal application or by letter, addressed "Mrs. Joseph Simpson, Church Hill Close, Old Lenton."

Two remarkable cases (selected from many others) communicated to Mr. Noble Bookseller and Printer, 23, Market Place, the Agent for Hull.

Mr. Plaxton, of Cottingham, five miles from *Hull, had long been afflicted with a most severe* internal disease. So dreadful were the paroxysms that he frequently expected death was at hand to release him from his sufferings. For a great length of time he had been unable to *sit down at all*, even being compelled to stand at his meals. His next door neighbour having heard of the virtues and unprecedented success of "Parr's Pills," purchased a *small box* for him, and on his calling for a second box, he told me that such had been the astonishing effects produced by *one box*, he was able to *sit down*, and on taking two other boxes, his pains have left him; his appetite is good, and he is able to follow his vocation nearly as well as he has ever been in his life.

Mrs. Shaw, wife of Mr. Shaw, yeast dealer, had been for a great length of time afflicted with a severe internal disease. To use his own expression, "paying doctors for her had beggared him," so that at last he was compelled to send her to the Infirmary; there she received no permanent benefit. Having heard of "Parr's Pills," he purchased a small box; she began to mend immediately on taking them, and two more boxes have cured her. She is as well as she ever was in her life.

Mrs. Stephenson, of Cottingham, five miles from Hull, has been severely afflicted with a bad leg for more than ten years, and during that period has tried all kinds of medicines, but without any permanent relief. After taking four small boxes of Parr's Pills, she is able to go about her day's business in a manner which for comfort has been unknown to her for above ten years.

Signed, EDMUND STEPHENSON, her Son.
Witness—Joseph Noble, Hull, May 8, 1841.

"To the Proprietors of Parr's Pills.

"Mrs. Ann Lamb, of Haddington, in the Parish of Auborn, bought two small boxes of Parr's Pills, at your Agent's Medicine Warehouse, Mr. James Drury, Stationer, near the Stone Bow, Lincoln, for her son Jesse, who was suffering very badly from Rheumatism in the hands, knees, and shoulders; he is seventeen years of age, and in service, but was obliged to leave his place from the complaint. The two boxes completed a cure on him, and Mrs. Lamb bought a third box of Mr. James Drury, last Friday, for him to have by him, and to take occasionally. He has now returned to his place, free from Rheumatism.

"This statement, by Mr. Robt. Lamb, and Ann, his wife, parents of the youth, is given that others may benefit by those invaluable Pills, *Old Parr*, and they will willingly answer any enquiries, and feel very thankful for the good they have done to their son."

Lincoln, April 17, 1841.

This Medicine is sold by most respectable Medicine Venders in the United Kingdom, in Boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s., duty included. The genuine has "Parr's Life Pills" engraved on the Government Stamp.

EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY.

PERSONS having a little time to spare, are apprised that Agents continue to be appointed in London, and Country Towns, by the EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY, for the Sale of their celebrated Teas. Office, No. 9, Great St. Helen's Church-yard, Bishopsgate-street. They are packed in Leaden Canisters, from an Ounce to a Pound; and new alterations have been made whereby Agents will be enabled to compete with all rivals. The License is only Eleven Shillings per annum; and many, during the last Sixteen Years, have realised considerable Incomes by the Agency, without One Shilling Let or Loss.

Applications to be made (if by Letter, Post paid) to

CHARLES HANCOCK, Secretary.

In the Press,

RICHARDSON'S RED BOOK, OR A PEEP AT THE PEERS,

Uniform with the "BLACK BOOK," 100 Pages, Price Fourpence,

CONTAINING the Titles, Names, and Surnames of all the Lords "Spiritual and Temporal," date of their births, to whom married, their connexions, the places, pensions, emoluments of office, sinecures and fat livings, of themselves, their children, and relations, in the Army, Navy, Law Courts, Civil Offices, Church of England, and Colonial Departments; their influence in the Commons' House; shewing the golden reasons for voting away the millions of taxes amongst themselves and their dependents. This little Book will solve the problem of the Peers "standing by their order." Every reader of the "Black Book" must have one of these companions, in order to contrast the splendour of the tax-eaters with the misery of the tax-payers, and work out the grand social maxim—"Knowledge is power; Union is strength!"

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POPULAR BLACK BOOK AND ALMANAC FOR 1841;

Which has obtained a higher circulation than any other kind in Britain. Also,

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Price Twopence; shewing their claims to a share in the Legislature and Executive power in the State.

London: J. Cleave, *Penny Gazette* office, Shoe-lane, Fleet-street; Manchester, Heywood, Oldham-street; Leeds, Hobson, *Star* office; Liverpool, Smith, Scotland-place; Glasgow, W. Thompson, *Circular* office, Princess-street; Birmingham, Guest, Steelhouse-lane; Edinburgh, Duncan, High-street; Huddersfield, J. Leech; Dublin, O'Brien, Abbey-street; and R. J. Richardson, 19, Chapel-street, Salford; Newcastle, D. France; Sunderland, J. Williams.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.

To the sufferers from Bilious and Liver Complaints.

THE unexampled success of Frampton's Pill of Health calls for particular attention. These Pills give immediate relief in all Spasmodic and windy complaints, with the whole train of well-known symptoms arising from a weak stomach or vitiated bilious secretion, Indigestion, pain at the pit of the Stomach, Bilious or Sick Head-ache, Heart-burn, Loss of Appetite, Sense of Fulness after meals, Giddiness, Dizziness, pain over the eyes, &c. &c. Persons of a Full Habit, who are subject to Head-ache, Giddiness, Drowsiness, and Singing in the Ears, arising from too great a flow of blood to the head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their immediate use. They are highly grateful to the Stomach, create Appetite, relieve Langour and Depression of Spirits, gently relaxing the Bowels without griping or annoyance, removing noxious accumulations, rendering the System truly comfortable and the head clear. The very high encomiums passed upon them by a large portion of the public, is the best criterion of their merit, and the continual statements of their good effects from all parts of the kingdom, is a source of the highest gratification.

Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London, Price 1s. 1½d. per box, and by his appointment, by Heaton, Hay, Allen, Land, Tarbotton, Smith, Bell, Townsend, Baines and Newsome, Smeeton, Reinhardt, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Dennis & Son, Moxon, Little, Hardman, Linney, Hargrove, York; Brooke & Co., Walker & Co., Stafford, Faulkner, Doncaster; Judson, Harrison, Ripon; Foggitt, Thompson, Thirsk; Wiley, Easingwold; England, Fell, Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward, Richmond; Cameron, Knaresbro'; Pease, Oliver, Darlington; Dixon, Metcalfe, Langdale, Northallerton; Rhodes, Snaith; Goldthorpe, Tadcaster; Rogerson, Cooper, Newby, Kay, Bradford; Brice, Priestley, Pontefract; Cardwell, Gill, Lawton, Dawson, Smith, Wakefield; Berry, Denton; Suter, Leyland, Hartley, Parker, Dunn, Halifax; Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge; Dalby, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate; and all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for FRAMATON'S PILL OF HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229 Strand, London," on the Government Stamp.

MEDICAL ADVICE.
MESSRS. WILKINSON AND CO., SURGEONS,

No. 13, Trafalgar-street, Leeds, and 34, Prince Edward-street, Fox-street, Liverpool,

HAVING devoted their Studies exclusively for many years to the successful treatment of the Venereal Disease, in all its various forms; also, to the frightful consequences resulting from that destructive practice, "Self Abuse," may be Personally Consulted from Nine in the Morning till Ten at Night, and on Sundays till Two.

Attendance every Thursday at No. 4, George-street, Bradford, (from Ten till Five.)

In recent cases a perfect Cure is completed within a Week, or no Charge made for Medicine after that period, and Country Patients, by making only one personal visit, will receive such Advice and Medicines that will enable them to obtain a permanent and effectual Cure, when all other means have failed.

They hope that the successful, easy, and expeditious mode they have adopted, of eradicating every symptom of a certain disease, without any material alteration in diet, or hindrance of business, and yet preserving the constitution in full vigour, and free from injury, will establish their claims for support. As this Disease is one which is likely to be contracted whenever exposure takes place, it is not like many other visitors, once in life, but, on the contrary, one infection may scarcely have been removed, when another may unfortunately be imbibed; therefore, the practitioner requires real judgment in order to treat each particular case in such a manner as not merely to remove the present attack, but to preserve the constitution unimpaired, in case of a repetition at no distant period. The man of experience can avail himself of the greatest improvements in modern practice, by being able to distinguish between discharges of a specific and of a simple or mild nature, which can only be made by one in daily practice, after due consideration of all circumstances. In the same manner at birth, appearances often take place in children, which call for a proper knowledge and acquaintance with the disease, in order to discriminate their real nature, and which may be the means of sowing domestic discord, unless managed by the Surgeon with propriety and skill. Patients labouring under this disease, cannot be too cautious into whose hands they commit themselves. The propriety of this remark is abundantly manifested, by the same party frequently passing the ordeal of several practitioners, before he is fortunate enough to obtain a perfect cure. The following are some of the many symptoms that distinguish this disease:—A general debility; eruption on the head, face, and body; ulcerated sore throats, scrofula, swellings in the neck, nodes on the shin bones, cancers, fistula, pains in the head and limbs, which are frequently mistaken for rheumatism, &c. &c.

Messrs. W. and Co.'s invariable rule is to give a Card to each of their patients, as a guarantee for Cure, which they pledge themselves to perform, or return the fee.

For the accommodation of those who cannot conveniently consult Messrs. W. and Co. personally, they may obtain the Purifying Drops, price 4s. 6d., at any of the following Agents, with Printed Directions, so plain that Patients of either Sex may Cure themselves, without even the knowledge of a bed-fellow.

Mr. HEATON, 7, Briggate; and
Mr. HOBSON, *Times'* office, Leeds.
Mr. THOMAS BUTLER, 4, Cheapside, London.
Mr. HARTLEY, Bookseller, Halifax.
Mr. DEWHIRST, 37, New Street, Huddersfield.
Mr. HARRISON, Bookseller, Market Place, Barnsley.
Mr. HARGROVE'S Library, 9, Coney Street, York.
Messrs. FOX and SON, Booksellers, Pontefract.
Mr. HARRISON, Market-place, Ripon.
Mr LANGDALE, Bookseller, Knaresbro & Harrogate.
Mr. R. HURST, Corn Market, Wakefield.
Mr. DAVIS, Druggist, No. 6, Market Place, Manchester.
Mr. JOHNSON, Bookseller, Beverley.
Mr. NOBLE, Bookseller, Boston, Lincolnshire.
Mr. NOBLE, Bookseller, Market-place, Hull.
Mr. H. HURTON, Louth, Lincolnshire.
Iris Office, Sheffield.
Chronicle Office, Lord Street, Liverpool.
And at the *Advertiser Office*, Lowgate Hull.

Poetry.

ACROSTIC.

L ife, what is it ?—toil and woe;
I nfernal Whigs have made it so;
B lood is on their heads; and weeping
E yes bedew the sod, where sleeping
R ests a victim. Hark! that cry!
T 'is from a voice that cannot die;
Y outhful, smiling, LIBERTY.

JAMES CLARKE.

Clayton West, May 19th, 1841.

ANSWER TO ELLIOT'S CHARADE.

My dear friend Elliot, your charade, as you call it,
I will answer, though it be but shy;
I am mastered by time, and I am no hand at ryhme;
But I guessed L I BERTY.

PHILO.

Darlington.

Local and General Intelligence.

BRADFORD.—CHURCH RATE MEETING.—Another attempt has been made to lay a church-rate: thousands of rate-payers were present on the occasion. The meeting was adjourned from the vestry to the church-yard. The Vicar occupied the chair, and read a something called a monition, purporting to have come from a Rev. Father in God at York. A great deal of hubbub and nonsense ensued. It was then moved that a rate of one halfpenny in the pound be laid. As an amendment, it was moved that no rate should be laid, which was carried by a majority of at least twenty to one. The Rev. Vicar next inquired in what manner, and by whom, the old edifice was to be repaired; when immediately it was moved and carried that the "needful" should be raised by voluntary subscription, in which the oppositionists promised their utmost support. However, nothing would suit but a compulsory rate; and in accordance with the monition, the churchwardens laid a rate. A protest was then entered against the proceedings of these individuals, and a fiery discussion ensued as to whether it should be inserted in the town's books, which ended by its insertion, and was afterwards signed by a large number of the inhabitants.

MANCHESTER.—On Sunday last, a procession of Modern Druids was formed in Manchester, to accompany the remains of a deceased brother to its resting-place. It was truly cheering to witness the working men assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to one of their own order, and to see the solemn decorum manifested by all the body during the whole of the proceedings.

EMIGRATION.—Three hundred agriculturists from Limerick, Tipperary, and Kerry, embarked last week at Cork, for Sydney.—*Dublin Pilot.*

IT IS reported that the proprietors of the South Western Railway have taken up the subject of a railway to Salisbury.

THE TIDE of emigration still runs strongly towards the United States. In the absence of goods, the ships fill with steerage passengers.

THE *Augsburg Gazette* gives a frightful account of the atrocious massacres perpetrated by the Turks upon the Christian insurgents of Bulgaria.

THE *Constitutionnel* has a letter which says, "We know not on what authority, that another great Russian expedition is on its march against the Circassians."

A STEAM frigate has been built at Bordeaux for the Spanish Government, and is just completed. As soon as some guns expected from England arrive the vessel will be ready to sail for a Spanish port.

THE IRONMASTERS of Staffordshire and Shropshire find it necessary to blow out forty-two furnaces, by which many persons will be thrown out of employment.

CAPTAIN PASLEY'S operations against the wreck of the Royal George are now going on with great activity under Lieut. Hutchinson, as the executive officer.

THE COMPETITION among the steamers has become so great, and their numbers have so much increased of late, that seventeen vessels are daily engaged in conveying passengers between Gravesend and London.

DEATHS IN THE METROPOLIS.—The weekly statement of the number of deaths, registered in the metropolitan districts, shows a considerable decrease compared with the weekly averages of 1838-9-40.

WE ARE informed that the magistrate who, it was said, offered to procure the remission of the sentence of the convict Medhurst for the sum of £3,000, has been struck off the commission of the peace.—*Times Correspondent.*

La France states that M. Guizot had applied to the Court of London to unite with France in assembling an European congress, but that the British government had refused to accede to his request.

TWO corporals belonging to the 26th regiment, quartered at Eysses, near Agen, fought a duel a few days ago with swords. They wounded each other at the same moment so severely that one died on the spot, and the other's life is despaired of.

IN THE French Chamber of Deputies the question of uniform postage was brought forward, when the Minister of Finance declared that the Government had no intention of introducing such a measure into France at present.

FEMALE LECTURES.—Last week two stranger ladies delivered lectures on Tee-totalism in the South Secession meeting-house, Perth, and so successful had they been in making converts, that at the conclusion of the lectures 200 females enrolled themselves under the banner of total abstinence by signing the pledge.

A SENSATION has been created in Madrid, by a rumour that an English vessel, captured for smuggling by a Spanish preventive-service boat, and carried into the harbour of Carthagena, had been cut out of the harbour by two English brigs of war.

A LETTER dated Bremen, states that a vessel belonging to that port had just arrived there in the charge of a British naval officer, who had captured her off the coast of Africa, suspecting her to be fitted up for the slave trade. The merchants at Bremen, it was said, were indignant at the bare suspicion of being engaged in such a diabolical commerce.

SIR JOHN BECKETT of Leeds, says the *Manchester Examiner*, Mr. George Jackson the Mayor of Preston, and Mr. *Robert Gladstone of Liverpool*, have each been named as the second Tory candidate, with Mr. Parker, for Preston.

AN INSURRECTION against the oppressive taxation of the Porte in Bulgaria, according to the *Leipzic Gazette* of May 16th, is a very serious affair: there is general anarchy; and *out of 150 villages near Rasgrad*, only twenty have escaped destruction.

SOME smugglers on the Swiss frontier have adopted a plan of conveying light parcels of valuable articles over the frontier line of customs stations by means of a balloon. They freight the aerostatic machine with a load of from 160 to 200 English pounds, and then, guiding it by a rope, take advantage of a favourable wind, and walk with their aerial vehicle into France.

IT WILL be gratifying to those who have correspondents in India to know, that a great inconvenience will be soon done away with—viz., the obligation of paying the postage on this side, and that in a short time postage may be paid both here and in India, or both on the transmission and receipt of the letter.

TREASURE FOUND.—Property to a considerable amount has been found lately on the beach near Weymouth. George Trent, in proceeding homewards with his cart last week, saw an old pair of cloth breeches lying on the pebbles. He put them in his cart, and on examining them, found in one of the pockets a leather note-case, containing four Bank of England notes to the respective amounts of £5, £20, £100, and £1,000. The man got the three smaller notes cashed the same day; but the £1,000 note being much defaced and torn, apparently by long immersion of the sea, has been sent to the Bank of England, by whose means, probably, the note may be claimed. There was nothing about the trousers or the note-case to afford any clue to the owner.

A PATRIOTIC BILL-STICKER.—At Marlborough-street, on Saturday, John Speechley, one of the fraternity of external paper-hangers, vulgarly called bill-stickers, was charged with having plastered the shutters of an empty house in Oxford-street with placards. Having been detected in *flagranti delicto*, the policeman took him at once into custody. He was called upon for his defence, the bill-sticker assumed a tone of lofty indignation. He said, "I'm a free-born Englishman, and I've a *right* to stick it where I like." Mr. Long—"You have no right to stick bills on people's houses." Defendant—"My I have a right, as one of the people, to stick it. They didn't put up a notice to 'stick no bills,' I'd a right to exercise the privileges of our profession. I've a public duty to perform, and in these days England expects every man to do his duty." Mr. Long—"And I have a public duty to perform also—to prevent the law from being broken." Defendant—"I'm bill-sticker to Mr. George Robins, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Simpson, and all the great auctioneers. I'll do my public duty or I'll sacrifice myself on the altar of my country. We are all equal: you're my brother, and I can prove it." Mr. Long—"Well, but I wish my brother would behave with more moderation. *Will you promise not to do it again?*" Defendant—"I'll stick to my *rights*." Mr. Long—"Then I fine you a shilling." Defendant—"I won't pay you a farthing." The defendant was then removed from the bar with the air of a political martyr. An hour's confinement in the back cell cooled his patriotism. Having consented to surrender his fee, he was released.

FIRE.—We have the painful intelligence to communicate of the total destruction, by fire, of Tetcott-house, the property of Sir William Molesworth, Bart., on Friday afternoon last. The house, which was built about seven years since, cost upwards of £5,000 in its erection. A report was spread ascribing the fire to be the work of an incendiary, but it has been ascertained to have been purely accidental, resulting from an accumulation of soot in a crack of the flue taking fire. The furniture and papers were saved.—*West of England Conservative.*

CONVICTION OF TEETOTALERS FOR STREET PREACHING.—At the Longton Pottery Police Court on Wednesday, Thomas Hurley, William Ashford, Richard Horn, and John Kent, four members of a Teetotal Society, appeared to answer an information, laid under the 66th clause of the Stoke Police Act, which charged them with creating or causing a nuisance, by preaching in the open air, at Penkhull, on Sunday last. James Hope, a policeman of Stoke, said on Sunday morning last, about half-past ten, he was at Penkhull, and found a large body of people congregated together at a Teetotal meeting. The defendants were all there. They had a waggon and a cart. Huxley was preaching, between the pool and the barn, on the left-hand side of the barn. The preachers did not obstruct the way, being on private property; but the crowd did. There was no noise except "laughter," "hear, hear," and general approbation. Nothing likely to cause a breach of the peace occurred. The topic generally was to abstain from strong drinks. Mr. Williams inquired of the Magistrates if the defendants were called on to offer any defence. They had a host of witnesses to prove that there was no obstruction in the road, or breach of the peace. He could show that they were on private land, and that they had leave of the proprietor to use it; and that he also lent them the cart and waggon used to preach from. Mr. Alcock and Mr. Williams then called witnesses for the defence. The first was Mr. John Rathbone of Norwood. He said he was a member of the Teetotal Society, and presided at the meeting. They had leave to use the land from Mr. Rhead. He would swear there was no obstruction of the road. Heard the policeman say, they came by Mr. Rose's order to disperse the meeting, and an answer was made, that Mr. Rose must send a note. Mr. Williams said, if the singing in the streets were declared a nuisance, the children of the charity and Sunday schools, in which they all felt great interest, must be stopped, which would be a circumstance much to be deplored. Mr. Joseph Davenport said, he was employed in keeping the road clear. There was room for a carriage to pass. If any one stopped *on the road*, he requested them to move nearer the waggon. Now and then a few stood, but they were not generally on the road. There was six or seven yards between the waggon and the [illegible] Messrs. Wm. Tams, John Brooks, Wm. [illegible] Wm. Cotton, Luke Carter, R. Vivian, [illegible] said Thomas James, were successively [illegible] spoke to the orderly state of the meeting; that they did not consider that there was any obstruction of the road, or any nuisance whatever. After a short consultation with Mr. Broade, Mr. J. Harvey said the magistrates were of opinion that the defendants were guilty of creating a nuisance, under the provisions of the Police Act, and they must pay a fine of 1s. each, and the expenses.

FROST, O'CONNOR, RIDLEY, AND THE MANDARIN AFFAIR.
TO F. O'CONNOR, ESQUIRE.

"False accusations can be nobly cleared."

SIR,—In the letter addressed *to me* in the *Star* of the 20th inst., if you received mine of the 18th, you have allowed your feelings to overpower your judgment or not allowed justice to take its true course.

"London, May 18th, 1841.

"DEAR SIR,—In compliance with your request, I send the particulars of my interview with the steward, Mr. Douglas, of the ship Mandarin, in St. Katherine's Dock.

"It was on Tuesday evening, the 13th instant, at the Social Institution, Whitechapel Road, being delegated to a public meeting there; Mr. Douglas sought an interview to gain Mr. Lovett's direction, he having a private verbal message to Mr. Lovett from our friend Frost. I did ask Mr. Douglas if Mr. Frost had not sent a message to any other person except Mr. Lovett; and, in particular, I named you and your conduct en Mr. Frost's trial. Mr. Douglas replied no; for it was Mr. Frost's opinion, on going out, that you was in the pay of Government. I asked what did he think Mr. Frost would say now when he heard you was in prison, and under the power of the same Ministry? Mr. Douglas told me he doubted not Frost's opinion was altered before this: he heard something to that effect before he left New South Wales for the East Indies.

"This is all that was stated concerning yourself, and I thought proper, in justice to you, to have the first opportunity of making the statement, because I felt sure that Mr. Lovett, on seeing the steward, would make all inquiries about Mr. Frost's opinions on that unfortunate affair, which cost him his liberty.

"The steward requested me not to make any statement about him in public, because it would tend to injure him in his employ: that is the reason I was not at liberty to state the steward's name or occupation on board the ship in Convention. I was at liberty to tell any of them in private, and have done so. Morgan Williams, of Wales, went on board the ship with me on the Thursday following, and heard from the steward the same: Dr. M'Douall has been since; and I feel convinced, if you have a desire to know any further regarding our unfortunate friend Mr. Frost, the steward will answer if you write to him. The ship is fitting out to carry emigrants to New Zealand: it goes from thence to New South Wales. Mr. Douglas offers to take out to our friend Frost any parcel or any letters that may be entrusted to his care.

"Mr. Frost had about fifty letters he intended to give to the care of Mr. Douglas; but the doctor of the ship, from his kindness, gained on Mr. Frost's feelings, and he gave them to the care of the doctor. You may guess who had them from him, he being in the employ of Government.

"Mr. Douglas stated that Frost, Williams, and Jones were well when he left them; they were well treated out by all, and well received by the Governor. Frost is a clerk, Williams an overseer, and Jones a schoolmaster.

"I hope this will find you in good health, and shall feel happy when you are again among us.

"I remain,
"With all respect,
"Truly yours,
"RUFFY RIDLEY.

"55, Old Bailey, and 19, D'Oyley-street, Sloane-street, Chelsea."

Since writing that letter I have obtained the name of the introducer of Messrs. Smart, Skevington, and myself, to Mr. Douglas the said steward, which introducer is James Wilkins, 18, Vincent-street, back of Shoreditch Church. Remember I have not seen him to hold any conversation, and remember he was present with the Steward before I saw him and after I left him to address the meeting.

I appeal to all men present at that meeting if I did not dwell solely on the injustice done by a base Government to Frost, O'Connor, O'Brien, and all our injured brethren. You may ask why did not Mr. Smart or Skevington hear the conversation? The answer is, the meeting was waiting, and they the country delegates appointed to address it.

Now, Sir, to your letter in the *Star*. I will not enter into controversy with you, the injured person, about blunderbusses or infernal machines at work against you; let them be so. Justice is your sword; love to your unfortunate and degraded fellow men your armour; noble actions and intentions your shield; with these will you gloriously triumph. You say I am your accuser, and your feelings being wounded with injustice, you direct a plain statement given word for word as it took place, in order to make me so. Did I not consider you firm in your intentions? Did I not consider you to be surrounded by foes? Did I not feel convinced I have taken a true course to stay all that may be made a handle against you? Did I not know what ever may be the opinions formed now, I have done good for the future, I never would have given the statement publicity.

You say I interrupted the business of the Convention upon almost the last day. This I deny. I was called upon twice to make a statement of my interview, and lastly, the Chairman stated he was ready to receive it. If I was not in order, the Convention could not be so in allowing and calling on me to make it. I say after they entertained it, they were much to blame in not allowing me to finish.

After the word *horrid* in your letter, you say why not state that first? My answer is, it was my duty to give the report word for word, after the manner the conversation took place. Now, if the statements of Mr. Frost's opinions be true or false, you and the world have them just as I received them. What is in the private message I know not, it was thoughts on that and the position of all parties that brought me to a determination to give my report publicity, and I did it, knowing I may stand repudiated for the present, but no one can handle it to repudiate you for the future.

In your letter you go over all the actions coupled with your name, that prompted me to ask the question, be it judicious or injudicious time will show. I have no desire to support the value of my information. I have given the name of my introducer; I now ask him, through this letter, if I have made a false or just statement of the interview, I request him to affirm or deny it.

You say you will give £1,000 if I prove to the satisfaction of Collins, Hetherington, or Lovett that you have ever in your life been guilty of one act of deceit or treachery to your own party or your political foes. My answer to that is, let those who have a desire for your £1,000 and to destroy your fame do it. With respect to the three names quoted, Mr. Collins I never saw to my knowledge till he appeared in Convention; Hetherington I never spoke to four times in my life, was never in a shop of his in my life; Lovett I never spoke to, nor do I personally know him; so much for me being connected with any part or portion of men in new moves, cliques, or factions. Your letter makes the foulest charge against me that one man could make against another, if you will insist that in giving in a report, I make a charge! I positively deny it: You have the portion in the statement that bears honour to you; that clears you. Is it not in the question put, "what did he think Mr. Frost would say now, when he heard you was in prison, under the power of the same Ministry! The reply was, he doubted not Frost's opinions were altered before this. He heard something to that effect before he left New South Wales for the East Indies." After this explanation, it must give on its own bearings of merit or demerit the truth of my intentions.

I now with pain touch on Mrs. Frost's letter She does not consider my intentions good. Morgan, of Bristol, and Morgan Williams, of Wales, I doubt not will prove the desire of my intentions for good, if they appear to have worked evil. Now, Sir, you have received the whole statement—*the true statement*; and if you require any information regarding my character, private or public, I shall, on being requested, gladly refer you to persons of standing and reputation in society. If you can receive at my hands any other service to do justice and honour to your name, pray put me in the way to perform it. The only circumstance that I can call to your mind regarding me is, I took the chair at a public meeting in Chelsea, for your attendance, sixteen or eighteen months back.

To conclude, our cause requires union. I feel proud, in one respect, that my statement has drawn forth a glorious account of your exertions on that unfortunate affair. You have laid before the public a statement that will give fresh vigour to our cause, fresh excitements to our principles, and remove from the minds of many doubters, entertaining suspicion. Your account of that trial will redound to actions there stated.

Now, Sir, to conclude, I belong *to no faction*—you ask for an answer, and you have it. I do not ask for grace or favour at your hands; let my actions stand on their own ground. I request you to disprove the truth of my statement, if found, on investigation, incorrect, and remain

Yours, respectfully,
RUFFY RIDLEY.

May 25, 1841.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE NATIONAL VICTIM FUND COMMITTEE.

From the 23rd of February to the 20th of May, 1841.

Dr.

		£.	s.	d.
Feb.	28—Money in Mr. Heywood's hands as Treasurer	0	1	8
"	Ratcliffe, after a lecture by Mr. Leech, per Richard Hamer	0	7	2
"	Newton Heath, per David Whittaker and Edward Travis	0	5	2
March	2—Nuneaton, Warwickshire, proceeds of a few Sunday evening's readings of the *Northern Star*, per T. Winters	0	10	0
"	A Republican at Castle Dorrington	0	1	0
"	Mr. Hardy, of Stapleford, per Mr. Sweet	0	0	6
"	3—From Irvine, proceeds of a lecture, by Dr. M'Douall	0	15	0
"	Trowbridge, and the Chartists of Warminster, per John Moore	0	4	9
"	4—Tenth subscription of Smiths and Engineers of the East District of London, per an enemy to oppression...	1	7	0
"	From Sunderland, per J. Rainsley	0	16	6
"	13—Marylebone and Paddington Victim Committee ...	0	14	7
"	Collected by Mr. Churchyard ...	0	10	0
"	Profits of a Concert on Thursday, Feb. 18th, 1841, ...	3	8	1
		4	12	8
"	Fourth subscription of a few flint shoe-makers of the East District of London, per Wm. Holliday ...	1	0	0
"	26—St. Pancras Political Victim Committee, per Mr. Wall	5	0	0
"	Mr. Arnold, of Nottingham	0	6	0
"	From N. C. A., of Middlesbro'	0	15	0
"	30—From Westminster Victim Box, per W. Y. Souter	0	10	0
"	Proceeds of a tea-party at New Pellon, near Halifax, per John Cockeroft ...	1	2	0
April	11—From E. Clayton, of Huddersfield, per Mr. Campbell	0	6	0
"	Eleventh subscription of the Smiths and Engineers of the East District of London, per an enemy to oppression	1	10	3
"	From Burrhead Benevolent Chartist Society, per Mr. Pearson	1	0	0
"	From Worcester N. C. A., per J. Blackwell	1	0	0
"	From Leicester, per John Seal to Mr. Heywood	0	10	0
"	From Chambers's Works, Carlisle, per John Bell ..	0	7	6
"	Stroud N. C. A.	0	3	6
"	Per Mr. Bartell and a few friends	0	0	6
"	From Croydon, per W. Hodges	0	6	0
"	Norwich, per Samuel Goat ...	0	14	0
"	Birmingham, collected from a few friends, per C. Steward	0	3	6
"	Trowbridge, collected by E. Payne, per J. Biggens ...	0	7	0
"	Trowbridge, by the members of the democratic chapel	0	3	0
"	Honley, by J. W., from five friends	0	2	6
"	Honley, the Easter penny collection	0	2	6
"	From Mr. Maddock's sale of Mr. Cleave's pamphlets ...	0	2	0
May	5—Westminster, the penny subscription	0	18	0
"	From St. John's, in Westminster, per George Taylor ...	0	5	0
"	14—From *Northern Star* office ...	76	0	2
	Total money received by the Committee	101	15	10
	Total money paid by the Committee	44	4	1
	Money in Mr. Heywood's hands, as Treasurer ...	57	11	9

Cr.

March	9—Mrs. Hawarth, of Denton ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Armitage, of Stockport	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Burton, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Whareham, ditto ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Johnson, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Livesey, of Manchester...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Barker, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Timothy Higgins, of Ashton-under-Lyne	1	0	0
"	30—Mr. Howarth, on his coming out of Chester Castle ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. Harmatage, ditto ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. Johnson, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Burton, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Whareham, ditto... ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. Livesey, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Broadbent, of Ashton-under-Lyne	1	0	0
"	Mr. Duke, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Carrier, of Trowbridge...	2	0	0
"	Mr. Crabtree, of Barnsley ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. Hoey, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Ashton, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Smethies, of Bradford ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Hutton, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Holdsworth, ditto ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Brooks, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Walker, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Benbow, of London ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. Charles Morris, of Bolton, (released from Kirkdale)	1	0	0
"	Mrs. O'Brien, of Lancaster ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Peddie, of Edinburgh ...	1	0	0
"	Mr. W. V. Jackson, of Manchester	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Foden, of Sheffield ...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Booker, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Clayton, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Holbury, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Penthorp, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Duffy, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Marshall, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Bennison, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Barker, of Manchester...	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Roberts, of Birmingham	1	0	0
"	Mrs. Brown, ditto	1	0	0
"	Mr. Weevers, of Macclesfield	0	10	0
"	Mr. Dan. Bell, prisoner, Kirkdale	0	10	0
"	Expences of Committee in rent, paper, &c.	1	4	1
		£44	4	1

Audited and found correct by
JAMES LEECH,
ROBERT GREEN,
THOMAS DAVIS,
ABEL HEYWOOD, Treasurer,
SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN, President,
PETER SHORROCKS, Secretary.

A VOICE FROM WAKEFIELD HELL.

House of Correction,
Wakefield, 15th April, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—Being permitted only once a month to have any communication with my friends, I am, as may be expected, nearly ignorant of passing events. However I am informed that that curse of Chartism, *disunion*, exists to a deplorable extent. This is precisely as the enemy could desire, they know that union is strength, and therefore will exult in our disunion. I have long lamented this evil, and would most willingly sacrifice my own feelings on particular points, to obtain union in our ranks. Of this the enemy in Barnsley are perfectly aware, having dragged me out of my own house there in 1839, under a charge of sedition, for having at a public meeting recommended union as the only means of destroying tyranny, and having at the same time proved the necessity of such union, and referred to history for glorious examples of its uprooting despotism and oppression. Admiring as I do your unparalelled exertions to ameliorate the condition of the working classes, and feeling convinced that those exertions emanate from the purest and best of motives, I deeply regret that the bitterness of your confinement should be augmented by the insidious conduct of pretended friends. I must confess that I have not agreed with every action of your political conduct, but I have never for one moment doubted the purity of your intentions, and the greatest fault that I have been able to detect, has been what I then, and at this present moment consider, a too extreme DESIRE TO CONCILIATE MEN, *who have on all occasions evinced any thing but a friendly feeling towards you.* I watched with painful feelings the conduct of Lovett, and the Working Men's Association, during the late agitation, every action of which exhibited a SECRET, but persevering and *implacable enmity towards you.* Whether you observed this or not I am unable to say. However it made a deep impression upon my mind, and when I visited London, whilst the first Convention was sitting, I embraced every opportunity of satisfying myself why such feeling did exist. I shall not refer to the many convincing proofs I received of their malignity towards you, and will only add, that after remaining in London altogether about three months, and associating during that time with a great number of as good Chartists as there are in England, I was extremely glad to find that this ungenerous *and unjustifiable feeling*, was confined to Mr. Lovett and a few of his immediate friends.

The above remarks apply in part to Mr. Collins also, as the whole tenor of his conduct, after the Birmingham rupture, was any thing but generous or friendly. Being extremely desirous, Sir, for union, I rejoiced exceedingly in your noble and disinterested conduct on their behalf, when they were committed to Warwick Castle, concluding in my own mind, that the exertions you made on that occasion, would obliterate from their minds any petty feelings of jealousy that might have biassed their better judgment. But, Sir, judge of my surprise, on learning through the medium of my friends that these two individuals, backed by a few others, have most treacherously concocted a plan for the ostensible purpose of knowledge Chartism, but for the secret purpose of removing you out of the way of Judas O'Connell.

I have been nearly ten years a prisoner under this and my former conviction, during which time I have suffered every privation and hardship that the refined cruelty of man can devise, yet I solemnly declare, that with the exception of what I have felt on account of my family and relations, that I have experienced more regret on this base attempt, than I have on any circumstance that has occurred during the whole period, excepting also, of course, the unfortunate Welsh affair. Feeling confident that the ingratitude of such conduct must wound, to a certain extent, feelings already harassed and oppressed by dreary confinement, (and I know that no man living can be more sensitive than yourself, on questions of honour, consistency, and independence of character,) and, having witnessed your extreme desire, by indefatigable perseverance in the most disinterested actions, to keep them above suspicion;—I know Sir, that you must have felt intensely on the subject.

I do not, Sir, write to flatter; it is a mean and grovelling despotism unworthy of a man; but I think that it is equally mean and grovelling to withhold the sentiments of one's mind, because in giving utterance to them we are compelled to speak in praise; neither do I write to have my opinions published. My only motive in writing is to express my indignation at the base conspiracy, and to assure you, Sir, that it is my firm belief few men in England could be found to possess such unworthy motives, as Lovett and Collins appear to be actuated by.

I regret such disunion occurring, not because I think they possess any interest to injure you, but from a conviction that such divisions retard the cause we all profess to admire and advocate. The real intentions of those individuals must be manifest to all, since the old crotchet of moral and physical force has been so very properly buried in oblivion. Hence they are compelled, for the effecting of their sinister designs, to introduce some new subject of contention. That their principal object is to ruin if possible your hard-earned reputation, and universal popularity, I cannot for one moment doubt, neither can I imagine that they will succeed. The base attempt will recoil on their own heads, or I am much deceived in my opinion of the Chartists of England.

I have above expressed my pleasure, that the old bone of contention (about moral and physical force) is buried in oblivion. But although I am pleased such is the case, I cannot admit, what may be inferred by such a confession, that I imagine moral force in itself, can or will be sufficient, taken in the sense that some people define it in, to bring about the objects we all have in view. My sentiments on the above foolish distinctions, remain precisely the same as when at liberty, from a conviction, that the oppressors of the country will never do justice to the working classes, only through the fear of something worse; yet such is my ardent desire to witness the downfall of the present odious and exclusive system of class legislation, that I am as willing as ever I was, to assist in every moral effort that is made to accomplish it, without any regard to my own judgment, which tells me that the people of England (and when I say England, I mean the whole empire) must be prepared to take their rights before the "powers that be" will grant them. And this is what I call moral determination, and not *moral and physical cowardice*, about which so much has been said, to answer certain purposes. And yet, although I am become, through continued oppression, almost impatient for retributive justice, and my soul pants to avenge my own and my country's wrongs, and, as God lives, I would prefer a glorious death, to a life of wretchedness and slavery, still I am willing and desirous to bury my own opinions for the sake of union with those who may entertain different views, and who may, in consequence of never having been subjected to the same insults, degradation, and refined cruelties as myself, be more patient.

Perhaps I have already occupied too much of your time; nevertheless I must draw your attention to a subject that I think might be attended with very beneficial effects, if carried out. Men unacquainted with the social and domestic condition of the working classes, imagine that they, as a body, are contented with the present state of things, and if left to their own judgment would never contemplate a change. I have been told so by many respectable individuals. And this opinion is formed of their contentedness by their apparent apathy in not enrolling themselves as members in Chartist Associations to any extent. I must confess, the objection at first view appears somewhat plausible, but when we enquire into causes, we discover the injustice of such a conclusion.

We all are very apt to say, that man is the lord or master of all created beings; whereas were we to speak the truth, (but this would be confessing our own weakness,) we ought to say that *woman is.* It is true, man is the ostensible being that encounters the toils, dangers, and hardships of this life. But, Sir, woman is the secret influence by which men are propelled onwards, to brave dangers and even death. This I think few men will deny, but some I know will exclaim, "O but I never allow my wife to exercise any controul over me." This may be true in a few instances; but take the great body of mankind, and we shall find that woman, by her endearments, and timid, but fond and unaffected solicitude for our well-being, directs or controuls the whole of our actions.

This at once accounts for the apathy that so many men unfortunately manifest towards their permanent interest. And when we examine the social condition of the working and middle classes of society, we find that the poor man is entirely dependent upon the middle class man for employment, and consequently for his bread, of which the oppressors seldom fail to deprive them, should they dare to think and act for themselves; and we know also, that the middle classes of society as a body, are as deadly enemies to the poor man's rights as the worst of the aristocracy, or our base and vacillating Government.

Now, Sir, being aware of this, and knowing also, that a number of individuals, in consequence of daring to profess Chartist principles, have been deprived of employment, and left to starve, surrounded with famishing wives and children, unassisted, allow me to ask, is not this quite sufficient to deter others from becoming members of a body so persecuted, and so regardless of each others' well being? This has created a feeling of dread in the minds of *wives* and *mothers*, lest they should be subjected to the same hard fate, and therefore they exert all the influence they possess to keep their husbands from joining our ranks. Hundreds of individuals, in all parts of England, have confessed this to me, and very naturally expressed their fear of bringing ruin upon their families.

But, Sir, all this might be very easily remedied, and an irresistible impulse given to the cause. In no former period of the world have the working classes possessed such means of accomplishing it; many persons, were they to hear this assertion, would doubt its correctness; but they must be very ignorant of past events, not to perceive that it is strictly correct; in the possession of a newspaper, regardless of frowns or persecutions, that fearlessly exhibits to public view and contempt, private oppressors as well as public despots. This mighty defence of industrious poverty, backed by a fund to relieve the victims of petty tyrants, would speedily remove this great drawback to union; and a very small sacrifice, if we can call such a trifle a sacrifice, weekly from each individual, would provide an ample fund, to afford a comfortable and sure maintenance for all who may in future be thrown out of employment, or persecuted purely for their political principles.

I am given to understand that there is an Executive Committee in Manchester, belonging to the Chartist body of England. This Committee could transact this additional business also; and the Chartist's associations in each town could stand for local committees, to investigate and report, to the Executive Committee, any circumstances of local oppression that might occur in their different localities, and which report should be a sufficient authority for affording relief according to the nature of the case. This simple plan would also instantly do away with the necessity of so many different collections, which in themselves are a great injury to the cause; as all persons who may have a claim upon the sympathy of their fellow Chartists for assistance under oppression would find no difficulty in obtaining such. The *Star* would give publicity to all the transactions; and thousands who are now held back, through fear of starvation, would immediately join our ranks; and those women who have hitherto kept their husbands at home, when they saw that their children and themselves were not likely to want for bread, would urge them to join their fellow men in obtaining justice from the common enemy. Assistance should be extended in the same manner to our persecuted brethren in ill used Ireland; when we should be able to give the death blow to the further deceptions of the charlatan, O'Connell, as our principles would rapidly gain ground under such circumstances.

This plan may appear impracticable to some, but I am confident it could be accomplished with the greatest ease imaginable, if the Chartists are willing.

[Ashton next proposes a plan of raising money for the above desirable object, namely, by a penny subscription, and then concludes thus]:—

Trusting that what I have said will be sufficient to draw your attention to the subject, and that you will triumph over all your enemies, and live to see all your benevolent intentions towards the working classes carried into effect,

I remain, Sir,
Your uncompromising and sincere
Friend and Admirer,
WM. ASHTON

To Feargus O'Connor, Esq.,
York Castle.

[I have read the above letter with great pain and pleasure—pleasure, in deserving the confidence of my old friends; and pain for the keen and cutting censure which it conveys. Yes, it is keen, and for this reason. The very day before poor Ashton's trial, he made a tenth attempt to put me on my guard against several parties who have since tried to injure me; and, instead of thanking him, I rebuked him most severely, when he turned and said, "Well, Sir, you may live to repent." I have lived to repent; but it is of my injustice to poor Ashton, to whom I cheerfully tender my contrition.—FEARGUS O'CONNOR.]

DUFFY, THE LIBERATED CHARTIST.

The following letter from Duffy, to his son at Carlisle, has been sent to us for publication:—

Sheffield, May 16th, 1841.

MY DEAR SON,—I have the gratifying pleasure to inform you and my friends in Carlisle, that I am (thanks be to God) once more enjoying the fresh and cooling breezes of liberty! having been liberated on the 12th instant, on account of the bad state of my health. I had been confined in the hospital, as an invalid, since the 10th December, 1840. I am happy to inform you that I am in a fair way of recovery, and what is still better, that after being confined in silence and having had to endure most cruel hardships for the space of fourteen months and seven days, and although I am much debilitated and all but dead, my persecutors have not been able to obliterate from my heart and mind *one single letter of the glorious Charter!* No! never, never! I repudiate the new Whig movement of Lovett, Collins, and Co. and will, as soon as my health permits, boldly take my stand on the rock of liberty, advocating until the death the rights of the people. I am, my dear Son, most thankful to you for your noble and patriotic efforts to rescue me from my late bastile; an event which will make you still more endeared to me than ever; and though you have neglected me by letters, you have nevertheless done your duty nobly and affectionately. I hope you will excuse the shortness of this letter, as I assure you I am scarcely able to hold the pen through the weakness of the nerves. Believe me to be, my dear boy,

Your affectionate and distressed Father,
JAMES DUFFY.

Hurrah for the Charter!

COMMUNICATIONS STANDING OVER FROM OUR LAST.

IRISH "REPEALERS" AND IRISH CHARTISTS IN MANCHESTER.

On the subject of the late disgraceful physical-force *exhibitions in Manchester, we have received the following* correspondence for publication:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—Will you have the kindness to give insertion to the address sent you, and to the enclosed letters? to prove to the enemies of Universal Suffrage that we want fair play and free discussion.

Your obedient servant,
JOHN CAMPBELL.

Salford, May 14th, 1841.

Salford, May 8th, 1841.

SIR,—I address you as an Irishman by the request of the Irish Chartists resident in Manchester, to know whether the Repeal Association of Manchester approve or disapprove of the brutal conduct of the parties profess

ELECTION PROCEEDINGS AT LEEDS.

A meeting of the Leeds Parliamentary Reform Association took place in the Large Room, Commercial Buildings, on Monday evening, to take into consideration what steps should be taken concerning the representation of Leeds in the anticipated forthcoming election.

George Goodman, Esq. was called to the chair, and said that the meeting had been called in pursuance of a requisition he held in his hand. He alluded at some length to the depressed condition of the operative and manufacturing classes. They wanted a remedy for this state of things, and he thought one could be found. He could not but think the wealth of this country was produced mainly by its commerce, and that commerce had been much crippled by various laws which had been passed. He had no hesitation in saying that if the commerce of the country declined, its agriculture would, sooner or later, follow. The injury of the one must always be followed by the injury of the other. He therefore hoped they would choose men who would advocate a freer trade. Machinery had given great facilities to manufacture, and this country had allowed, or rather compelled, foreign countries to compete with us. There were other very serious matters connected with the election of members to Parliament. There must be compromise. (Hear, hear.) There were other parties who did not come up to their standard in politics. The body of Radical Reformers wanted to go on more rapidly than others, whilst others did not want to go on so fast. Let them endeavour to consult the scruples of the others; let them endeavour to support the man their Whig friends would bring forward, that they might support them in return.

Dr. Smiles next addressed the meeting, and proceeded to show that the House of Commons did not represent the people. It was quite clear the Ministry had been and would be defeated on the measures they had brought forward, and it was quite clear that the repeal of all the laws which were opposed to the interests of the people would be rejected, until they demanded that they should be fully represented in the House of Commons. Mr. Marshall's letter—and a more eloquent letter had never been published—said, that there was a want of sympathy and harmony between the Government and the people; and they had abundant proof of this. They should, therefore, endeavour to make the Government sympathise with the wants of the people. They also wanted a repeal of all those duties which pressed upon the necessaries of life. Ministers had said they would go a certain part of the way to effect this. It was not all they wanted, but they welcomed it. Here was an advance which shewed the power of the people—that even Tories and Whigs would go so far in removing the grievances of which they had so long complained. Dr. Smiles here entered into some observations respecting the Corn Laws. Their duty was very clear: it was, to elect a man who would carry out their views respecting the Corn Laws and the Suffrage. The suffrage was a lever to enable them to alleviate the condition of the labouring classes, for as soon as the people were consulted in the government of the county, they would legislate for the whole people, and not for the benefit of a part only. The Reform Bill was a question analogous to the present. In spite of the opposition of immense majorities, it was carried by the overwhelming voice of the people: in fact, it was a giving in to the democratic principle. Even the Whigs had declared themselves friendly to an extension of the franchise, and that they would go with the people on the food question. It was their interest, therefore, to go with that portion of the aristocracy who would go with them, and to declare for Household Suffrage at the least. (Applause.) He asserted that a majority of the people was not in favour of the Corn Laws, and he was quite sure that if the people of Leeds were appealed to on the principle of Universal Suffrage, a majority would be in favour of a Repeal of the Corn Laws. He begged to move the first resolution, the purport of which was, that the Association should carry forward the objects for which it was commenced.

Mr. Nicholls, a working man, seconded the resolution in a few remarks, which

The Chairman put to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Craven, who was received with applause, then read the next resolution, which pledged the meeting to support a Whig, in case the Whigs would support a Radical. (Hear, hear, hear.) He would give the Whigs support, on condition that they would give their support in return to the Radical candidate. They must either do this, or each party try to have their own way, and then the Tories would have their own way. It was their duty to co-operate with their Whig friends, for they would get more by this than the contrary course. Their Whig friends had come forward, and offered to co-operate with them. They had a right to claim half of the representation as long as two members were returned. He knew that a majority of the electors—that half of them were Radicals. They were not in a position to carry two Radicals without the aid of the Whigs, but when they were in a position to carry more, no one would be more ready than himself to do so.

Mr. Rattrey, a working man, next addressed the meeting. Whatever would administer or add to the amount of their liberties (he said) was something snatched from the aristocracy. There had been a feeling engendered of late, of hatred from the working classes towards the middle and upper classes, which he regretted to see. He knew no one who had been persecuted more than he had been by these classes, or who had felt the iron heel of despotism more severely than he had done. He did not look to persons—he looked to principles. If the tendency of the principles advocated by any parties was good, they were bound to co-operate with them, if they would promote the liberties of the people. The speaker, as we understood him, with his back towards us, said, that he had been instrumental in getting some of the Chartist leaders to the meeting, who expected to be refused admission. He could tell them that he had attempted to gain admission to a Chartist meeting in Salford, but he had been prevented going in because they told him only members were admitted, as it was a private meeting. Here the speaker was interrupted with cries of "question, question, &c." They must excuse him if he made a digression, as he was not in the habit of addressing a public meeting. It was not from any bad intention on his part. Though he was a working man, he would declare that the Whigs had done more than the Tories ever had done or ever would do. He did not support the Repeal of the Corn Laws because the present Ministry had brought the measure forward. He would take the argument of Feargus O'Connor, which he had heard him make use of in the Music Saloon, at the time Lord Stanley and the Bishop of Exeter were at variance upon the Church question; and he (the speaker) thought it was one of the best arguments he had ever heard. He said you couldn't do a better thing than cause a split between them, because then the people would come in for their share; and that if you repealed the Corn Laws you would diminish the incomes of the aristocracy. He told them if they thought it was piety made the aristocracy support the Church they were much mistaken; it was because it provided them and their younger sons with places and emolument that they maintained the Church, and it would be to the advantage of the people if there were to be a split among them. But, after he had said that the Repeal of the Corn Laws would diminish the incomes of the aristocracy, and thus add to the power of the people, what did he continue with? Why, by saying that he would never repeal the Corn Laws, because he would never have this country depend on foreign countries for its supply of food. This was a childish argument that any schoolboy could have refuted. Here the speaker was interrupted by repeated cries of "Question, question," and "we don't want to hear nought about that," "What's that to do with the question?" &c. However, the speaker continued on the subject for a short time, the chairman suggesting that it was not proper in him to do so; but he afterwards concluded by seconding the motion.

A person in the body of the meeting asked "Does the resolution pledge us to support a Whig?

Mr. George Newton next got up to speak. (Cries of "cut it short.") They had been asked whether they were to support the Whigs? The resolution bound them to support the man the other party might think fit to bring out. Before they bound themselves to support it—

A person in the crowd—I'll second you, Mr. Newton. (Laughter.)

Mr. Newton—He would never bind himself to support a man who would not support that institution. He would not deviate from the rules of the institution, and he would not support a Whig. He would forfeit his life first. (Hisses, cheers, and all kinds of ejaculations proceeded from parties in the meeting, upon this announcement being made. The speaker could not be heard for some time. After cries of "chair, chair.")

The Chairman rose to preserve order. He trusted they would preserve quietness, and hear what the speaker had to say.

Mr. Newton said he should like to see who it was the Whigs brought forward, before he pledged himself to support him. They had told him it was a Mr. Oldham or Aldham. If it were so, he'd rather have an honest Tory at once. (Much interruption and confusion, and cries of "You can't find an honest Tory.") They told him he (Mr. A.) was opposed to the Ballot. (Hear, hear.) He had pledged himself to support the Ballot, and he would not support a man who would not advocate the Ballot. (Again the interruption became so great that the speaker could not make himself heard. It continued for some time.) If they entered this Association they ought to abide by its rules, and not to shuffle or cut for any man whatever.

The Chairman here threw out a few remarks cautioning the meeting against division. That was just what the Tories were waiting for. As parties were now nicely balanced they must mind how they acted. Half a loaf was better than no bread, therefore they had better return one man of their own, and if the Whigs brought forward a man friendly to free trade who might not be in favour of the Ballot, let them support him.

Mr. Plint followed in opposition to Mr. Newton's line of argument. He eulogised the Whigs as a noble-minded and charitable body of men, who supported the various useful public institutions with their talents and money, and concluded by saying, that if he saw that two Tories could be brought in who would vote for a repeal of the Corn Laws, he would vote for them on that ground alone. (Mr. Newton—Aye, that's Newton; that's my doctrine.)

Mr. Robinson said that their Association was formed to extend the suffrage, and he could not advise—he would not, he could not, ask the labouring classes to join it, if they were to neglect its principles. He would not vote for a Whig on any consideration.

Mr. Atkinson said the question was, were they to unite with the Whigs, or stand on their own bottom? If there was to be a union there must be a concession on the part of the Whigs. He would not compromise with the Whigs. (Applause.) If the Whigs said they would support two Whigs in preference, let the evil rest on their own shoulders.

The resolution was put and carried with one dissentient—Mr. Newton.

Mr. Whitehead next addressed the meeting. He trusted the Whigs would not bring forward any one opposed to the Ballot, and none but a friend to religious liberty. He did not mean a man who would merely say that each religious denomination should support their own place of worship, but one who held church property to be public property. He had as great a right to church property as those who held it. They had brought forward Mr. Hume and he was happy to say the Whigs would support him. As they (the Radicals) had shown a disposition to bring forward a more moderate man than Sir William Molesworth, it now behoved them to elect a man as liberal as Mr. Baines at least. He was only sorry their Chairman had not been put in nomination. (Applause.)

Mr. Robert Heaps hoped the Whigs would bring forward a man as nearly as possible approximating to Radicalism in his principles, or by the next election they would see the necessity of doing so.

Mr. Plint argued that the Radicals must submit to have such a candidate as the Whigs thought fit to bring forward, and whose family connections and local influence would enable them to carry him.

Mr. Atkinson moved that the meeting should respectfully express a hope that the Whigs would choose a candidate favourable to the Ballot.

After a brief discussion this resolution was carried—*there being a strong body of dissentients.*

Throughout the meeting, anything but unanimity prevailed. A good many of the Rads declared they would not take a "pig in a poke," in other words, that they would not support a man of whom they knew nothing, or any man the Whigs might choose to bring forward.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1841.

"IRELAND"

AND

"GREAT COMMERCIAL REFORMS."

As the co-operation of Ireland is most emphatically required and flatteringly courted by the "*Liberator*" on behalf of her Majesty's advisers, in what is called their attack upon "monopoly," we are bound to consider what the result of Ministerial success must inevitably produce, not for the majority of the nine millions, but for the very class who are, unfortunately, armed with the "life preserver," and which they are now requested to use for self-destruction—we mean the electors.

Ireland returns sixty-four County Members, two University Members, and thirty-nine City and Borough Members; and, without the shadow of a shade of difference, the interest of the whole of the constituencies, be they county, university, city, or borough, is identical, as one great whole, in the approaching contest. Nay, more, to such an extent would the proposed alteration in the Corn Laws alone affect the whole agricultural, commercial, trading, and labouring interests of Ireland, that the greatest good anticipated by English speculators, even if realised, would be more than over-balanced by the blighting effects which the *victory* must inevitably produce in that country, and which must extend to this side the Channel.

With Ireland, the Ministerial question is one of life and death. It is not based on mere theoretic or speculative dogmas of political economists. It is not to be followed by any adjustment which may be rendered requisite and necessary, according to the subsequent working of the EXPERIMENT. It is not to be accompanied by any protective power, or retributive accompaniments, to be placed in the hands of those who are asked to embark their all in the Government hulk, without masts, pilot, or even rudder, for the poor satisfaction of giving faction a triumph over party.

Perseverance in the path of error has reduced the old and respectable party of English Whigs to a mere faction, whilst their awkward management of their own measure, "Reform," has actually revived the embers of their factious rivals, and blown them into a powerful party. The same breath which was to have extinguished Toryism, has but resuscitated the monster.

Is the part, then, which the Irish are now invited to take in the war of self-destruction, for the mere purpose of party extermination, worthy of a great nation?

But, after all, upon what will depend the success of the working of the measures in Ireland, should the Whigs succeed? Why, upon the law of *wills*,—not of testaments,—but of *landlord's wills;* upon the will of the broken and driving landlords of Ireland. Upon the law of "*sic volo*," "*sic jubeo*." "Thus I will, thus I order." Upon the will of men in whom is now incorporated by the landed Tithe Bill, all the power of landlord and parson, for the purpose of rent-screwing. Upon the will of magistrates, who can select whether they will distrain as landlords, or as parsons, for the pound of rent, or the five shilling of tithe, and for whose purpose the Whigs have supplied a large distraining staff of "*civil power*," *with muskets, bayonets, and cutlasses,* and commanded, in most instances, by half-pay officers.

This, then, is to be the adjusting machinery placed in the hands of the "*measuring cast*" majority of Irish landlords.

But, being a great, a very great question—in fact, an entirely national question, a wholesale and *real* "*Irish manufacture*" question, we are bound to enter fully into a consideration of what its effects must produce in Ireland. In order, therefore, to relieve the subject of all those technicalities, mysteries, and absurdities, with which political economists free traders and trafficking polititians would enshroud it, we start upon a simple basis—upon their own foundation stone. Upon one point only do the several sections of "anti-monopolists," as the "monopolists" whimsically call themselves, agree. They all agree that the alteration in the Corn Laws *will make bread cheap;* that the alteration in the sugar duties will *make sugar cheap;* and that the altering of the timber duties will *make timber cheap.* We here, then, admit the fact, as to corn; and join issue as to the result. We ask, then, does not the whole project fail of its anticipated benefit, if bread is not reduced in price? and, we ask, if bread is reduced in price, must not wheat, of which bread is made, be also reduced in price? and if wheat is reduced in price, must not land which produces wheat, as its most valuable crop, be reduced in value? and if land be reduced in value, must not rents be correspondingly reduced, as a fair accompaniment to the scheme? "O, yes; yes, of course, and so they would; everything finds its proper level," answer the monopolists. True; we admit it; but why not look for your level first—why select the most uneven and hilly line, when you can pass over a plain without injustice to any, or damage to the State? And what, we would ask, is to happen while the Government engineers are levelling? We will tell our friend, George Henry Ward, who is so fond of precedent, just what happened in 1821, when every house was fortified, when the working classes of Ireland were Whiteboys to a man; when the whole strength of England's army, and Ireland's Orange yeomanry, could not resist the determination of a people roused to madness, by the very same causes which the success of the new Government plan would once more create in Ireland, and for the adjustment of which, 1821 furnishes a precedent. And, let it be borne in mind, that bad as it was, yet did Whiteboy Union and perseverance, compel the Tory Goulburn (being the Chancellor of the Exchequer) to surrender to popular will, and oblige him to pass his Tithe Commutation Bill in two years after, by which all the Protestant grass-land of Ireland, theretofore exempt from tithe, was brought to bear its share of the Protestant Church impost.

Let us now see what led to the White Boy revolution in 1821. In 1815 we had peace proclaimed, and a partial return from high war prices for agricultural produce; speculation upon capital made in war time, and anticipation of more blood-letting, still kept the farmer afloat, and he paid the same rent without any abatement.

The harvest of 1816, however, gave high rents a "*heavy blow*," and two other bad harvests, between 1816 and 1821, caused a demand upon the Landlords for a reduction of rent, and upon the parsons for a reduction of tithe, commensurate with the fall consequent upon agricultural produce and a return to "cheap bread." How was this demand answered? By calling out the yeomanry; by proclaiming martial law; by appointing special commissions; by shooting without colour of crime, and hanging without colour of law! "O! true, true," say the politicians; "but it was the Tories!!!" No, no; it was not; it was the landlords, the parsons, and the magistrates, Whigs as well as Tories. It was that force which in every country, when its interests are attacked, either compels the existing Government to assume the lead in despotism to preserve its order, or deposes the Government upon refusal, and establishes one of its own in its stead.

How did the landlords and parsons meet the emergency? There were two classes of landlords, without distinction of creed or politics: one class was very, very scanty indeed; the class who made tardy reductions; but even in the mode of making those reductions they completely paralyzed all industry among their tenantry. It was this. They held them to the old condition in their leases, and gave them receipts for the full amount, upon receiving the reduced rent, and held the old arrears over them as a drawn sword, ready upon a war, or any other god-send, to have the "full pound of flesh." Thus were the farmers out of all heart, while the Irish labourers were compelled to have recourse to opera benefits patronised by the Royal Family, needlework performed by Maids of Honour, proceeds of fancy balls, and subscriptions from the English humane and charitable, for support; and the plague partially terminated, by an influx of Irish agricultural labourers into the English manufacturing market; an influx greater in four years than the whole swarm of poor creatures who had been banished for the previous century.

The other class of landlords were those who held on by the terms of the lease as long as the last goose had a feather in her tail; middle men, in most instances, but well backed by fee-simple proprietors.

This system, coupled with Mr. Goulburn's Tithe Bill, of 1824, gave rise to the plan of knocking small heart-broken farms into pasture ground, which led to another irruption of displaced labourers.

In 1826, the Irish currency was assimilated; that is, land held by small farmers was again raised by 8⅓ per cent.; the old Irish pound was compounded, being demanded in the new coin, £1 1s. 8d. This the small cottier tenants, bore, as they would bear anything for a hiding hole and a "*spot to work on.*" But *it* also dislodged many.

Then came the Catholic Relief Bill in 1829, and this measure *relieved* the political traffickers of 380,000 of their live stock, whose little holdings of an acre or two were knocked into large farms of fifty or a hundred acres; and then had we an immense exportation of the life's blood of the country—of the real wealth of the nation.

These 380,000 heads of families constitute the whole mass of Irish pauperism, at present so humiliating to those who witness it without a struggle for its removal; and also have greatly augmented the reserve in the English market.

During these trying periods for the farmers, the parsons, as a body, tried shooting upon a large scale, rather than reduce one farthing of their accumulated demand, or abate it in future to peace prices; and although they justified their refusal by "the TRUST *imposed upon them for their successors*"—the never failing plea of Churchmen, as expediency is of tyrants,—yet did they, in many, very many instances, refuse to take fifteen shillings in the pound of the arrears from the Catholic occupiers, while they leased them out to Protestant proctors for ten shillings in the pound, upon a strict promise not to abate one farthing of the *legal* demand.

Now such are the parties to whom the Irish farmers and the Irish labourers are to look with confidence, for the adjustment of any inequality which the "GREAT COMMERCIAL MEASURES" may create—to a party who have systematically plundered, in violation of all laws human and divine, and who, in compliance with a Government measure, will not, we imagine, surrender in *proper season*, the right of "doing what they please with their own." To such a tribunal are the plundered to appeal as a last resource.

If this calamity does *not* come, then does the project fail; for bread will *not* be cheaper; and if this calamity *does* come, then will it be met according to *precedent*, by shooting, hanging, and transporting, in the first instance, and then by the exportation of another million of Irish agriculturists as a further reserve for the masters; and *then another million of a loan from England for Irish parsons.* And THEN, perhaps, may be applied the lever which if used in time, would have spared the weeping the wailing and the gnashing of teeth. That lever is the Charter! which by depriving the landlords of the power of annexing destructive conditions, would oblige them to give leases for ever at a corn rent, and to bring their land into a valuable retail market to meet the wants of God's own flock.

This, and this only, can make a people independent of all foreign growers. This, and this only, can insure peace, plenty, and "cheap bread:" but this they will not do till forced to it, because upon the monopoly of the land depends the existence of a lucrative church establishment, a lucrative army and navy establishment, a lucrative place and pension establishment; one and all of which are so many hot beds—nurseries and provisions for the scions of the landed aristocracy.

"Well but," says an "anti-monopolist," "would you not crush that faction." We answer, *No;* not if by crushing *that* we crush those who would be innocent sufferers, and create in its stead a more heartless set of "*quasi*" landlords, what the Irish call "Sky farmers"—domestic jobbers—who would purchase the produce of the land from Germans, Russians, Turks, Prussians or Americans, as cheap as they could, and sell it as dear as they could to those whose own land they had rendered sterile in order to hold complete dominion over their working slaves.

We would crush them by making them rich, whether they would or no; by taking from them the power of making themselves paupers, by impoverishing their country and their fellow-men. *That* we call christian justice, and we much prefer it to the justice of political economists.

The great anomaly of the corn branch of the new "commercial exotic" is this, that the Irish people are asked to join in reducing the price of the only thing they produce—for the purpose of cheapening the thing of which they never consume a particle! "O but that is a part of our complaint," say the humanity mongers; "we mean to make them consume more bread." To this general fallacy we shall reply under the head "Timber Duties." Cheap bread, then, must make cheap land; but cheap land will not follow cheap bread, so long as one of the old tenants upon any estate has one fraction left, whereby he can be "kept to his bargain;" while the desolation, expectation, and misery caused while the thing *was finding its level*, would be indescribable. So much for the "*fixed duty on corn*," and now for

"SUGAR DUTIES."

Upon this subject, as regards Ireland, we require but a word. We would feel obliged by the "cool Mr. Baring" furnishing us with a "sliding scale," by which a lot of jolly Irish boys in a frolic may estimate the reduction to be made upon each tumbler of punch, according to the "GREAT COMMERCIAL REFORM." We want that; because it is the only manner in which Irish labourers or Irish farmers use sugar, from the 1st of January to the 31st of December. "O, but they must have sugar," say the monopolists. "They shall have the Whig 'Balm of Gilead,' the great sweetener of life! the joy of the poor man's heart! and the refiner of his morals!"

Fudge, blarney, bother, humbug! Give them enough of "praties" first, and they'll find the sugar and timber afterwards.

"TIMBER DUTIES."

An Irish farmer, holding fifty acres of land, and even more, does not use twenty pounds' worth of imported timber in the whole of his life, and what he does use IS CANADIAN, upon which the *additional duty* is to be *laid on for his relief.* An Irish labourer does not use one plank of foreign timber in the whole of his life. He is rocked in the arms of some native oak; he trips through manhood with a native shillelagh, leans in his old age upon a native staff, and is borne to the grave upon a native "bi er." Every stick in his "mud hovel" comes from "his honour's wood;" and thus begins and ends his use of timber!

"O, but," say the "anti-monopolists," "we mean to put an end to this. The farmers surely would use foreign timber if it was placed within their reach." Yes, they do use foreign timber, but not much, and as before stated, it *is Canadian.* The shafts of their carts are made of "treble deals," the bodies of their carts are made of "treble deals," and that is all they use, and *that* the great reform is to make dearer for them! "O but Memel or Norway red deal is much better, and our 'GREAT COMMERCIAL REFORM' will bring the latter article within their reach. The Baltic trade, you know, the Baltic!" No; it will not. As well may the economists tell us that a tax upon frieze would *force* the peasant to wear broad cloth, or that a tax upon "jaunting cars" would *oblige* the Irish tradesman to drive in his carriage.

The smallest tax, injudiciously laid on, may amount to a total prohibition of the use of the taxed article. The new school of calculators would impose upon upon us the belief that the true way to make Irish farmers purchase a better article is by raising its price, while at the same time they reduce their means, by diminishing the value of their exchange.

For what, then, are the Irish people to join in the "new move." Hear it, ye good men, struggling for freedom, and sorrow! Hear it, ye bad men, contending against justice, and blush! "O! OUR RELIGION WILL BE ATTACKED BY THE TORIES!" *Sacred liberty! what an insult! O, Mighty knowledge, what a folly! Merciful Creator! what a sin!*

This, then, is the real *casus belli;* this is the mountain; this is the crutch of limping, truckling, blighting, blasting, hypocrisy! But, O knowledge! thou idol of the good man's worship! thanks be to God! thou art fast unbinding the tight bandage which has so long obscured man's vision! Thy magic influence comes like a mighty torrent in the midst of the calm, and will sweep away all the ignorance, superstition, and bigotry of darker ages. Yes, knowledge will expand the mind, mature the judgment, and unite the mighty masses in one overwhelming band of freemen.

Under such a combination of right and might, with the knowledge which the English and Scotch now possess to direct us, we will gain liberty without a blow. But should tyranny, strong in long possession, made courageous by unopposed sway, and confident by passive obedience and non-resistance, still resist; we will then, with one mighty blow, strike the Hydra-headed monster to the earth to rise no more!

The tactics of Ireland as recommended by the "Liberator," are the most dishonest, base, and flagrantly mercantile and treacherous, of his many political speculations. Must not every man with half an eye at once see that the return of Whigs by the Irish people, is the cutting of so many sticks to beat themselves soundly, when they shall first have gently whipped the Tories from the Treasury benches for six or seven years longer? Then will Mr. O'Connell have entirely succeeded; his object being to throw another stumbling block in his OWN WAY, the removal of which will be a fair excuse for raising the supplies for years from a poor deluded starving people. Never was there so rascally a juggle, and well may the Irish patriots exclaim—

"Alas! poor country,
Almost afraid to know itself."

We beg, in conclusion, to give the following heart-rending scrap, exultingly paraded in Monday's *Chronicle*, as the first Irish instalment of the very anticipation of the "*Great commercial Reforms:*"—

"EXTENSIVE EMIGRATION.

Up to the 15th of the present month, *thirty vessels have sailed from the port of Cork alone*, with 4,662 emigrants, for Canada, the United States, and New South Wales."

There "anti-monopolists," won't that rate of transportation satisfy your hellish lust for removing the pressure upon subsistence! or what more do you require, you infernal fiends!

DANIEL O'CONNELL

AND

"THE MISCREANT CHARTISTS."

By our report of the Crown and Anchor Meeting, reported in our last, and convened by Mr. O'Connell and his friends under a sixpenny protection, and ostensibly for the purpose of blarneying about Repeal, but really with a view of feeling his way once more into popular society for the purpose of foisting the "bloodies" for another term upon us, it will be seen that the "miscreants" can find their way even *to a ticket show in sufficient numbers to* upset humbug. Never were insolence and folly more conspicuous than in the combination of both, which the learned gentleman exhibited upon the occasion. The blind followers hoped to give tone to the country by the trick; but Martin and others opened his eyes.

It appears, however, that a Mr. Duggan, rent collector in Manchester, has insured Dan a favourable reception

IN MANCHESTER;

and we learn that the walls of the town have been covered with bills, announcing Dan's intention to meet the factory operatives of Manchester in the Carpenter's Hall, on *Tuesday next.*

The indignant excitement which this *threat* has created in Manchester, Oldham, Ashton, Stockport, and the surrounding districts, is intense; and the Chartists are resolved to give Dan a benefit!

Now, be it remembered that the Leeds working people are the most Master-ridden in the North of England; and yet did they, in the depth of winter, with snow upon the ground, turn out well to meet the reviler of the "*miscreant Chartists.*" Manchester, therefore, owes Leeds a return of the compliment; and Manchester, we have no doubt, will do its duty.

The *Pilot*, Dan's tool, and the other tools of the Irish liberal press, have paraded Dan's thrashing at the Crown and Anchor as a complete triumph over Chartism. Now, we ask if this is fair to our Irish brethren, who are just now struggling to throw the monster from their back? Is it justice to them, we ask, while they nobly struggle against corruption, and corruption in the very citadel, that we should allow them to suppose, for one moment, that we are about to receive the traitor whom they have expelled from their ranks?

We rejoice to find that our London friends and others have so warmly taken up the cause of the aged Mrs. Mellon, and have recommended a relief fund for all persecuted Irish Chartists. This is as it ought to be; and Mr. O'Connor, notwithstanding his many annoyances, has commissioned us to publish his willingness to act as Treasurer for his oppressed countrymen. He says that he will look upon every farthing given as a gift bestowed upon himself. We ask, then, is this the time to admit the arch traitor amongst us, just as he is imposing upon the people the additional task of supporting his victims in his native land?

The Irish Chartist Association is likely to become the most powerful body ever organised in that country; and we expect ere long to have the inexpressible pleasure of announcing their first grand procession, and open air meeting. Can we allow such indomitable perseverance to be checked by courtship, here, of the common enemy? No, we cannot. The country, and our Irish brethren would very properly hold the Executive responsible for any damage done to their cause by tolerating the enemy of the "miscreant Chartists" even to attend one of their meetings.

Have we not had enough of his oppression, and his support of the "Bloodies," or are we, like fools, now to pardon the greatest of all our enemies?—the man whose sole aim is to fill his pockets at the expence of a starving people, and whose only object is to purchase a renewal of confidence for renewed traffic.

Men of Manchester! you were among the first and the boldest to *demand* a proper reception for the "miscreant" in Yorkshire; and now, upon behalf of Yorkshire, we have a right to *demand* from you a return of the service which was so nobly performed, and so cheerfully undertaken, in defiance of all opposing obstacles. Up, then! and meet the enemy. Let him see that you are what you profess to be; and if a slave class, not willingly so.

Ireland expects every man to do his duty!

We expect, in our next, to be able to publish a list of subscriptions for the relief of the persecuted Irish Chartists, and the proper reception of their persecutor.

SPIRIT OF THE PUBLIC JOURNALS.

It is really amusing to see the lucubrations of the "*Artful Dodger*," and the *Tap-tub*, served up by the immortal *Sun*, for our evening repast, in one hash, under the title "Spirit of the Press," and seasoned with the Palmerston *piquant* sauce, extracted from the columns of the little "*Globe.*"

A bit of French and a bit of Latin, and a bit of a joke, to constitute the balance of power of a great nation, and to guide our destinies, is quite characteristic of the "*Old Beau.*" It does to serve his purpose, and, in truth, as we were some time ago favoured with specimens of the poetic productions of members of the Cabinet, we see no reason why every Right Honourable Gentleman should not have his own particular paper for chronicling his own peculiar views.

In fact, it would be but justice to others, inasmuch as the Noble Lord, whose trade is diplomacy, has certainly out-jockeyed his colleagues in his press-gang manœuvres. By his fascinations he has won the columns of all, while he is most heartily ridiculed by each.

Yet we must bear in mind that Editors are but men, and that they may be flattered like other men; hence we find, that since poor Easthope stretched his legs under the Premier's mahogany, he has lost all decency as a journalist in his *duty* towards his host. From that fatal day to the present, if Melbourne committed murder, rape, or arson, Easthorpe would justify the act by the necessity, and would not even (as Fouche had the honesty to do) call his master's greatest butchery by the gentle title of "a political blunder." No, Easthorpe would not allow crime in such case to be even a blunder. Well may the conquering journalist exclaim, "but one such dinner more, and I am undone!"

In the meantime, the Great Geographer continues to dot his surface with the names of newly discovered depôts of popular strength heretofore unknown beyond the parish boundary, save to the *literati*, but now swelled into frog-like importance, and paraded under the head

"GREAT DEMONSTRATION

ON BEHALF OF THE

GREAT COMMERCIAL REFORM."

Alas! the attempt creates no more excitement than the mere curiosity produced by a first glance at a new "atlas."

The people are not there! The people *will not* be there; because the people don't want a HOUSE OF MASTERS to complete their ruin. So the poor *Chron.* may dot, and dot, and dot away; but the close of the poll will dot him out of Leicester, and his masters out of the Treasury.

O, what a god-send the Whitsuntide holidays would have been in 1832! and how dry the old timbers of Bristol and Nottingham would have been for a Whig cracks; but now, alas! the tears of the hungry have moistened them, and even in the dog-days they would not ignite, though struck by a sudden flash of Whiggery!

The devil himself, be he black or be he white, could'nt save the poor "bloodies;" and as a last hope they are calling spirits from the "vasty deep;" but alas! the spirits are too deeply sunk in Whig poverty, Whig bastiles, and Whig dungeons, to hear the summons. "When poverty comes in at the door, love flies out at the window"—when Whigs came in at the window, principle went out at the door.

O, the poor, poor "bloodies!!" what will become of the "bloodies?" What shall we do with the "bloodies?" How will it be with the "bloodies?" "Noboby coming to help" the "bloodies. "Nobody coming to woo" "the bloodies." So down! down! down! with the "bloodies!"

We are irresistibly compelled to append hereunto the most recent discoveries of *depôts* of popular feeling by the "*Artful Dodger.*" Hear, ye uninstructed in English localities, the places relied upon to carry Reform in 1841; and ask yourselves if the Reformers of 1832 knew of the existence of one half of them.

"GREAT DEMONSTRATIONS

at Carnarvon, Corsham, Chippenham, Peterborough, Brampton Moor, Brampton, Tynemouth, Southampton [again!], Gosport, Rigg of Gretna [*who the devil is the Rigg?*], Honiton, Chatham, Canterbury, Epping, Dartford [GREAT OPEN-AIR MEETING, thirty-nine present!], Anna," and so on; but they were licked wherever they dared to meet the sinews: Stroud and *Birmingham, to wit.*

Its all up, *Chron.* so you may map away, old boy, till you are black in the face! You may just as well whistle jigs to a mile-stone, as offer your "commercial Reforms" to the people of England now.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PETITION AND THE MOTION OF MR. DUNCOMBE.

The *National Petition* was presented on Tuesday, to the "House." The number of signatures was announced by Mr. Duncombe to be more than one million three hundred thousand! It was borne to the "House" on the shoulders of eighteen "Fustian Jackets," who performed their duty well—preceded by a procession of the members of the Convention, and other leading Chartists.

A short delay occurred at the side entrance to the House, through the iron gateway, as the bearers stopped to send a message to Mr. Duncombe, to announce the arrival of his *protege.* An answer was soon returned for the petition to be carried up, and it was accordingly conveyed through a dense crowd (containing many Members of Parliament among it) to the lobby, where it was received by Messrs. Duncombe and O'Connell, who, with some difficulty, managed at length to roll it through the entrance, along the floor of the House, and in front of the table, opposite the seat where Mr. T. Duncombe awaited the opportunity of presenting this tremendous petition to the "House," and of moving on its contents. Of the "debate" we shall say nothing. We have given all the important part of it from the London papers, and merely advise our readers to read it.

The issue was, that Mr. Duncombe's MOTION FOR THE RELEASE OF THE INCARCERATED VICTIMS WAS LOST BY THE CASTING VOTE OF THE SPEAKER!

Will the Government dare to keep them in prison after this!! We shall see.

After the division, the fustian-jacketed bearers of the petition and their friends adjourned to the Bull Inn, where the death knell of faction was sounded in a most pleasing and enthusiastic Chartist meeting.

The most important part of the whole proceedings is the fact that the National Petition of 1841, got up, from first to last, at little or no expence, and with scarcely any excitement, received as we shall prove, more than 2,000,000 of signatures. To this subject we shall return next week. In the meantime, let it be a warning to those who console themselves with the fall of Chartism! and a solace to those look upon its triumph as the triumph of justice, morality, and right.

THE ELECTION CRISIS.

At this most important and momentous period, we feel that the following nervous and well-timed address, is worthy of attention from all parties of the producing people; and we therefore call to it their especial notice.

"TO THE OPPRESSED MILLIONS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

"Huddersfield, 26th May, 1841.

"My Friends,—Monopoly or no monopoly has taken the place of the old Whig cry of 'The Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill,' and with the same Whig intention, namely, to dupe, to delude, and to cheat the unsuspecting and unwary.

"A bill, dated the 25th inst., and printed at Huddersfield, headed—'Monopoly or no monopoly, that is the question'—in favour of Whiggery, says, very truly, 'That the inhabitants should refuse to be any longer befooled by party cries from any party!' Had they not been befooled by this crafty faction, we should have had no mock Reform Bill; we should have had no "anti-Poor Law agitators," paid or unpaid; because we should have needed none; that crew would never have had the power to inflict a law so bloody, so cruel, and so torturous. That hypocritical banditti could not have inflicted upon us so many Commissions, so many Rural Police; they could not have created such immense burdens for the industrious community to bear; they could not have added so heavy an amount to the National Debt; they could not have granted £100,000 to the old Queen, nor would they have had the baseness and impudence to recommend recipes, and publish them, as Baines, their organ, has done, to the free and independent labourers of this enlightened country, by which, from a collection of garbage, eight pints of soup should be produced for 4½d.; or that from rubbish, not fit for pigs, a mess should be made, which should make a dinner for five able-bodied labourers, for the charge of 5½d. Those ingenious starvation mongers—those refined inventors of *skillygolee*, and advocates of free trade—those Judases, who, for the last nine years, have been engaged in contriving the best mode of making the people labour harder, and produce more, and live on less, and coarser fare—who have brought them to the starvation point, and from thence to the bastiles, and through these to their graves, by thousands,—those vile monsters who have been so consistent, and so successful, in the work of lowering wages; enslaving, starving, and extirpating the industrious community; may, with their common, audacious, and barefaced effrontery, now that the tradesmen, all over the country, are becoming bankrupts by wholesale, and the trade is at a stand still, while ruin and starvation is all but universal—when their own reckless cruelty and extravagance have cast them upon their beam ends—when they cannot progress in their work of havoc one step further, they may now challenge the devil to equal their cool effrontery, when they come to us and say 'That a bold attempt has at length been made by her Majesty's Ministers to revise our partial, and oppressive, &c., Laws.' Why, I ask, did they not begin there; and keep improving, instead of retrograding during the whole nine years of their misgovernment? Why at the last moment do they come forth with the olive branch. I tell you plainly, it is to allure you—to bring you again into their meshes—to induce you to seat them again in power, and if you do, if you permit yourselves to be deluded, you must bid farewell to liberty, you must expect a continuance of their heartless inhuman system—you must look for a renewal of their systematic arrogance, starvation, rags, slavery and premature death—you must expect a well clad and high fed army of blue bludgeoners, backed out by a red army with bullets and bayonets, and a land covered with bastiles, commissioners, and Government spies, with the foreign system of passports and centralisation, by which every germ of mercy, justice, (to the poor) and benevolence will be annihilated, and we are slaves for ever. Then up, Britons, up, 'Now is the day and now is the hour,' and if it is the last day and the last hour, the last opportunity which will ever be afforded you, let it not pass—let it not slip, for the sake of mercy—for your own, and for the sake of your families—for the sake of posterity, be up, be at your post and let Whiggery be utterly destroyed—yea extirpated—at al risks, and at all hazards, from this land, and from the face of the earth. Fear nothing but the restoration of the baneful influence of Whig faction; drive that pestilence from the land.

"I am most truly
"And most faithfully yours,
"L. Pitkethly."

The tone of this appeal breathes more of honesty than of refinement; but we are persuaded with Mr. Pitkethly, that the most effective step to be now taken for liberty, is the crippling of the Whigs—no matter how. The people's prospects look well, so far as the election is concerned. Several Chartist Candidates are already in the field. Election Committtees are formed and forming everywhere, to watch the movements of the time—to bring out and support Chartist Candidates wherever it is practicable—and Tories wherever it is not. Any thing to beat down the "bloodies!"

Colonel Thompson at Hull, Sharman Crawford at Rochdale, and Captain Wood at Bradford, are all in a fair way for invigorating the rotten carcase of St. Stephens with some really patriotic life. Let but the people bestir them, and the votes of the Chartist electors, and the power (rightly directed) of the Chartist non-electors, shall now prove itself to be all sufficient for the utter annihilation of one of the two great factions by making the other worry it—and then hurrah! for the simple tug of right against might; of a united people against the single foe!!

We informed our readers some time ago, that Mr. Baines did not intend to bid again for Leeds. We think the following extract from the Convention report will shew them that Sir William Molesworth need not:—

"Mr. Cullen called upon Mr. Leader, but did not see him. He then waited upon Sir Wm. Molesworth, and requested his support of the petition in favour of the imprisoned Chartists, and to present memorials for the restoration of Frost, Williams, and Jones. He first said that he would deliberate whether he would present the Leeds petition or not. He then said that he could not support the petition, or present the memorials."

Will that satisfy the Chartists? Will they permit the "Goose Club" to return Molesworth again; even if they should dare *attempt it?* We calculate not. Two Tories will go in for Leeds, to a dead certainty, if the people do their *duty.* The "bloodies" talk something, as we hear, about Joey Hume! We just think we see Brown Bread Joseph, walking arm in arm with Herring-Soup Neddy, and escorted by a procession of Hand-loom weavers carrying a small brown loaf and a rotten red herring, on a pole, and playing "the Rogue's March" upon "Rough Music!" How very funny!

To Readers and Correspondents.

Mr. John Colquhoun, of Glasgow, has forwarded us an address to the "Committee and Proprietors of the Scottish Patriot," *in which he complains bitterly of having been misreported and his statements misrepresented. The report with which he most especially finds fault is one commencing thus:—"About a month ago, at a meeting of trades' delegates, and other inhabitants," &c., and which proceeds as follows, "Mr. John Colquhoun rose at the close of the business for which the meeting was called, and notwithstanding that the hour was late, the people tired, and one-half of the meeting dispersed, insisted on performing what he considered a duty to himself and his countrymen, namely, to read the plan of organisation published by Lovett and Collins, and which appeared in the* Northern Star." *This assertion, Mr. Colquhoun says, is a malicious falsehood, as he never read, nor proposed to read, Collins and Lovett's plan, but that he read what would, perhaps, not suit Mr. Malcolm's palate, a paragraph from the* Local Advertiser, *a Tory paper. The reporter for the* Patriot *continued, "This was objected to on the ground that the meeting had not been called to take the plan into consideration." Mr. Colquhoun says that no such objection was made. The late hour induced the meeting to postpone the consideration of the question till the next meeting, of which the reporter says:—"At the next meeting, on the 26th of April, in the same place, Mr. Colquhoun, faithful to his trust, rose, after the transaction of other business, and laid the plan before the assembly." This our correspondent avers to be equally untrue with the foregoing, as* Mr. Matthew Cullum *introduced the question of the "new move," in terms that were very plain, and not to be misunderstood. The next sentence of which Mr. Colquhoun complains is this:—"After doing so, he (J. Colquhoun) delivered a very noisy phillippic against the promulgators of such a document, threw out insinuations as to their motives, and concluded by moving a strong resolution, voting strong censure on Lovett and Collins for so doing." Mr. Colquhoun denies the foregoing, appeals to the resolution (which was withdrawn) for proof, and affirms that what he said was mere matter of fact, which he dares Mr. Malcolm to refute. He proceeds to say:—"The report of the next and last meeting is in keeping with the above. The remarks on what Mr. M'Kay said are false as hell. Mr. M. concluded with an anecdote; but what he began with Malcolm dare not repeat. He says:—'Mr. Ross proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Colquhoun for his good conduct.' Mr. Ross proposed a vote of thanks, but he did not say for what." Mr. Colquhoun winds up with a warm and pithy comment upon this, and with the exclamation, "O'Connor is the mark! So much for the* Patriot, NOT *the people's paper."*

The One Pound for Mrs. Frost, noticed in our last, from "Wolverhampton, Bilston, West Bromwich and Walsall," was from Wednesbury, and they wanted the above places to follow their example.

Charles Holland, Newport, Isle of Wight, is entitled to the plate, Send to Mr. Violet for it. He would receive it from Mr. Cleave.

J. Aitken, Boulogne.—The plates due are at Mr. John Cleave's.

J. W. H., Gloucestershire, send Post-stamps.

Endearne, Truro.—The parcel was sent to Mr. John Cleave, to be forwarded as desired. A specimen of Emmett was sent by post.

We beg to assure Mr. O'Connor's friends that he receives more letters than he can possibly answer. We trust this announcement will be sufficient for those whose letters remain unanswered.

J. Brown, Leven Mills.—The portrait was sent.

Mr. M'Laren, The parcel waited a few days for some of the works he ordered. They have been sent, together with the letter, to A. Heywood, Manchester, to be forwarded in the Glasgow parcel.

Mr. Stein, Alloa.—Fifteen were sent last week. Newspapers to the United States are charged twopence, but they cannot be sent if more than seven days old.

FOR MRS. FROST.

	£.	s.	d.
From the Chartist Association, Belper ...	0	10	0
— the Chartists of York	0	7	4
— D. Hartley, Leeds	0	2	0
— Knaresborough...	0	2	3
— an out-and-out Chartist, Leeds ...	0	0	6
— John Hall	0	0	6
— Hunslet...	0	11	0
— Shoreham, Sussex, per F. Hards ...	0	3	0
— G. Wilcock, Whitby	0	1	0
— a few Friends at Dewsbury and Hanging Heaton Common Side ...	0	13	0
— a few Chartists at Stratford ...	0	2	6
— a Friend at Upper Wortley, per H. S.	0	2	6
— a few Friends to Chartism at Newcastle, Staffordshire	0	9	0
— Coventry, per D. Buckery ...	0	13	6
— Darlington, per N. Bragg ...	1	4	11
— Stokesley, per W. Hebden ...	0	7	0
— the Female Chartists, Campsie, near Glasgow	0	6	9
— the Male do., do.	1	0	5
— a few Friends at Mill Brook, Staley Wood, per P. Deegan ...	0	8	6
— Middlesbro'	1	0	0
— the Chartists of Bermondsey ...	0	7	0
— York, per Mr. Pulleyn, ...	0	2	6
— Merthyr Tydvil, per D. Davis ...	1	0	0

FOR THE WIVES AND FAMILIES OF THE INCARCERATED CHARTISTS.

	£.	s.	d.
From the Chartist Association, Belper ...	0	10	0
— London—proceeds of a raffle for a barometer	12	3	10
— Great Horton, per Baraclough ...	0	9	0
— New Mills, Gloucestershire, T. W. H.	0	0	1½
— Salisbury, Wilts, per J. Wilkinson ...	0	1	0

POLITICAL PRISONERS' AND CHARTER CONVENTION FUND.

	£.	s.	d.
From Daniel Brindley 1 0			
— John Turner 1 0			
— a Friend 0 6			
	0	2	6
— the Chartists of Brighton	0	10	0
— Stourbridge, per J. Chance	0	8	0
— a Friend to the Cause, Leeds... ...	0	0	3
— T. H., Horsforth	0	0	6
— E. Pybus and two friends	0	1	0
— Clifton, near Halifax, by three friends of freedom	0	1	6
— Liversedge and Heckmondwike ..	0	8	1
— three persons at Shaftesbury, per J. Williams	0	1	6
— Dalston, near Carlisle	0	5	0
— a few friends at Newport, Salop ...	0	5	0
— Mr. Beverley, ...	0	1	0
— a few friends at Walsall, per Mr. Crew	0	3	0
— a Hunslet friend	0	1	6
— Oldham Charter Association	0	10	0
— Coventry, per D. Buckery ...	0	6	6
— Stokesley, per W. Hebden ...	0	5	0
— Bromsgrove	0	10	0
— Chesterfield, per W. Martin	0	2	6
— the females of Chesterfield, per Walsingham Martin	0	5	6
— York second sub.	0	7	3
— Cardiff, Wales...	0	10	0

FOR MRS. CLAYTON.

	£.	s.	d.
From Middlesbro'	0	3	0

FOR MR. HOEY.

	£.	s.	d.
From York, per W. Cordeux	0	1	6
— Merthyr Tydvil, per D. Davis ...	0	5	0

FROM A FEW TEETOTALLERS AT MENSTRY.

	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
For Mrs. O'Brien ...	2	6			
— Mrs. Clayton ...	2	6			
— Mrs. Peddie ...	2	6			
— Mrs. Frost ...	2	6			
— Chartist Victim Fund	2	6			
			0	12	6

GREAT MEETING AT THE TOWN-HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

DEFEAT OF THE WHIGS AND GLORIOUS TRIUMPH OF THE CHARTISTS.

The town of Birmingham has been in a state of feverish excitement for the last week. Small knots of Whigs and Corn Law repealers, were to be seen running through the streets in all directions, beating up for recruits. The workshops and factories were canvassed, and intimidation, cajolery, and all the arts of cunning were had recourse to in order to prop up the falling Whigs, and induce the working men to sign the petitions got up at the hole-and-corner meetings. They at length mustered courage, and came to the determination of calling a town's meeting. A requisition was got up requesting the Mayor to call a meeting at the town-hall, and on Saturday large bills were posted containing a long list of requisitionists, and giving notice that a meeting would be held in the town-hall, on the following Monday, at eleven o'clock, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament for a revision of the Corn Laws, and Custom Laws. The placard was signed by the Mayor.

In the meantime the Chartists were not idle. They immediately issued a placard, of which the following is a copy,—"Hurrah! for the Charter! Working men look out.—The base Whigs—the robbers and murderers of the poor,—they who passed the starvation Poor Law,—who have crowded the dungeons with Chartist victims—are now making another attempt to perpetuate their villany for seven years longer. Will you allow them? If not, attend the meeting at the town-hall, on Monday next. Down with the base, bloody, and brutal Whigs, and the betrayers of the late National Convention. Now, or never; rally, rally, to the town-hall, at half-past ten o'clock. By order of the National Charter Association, George White, secretary." This placard was quickly followed by others; and on Sunday no less than five different placards were to be seen; the walls were literally covered. One of them, signed "John Collins," told them not to gulled with a sevenpenny loaf reform. The others emanated from the Tories. A numerous meeting took place on Sunday evening, at the Chartist Meeting Room, Freeman-street, which was addressed in an energetic manner by Mr. Dean Taylor. Mr. G. White then read a resolution for the approval of the meeting, which he intended as an amendment to the Whig propositions. The resolution was unanimously agreed to, and the meeting adjourned to nine o'clock the following morning. When the morning arrived, groups of men were to be seen parading the streets, the grand field day being the sole topic of conversation. The Chartists met again at Freeman-street, at nine o'clock on Monday, and made their final arrangements, after which they sallied forth in high glee to the place of meeting, and stood before the various entrances to the Hall.

At half-past ten, the doors were thrown open.—The rush was tremendous, all parties hastening to secure the best position. The immense hall, which is calculated to hold ten thousand people, was soon crammed, amongst whom was a large sprinkling of the fair sex, who seemed to take a lively interest in the matter. At a quarter to eleven o'clock, the Mayor, Messrs. Douglas, Salt, Edmonds, Boultbee, Weston, and other gentlemen, made their appearance in the organ gallery. Some parties in the body of the hall endeavoured to get up a cheer, but it was "no go."

Mr. Muntz then took the chair and was cheered by the meeting. The Chartist staff then appeared, and fell in, "rank and file," on the left of the Chairman, and were loudly cheered.

At eleven o'clock, the Mayor stood up and stated that as the time for commencing the business had arrived, he should recommend them to give every person who addressed them a fair and impartial hearing. He hoped they would assist him in keeping order, and afterwards decide as they thought proper. He then introduced Mr. Ald. Weston.

Mr. Weston proceeded to address the meeting in the usual anti-Corn Law style. He read a string of statistics, shewing as well as he knew how the immense benefits that would arise from the proposition of the Ministry, descanted on the great blessings of cheap-bread and cheap sugar, and concluded with a few fine flourishes about his love for the people. He then proposed a string of resolutions approving the Ministerial plan, and also a petition founded on the same, and sat down amidst a mixture of groans and cheers.

Mr. George Edmonds seconded the resolution, and with a significant nod of his head towards the Chartist speakers, informed the Chairman that he should reserve what he had to say until a future stage of the proceedings.

Mr. George White then presented himself, and was received with loud and repeated cheers from the immense assembly. He said that he held in his hand an amendment to the proposition brought before them by Mr. Alderman Weston, and he hoped that all parties would give a fair and impartial hearing to each speaker, as that was the only way to elicit truth, and come to a just conclusion. The question now before them had been long agitated, and he felt highly pleased that the Chartists had at last got an opportunity *of meeting their opponents face to* face. (Loud cheers.) He was happy to find that the same steps which were taken by the anti-Corn Law party at Manchester had not been followed up at Birmingham. He considered that meeting as a full and fair representation of the town, as all parties had free access; and whatever decision they came to that day would and ought to go forth to the country as the solemn decision of the men of Birmingham on this important question. (Hear, hear.) He had listened with great attention to the statements of Mr. Weston, but he should not follow his example—namely, going to all parts of the world in search of arguments. He should content himself by stating facts which were known to them all, and which no man could controvert. The Chartists had been called Tories for the part they took in the Corn Law question, and the only reason that could be given was, that they would not be Whigs. Some people seemed to have strange notions, and to fancy that any man, not being a Whig, must, as a matter of course, be a Tory. But he had a bit of a secret to tell the gentlemen on his right. (Laughter.) There was a party in this country called Chartists, who were an overwhelming majority of the nation, and they would prove it to them before they left that hall. (Loud and repeated cheers.) What, after all, was the proposition brought forward by Mr. Weston or her Majesty's Ministers? What benefit would it confer on the working classes? None whatever. Were they to be told, that after years of unparalleled suffering, the present measure was the only one intended for their relief! Away with such mockery! Were the toiling, starving, and oppressed working men of Great Britain to be told that the present paltry humbug was all that they were to receive from their tender-hearted rulers? Down with such impostors! But what was the real amount of benefit which the measure would confer, even taking all that had been advanced by Mr. Weston to be true, and he could not expect to be placed in a better position than that. It appeared that the duty on sugar was to be made less by 1s. 6d. on every cwt. than it was at present. Let them calculate how much that would reduce the poor man's pound or half a pound; it would not make half a farthing less. He congratulated the gentlemen on his right on their happy selection of a subject on which to make their appearance before the public. It was a very sweet one. (Loud laughter.) But they would find to their sorrow, that neither sweet smiles, or sweet words would again entrap the working men. He would ask the meeting whether they were willing to be cajoled by men who had already deceived them, and again put them in a position where they could sell their rights for a lick of sugar? (No.) No, it would not do to tell that tale now a days! The working men were too enlightened, and the promises of a mouthful of bread or a spoonful of sugar would not satisfy them. They were determined to have full and complete justice and nothing less. He wished the meeting to look at the consistency of the men who made the present proposition, that they wished for an augmentation of the revenue—what earthly difference did it make to them whether they paid taxes out of their right or their left pocket, so long as they were compelled to pay the same amount, for it was well known that the whole would be wrung from the labour and sweat of the working classes. Mr. Weston had also complained of the enormous duties which were levied on imported articles, and the small amount levied in America. He would tell them the cause of it. The Americans had not to pay fifty millions of taxes annually, to keep horses of Whig and Tory bloodsuckers. (Loud cheers.) On the contrary, the whole expences of their Government were not so much as was paid to the Bench of Judges in this country. (Shame.) The Chartists, then, were the only class of politicians who proposed a real and permanent remedy. They were also told by Mr. Weston, that if the master manufacturers were better off, they would pay higher wages to their men. He doubted it, for were they not building palaces for themselves on the outskirts of every large town?—and it was his belief that if they had mansions equal to that of the Duke of Buccleugh, they would not then be satisfied. It had been often stated by those parties, that the value of land had increased enormously of late years. Why, then, was not the condition of the agricultural labourer bettered? Instead of that being the case, they found that they were getting worse, and he had no reason to think that the manufacturers were any better than their neighbours. The fact was, that if labourers were scarce, they would receive high wages, but when they were plentiful, the masters kept them at starvation point, no matter how large their profits. They were told that the measure now proposed would increase trade. Well, suppose that it did? The manufacturers would increase machinery to such an extent as to overstock the globe—and if they even had a trade to the moon, and all the planets—allowing that they were populated, and that they could reach them, the working men would soon be as badly off as ever. But he saw no reason why Englishmen ought not to live without being slaves for every other nation, and be everlastingly immured in factories. He saw no reason why poor little children should be dragged from their beds on a frosty morning, and converted into cripples, in order to make a fortune for other people. He would tell them that there was no hope of bettering their condition until their labour was protected, and that their only chance of an effectual remedy was in the establishment of the People's Charter. He conjured them to stand up in the dignity of manhood, and declare to the world that they would be free. (Loud cheers.) They had seen that Mr. Edmonds had reserved himself, in order to make use of his powers of cajolery. He warned them to be on their guard; the welfare of themselves, their families, and their country depended on their decision that day. He considered that he had fully refuted everything advanced by Mr. Weston; he should therefore leave the matter to their judgment, and propose the following amendment:—

"Resolved—That the present measure of relief proposed by the Whigs, is an insult to the toilworn and suffering millions of this country; and proves that they have no desire to do justice to the people. They have also proved, by eight years of heartless profligacy and misrule, that their most solemn promises are not to be regarded, and that they are unworthy of the people's confidence. That although the Corn Laws are unjust and oppressive, yet the present House of Commons being inimical to the people's rights, will not repeal the same, except through an agitation bordering on Revolution."

He then sat down amid loud cheering.

Mr. Benjamin Hill seconded the amendment As Mr. Edmonds had reserved himself, they had resolved to keep some of their great guns reserved also. He hoped that the discussion might be fairly conducted, and that each party would receive a patient hearing. (He was immediately interrupted by a gentleman named Smith.) Mr. Hill proceeded. He was very sorry that Mr. Smith left his brains at home, and could conduct himself no better. (Some confusion here took place, and after an explanation from Mr. Smith, Mr. Hill resumed.) He supported the amendment because he considered the Whig proposal to be an outrageous insult to the unfortunate beings who were compelled to toil for four or five shillings per week, to offer them such a paltry and contemptible measure, which, if it was ever carried, would not, according to the representation of its warmest advocates, do any more than reduce a pound of sugar from 7d. to 6½d. The working men could not afford to lose their time in agitating for the repeal of the Corn Laws, and were determined to get rid of her Majesty's brutal ministers. Would the working men be the tools to prop up the most wicked Government that ever existed in this country? (No, no, and loud cheers.) He knew they would not. Mr. Muntz, the member for Birmingham, had declared in his place in Parliament, "that a repeal of the Corn Laws could not be effected without reducing wages, and that it meant that, or it meant nothing;" yet the same man sends a letter to the inhabitants of Birmingham, advising them to support the present measure. Where was the consistency of such conduct? The people of this ill-used country were already in deep trouble, and it was the intention of the Corn Law repealers to make them still worse and bring them to a level with their suffering brethren in Ireland. They were told to agitate for the present measure. He would do no such thing, for he knew that the same amount of agitation that carried the Reform Bill would also carry a Republic, if they thought proper. Why not agitate for the Charter, and then they could settle all other questions? For these reasons he would second the amendment. Mr. Hill retired and was loudly and deservedly cheered.

Robert Kellie Douglas then made his appearance in front, and was treated to a hearty round of hisses, mingled with a few weak cheers. He endeavoured to get up a smile, but could not manage it; he saw that his day was gone by. He however commenced to tell much the same story as the worthy Alderman who preceded him. He said that Mr. White had told them that the value of land had increased. That was just what he wanted to impress on their minds. He then endeavoured to exonerate himself from the charge of wishing to assist the Whigs; he declared that he would have nothing to do with them. (The meeting did not relish this, and commenced shouting "It won't do," "We don't believe you," &c.) He hoped they would give him a hearing; he had been all his life a reformer, and thought they should allow him to be heard. ("We have heard you too often.") Mr. Douglas then produced a small map with a zig-zag line drawn through the middle, in order to show the meeting the rise and fall in the price of corn, and got laughed and hooted at for his pains. He then produced *Tait's Magazine*, in order, as he stated, to read an account of the Manchester massacre. The meeting grew uproarious, hooting and yelling with all their might, so that not a single word was heard about the evil doings of the Tories. Mr. Douglas then flew into a violent rage. He bellowed and foamed in first-rate style, and finding that fail, he begged most pitifully. The Chairman and Chartist speakers *exerted themselves to procure him a hearing*, and ultimately succeeded. He then proceeded to tell the meeting that the men who stood with him were the most honourable men that could be found, and gave them to understand that he did not approve of the leaders whom the people had thought proper to choose. He then delivered a long tirade against the Tories, and concluded by stating that the question was not whether they would have the Whigs, but whether they would support the Tories. He retired amidst terrific yells and groans, and looked mortified beyond measure.

Mr. John Collins then stood forward, and was received with loud cheers. He said that he had listened to the concluding remarks of Mr. Douglas, and could not see what they meant, unless to prop the Whigs. When Mr. Douglas took so much pains to abuse the Tories for their misdeeds, he could draw no other inference except that it was meant to make the Whigs appear better. Mr. Douglas had read them a long story about the misdeeds of the Tories, and the Manchester Massacre; but he said not a word about the Irish Coercion Bill or the Bull Ring. (Loud cheers.) Those gentlemen would have them to think that corn grew like blackberries, and required neither capital nor labour—that it had only to be picked up. He had a document drawn up by one of their own friends, from which it appeared that the *warehousing, freight*, and dues of various descriptions, which was laid upon corn leaving foreign ports, amounted to 18s. 3d. per quarter. Add to this the 8s. fixed duty proposed by the Whigs, and he should like to know how much better they would be off, or what benefit they would receive from the measure. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") Mr. Douglas had stated something about the amount which the Corn Tax placed in the pockets of the landowners. *If he were to be robbed, it mattered not to* him by which party the robbery was effected, for if the Corn Laws were repealed, he saw no likelihood of its bettering the condition of his class. He would shew the meeting that the proposed measure was not intended to do them any good, for the resolutions of the gentlemen on his right, admitted that it was intended to increase the revenue. But they were told that the present measure was to act as a wedge. Why? The Reform Bill was held up to them merely as a wedge. And what good had they received from it. How came it to pass that the present measure was proposed by the Whig Ministry? Had they only just found out that their previous policy was erroneous? If so, it proved that they were not capable of governing. (Loud cheers.) But they were in a minority, and consequently threw out the present bait, and if he was fully satisfied that they were now sincere, he must confess that he liked not a sick bed repentance, for they often found that those who made the largest promises in that situation, seldom fulfilled them when the danger was removed,—(laughter;)—but giving them all credit for sincerity, the present measure was not calculated to benefit the working classes. Mr. Collins then proceeded to read from a list of the returns of the duty charged on the importation of foreign grain, and showed to the meeting that for the last few years the average duty was less than eight shillings; if, then, the duty was fixed at eight shillings, it was quite clear that it would increase the revenue, and that they would have to pay more than before; they were *told by a previous speaker that if this measure was not* passed, England would become a desert. He remembered a motto that used to be on one of the Political Union's flags, "England free or a desert," and he hoped his fellow-countrymen would be content with nothing less than freedom. He knew not what to think of the consistency of some men, for some of the persons who were the supporters of the present measure were a short time back opposed not only to the present plan, which was only a revision, but to a total repeal of the Corn Laws. He had a paper in his hand called the *Birmingham Journal*, in which the repeal of the Corn Laws was scoffed at as an imposition, and which positively stated that their repeal neither then (at the time it was written) nor at any future time could be productive of the least benefit. He then read various extracts from the *Journal*, which shewed up the conduct of Mr. Douglas in a most unfavourable light, and proved his present conduct to be grossly inconsistent. Whilst Mr. Collins was reading the extracts, Mr. Douglas happened to put his handkerchief to his face, when there was a tremendous burst of laughter, and shouts of ("Don't cry, Douglas.") Mr. Collins continued. He would wish to remind the Editor of that paper, that the views he held of the Corn Laws were the same that he had promulgated. The Editor of the *Journal* had instructed the people to view the question as they then did, but the consistency of the people was not like that of some parties, it lasted longer than two or three weeks. (Loud laughter.) *Mr. Collins declared that he had not changed.* He had been often blamed, and sometimes praised, but although he liked the approbation of his fellow men, he liked that of his conscience better. The parties who endeavoured to get up the present agitation, wanted to be enabled to compete with foreigners, and how were they to do so if they did not cheapen men's labour? His opinion was, that nothing would better their condition but an alteration in the present House of Commons. He would therefore conclude by supporting the amendment. He retired amid loud cheers.

Mr. T. C. Salt then made his appearance; he looked much defeated when he found no cheer, no token of approbation. He commenced by stating that he had a bad cold, but was nevertheless determined to state his views. It was not sufficient for the parties on his left to defend their views, but they attacked others personally. (Great confusion and groans, accompanied with shouts of "No deserters, we've had enough of you." "Give us the Charter," &c.) He acknowledged the principles of the Charter; he would go to the question like an honest man. (Oh, oh, and confusion.) He did not deal in high promises, like some people, and tell them they should have the Charter on a certain date. (The hisses and yells that followed are indescribable.) Let Chartists be Chartists. (So we will.) But if they could forward the Charter through the medium of the Corn Laws, why not do so? (Tremendous groans and hisses.) He would give them the Charter if he could, but they were divided amongst themselves. (We are not.) Who were the persons that had created the present division? It was those who talked of shouldering their muskets and fighting.—(Groans and hisses.) They might treat him with what hostility they thought proper. He did not care for their hooting and groaning. He had always advocated the rights of the poor. (Shouts of "You have not," and hisses.) If they would assist in the present agitation, they would be enabled to drag society to pieces, and then, as Cobbett said, the national debt would be their best friend. (Tremendous groans, accompanied with cries of "We don't want to drag society to pieces," "We want justice," and "You are not fit for a Chartist.") They said he was not fit to be a Chartist; the Chartists had turned people against them by their conduct. (The meeting here grew uproarious, and all the efforts of the Chairman, assisted by the Chartist speakers, could not procure Mr. Salt a hearing. He retired in a rage.)

Mr. Arthur O'Neil then stood forward, and was loudly cheered. He said he came there to give a warning voice to the people, lest by any means they should give another lease to tyranny. He cast back in the teeth of their enemies the base insinuations which had been made concerning the Chartists. They had not come there to prove whether Chartism was dead or not; but that meeting abundantly proved that they were neither dead nor asleep. (Loud cheering.) They were now better informed than ever, and would not pin their faith to any man's sleeve, but were determided to abide by principle. (Hear, hear.) They had been taunted with acting with the Tories; but he could prove that the Tories were acting with them, for some of them had signed their requisition. The Chartists were determined not to take a paltry acknowledgment—they were determined to have all. (Loud cheers.) Had they any confidence in the present offer of the Whig Ministry? (No, no.) What was their conduct a fortnight ago with regard to the Irish franchise? After proposing five pounds, they raised it to eight pounds. (Hear.) As an Irishman he lifted up his voice against such baseness. Were there any Irishmen present. ("Yes, yes.") Then he called on them, in the name of their country, to scout such deceivers: their cry should be, "Perish the Whigs!" They have betrayed us. Seven or eight years had rolled over their heads: they had starved in patience, and continued to hope that the end of each year would bring them relief. They had hoped that something might induce the Whigs to lighten their burdens; but, vain hope! they never intended to do anything for them. They had heard several opinions with regard to the Whigs; some said, "Try them again." If the present measure was agreed to, and Ministers firmly fixed in their office, and pursued the same course they had hitherto done, the gentlemen on his right would say the same as they then did at the expiration of the next seven years. There was no trusting them; for if they took off a tax, what guarantee had they that they would not put it on the next week, as they had done with the Malt Tax. (Hear, hear.) Do as they would, they would still put their unhallowed hands in the people's pockets. (Hear.) Nothing but the Charter could cure their numerous wrongs—but lawyers and expediency mongers could not look so high—they appealed to the commonest feeling of man, namely, his belly. He implored the meeting not to sell their country for a mess of pottage. If they supported this motion they would put the Whigs in power—let them stand up in the dignity of manhood and boldly demand the whole of their rights. He concluded by supporting the amendment and sat down amid loud cheers.

The Rev. T. M'Donnell, then appeared close to the Chairman, and, in an agitated tremulous tone commenced his address. He said he should not make use of high sounding phrases. He had no doubt they would support those whom they knew to be their best friends, and who had been so long before them. (Laughter.) He knew that he not only stood in their presence, but also in the presence of his God, and therefore would not tell a lie. (Renewed laughter.) Why did the gentleman on his left laugh? Was it because he expressed his belief in God. (Hisses.) He looked upon the present proposal as calculated to do good He would tell them a story that had been related by Mr. O'Connell. (Loud groans, and shouts of "We want to hear nothing about him.") He hoped they would give him as fair a hearing as they had given to the gentlemen on his left. ("We have heard enough of you.")

The Chairman and Chartist speakers exerted themselves to procure him a hearing, after which he proceeded. The parties on his left appeared to be all young men. He saw that some had black and some had brown hair. (Mr. White then pulled off his hat and stated that the Whigs had made his hair grey in prison. Mr. M'Donnell replied, "Oh; that is only a mark of precocious talent.") He then stated that the Whigs were like an old hat in a broken window, although it kept out the cold, yet it kept out the light also, but the Tories would do neither. He then entered into a long defence of his own conduct, and that of his friends, during which time he was treated to a plentiful supply of groans and hisses by way of chorus. He at length retired amidst the hooting and execrations of the meeting.

Mr. Wm. Dean Taylor then stood up, and was loudly and repeatedly cheered. He said, that he understood that meeting to be called for the purpose of considering the question of the Corn Laws. But the last speaker had dwelt nearly the whole of the time on topics unconnected with the object for which the meeting was called. His speech was merely a defence of *himself* and friends. The speakers on the other side had entirely departed from the question. He, however, would not do so. He would prove by facts and arguments that the view taken by their opponents was totally at variance with facts. He came not there to defend the Corn Laws; he believed them to be unjust and oppressive, but although he thought so, he maintained that the present House of Commons would not remove them without a convulsion. With a repeal of the Corn Laws the parties on his right had mixed up the sugar and timber duties, and as had already been shewn, the amount of the proposed reduction could not benefit the working man; and the Corn Laws being repealed, without at the same time passing other remedial measures, would inevitably bring unmixed ruin on the agriculturist. He then directed their attention to the subject of machinery. Foreign countries were manufacturing for themselves, and machinery was being exported from this country on a large scale, which enabled them not only to compete with this country, but actually to undersell them. He then read a list of the amount of machinery which had been exported *from this country to various foreign* ports for the last ten years, from which it appeared that the exportation of machinery to other parts had increased enormously. Mr. Taylor then continued—Now, looking at these statements, he wanted to know how they could expect those countries to pull down their mills, and cease to manufacture? He would adduce an argument that would show the meeting that Corn Laws were not the sole cause of dear bread; for in 1803 the people paid 10d. for a loaf, and in 1812 they paid 20d.; and in those years the Corn Laws were not in existence. He, therefore, asked them whether the proposed reduction would procure them the benefit *they sought?* Even allowing that the present measure would give them bread at half its present price, still the masters had the power of grinding down the wages of the working man. What object had the advocates of the measure in view, if it was not the reduction of wages, for unless they did that, they would be no more able to compete with foreigners than they were at present; and, if their wages were to be reduced, what possible benefit could they derive from the measure? The working classes of this country had been worked like slaves, and fed like hogs; they had been working for the whole world, instead of themselves. Their machinery had done them no good; but, on the contrary, produced unheard of misery amongst the great mass of the people. There were other evils in existence besides the Corn Laws; there were Poor Laws—(hear, hear, and cheers)—Police Laws, and a host of other bad laws, which had brought the labourers of this country to a state of unparalleled slavery and degradation. They were told that public opinion was capable of carrying the proposed measure. He admitted it; but if public opinion was marshalled, the same amount would carry the Charter. (Loud cheers.) The Whigs knew that public opinion was against them, and for that reason they crept into holes and corners. There was no principle in their present proposition, and he hoped that now the men of Birmingham were assembled in their thousands, they would shew to the world that they were determined to be free. For the reasons he had stated, he should support Mr. White's amendment; and he then retired amidst the most enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Goddard then addressed the meeting in a very weak voice. He said that he was one of the little guns on his side of the question; something had been said concerning the little guns on the other side, but he thought they were all big ones. He then proceeded to pass some remarks on the American trade, which were of no importance.

Mr. Empson replied to Mr. Goddard's remarks, and read some statistics which shewed up the fallacies of the Corn Law repealers.

Mr. George Edmonds, who took notes during the whole of the proceedings, and who was to have been the lion of the day (at least he seemed to think so), then stood forward to give a final reply to the Chartist arguments. He pulled out his gold-framed eye-glass, and looked as big as possible; and after a few "hems," commenced his speech. He reminded the meeting of the great services which he had rendered to the people. He had been the first to call a meeting in Birmingham *for Reform*, and he had never deviated from it. Who was it that created the present division amongst them? Feargus O'Connor had done so, when he first came among them; but he had stood up against his wild measures. (The yells, groans, and hisses that followed this declaration were really astounding: the valiant George looked terrified, and he beseeched in a most pitiful manner that he might be heard; but the remainder of his address could only be caught in detached portions by those who stood near him in the organ gallery.) He had been before them for twenty years, and no man had suffered more than him in the people's cause. (Groans and hisses) He then read some statements from the *Advertiser*, in order to shew up the Tories, but it would not do. He then commenced an attack on the Chartist speakers, said that they were all young men and strangers. He could not think what could induce the men of Birmingham to place their confidence in such men, and to desert their best friends. (Loud laughter.) He asked Mr. Collins what sort of a government he wanted? If they turned out the Whigs they were sure to have the Tories, and in the present state of society, they could not get a Chartist Government. (Hisses and groans.) He was as much opposed to the Whigs as they were. Let no man think that he wished *to support them*—(bah, bah,)—because they wanted to get what they called the Charter, were they to forego the present benefit? (Renewed uproar.) Would they be silent whilst he addressed them? (No, no.) He then flew into a rage, and commenced a long tirade of abuse against Mr. Collins and the other Chartist speakers, amidst uproar and confusion. The Mayor interfered, and he was allowed to proceed under a promise of only speaking a few minutes. He then proceeded: Could they get the Charter from the Whigs? No! Could they get it from the Tories? No! When the people were united they could get anything by moral means; but he would oppose a physical force party. (Renewed hisses.) He then attacked Feargus O'Connor for proposing a day on which the Charter should become law.

Mr. White interposed, and told him it was cowardly and base to attack a man who was in prison, and could not have an opportunity of defending himself.

Mr. Edmonds endeavoured to gain a hearing, but it was no use, the meeting would not hear him. He looked the picture of despair, frothing and foaming like a man beside himself. He at length turned round and said he would take his leave of them, and hand them over to his friends on the left. He then sat down and was hissed most cordially by the immense assembly, which was estimated, at that time, to be twelve thousand, the hall and the galleries being crammed full.

The Chairman then arose, and stated that it now became his duty to take the sense of the meeting on the resolution which had been proposed, and as he was rather hoarse, he would request the movers of both resolutions to read them to the meeting, that they might clearly understand what they were voting for.

The Rev. T. M'Donnell then read a string of propositions approving of the measure contemplated by her Majesty's Ministers, and read a petition embodying the same.

Mr. George White read his amendment, after which

The Mayor stood up and stated that, in order to come to a just decision, he hoped they would hold up both hands. He should put the resolutions in the following manner:—When he put the amendment he would say—Mr. White's amendment; and when he put the original resolution he should say—Mr. Weston's resolution. Did they understand him? (Yes, yes.) The most profound silence was kept, and the Mayor called on all those who approved of Mr. White's amendment to hold up their hands; an immense forest, comprising at least nine-tenths of the meeting, held up their hands, and gave a cheer that fairly shook the building. The Chairman then put it to the contrary, when a very small portion of "Milk White" hands were held up.

The Chairman then declared the amendment of Mr. White to be carried with a considerable majority. This announcement was received by loud and enthusiastic cheers and waving of handkerchiefs from the ladies who crowded the side galleries.

The ministerial gentry then requested the Mayor to put the question again, to which he consented, and on the second show of hands being taken it seemed larger in favour of the Chartists than before.

The Mayor then said that he had no hesitation in declaring the amendment carried by a very considerable majority.

The announcement gave rise to deafening and enthusiastic cheers.

The gentlemen on the right of the chair looked on each other with dismay, and shook their heads in solemn silence.

Mr. Douglas then stepped forward, and declared to the meeting, that he acknowledged they had been fairly beaten. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Arthur O'Neil then moved the following resolution, which had originally formed a part of Mr. White's amendment, but was reserved as a second, by the desire of the Chartists who were in the gallery.

Resolved—"That the same amount of public opinion calculated to Repeal the Corn Laws, would secure for the people the *whole* of their *rights*; this meeting is, therefore, determined not to rest satisfied until the Charter, the whole Charter, and nothing less, become the law of this realm, and the incarcerated and exiled Chartists be restored to their homes."

The resolution was received with loud cheers.

Mr. Collins seconded the resolution.

The parties on the right of the chair insisted that it had no reference to the present meeting, and requested the Mayor not to put it.

The Mayor hoped the Chartists would not insist, as there was some doubt about it.

The Chartists, feeling that they had already achieved a full and complete victory, and that no person could deny that their principles had been acknowledged to the fullest extent, and also on account of the impartial manner in which the Mayor had put the resolutions, consented not to press it.

A vote of thanks was then given to the Mayor for his impartial conduct, to which he replied that he would always endeavour to act impartially, and give all parties fair play; he at the same time informed them that he did not approve of the decision they had come to that day.

Mr. White then proposed three cheers for the Charter, which were given in the first style; three for Feargus O'Connor, which was also heartily responded to; and three for the incarcerated Chartists. Three terrific groans were then given for the Whigs, after which the numerous assembly departed.

No less than twenty thousand people attended from the commencement to the conclusion.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the SPRING GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS of the PEACE, for the West Riding of the County of York, will be held by Adjournment in the Committee Room, at the House of Correction, at Wakefield, on Wednesday, the Ninth day of June next, at Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, for the purpose of inspecting the Riding Prison, (the said House of Correction,) and for examining the Accounts of the Keeper of the said House of Correction, making Inquiry into the conduct of the Officers and Servants belonging the same; and also into the behaviour of the Prisoners, and their Earnings.

And Notice is also Hereby Given, that at the same time and place, the Resolution of the Visiting Justices of the House of Correction, passed at a Meeting held there on the 29th day of April last, on the subject of the future Rates on the Boroughs of Leeds, Doncaster, and Pontefract, towards enlarging, altering, or repairing the present House of Correction, or building a New Gaol or House of Correction, will be taken into consideration, and such orders made thereon as the Justices there assembled may think fit.

C. H. ELSLEY, Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of the Peace's Office, Wakefield,
May 21st, 1841.

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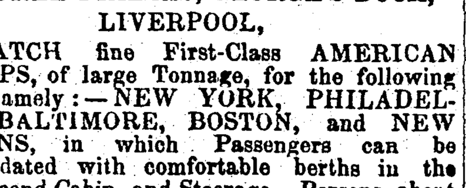

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For contents of No. 5, for May, see above.

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No.
1. Rise, Gentle Moon, Meet me by Moonlight, and seven others.
11. Farewell to the Mountain, and ten others.
13. The Sea! the Sea! and ten others.
17. The Deep, Deep Sea, and seven others.
20. The Brave Old Oak, and eight other tunes.
26. Pretty Star of the Night, and ten others.
53. Happy Land, Land of the West, four Quadrilles from Rory O'More, and two others.
54. The hour before day, I leave you to guess, and nine others.
55. My Beautiful Maid, Cherry Ripe, and seventeen others.
56. In the days when we went Gipsying, Blue Bonnets, Crusader's Waltz, and ten other delightful airs.
60. Bless'd be the Home, Rory O'More, and nine others.
69. The celebrated Echo Quadrilles, Philomel Waltz, &c.
74. Mr. Moore's popular song, The Language of Flowers, Linley's Lost Rosabel, and ten others.
75. Mr. Moore's Musical Box, Cracoviak, and ten others.
76. Where the Bee Sucks, Four Airs by Prince Albert, and twelve others.
77. Eight Airs, by Prince Albert and Ernest, 'Tis the Shepherd's Evening Bell, and five others.
78. Oft in the stilly night, Rory Tories (Jack Sheppard), Jack Redburn's Solos (from Master Humphrey's Clock), She Wore a Wreath of Roses, Mr. Loder's new song, Down in the Deep, and four others.
79. The Danois Quadrilles, Taglioni's new dance in the Gipsy, three famous Chinese airs, Mr. Balfe's new popular melody, The dawn is breaking o'er us, two more Solos by Jack Redbun, and five others.
80. For July, contains Jack Redburn's Gallop and Race, in honour of the Derby, the whole five melodie's of the Falstaff Quadrilles, popular airs from Weber's Euryanthe, Sphor's Faust, and Beethovens Fidelio.
81. For August, contains Oh! God preserve the Queen; the celebrated Tarantella (the whole six movements): seven Airs from Gluck's Iphigenia; and three others.
82. For September, contains My Dog and my Gun, We all love a pretty Girl, He that loves a rosy cheek, the whole set (five) of the Nightingale Waltzes, and six Airs from Gluck's Iphigenia.
83. For October, contains—'Twas Nature's Gay Day, the popular Song; the whole five of the Tete de Bronze Quadrilles; the celebrated Doncaster St. Leger Race, described in Music; and six others.
84. For November, contains Two Melodies from Auber's new Opera, Zanetta, Lanner's Six Spring Waltzes, the celebrated Marseilles Hymn, Claude du Val, and Three others.
85. For December, contains Six Melodies from Zenetta, I know a Bank; and nine others. To purchasers of No. 85 is given gratis The Royal Lullaby, the words and music printed on rose coloured paper.
86. Happy New Year; the whole set of L'Elizir D'Amore Quadrilles, by Musard; Lovely night; The Days that have Faded; Fairy, lead them up and down, and others.
87. The Ice Song; Love in Idleness; The Sleeper; We are Spirits; the two popular songs of Miss Hawes, I'll Speak of Thee, and Thou art Lovelier, and four others.
88. Ten of the Witches' Songs in Macbeth; Over Hill over Dale, in Midsummer Night's Dream; Russian Air by Thalberg; Ladye mine, Ladye mine; Merrily goes the Mill; and others,
89. Three Airs from Mr. Balfe's new Opera of "Keolanthe;" the whole of Jullien's Five Quail Waltzes; and Six more beautiful Airs from Macbeth.
90. For May, contains one of the greatest atttractions ever offered in music, viz.:—A description of the Easter Hunt, in a set of Quadrilles! No. 1, Meeting; 2, Start, yelping of dogs, and gallop of horses; 3, The River, the Check; 4, Stag at bay; 5, Death of Stag. To this extraordinary novelty (which is copyright) there will be added ten other beautiful melodies, amongst which will be the new comic song called "Jim along Josey," with the music, and whole eight verses of words; and this number will contain a catalogue of contents of the whole ninety numbers of "Flutonicon." Orders should be given early for this number (No. 90).

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GENERAL COMMITTEE.

FOR SUPERINTENDING THE NATIONAL PETITION.

THURSDAY, MAY 20.

Mr. Skevington in the chair. The Hall was unusually crowded with strangers. Several of the minutes having been read and confirmed:—

Mr. Ridley asked Mr. Wall if he, as member of the London Committee, had promised to take care of the petition?

Mr. Wall—I never had any conversation upon the subject.

Mr. Cullen received two letters from Glasgow. As they were rather complimentary to himself, he declined reading them.

Dr. M'Douall received a letter from Shrewsbury, announcing that the petition contained 1,108 signatures, and that Chartism was progressing rapidly there. Another letter from Macclesfield stated that the petition from that town, had 1,612 signatures. He then read a letter from the Executive of Salford, signed John Campbell. This letter stated that it appeared injudicious for the Convention to sit longer, and regretted that a more constant correspondence had not been kept up between the Convention and the Executive, which would prevent mistakes.—It also stated that the Executive scarcely knew what advice to give, as one member wrote that it would be well for the Convention to continue its sittings; and another wrote that it would be to no good to do so.

Dr. M'Douall moved that the secretary be directed to reply to that letter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smart, and carried.

Mr. Martin was sorry that individuals had written, while no official correspondence was kept up between the Executive and the Convention. (Hear, hear.) It was the country, however, that was to decide what course they should pursue. As a member authorised to advocate the Charter, and as one pledged to twenty-five imprisoned Chartists, to struggle for their liberation, he would remain in London until the petition be presented, and until he redeemed his pledge.

Dr. M'Douall never communicated with the Executive. The letters from it merely happened to be directed to him. He always carefully abstained from writing as a private individual upon the affairs of the body.

Dr. M'Douall moved, and Mr. Rose seconded, that the letter, which a resolution of the Committee directed to be written to the Executive, relative to all correspondence between it and the members of the Convention, should be forwarded to the Executive.

Dr. M'Douall then read a draft of the letter to the Executive, in answer to the one received. The letter stated the Committee had considered it their duty to continue their sittings until the business for which they were sent was concluded, and that they threw themselves upon the country at large for support.

The letter having been approved of, was, on the motion of Dr. M'Douall, seconded by Mr. Smart, unanimously adopted, and accordingly forwarded.

Dr. M'Douall reported that, in compliance with a resolution of the previous evening, he and Mr. Morgan waited upon Sir John Guest, who asked them if they were a deputation from Merthyr. They replied in the negative, stating that they were members of the Convention. He said that they should have brought Mr. Morgan Williams with them, and asked if he was afraid to come. He behaved very courteous, and said that he would most respectfully present at the throne any memorials from Merthyr, as it was his duty to do so. He was then asked if he would present Mr. Morgan Williams to her Majesty, to afford him an opportunity of submitting to her Majesty the memorials confided to his care for that purpose. He wished Mr. Morgan Williams to call upon him, and expressed a willingness to present him. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall further reported that he had waited upon several other Members of Parliament, the majority of whom were from home, or could not be seen.

Mr. Wall had an interview with Mr. Leader, and asked that gentlemen to present him, or other members of the Convention to her Majesty. Mr. Leader replied that he himself had not been presented since her Majesty came to the throne. Although he did not like it, he would, if required, go and present any person to her Majesty.

Mr. Martin said that Mr. Leader stated that the usual way in such cases was for the members to place the individual's name to be presented on a card, and to leave it before presentation. General Evans was applied to. He refused to present.

Mr. Rose was deputed, with Mr. Williams, to wait upon Mr. Wakley, who was from home. They then waited upon Sir Benjamin Hall, and was surprised, after what Mr. Hall stated, to find that he would neither present an individual or the memorials, with the exception of one from his Borough.

Mr. Cullen called upon Mr. Leader, but did not see him. He then waited upon Sir Wm. Molesworth, and requested his support of the petition in favour of the imprisoned Chartists, and to present memorials for the restoration of Frost, Williams, and Jones. He first said that he would deliberate whether he would present the Leeds petition or not. He then said that he could not support the petition, or present the memorials. He, however, said that he was bound to present them if they came from Leeds. They then went to Lord John Russell's house; they sent in their card. His Lordship sent for answer that he was busily engaged.

Dr. M'Douall met with Mr. Walter at the "Old King's" mansion. He was to draw up a statement for Mr. Walter who would not only vote for, but would also, he was confident, make a speech in favour of the National Petition. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Ridley moved that a Committee of three be appointed to draw up for Mr. Duncombe, a statement of the number of prisoners, their names, the charges against them, their sentences, their condition, and the sufferings to which they were subjected.

Mr. Cullen seconded the motion.

The motion appointing the Committee to report upon the prisoners was then passed, and Messrs. Cullen, Martin, and M'Douall were elected members of the Committee.

It was resolved that the Secretary write to the Marquis of Normanby to know from his Lordship when he would be ready to receive a deputation from the Committee.

After the disposal of some routine business, the Committee adjourned.

FRIDAY, MAY 21.

Mr. Morgan Williams in the chair.

Mr. Duncombe entered the Hall for the purpose of conferring with the Delegates upon the best mode of securing a successful presentation of the petition, to obtain full information on the present state and number of prisoners, to make arrangements for getting the petition to the House, and to receive final instructions respecting its presentation and that of the Memorials.

Mr. Duncombe having examined the number and the wording of the petitions, expressed himself pleased with both. He then read over the list of prisoners as prepared by the Committee, and after its perusal returned it to the Committee for revision. He then described the peculiar situation in which the delegates were placed in consequence of the approaching dissolution, which would certainly take place in a fortnight, and might occur immediately after the debate on Monday night. If the petition could not be presented on next Tuesday, there would be but little chance of its being presented in this parliament. As it was, he was certain that every thing would be done to interfere with its presentation. (Hear, hear.) Still he could not suppose that the House would insult the country by refusing to allow of its presentation, when he was enabled to state that it contained 800,000 signatures. (Hear, hear.) The orders of the day might be moved, and such similar obstacles thrown in his way; still he hoped that he would be enabled not only to present it, but to obtain a discussion upon it. He could not speak positively about the memorials. He wished to know whether he should run all hazards and present the petition at that late moment.

Messrs. Wall and Ridley recommended that it should be presented, and its presentation prepared by all means.

Dr. M'Douall—The country would be sadly disappointed if the petition was not presented.

Mr. Cullen—By all means press the presentation of the petition. If they refuse to hear the petition of 750,000, the Government will be placed in an awkward position. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall and Mr. Skevington insisted upon the petition being presented.

Mr. Duncombe—Well then, I am to bring on the motion if I can?

Dr. M'Douall—Take any course that will secure the presentation of the petition. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cullen—You can present the petition, and, in all probability, bring on the motion.

Mr. Duncombe—If I cannot bring on both, I am, at all events, to bring before the House the petition. I cannot say how long the debate upon the sugar question will be carried; but the moment it is over I will present the petition. (Hear, hear.) I must take care to make an House. I am aware that many applications will be made for me not to press the petition, but I shall be decided, and shall give the go-by to the orders of the day. (Hear, hear.) I am anxious to understand the question so that there shall be no misunderstanding or misrepresentation.

Dr. M'Douall—How long will the Parliament continue?

Mr. Duncombe—It may last a fortnight or three weeks, and it may not continue four days.

Mr. Morgan Williams—Present this petition. If it fails, we will inundate the House with petitions.

Mr. Duncombe—Individual petitions are of no use.

Mr. Skevington—Thousands have declared that they will never sign another petition.

Mr. Wall—Will you receive the petition in the lobby of the House?

Mr. Duncombe—If you please. I will take it there at four o'clock on Tuesday.

Mr. Wall complained of the door-keeper of the House refusing to take twenty-four letters to Members of Parliament.

Dr. M'Douall—We were thinking of a procession to accompany the petition to the House.

Mr. Duncombe—There would be no use in that. Do it as quietly as possible. Those with the headings shall be presented by themselves. Besides the National Petition, he had upwards of 80,000 signatures to petitions left with him.

Mr. Wall complained of the aristocratic conduct of Mr. Wakley, who could not be seen unless the applicant stated in writing what he wanted.

Mr. Duncombe attributed his not being so easily seen to his being coroner, *which left him little or no spare time.*

Dr. M'Douall said that they would have the support of Mr. Walter.

Mr. Duncombe—No, no, he will not support you after you disturbed his Poor Law meeting. (A laugh.)

Mr. Martin—Mr. Ward will vote for the release of prisoners, except Holberry, who was sentenced to four years at Northallerton.

Mr. Wall—He said at a meeting that he would not mind being Ward's executioner.

Mr. Duncombe—We must endeavour to present, if possible, the petition and the memorials. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Wall—Any one who has been at Court could present another person.

Mr. Duncombe—Certainly. But that person must have been twice at Court. Again, he should be at two levees, and those levees only take place every fortnight. It also remained for the Ministers to erase the name after it appeared in the Lord Chamberlain's book.

Mr. Cullen—The country decided that the memorials should be presented by a deputation of working men. The Birmingham Frost Committee having been informed of the difficulty which the deputation experienced desired that every effort should be made to present them to her Majesty; but failing in that they desired that they should be returned, and not be confided to the Marquis of Normanby.

Mr. Duncombe—He is bound to receive and present them.

Mr. Cullen—We applied to a number of gentlemen to introduce the deputation. But they all opposed some difficulty.

Mr. Smart—If Mr. Walter, or the other Member for Nottingham, oppose the petition, they may take up their sticks and walk. (A laugh.)

[Mr. Buller here entered the room.]

Mr. Wall—If Mr. Buller exerts himself, we will succeed, for he has great influence.

Mr. Buller—It was not by individual exertion they could succeed. They should work together.

Mr. Martin—If Fox Maule and Lord John Russell were out, we would succeed. Fox Maule said, in the House, that he knew nothing about my case, when Mr. Duncombe stated it; and at that moment, he (Mr. M.) had a letter from the Home Office, to ascertain if he had any Parliamentary influence. (A laugh.)

Mr. Duncombe—He supposed that you were a Boroughmonger. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin—When I was a prisoner it was deemed criminal if I coughed, spit in an impreper place, or stepped awkwardly.

Mr. Duncombe—What was the charge against you?

Mr. Martin—I made a speech against the Tories. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duncombe—Let me have the paper with your trial in it. It was not formerly the custom to send political offenders to Houses of Correction.

Mr. Duncombe said that Lord Waldegaave complained much of his treatment. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Buller—Why, he is very comfortable and lives in the rooms formerly occupied by Sir F. Burdett. He (Mr. B.) understood that Mr. O'Brien's health was not so delicate as represented.

Mr. Martin was twelve weeks with him. His cell had no window, and the only passage for the air was through an opening over the door.

Mr. Duncombe—The Government cannot of its own accord release prisoners.

Mr. Buller—How many prisoners are there?

Dr. M'Douall—Forty-eight.

Mr. Martin—Fox Maule is our greatest enemy.

Messrs. Duncombe and Buller recommended nothing to be said or done to taunt or exasperate the ministers. The Chartists should as much as possible conciliate them.

Mr. Buller advised a few cases of peculiar hardship to be selected, and the names of such as had only a few months, as well as of those who had a longer period to remain in jail.

Mr. Ridley—I am afraid there is no use of pressing the presentation of the Memorials to the Queen.

Mr. Buller—I think there is no use.

Messrs. Buller and Duncombe then withdrew, after repeating their pledges to support and press forward the petition.

On the departure of the above gentlemen, the committee resumed business.

Dr. M'Douall read a letter from Salford, in which the Executive regretted the conflicting statements forwarded to them by the members of the Convention. It admitted that it would have been better if the Executive had not interfered with the Convention. It also stated that it would have been well if the Executive and the Convention had kept up an official correspondence, and concluded by saying that if the Convention thought better of it, they should stay; but if not, they ought to break up their sittings. The letter was signed James Leech, Wm. Cartledge, R. Littler, and John Campbell.

A letter from Mr. Cordeux stated that the petition from his place contained 1,227. A letter from Caerleon stated that the petition from that place had 322 signatures. A letter from Norwich announced that the petition had appended to it the names of 5,489 males, and 4,862 females. A letter from Brampton eulogised the conduct of the Convention, and expressed the pleasure evinced by the men of Birmingham at the manner in which the delegates managed business. A letter from Lasswade stated that the petition from that district had the signatures of 516 men, and 330 women.

Mr. Barmby read a letter from Ipswich, highly flattering to the cause. Mr. Garrard, the writer, stated the names to the Ipswich petition to be 2,500.

Mr. M. Williams read a letter from Bristol, containing the pleasing intelligence that the petition from that influential city had the names of 5,300 men, and 1,150 women attached to it.

Mr. Ridley moved a resolution that in case that all attempts to see the Queen failed, that they should go in a body and demand an interview with her Majesty's Ministers.

Mr. Rose seconded the resolution, which was then carried.

Mr. Smart was fully aware of the peculiar circumstances under which the Manchester Executive was placed from monetary matters. Hence it was incumbent upon the delegates to come to a definitive resolution, as they were without funds or means. The question was, whether it was the Executive or the country sent them. That question required no answer. (Hear, hear.) However, as they were without funds, and even without the means of obtaining funds, he moved that the Executive, and the *Northern Star*, be requested to forward to Mr. John Cleave, their unanimously elected treasurer, all monies contributed for the support of the Convention Committee.

Dr. M'Douall seconded the motion, which was then carried.

The General Committee then rose.

ANTI-CORN LAW MEETING AT STROUD.

On Thursday evening week, a public meeting was held at the Subscription Rooms, in the Borough of Stroud, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament for an alteration in the Corn Laws. The time fixed for the commencement of the proceedings was six o'clock, and a proof of the interest the subject had excited, was evident by the immense multitude which by that hour thronged the spacious room and galleries, and even crowded all the approaches leading to the building.

A rumour was prevalent that an organised opposition had been resolved upon by the Chartists of the borough, led on by persons of that denomination from a distance; and the truth of this report was soon made apparent by a scene of uproar, turbulence, and confusion, such as we have seldom seen paralleled. Of the scene which presented itself during the progress of the proceedings, any description we can give would be faint in the extreme compared with the reality. Advocates as we are for popular rights, and sincere haters as we are of the tyranny of the few over the many, we could not contemplate the aspect of this meeting without being struck with the wretched consequences which must result from the furious unreasoning tyranny of the many over the few. Looking down from the platform upon the immense mass of human beings which filled the body of the room, the majority of them with inflamed faces and cracked voices, yelling their discordant disapprobation at every speaker whose person they disapproved of, for they would not listen to his words; they seemed like the hundred-armed Briareus, ready to commit any violence and any folly that their excited passions might suggest to them. Their fickleness and inconsistency, too, were strongly exemplified during the discussion, if discussion it could be called, in applauding the most opposite and fallacious arguments, and cheering sentiments uttered by their Chartist leaders, which they hissed down and reprobated when put forward by the gentlemen who had called the meeting.

The first decided outbreak of the prominent feeling of the meeting was given on the entrance of a leading manufacturer of the neighbourhood, who would seem to be unpopular on account of having reduced the time or wages of his workmen; we could not exactly understand which. The next tumultuous ebullition was on the voting a Chairman to the meeting.

JOSEPH WATTS, Esq. moved, and Mr. WM. LEWIS seconded the proposition that Charles Stanton, Esq. be called to the chair. No opposition was offered and Mr. Stanton took his seat, but he had scarcely done so and was about to open the business of the meeting by some prefatory observations, when he was assailed with hissing, at first from a few persons, but which was soon joined in by a far greater number, and cries were raised that he had not been duly elected chairman, and insisting that the question of who was to preside should be put to the meeting. Every syllable that Mr. Stanton attempted to utter was drowned in the interruptions he experienced; and during the tumult a person, in appearance diminutive and quite youthful, and rather shabbily dressed, came forward on the platform, and was received with a good deal of cheering from the Chartists, which demonstration he seemed very willing to understand was intended to signify that he should act as chairman; accordingly, after a brief space, he very coolly appropriated to himself a seat close alongside Mr. Stanton, and announced himself as joint chairman with that gentleman; and there he sat, affording throughout the evening a marked contrast in appearance and demeanour to almost every person around him. It seemed the triumph of the principle of democracy, a resuscitation of the *sans culotte* ascendancy of revolutionary France. The Chartist chairman, we believe, did not belong to the neighbourhood, nor did he seem to be known to any of the respectable people around, for we inquired of several, and no one could inform us who or what he was; but some of the mob addressed him by the name of Paul. His demeanour evinced a strange combination of arrogant assurance and confidence of support from the crowd, and of shamefaced consciousness of the anomalous position into which he had impertinently obtruded himself.

During the prevailing uproar, CHARLES STEPHENS, Esq. stepped forward and asked whether they would permit this to be an orderly and quiet meeting for the discussion and examination of an important question in which their interests and welfare were involved, or would they resolve that it should be one of unruly confusion and interruption which must end in nothing. Mr. Stephens's appearance for a moment calmed the tumult, and he was received in a manner which showed that his character stood high in the estimation of all present; but no sooner had he ceased speaking than his advice was disregarded and the most disorderly tumult again reigned throughout the meeting.

Mr. ANTHONY FEWSTER having been called on to move the first resolution, he came forward and was received with a good deal of cheering, but he soon found that he had to address a very impatient audience, and his remarks were consequently very disjointed. We will endeavour to give the purport of them, omitting many of the interruptions, which, if introduced as they occurred, would make our report as much a chaos of confusion as were the proceedings of the meeting. He was a man of peace and order himself, and if he had not thought that this would be a peaceable meeting he would not have attended it. He had been requested to propose the first resolution, and if they would allow him he would do it; if they would not hear him he had no ambition to speak and would at once sit down. (Cries of "go on, go on.") In order to prepare the way for a few observations he would read the resolution. It was "That the present graduated duties on corn are highly injurious to the country, operating as a prohibition till prices are oppressively high, and preventing, by the fluctuating nature of the scale, the exchange of manufactures for corn, which, when most needed can only be obtained by draining the country of its gold." (Hear! and cheers.) He heard some one say just now that they did not want cheap bread. He would tell them what they did want:—They wanted a good trade. ("And good wages.") They wanted labour for every man's hands, and a fair and just reward for that labour. (Cheers.) Now it was apprehended by a good many persons that the present fluctuating duties on corn—the present high graduated scale of duties—had a direct tendency to injure the trade of this country, and to keep down the rate of remuneration for labour. ("We don't want cheap bread till we have got the charter!") According to the present rate of duties, foreign corn could not be admitted to the English market till the price became very high—the resolution said, "oppressively high." Let them take the present prices for example. At this time the average price for the last six weeks was, he believed, 63s. 8d. per quarter, and the duty on foreign corn was 22s. 8d. per quarter. ("Shame, shame!") The object of the present meeting was, if possible, to alter that. He would tell them the way in which these duties were regulated. One hundred and fifty of the principal towns in the country sent a return every week to the Corn Inspector General of the corn sold every market-day; and then the Inspector General every week took from these returns the average of price for the six preceding weeks, and according to that average the duty on foreign corn was increased or reduced. At the present average of 63s. 8d. the duty was 22s. 8d. which acted as a prohibition, instead of being merely a fair protecting duty for the landed interest, for it was next to impossible that corn could be imported and sent into the market at the present high rate of duty. But when the price rose much higher the duty was taken off in a far greater proportion; for as corn rose 1s. per quarter, the duty fell 3s. or 4s. Suppose the price of corn should be 66s. 8d. to-day, then the duty would be 16s. 8d. only, instead of 22s. 8d. They would thus see how the present Corn Laws operated as an encouragement to speculation, lending a direct bonus to gambling, instead of causing regular trade; and giving rise to fraud, falsehood, and dishonest returns. They would thus see that there were rogues in grain, as well as in every other trade. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) There were a great many large speculators in London, who, supposing the average price to be 66s. 8d. endeavour to cause a fictitious rise in prices and thus to bring down the duty. If they could raise the price 1s. the duty would be taken off 3s. and it would be then 13s. 8d. per quarter. If they could raise the price another shilling, then the duty would be reduced to 10s. 8d. Now to effect this, they make false returns. A. B. sells to C. D. a large quantity of corn, a return of which sale, which is merely a fictitious transaction, is made to the inspector, the average is thus brought down, and the speculator has less money to pay into the Treasury, the duty is reduced to almost nothing, gold is suddenly drained out of the country to buy up corn and bring it here in a glut to take advantage of the corn duty; a regular trade is prevented, instead of commodities and manufactures being exchanged in the way of commerce, *bona fide* money is paid, and the agriculturists are not protected, but find the markets rising and falling suddenly, injurious to their interest, and deranging all the regular industry of the country. So skilfully indeed had these rogues in grain conducted their speculations, that since 1823, when the present Corn Laws were passed, the average duty that had been paid was only 5s. per quarter. Some unpleasant feeling appeared in the meeting just now; but he hoped to see them in a better humour by and bye. An unpleasant feeling seemed to exist between them and some persons on the platform. Perhaps they thought that clothiers were selfish people—("Yes they are")—perhaps they thought that farmers were selfish—and that the upper classes were selfish people. ("Yes, yes.") Why so they were, and so were they who called out "yes, yes," We were all selfish people; for he must tell them that selfishness was in the heart of man, and there it would remain and rankle in his bosom till the evil principle was subdued by a higher principle from above. (Cheers.) He would not detain the meeting by dwelling any longer upon this topic; but it must be quite clear to them from past experience that we do require an importation of foreign corn, for the sustenance of the multitude of inhabitants of this kingdom. ("We want to have wages to buy it.") Well, and you ought to have it—every honest man has a right to a fair subsistence. Since the year 1815, 25 years ago, 35 millions of quarters of foreign corn had been introduced into England, at the rate of a million and a half quarters per ann. on an average. Now, how were they to do without this? ("Oh, let us have the Charter.") Farmers told them that they could grow sufficient corn for the consumption of the country; and indeed every one knew that during the last few years an immense impulse had been given to agriculture; so much so that in some instances the productiveness of the land had been increased nearly three-fold, by improvements in the modes of culture, by the application of chemical discoveries, by the employment of new manures, and in various other ways. But they must recollect that although the productive powers of the country had been thus rapidly increased, and were likely he hoped to increase more and more, and who was there that did not rejoice thereat?—("We don't; we want the Charter!")—yet the population of the country also goes on rapidly increasing, at the rate of half a million a year, and therefore the necessity for an importation of foreign corn. Then came the question—what was the best manner for the people—what was the best manner for the manufacturers—and what was the best manner for the farmers themselves that that which was indispensible for the food of the inhabitants should be introduced into the country. A proposition would be made to the meeting presently, that instead of the present fluctuating duty a fixed duty should be substituted. ("No, no; we want no fixed duty; we want no duty at all.") Well, he (Mr. Fewster) was not bound to a fixed duty; he was rather in favour of a sliding duty, so that when the price was very high there should be no tax at all; but the difficulty was to prevent fraud. He thought that if the duty was wholly taken off when the price was at 70s. and that for every depression of 1s. in price, 1s. duty should be added, there would be little encouragement to fraud, and would be a great relief to the public. For instance, the present price being 63s. the duty would be 7s. which would be 16s. less than the duty now existing. The farmers said, that that that would be too low, but he thought it would amply remunerate the home producer. Perhaps it might be asked, how would that benefit trade? for that was the great point. If they had more trade, they would have more money to buy butter, and cheese, and mutton, and beef with. He was afraid very little mutton and beef came to their share at present. ("Too little, we can tell you that.") Well then, the decided object, the only object, the exclusive object, as he understood it, of the gentlemen who had called this meeting, was to increase the trade of the country, in order that employment might be be found for every individual, and that he might receive a fair reward for his labour. At present, a great quantity of corn was introduced into the country, but it produced very little to the revenue. ("If they want revenue, let them tax steam—let them tax machinery.") The farmers say they do not want high prices—they knew that the maintenance of a high price of corn was altogether incompatible with the commercial and manufacturing interests of this country—they knew that all these interests and their own were all bound up together in one bundle, and that they must all rise or fall, flourish or decline together; and even the landholders were beginning to see that it would be for their ultimate benefit that some alteration in the present system should take place. Now, a few words with regard to wages. (Hear, hear.) Suppose that by the present measure, or any other that could be adopted, the staple trade of this district could be increased—suppose, instead of a thousand pieces of cloth, fifteen hundred pieces should be required, was it not plain that those who made the cloth must be benefitted? He was sure that those who inflamed the minds of the workmen against their employers, or against the farmers, or against any class of men, were the worst enemies they could have. He should have been glad if this question could have been discussed in a quiet and peaceable and rational manner, and that it might have been the means of promoting a compromise between the manufacturing and the landed interest. For his own part, he had no wish but that they should become an industrious, a virtuous, a happy, and a united people. Mr. Fewster concluded by proposing the resolution.

CHARLES HOOPER, Esq., rose to second the resolution, and was received in a manner which must have been gratifying to his feelings. He was enthusiastically cheered from all parts of the room, and was saluted by the title of "the King of the Clothiers." He said, if they wished him to address them they must hear him quietly, for he had neither health nor strength to speak through such a tumult as had been continued up to that time. No one could accuse him of being an enemy to any one of them, and he begged of them, as Christians and reasonable people, to conduct themselves like peaceable men. He had two or three great secrets to tell them, and he hoped they would hear them quietly, for he was in too delicate health to use much exertion to make himself heard. He heard some one say they wanted good wages. He wished every man in this country had good wages. (Cheers.) But he thought he could do something more than that—he could tell them how they could get good wages. They must know this, that if a manufacturer wanted a servant, and servants were scarce,—if only one man wanted the situation, that man could say, "no, I won't take ten shillings (or whatever the sum may be,) give me fifteen shillings, or I won't work for you." But if the manufacturer wanted only one servant, and two men applied, then the case was very different. ("They must depend upon the honour of the gentleman.") Yes, and it depended also upon the dishonour of the servants. They talked about weaving. He had never reduced his prices since he commenced weaving. (Great cheers.) But he could tell them this, it would have been their own faults if he had done so, for hundreds of times men had come to him and said, "Do let me have work, and I will do it for less money than you are paying now." (Hear, hear.) Whose fault was it then that masters reduced wages, but the fault of the men themselves? (Cheers.) They talked about their Charter and their political reform: he would tell them that they knew nothing at all about it. Let them stand firm to themselves like Britons, and that would be the best reform they could have. (Cheers.) The Charter was all humbug till they could get something to live upon—till they could get a loaf of bread at a reasonable price. Talk to him of a starving man wanting the Charter,—he wanted something in his inside. (Cheers.) What could a man do for his breakfast, with his wife and half a dozen children crying for bread, if, instead of exerting himself to improve trade and raise his wages, he did nothing but call out for the Charter. If they could tell him how to extend manufactures, he would tell them how to get good wages. These two things were intimately connected together, but wages and cheap bread had nothing at all to do one with the other. Many of them recollected the year 1835: wheat was then 4s. 6d. to 5s. a bushel, and he would ask any working man who heard him if he did not get better wages then than he got now. ("Better; a great deal better.") Very well; he would ask them how was it, now that the average price of wheat was nearly double what it was then, that their wages had not risen with the price of wheat? ("They never do.") Why that was his argument: they never did; and it was for this simple reason that wages and cheap bread had nothing to do with each other. They must get a demand for their labour, and then cheap bread will be of some advantage to them. The way in which the Corn Laws operated against the working man was this: they precluded the people of this country from sending their manufactures abroad, because they could not bring back corn in the place of them. He himself was at that moment suffering great depression because he could not find a vent for his goods in foreign countries. If the duty was low, he could send his goods abroad and get paid for them in corn, which he could sell here at a moderate price, and then trade would be improved, and cheap bread would be had at the same time. He would show this by stating a simple fact. Some of the finest cloth that was manufactured in that neighbourhood went into the American market. He employed people to work up that cloth. Suppose he should say to them on Saturday night, "I cannot pay you; I have not got any money;" they would naturally inquire how that was; and he might tell them, "I am owed £5,000 in America, and my customer says he has got no money, but that he will send me so many thousand bushels of flour instead. I tell him, I cannot take his flour. He says, his offer is all fair; he has no money, but he has plenty of flour, and is willing to pay in that way, but I tell him I cannot take it, because the law will not allow me to bring it home, if I had it, without paying 23s. 8d. a quarter duty upon it." And thus it was that the manufacturer was ruined, workmen were thrown out of employment, and their children were starving, because this corn was not allowed to be brought into the country. (Shame, shame.) One would think that every man of common sense who had to get his bread by his labour would see the point of that argument. (Cheers.) What had the Charter to do with that? What had political Reform to do with that? He was neither a Whig, Tory, Radical, or Chartist; he was only a plain commercial man of business, and if they could not see and feel the effect of the Corn Laws in the simple statement he had made, nothing could convince them. (Cheers.) Now, if they would hear him patiently he would just touch upon a tender subject with them. They condemned machinery, but it was in most perfect ignorance. He could tell them that if they had no duty on corn, or only a duty of 8s. or 10s. a quarter, that very machinery which they condemned would bring riches and comfort to all their homes. They condemned steam machinery and the power loom; they might just as well condemn the plough, and say that the whole land of the country should be dug up with a common spade. If there was a demand for their manufactures, the more machinery they had, the better would their situation be. Did they want to be common slaves, working and toiling with common spades, and the rudest implements that could be devised? No, many of them were men of intelligence, adapted to higher branches than the commonest and hardest kind of labour; and by the aid of that intelligence and the advantages of their machinery they would be able to compete with foreigners if they could get their corn, their sugar, their coffee, and their timber, free from an exorbitant duty. (Hear, hear.) There was another point which he would just touch upon. They all very well knew, though perhaps the poorer classes did not feel this quite so much as those a little above them, that they had to groan under a heavy burden of taxation. But though this was hard to bear sometimes, yet did they not receive some advantages in return? If one man lifted his hand against another, or robbed him of his property, the law afforded the injured party a recompense: was not that worth paying for? He would tell them that notwithstanding everything that could be said they still lived in the very best country in the world—there was nothing they need be so proud of as of being Britons; and if it were not for the Corn Laws, which would not admit corn till it was at a starvation point, they would have reason to be the happiest people on the face of the earth. Now, many thousands of pounds were lying idle, or instead of being expended in trade, the money was locked up till a favourable moment, and was then all sent away to the Continent to buy corn and bring it here, when it would produce little or no benefit to the revenue. What the people wanted was food, sustenance, plenty to eat, plenty to drink, and clothes to wear; and if they were disposed to labour for these benefits, they must join heart and hand, not to support Whigs, Radicals, Tories, or Chartists, but those men who would really endeavour to bring these benefits within their reach. (Cheers.) They would very soon have an election, and for his own part he should refuse to vote for any man who would not promise to support the repeal of the Corn Laws or to reduce the duty to a certain sum. He would invite all present to do the same, to be united and firm, and not quarrelsome, and all would do very well. (Cheers.) Mr. Hooper concluded by seconding the resolution.

A Chartist, who was announced by the name of CHARLES HARRIS, then came forward to move an amendment. He said he was not an enemy to a repeal of the Corn Laws; he hated these cursed laws; but let them be repealed entirely upon the best principles, so as not to injure the revenue, nor the working man, nor the rich man. He proposed as an amendment—"That we, the working portion of this meeting, consider that an adequate representation of the people in the House of Commons is the only means by which labour can be efficiently represented, and the burdens of the state lightened. That we were induced to believe that the Reform Bill would accomplish such a state of things, and did assist to carry that measure; but inasmuch as its effect has been to make the rich more wealthy, and the poor more poor, in violation of all the promises held out to us, we have come to a firm understanding with our order throughout the country, never again to sanction any general principles except those which are clearly laid down in the People's Charter. (Cheers.) We should, therefore, hold every working man, who, either directly or indirectly joins, sanctions, or countenances, any less important measure than the People's Charter, either a willing slave, or a hired fool." (Cheers.) Having moved this as an amendment to the resolution, he wished, he said, to set the matter right as to machinery. He believed that some persons then present felt a hatred against machinery. He did not care if there were ten times as much. It was against the appropriation of the profits of machinery that he objected, and not to machinery itself. [The speaker then read a statistical return of the exports of machinery from England to Russia, Prussia, Germany, Holland, and Belgium, during the last ten years, showing a very large annual increase; and the conclusion he drew from the return was, that all those countries were determined to manufacture for themselves and that now they had begun to do so, they would not come to the English market for their goods, nor trouble themselves to raise corn in exchange for goods, which they were determined to make at home.] He would tell the meeting what the gentlemen wanted who called for a repeal of the Corn Laws—they did not want cheap bread,—they wanted cheap labour. (Hear.) They found they could not compete with foreign manufacturers living in countries not half so much taxed as this, where food was cheaper, and where the raw material grew upon their own soil. These people would always be able to manufacture cheaper than the people of England, and it was an absurdity to call that meeting together, and to tell them that a repeal of the Corn Laws would bring back foreign trade. He could tell them what it was. Lord John Russell and the Queen's Ministers knew they could not step in office much longer, and they wanted to get up an agitation, and to persuade the people to support them in power; but they would find themselves mistaken, after having forfeited every pledge they ever made to the working people. When they carried Lord John Russell to power on the summit of their shoulders—("Yes, and we will again," "No, no")—he told them that by means of the Reform Bill their houses should be tiled with pancakes, and their streets paved with plum-pudding; but instead of houses they had had bastiles erected to take them in the last stage of life, and Rural Police sent down to imprison every one who was disposed to grumble. The Ministers were out popularity-hunting, as much as any gentleman went out fox-hunting in the morning. They knew that a dissolution of Parliament must take place soon, and they knew that the Tories were stepping upon their heels, and that if Lord Melbourne and his party should once get off the Treasury bench they would never get on again. But the people were not so easily gulled. There was no question that the Corn Law was a most obnoxious law. Taking Lord John's principle for a text, that "Taxation without representation is tyranny, and ought to be resisted," by that principle no Parliament had a right to tax the poor man's loaf. (Hear, hear.) He was sorry they had not given Mr. Fewster a better hearing. He (Mr. Harris) had heard Mr. Fewster speak much in behalf of the poor man many times, and it was a pity he had not had a better hearing now. He would now say a word about machinery. The poor man's labour was his life, and it was as much a felony to rob him of his property in that labour, as it would be to cut any of those gentlemen's throats. (Hear, hear, and disapprobation.) He contended that when any new machinery was introduced which took away the labour of any man, that man should have a per centage allowed to him out of the income of that machinery sufficient to maintain him. Then the introduction of machinery would be a blessing to the country, but they would never be able to accomplish this till they carried a mighty agitation for a full share of political power. (Cheers.) He did not wish to see a Parliament of all poor men, all middle-class men, or all rich men; but he wanted to see a Parliament where all classes would be equally represented, and then every one's interest would be watched over with the same care. Lord John Russell, when out of office, was a desperate democrat; but when in office, he was that that would disgrace a Tory. Those manufacturers, too, that were supporting Lord John Russell, were as liable to be gulled as any person in that meeting. He did not believe that the Ministers ever intended to carry this measure out: but it was just something to gain a little popularity, and then to dissolve Parliament. But if it should be carried, it would do no good to the working man; for the very day that the Corn Law would be abolished would see the manufacturers combine together to lower wages. (Cheers and cries of "No, no.") But let him tell the meeting to look out, for they were living at a very critical moment; the nation was on the eve of a revolution—not a physical resolution, but a moral one,—one that would sink them in a state of degradation never to be retrieved, or one which would enable them to hold up their heads like men, which would fill their cottages with prosperity, and make the people look again something like the old ancient Britons. Before he sat down, he would tell them that if they stopped short of constant, persevering agitation for a full share of political rights as men and Britons, they would stop short of removing the greatest of their evils, and would still continue in a state of starvation and misery. The speaker concluded amidst the cheers of the Chartists.

Another Chartist, who was announned as Mr. BOLWELL, then came forward and said he appeared before the meeting for the purpose of seconding the resolution that had been read by the previous speaker. He did so as an honest man, as a Christian, as a citizen of the world, as one whose religion was to do good to the whole of the human family. He believed that if that resolution was carried out, the condition of the people of England, the poor and rich, would be better. He believed if that resolution were carried into practice, namely, if the principles contained in the People's Charter were established as law, there would be little or no reason to come there to petition parliament for the repeal of that abominable, that obnoxious law called the Corn Law. He had no doubt that many of the gentlemen who convened that meeting had the best of motives in view. He firmly believed it, though, being a stranger to Stroud, he was not acquainted with the character or political opinions of any of the individuals who had signed the bill convening this meeting. But though he believed this, he also believed that if they carried a resolution that night for a repeal of the Corn Laws, they would have met for no good purpose whatever. He believed the repeal of the Corn Laws was brought forward for nothing else than a mere party hubbub. It was true they were told that Lord John Russell was now ready to make this a ministerial question, that he had put it into the budget—and a pretty budget they had made of it. He wished to God Lord Finality was sitting on that platform now, and if he had not a heart like adamant he would make him writhe beneath the castigation.—(Laughter and cheers.) Lord Melbourne, too, he was for a repeal of the Corn Laws now. Why it was but two years ago when a portion of gentlemen belonging to the Anti-Corn Law League waited upon his Lordship and asked him if he was willing to make the Corn Law question a ministerial measure, he was astonished at their impertinence. Make it a ministerial measure?—no, indeed—he treated them with disdain and sent them about their business. The secret was, that Lord Melbourne and Lord Finality—commonly called Lord John Russell—that these two distinguished individuals thought they were safe in office, and that they could refuse to make it a ministerial measure. Then again this Corn Law question was a middle-class question. (No!) He said it was, and he was prepared to prove it. He was a poor man, an uneducated man—he did not know how to use sophistry—he was not educated for it; but he had his opinion, and he would hold that opinion till he was convinced by sound argument that he was in the wrong. He said the Corn Law question was a middle-class question. The object of the individuals generally who supported it, and more particularly, the object of the ministers who brought it forward at the present moment, was not to raise the condition of the poor, to extend trade, or to raise wages, but to give greater power into the hands of the moneyed aristocracy of this kingdom. They heard a great deal about the wickedness, the vices, and the villainy of the landed aristocracy, and God knew their conduct was quite bad enough; but look at the conduct of the moneyed aristocrat, and compare it with the conduct of the landed aristocrat, and they would find that the moneyed aristocrat was a worse tyrant than the other. These gentlemen wanted to make England a manufacturing country—they would not be able to do it; and he would tell them the reason;—former misrule had done the mischief, and it could not be remedied. It was impossible that England could compete with countries with little or no national debt, where the people were not taxed, and where they could work for three shilings a week. He said, repeal the Corn Laws certainly; but at the same time, regulate the currency question; if not touch the currency, then leave the Corn Laws alone. He said the present government was not qualified to legislate upon this question. He would not have the Corn Laws repealed till he saw the millions fully and fairly represented in the Commons House of Parliament—it was only when the millions had power that they would find men who would work for the people universally, and not for distinctive classes. He was fully satisfied of the necessity for the working classes to have political power, but they had been lately addressed by Mr. Vincent upon that subject, and it would be vanity for him to go over the same ground. He would, therefore, thank them for the patient hearing they had given him, and would wish them good evening.

A Mr. INGLEY, as we understood, came forward to support the amendment. He contended that the Corn Law ought to be abolished, for it tended to subvert for the benefit of a class those blessings which were benevolently showered down by Providence for the sustenance and enjoyment of all. Therefore, it was their duty to see that those blessings so richly sent down from heaven for all, should not be turned aside into another chanel for the benefit of the few, by means of a cursed Corn Law. The speaker here became confused and attempted to read his speech from a written paper, but sadly broke down, and at length by the advice of some of his brother Chartists, he desisted. The purport of the latter part of his observations seemed to be, that though the Corn Laws ought to be repealed, this ought only to be done by a Chartist Parliament.

The CHARTIST CHAIRMAN then came forward, and said,—not having had an opportunity of addressing them before, he now appeared before them for the purpose of saying a few words. Every body must acknowledge and lament the existence of the abominable Corn Laws, but that was not the question. ("Yes it is.") Suppose to-morrow, there was a total repeal of the Corn Laws, and they could buy a big loaf for twopence; they would only have to wait till next Saturday night, when their employer would say, "you bought a big loaf for twopence; allow me to take threepence out of the other pocket." (Cheers, and "no, no.") Need he refer them to an instance of the kind for a proof of what he said? The worthy gentleman who sat in the chair with him—but he was requested not to be personal—well then, he remembered a circumstance of a gentleman who had a mill just above Bowbridge; about five years ago, flour fell to 32s. per sack. What did this gentleman do, but call his weavers together and tell them he could not afford to pay the same wages as he had been giving. They asked him why, and he replied, "why, can't you get cheap bread?" (Great uproar.)

Mr. STANTON—I deny it; I beg the meeting to hear this and my denial of it altogether.

The CHARTIST—Six weeks after this occurrence, flour rose to 40s. per sack, and the same weavers appointed a deputation to wait upon the gentleman to ask him to advance the wages he took off. His reply was, "I can't alter my arrangements; I tell you what you must do: you must live hard, work hard, and do the best you can." (Great disturbance and excitement among the crowd.) This would be precisely the case if they had the repeal of the Corn Law to-morrow. He could tell them that the master manufacturers, not only here, but at Manchester, Birmingham, and right through the north of England, were the greatest set of blacklegs on the face of the earth.

Mr. HOOPER here came forward while the excitement of the crowd was at its height, and said he could not sit there and hear the character of any man trifled with.

Mr. STANTON said he was quite prepared to contradict what had been said, and he hoped therefore the speaker might be allowed to go on without interruption.

By this time the scene in the body of the room was most tumultuous, the Chartists becoming every moment more excited. On the platform, among the numerous and respectable persons assembled there, the feeling was evidently one of great indignation at the effrontery of the speaker, who on his part became alarmed at the storm he had created, and endeavoured to appease it by repeatedly exclaiming that he retracted what he had said. He was about then to proceed with his speech, but his voice was soon drowned in indignant hisses, and he held his peace.

Mr. STANTON again attempted to obtain a hearing, but was not successful. He then, in a dumb show, put the question to the meeting, and the Chartist amendment was carried by a large majority.

The Chartists celebrated their triumph by several rounds of cheering, and Mr. Stanton, after a short time, declared the meeting dissolved.

It is right to add that Mr. Stanton conducted himself throughout the proceedings with firmness and moderation, and never lost the gentlemanly demeanour which his station required, thus affording a striking contrast to the violence and abusive conduct of his opponents. It is proper also to state that a great many of the Chartists who succeeded in disturbing the meeting were persons entirely unconnected with the borough.

In addition to the above report, which we have copied from the *Gloucester Journal*, we have received a communication from our own correspondent, who states that:—

"Mr. Stanton was never put to the sense of the meeting; but, as soon as proposed and seconded, took to the chair, and began to address the meeting. The people would not hear him, as he was not put to the sense of the meeting. Mr. Paul was proposed and seconded, and put to the meeting, when a forest of hands was held up. The room was crammed to suffocation, and hundreds could not gain admission; the room, with gallery, is estimated to hold eighteen hundred, or upwards. Mr. Marling, clothier, a noted person for reducing wages, was greeted with such hisses on entering the room, that he got on the platform, and crept behind his fellow gents. Mr. Stanton attempted to address the meeting, but could not be heard. At last he consented that Mr. Paul should preside over his party, and he would preside over his, which Mr. Paul agreed to. During their conversation, which was very polite, the cries from the meeting were "Don't be bought, Paul." The people got tired of Mr. Fewster, and began to cry "Enough of the old stuff, we want our Charter." Mr. Hooper took very well, (as he pays the best wages of any of them,) till he dipped his fingers in the Charter, and recommended the people to "have nothing to do with a mere scroll of paper." When Mr. John Harris moved the amendment, the clapping of hands and shouts was almost beyond description. When silence was restored, Mr. Harris said it was not a usual occurrence for a day labouring man to stand along side of the great manufacturers of this Whig-ridden Borough to address a public assembly, it being the first time, but nobly did he do it; he has gained laurels for the class to which he belongs. When Mr. Bolwell rose to second the amendment, he was received with tremendous applause. He made an excellent speech, which the reporters have cut down. He said the gentlemen convening the meeting might have good motives; but they were completely gulled by "Finality," commonly called Lord John Russell. The assembly were very attentive, while the Chartists spoke. The Whigs were completely confounded; they looked down their noses. Mr. Bolwell challenged any person in the room to discuss the merits and demerits of the Corn Laws, but the cowards would not accept the challenge.

Mr. STANTON tried every effort to get rid of our amendment by coaxing, but at last found it of no avail, and rose to put his resolution. He was met with shouts of disapprobation, and a few of their tools held up their hands, but the poor shopocrats looked confounded, and they were ashamed to hold up their hands before the sovereign people. Some of their tools grinned like savage hyenas; when they found they had lost their trick, they begun to skulk off.

Mr. PAUL then rose to put the amendment, and was saluted with shouts of applause. The amendment was then put, which was carried by a forest of blistered hands, and many more delicate; for the females took an active part in support of the Chartist amendment.

Mr. HUMPHREYS said, "it would be a Newport job."

Mr. WATTS, to his honour, said "No," and requested him to withdraw his words, which he accordingly did.

Mr. PAUL then addressed the meeting, and gave the lordlies a severe castigation. He told them of their misdeeds.

The *Journal* says, that the Chartists had mustered from a distance. The only individual from a distance was Mr. Bolwell, of Bath. Three cheers were given for the brave Feargus, three for Frost and the imprisoned patriots, three for the *Star*, and three for the People's Charter."

P.S. The lordlies were obliged to solicit our Chairman to dissolve the meeting. The *Journal* might sneer at Paul. He was decently attired; he is small in size, but a bit of the right stuff.—Mr. Stanton is a stout corpulent man—well enough he might—and lives out of the blood and vitals of the workies. He is a large manufacturer. The last Corn Law meeting (two years ago) he said, "he could not proceed without some of that which they had given him on former occasions. It was some of the oil of their applause." What popularity he must have lost! I was present and was disgusted to hear it—so was the people. He has some candour, for he told the meeting, *if they could not get bread cheaper they would have to take less wages!!*

Bankrupts, &c.

From the London Gazette of Friday, May 21.

BANKRUPTS.

R. W. Robinson, sen., and R. W. Robinson, jun., Bedford, grocers, June 18, July 2, at eleven, at the George Inn, Bedford. Solicitor, Eagles, Bedford.

J. and S. Holt, Liverpool, glass manufacturers, June 1, July 2, at the Clarendon Rooms, Liverpool. Solicitors, Robinson, Liverpool; Vincent and Sherwood, Temple, London.

J. Wynde, Leominster, Herefordshire, dealer, June 23, July 2, at eleven, at the Waterloo Hotel, Leominster. Solicitors, Hammond, Leominster; Smith, Chancery-lane, London.

R. Whittaker, Bury, Lancashire, brazier, June 8, at nine, July 2, at ten, at the Swan Inn, in Bolton-le-Moors. Solicitors, Whitehead, Bury; Clarke and Metcalf, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

J. Macaire, J. Linnemann, and J. C. Berger, Liverpool, merchants, June 3, July 2, at one, at the Clarendon Rooms, Liverpool. Solicitors, Davenport and Collier, Liverpool; Chester, Staple-inn, London.

C. Taprell, Bristol, grocer, May 28, July 2, at twelve, at the Commercial Rooms, Bristol. Solicitors, Brittan, Bristol; White and Whitmore, Bedford-row, London.

T. Linay, Lynn, Norfolk, draper, June 3, July 2, at eleven, at the office of Mr. R. Pitcher, King's Lynn. Solicitors, Messrs. Sole, Aldermanbury, London.

From the Gazette of Tuesday, May 25.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Andrews, schoolmaster, Ongar, Essex, June 4, July 6, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Cannan, Finsbury-square, London, official assignee; Lofty and Potter, King-street, Cheapside, London.

J. Doughty, licensed victualler, Bristol, June 8, at two, July 6, at one, at the Commercial Rooms, Bristol. Solicitors, Phippen and Craven, Bristol.

W. Brown, cattle dealer, Sutton-under-Whitstone, Yorkshire, June 4, July 6, at ten, at the Golden Lion Inn, in Northallerton. Solicitors, Mewburn, Great Winchester-street, London; Mewburn and Hutchinson, Darlington.

J. Walford, grocer, Wybunbury, Cheshire, June 22, July 6, at one, at the White Bear Inn, Middlewich, Cheshire. Solicitors, Graham, Ironmonger-lane, London; Jones, Hough, near Nantwich.

G. Dixon and R. Glover, spice merchants, June 7, July 6, at one, at the Clarendon Rooms, Liverpool. Solicitors, Taylor, Sharpe, Field, and Jackson, Bedford-row, London; Harvey and Falcon, Liverpool.

W. Thompson, ship builder, Monk Wearmouth Shore, Durham, June 4, July 6, at twelve, at the Thompson Arms Hotel, Sunderland. Solicitors, Moss, Cloak-lane, London; Wright or Brown, Sunderland.

J. Porter, victualler, Honiton, Devonshire, June 10, July 6, at eleven, at the Old London Inn, Exeter. Solicitors, Smark, Flood, and Mules, Honiton; Rhodes, Beevor, and Lane, Chancery-lane, London.

R. Buckell, merchant, Newport, Isle of Wight, June 8, at two, July 6, at twelve, at the Bugle Inn, Newport, Isle of Wight. Solicitors, Holme, Loftus, and Young, New-inn, Strand, London; Beckingsale, Newport, Isle of Wight.

J. Beardsworth, timber merchant, Wrexham, Denbighshire, June 1, July 6, at twelve, at the Wynnstay Arms Inn, Wrexham. Solicitors, Pinniger and Westmacott, Gray's-inn-square, London; Hayward, Oswestry.

C. Andrew and J. Potts, ship builder, Monk Wearmouth Shore, Durham, June 4, July 6, at eleven, at the Thompson's Arms Hotel, Sunderland. Solicitors, Moss, Cloak-lane, London; Brown, Sunderland.

A. Mills and W. Grimshaw Seed, cotton manufacturers, Manchester, June 8, July 6, at two, at the Commissioners' Rooms, Manchester. Solicitors, Kay, Barlow, and Aston, Manchester; Bower and Back, Chancery-lane, London.

W. Grimshaw Seed, calico manufacturer, Manchester. June 8, at ten, and July 6, at two, at the Commissioners' Rooms, St. James's-square, Manchester. Solicitors, Makinson and Sanders, Elm-court, Middle-temple, London; Atkinson and Saunders, Norfolk-street, Manchester.

Original Correspondence.

TO THOSE WHO LOVE FREEDOM AND HATE SLAVERY.

MY FRIENDS,—Allow me to repeat a sentence from my speech upon opening my Radical commission at Stockport, now nearly six years since. I then said :—

"My object is to make you all of one will, and out of that will to form the basis of your future constitution. The auction day will arrive, when both parties will bid for you according to your value; to increase your value and to prepare you for the auction, shall be my task."

Such were my words six years ago, and now behold

THE HOUR COMETH.

Yes, the day of auction is at hand, and who will bid the full value for public support is now the question. I will buy in the first lot for another season, if the highest bidder offers a single doit less than "*the whole Charter.*"

I have never placed one single crotchet before the public. I have not allowed the public mind to be distracted by sudden changes and convulsive throes. I have adhered, through years of stormy abuse and opposition to the one, the single question, Universal Suffrage. I have told you that the figure which I was engaged, with others, in completing, could not be prudently exhibited until the several parts were ready for being put together. They are now "*tried up*," and ready for being "put together."

Englishmen, Irishmen, Scotchmen, and Welshmen, the eyes of the world are now upon you. The French press, till now silent upon popular feeling in England, teems with remonstrances against resisting the popular will. This is novel. The press of France, as the press of Britain, is the mere organ of a faction; and the French journals fear the infection of English opinion. The people of France, any more than the people of England, have no organ. The Ministry of France would join the British Ministry to suppress all popular feeling; but, thank God, the will of the people is now too strong for all factions.

My friends, the CRISIS has arrived, and may God grant that we prove ourselves equal to the emergency! If we are brave and determined, we conquer. If we are cowardly and wavering, we fall.

Behold the stake—"LIBERTY!" The gift of God; the noblest possession which man can enjoy. *Liberty* to the people is death to the tyranny of factions. If, then, we resolve to be free who can impede us in our course? That we may be valued, let us possess all that is most valuable in man. Let us be honest, consistent and brave.

When I reflect upon the great stake now to be played for, I shudder lest one false step should lessen our chance of winning. It is a noble thing—a holy sight, to see the "poor oppressed" fighting against the "rich oppressor!" The balance of power is now in our hands—that is acknowledged. With us, then, the consideration should be, how to use it for OUR OWN BENEFIT, wholly regardless of both factions, and, above all, of the individual interest of *camp followers*, who will claim peculiar title to public confidence, and ask us to make exceptions to our general rule of action in their particular case. *I say no exception.* If our rule be good, let it be critically followed; if bad, let it be altered.

Behold, then, our position. The Whigs, the "bloodiest" faction that ever hell in its wrath sent upon earth, are on their knees licking our feet, while the desolation which they have caused rings through every crevice of this sea-bound dungeon. They have become bankrupt, and would accept any amount of promise-to-be-paid, after convenience, well knowing that they had no intention ever to meet their engagements.

Let me ask you one question. Can you trust them after nine years of sad and melancholy trial, when you reflect that their greatest assaults upon liberty were made in the days of their greatest strength?

But upon what question do they vainly hope to arouse public sympathy? Why, upon a set of problematical results, which, should they terminate to the full extent of their anticipation, would but injure every working man, while they would serve every man of fixed income—every placeman, pensioner, state pauper, and salaried official. Theirs is the battle of the confectioner, the grocer, the Cuba and Brazilian slave-owner, the fundholder, the architect, the ship-builder, the cabinet-maker, the timber-merchant, and the corn-factor, against labour. No wonder that Joe Hume, a large fundholder, should think "brown bread good enough for the Spitalfields weaver," while he would cheerfully purchase his own hot loaf *for less money*, PRODUCED BY MORE LABOUR. What does he care where it comes from, provided he has it? Do not the "anti-monopolists," as they whimsically call themselves, know full well that if all the articles of life are made cheaper, judges, placemen, pensioners, and persons with fixed incomes, will be so much the richer; and do they attempt either to reduce their salaries to the "sliding scale," or do they propose to lessen the general burdens of the country? No, in faith! but, curious enough, the loudly vaunted measures have sprung out of State necessity. It was not because the people wanted relief that her Majesty's popular champions proposed their new "tariff," but because, without it, they could not get wages! and this is called patriotism, and the act "GREAT COMMERCIAL REFORM!" And they propose "free trade" with untaxed countries, that is, to make you run a race with fetters on your legs, while *your competitors* are unshackled!

But mark their real love of the principle. While the hireling press echoes "free trade," there is a Bill passing through Parliament to rob 160 of the poor oppressed, by depriving them of a common, to enrich twenty-five rich oppressors. Yes, "Whaddon Chase" is being stolen from 160 poor men, by twenty-five rich men. The 160 poor men have beggared themselves to defend their right, but have failed; and this, Joe Hume would call "*freed trade.*"

Let me put a question to you. Would you have listened, for a moment, to a single speech made in the House of Commons upon the subject, at a parish meeting, without bestowing copious hisses upon the clap-trap speakers? No, not to a single one. The question then is, are we, who fight for principle, and who have suffered so much in our struggle for principle, to be caught in the new Whig ministerial trap?

They say, they WOULD set the captive free. I answer, let me rot in prison rather than my liberty, obtained by Whig clemency, should procure a vote for the ruffians who have trampled upon all liberty. I have not lived in solitary confinement for thirteen months, without learning how to estimate the value of liberty; neither have I spent my time to so bad a purpose as to make my liberty more precious than my character. If I can only obtain my freedom by an abandonment of my principles, then may the loathsome dungeon be my dwelling-place while life remains!

I was shocked, and horror-struck, to hear the very mention of a compromise at the meeting held last week at the Crown and Anchor, and my principal reason for writing now, is, to enter my protest, upon my own part, against such a course. And then, I am told that the Tories will set me free. Good Heaven! my limbs, though strong, would refuse their office when told they owed their liberty to my country's greatest oppressor. What! be allowed to walk abroad and say, he owes his freedom to the Tamworth Baronet!!—the man whose name stands second only to that of Castlereagh in the bloody book of Ireland's sad catalogue of modern oppression! Who has gone farther to set Catholic against Protestant, and Orangeman against native Irish, than Sir Robert Peel? No one. And am I to walk abroad as a living monument of *gratitude* to him, for the possession of that liberty of which he has robbed my country? NO, NEVER, NEVER! NEVER! First perish O'Connor!

This compromise has sealed my doom for the remainder of my dreary imprisonment! For by the ghost of many a murdered Irishman, and by my country's wrongs, I swear that if an order for my liberation come tomorrow from a Tory government, I will not leave my dungeon! and they cannot eject me, as my committal directs that I shall be held in custody until I enter into heavy bail for my good conduct for two years. Therefore am I proscribed by this *compromise*, even by the very mention of it.

You will all do me the justice to admit that, notwithstanding the systematic abuse of Mr. O'Connell and the whole of the Irish press, yet has not angry feeling, for one moment, allowed me to resent personal injury by abuse of my country. Who ever heard me abuse Ireland, even in the midst of the intolerance of her paid patriots?

Upon the whole, my friends, believe me, that neither Whig or Tory will allow me to roam at large one single hour before the 11th of November next; and *then* I will pay them twenty-five shillings in the pound!!!!!!

Now, my friends, let me explain what our course should be.

Six years ago, I said I would prepare you for sale. Two years ago, I published a plan for your local organization, and, three months ago I republished that plan. I was well aware that only in the excitement of a contested election would either band of robbers bid for the virtuous people; that hour has now come, yet are you not prepared with your committees, sub-committees, treasurers, and secretaries of electioneering clubs which I recommended: but as I never fight with my own party, but always try to make up for their laziness by my own extra diligence, I tell you now to get your machinery ready. Let every locality have its election club. For Charter members there is no hope this election; not the slightest; but this election is the foundation of all hope. Upon YOU, the people, will depend the result, whether you furnish to the House of Commons a sufficient number of tools to be used by any Administration for your ruin, or whether you furnish such a House as *must be dissolved* in less than six months from its formation.

Now, mark me well. If you return as many as 300 Whigs, you will prepare improved machinery for fraud, persecution and tyranny. As our only struggle must be for the Charter, a sufficient number of let-well-enough alone, or any-thing-rather-than-a-Radical-House members will be found to join the Whigs to carry on with a Tory House without again tempting the *storm of* popular wrath, of which they will get a taste upon the ensuing contest. If you return but a few Whigs they cannot form any coalition with the Tories and must constitute our's and the *Queen's minority.*

The greatest blessing which could happen to us would be the return of 658 Tories; but that is impossible. If we had a House full of Tories their position would very much resemble that of the Kerry man, who came all the way from Kerry to see London from the top of the monument; but when he got there he was so dazzled that he got frightened and requested a friend to cover his eyes with his handkerchief, for God's sake, and lead him back again to Kerry. *Now*, if you had 658 rampant Tory devils they would be *frightened* at the sound of their own voice, and would imploringly cry "*O! for an opposition.*"

It is said that no wife could survive a year if not once contradicted; I tell you that no minister can survive the want of an opposition. The Tories being better tactitians than the Whigs, actually led them to the altar, and then offered them up a sacrifice to an opposed lust. It was by not opposing the Whigs, in their aggression against popular rights, that the Tories brought Whiggery into disrepute. Let us therefore benefit by example; and as the Whigs died of surfeit, let us kill the Tories by repletion. Let us *gorge* the House with them, and, inasmuch as the struggle, at last, must be between the nominees of a faction and the whole people, it must come to that; and if we are not prepared, why then, let us at once give up.

I say, that with a compact minority, too large for a faction, and too small for a party, at work inside, and the whole people at work outside, nothing can withstand us.

As a matter of course, the "bloodies" will now "pat you on the back," and ask for your support; but for what? Would you, nine years ago, have entertained any one of the great "*commercial reforms*," as they are called, or would you have considered them as any part of the great measure? Assuredly not; and, after nine years' drilling and training; after nine years' disappointment; after nine years' sessions of unexampled tyranny, persecution, lewd sway and distress, are you now to entertain them AS A WHOLE? Have nine years of teaching taught us no better than this?

My friends, nothing can be more laughable than the complaints and sore things of the Whigs, in their very, very incompetent journals. They really imagine that we are still in leading strings, and that we should be thankful for correction. They still call themselves our natural allies, and the Tories our natural enemies; and, forgetting that we dissolved partnership in September, 1835, and set up business on our own account, the ignorant creatures have the folly to find fault with our tactics! Well now, can anything be more absurd? and, when well weighed, can any praise be stronger than this intended censure?

What is our object? To destroy Whiggery, and establish Chartism. Well, then, are Whigs likely to be much in love with any course which tends towards the accomplishment of that desirable end? Do they ask us for advice, as to how their proceedings are to be conducted? No, in faith.

What would any one of you think, suppose you sat down to a game of cards, and that your adversary, after vain endeavours to win the game by fair play, said, "O, but you must shew me your hand, and play your cards as I direct you?" What, I ask, would you think of such a proposal? and yet it would not be one whit more ridiculous than the appeal of our Whig opponents, to play our game as they direct us. My friends, so long as we did play this fast-and-loose game, so long were we a laughing-stock; but the moment *we played one hand in Birmingham, in* 1839, *according to our own judgment, that moment did our adversaries say, "O, these fellows play the game too well, and we must bludgeon them; pack the cards, and run off with the stake!!!"*

Well, up to that period, we were the ridicule of all parties, and despised by all; but since then we have played our own game, and now we have arrived to "*the dignity of being hated.*" We are no longer despised; we are now hated, because we are dreaded; and no political party can be great till it is hated. Thank God, then, we are all hated, and I the most! O, how I enjoy Whig and Tory hatred! It is balm! cordial!! consolation!!!

But what has made you great? The things that have made you hated, of course. What are they? The pertinacious manner in which you have upset every clap-trap meeting; the noble consistency you have evinced in standing by your friends and your Charter, through unparalleled persecution, insult, and distress; your "USELESS DISPLAYS" and manly expression of "ANGRY FEELING" have done the job; and hence was it a principal object of Mr. Joseph Hume to lull you into quiet and calm; into "non-resistence and passive obedience" before the hour arrived for treating Whigs on the hustings as they treated us in the House. Is it not self-evident that conduct which would entitle you to Whig praise, would subject you to popular suspicion and censure, and having well-earned a large stock of Whig hatred, we are justly entitled to a large share of popular approval.

For four months this dissolution has been in cogitation, and during that time the "leading Chartists" have been "saturated" with letters to subdue Chartist "*angry feeling*" at public meetings, and to set their faces against "*useless displays.*" Our duty then is, for the present, to fill the House with Tory poison; yea, to load it to the very muzzle, so that it may explode and blow them all up, and then will come our turn!

Now, my friends, as I have never waited upon public opinion, but have always "*come out*" upon principle—at once, and, in the outset, I say, "down with the Whigs;" and, in every instance where you have the power, return Tories in preference to Whigs. Do so for this reason—Because you will thereby beat one of your enemies. By returning Whigs you cannot, in the slightest degree, weaken Toryism; inasmuch as Whigs in office are mere Tories.

What have we to expect from the Whigs in the way of reform? Have they not already ruined themselves in their endeavour to ruin you? In depriving you of your wages have they not left an empty Exchequer, and themselves without their salaries, to insure which they must now play a game at thimblerig?

In God's name, what have you to do with Sugar Duties, Corn Laws or Timber? Will it be any consolation to you to know that you have cheapened bread, sugar, and timber, for traffickers and consumers with fixed incomes, while, to accomplish it, you have lessened the price of your own labour, and thereby deprived yourselves of the means of purchasing *any portion of the cheap sweets?* 'Tis humbug! and they know it; and they can only hope to cram it down your throats by bribing your leaders; and just give me leave to ask, why these immense collections by the "Plague" just now? Agitation costs *them* nothing. Beware, Beware, Beware of *Mr. Gold.*

Let us just see the principle upon which all the wealthier classes are now marshalled on the Government side, in support of the great "*Commercial Reformers.*"

The foolish mill lords imagine that they can buy cheaper and sell dearer, and still preserve peace, regulate demand and supply, and stop gambling; therefore they are bottle holders to the Whigs.

The bankers know that their discounts will be increased by an increased demand for paper to gamble with—your labour and liberty being the stake.

The Insurance Offices know that their business will be increased at your expence.

The grocers and bakers,—poor silly fools!—think that they will be enabled to buy very much cheaper, and perhaps sell more!

The judges, parsons, barristers, solicitors, placemen, pensioners, fund-holders; in short, all those with fixed incomes; the whole swarm of lice on the beetle, imagine that they will be enabled to do twice as much with their fixed salaries, and yet that order and peace will continue!

The poor fools of shopkeepers and tradesmen, imagine that they will be enabled to sell just as much and to live cheaper. Silly, silly men! They can only live cheaper by making labour cheaper, inasmuch as that ingredient *forms nineteen-twentieths of every* thing they consume; while their whole means of consumption is furnished by labour, and labour alone; and when labour is reduced, they must be reduced. In fact they are all mad. The Whigs have literally persuaded them that poor John has yet something in him, which the "Great Commercial *Reforms*" is to extract; but they will all find themselves mistaken, and that ere long!

I have shown you how the Whigs have fought their battle, constantly changing their position and tactics without reference to us.

I have shown you how the Tories have fought their battle with reference only to their own party purposes. And

Daniel O'Connell, being another corporation, though a corporation sole, let us see how he proposes to fight his battle (Ireland's battle), without reference to any earthly object but keeping himself in place and his hands in poor Paddy's pockets. I shall not lose much of my space in finishing this *autontimorouminos* ("self tormenter.")

Pray! pray! pray! mark, learn, and inwardly digest, the mode by which this charlatan proposes to redeem all his pledges to unhappy Ireland. Firstly, observe, Repeal is the watch-word of Ireland, as the Charter is that of Britain. Secondly, bear in mind, that a Parliament elected favourable to Whig principles would have, at least, a six years' lease of office, as friends of the Queen's youth.

Now, how, think you, the begging rascal proposes to snatch Repeal out of the fire of party, or even to make the god-send a stepping-stone to Repeal? Why, HE POSTPONES IT FOR THE PRESENT! lest its introduction should injure "the base, brutal, and bloody Whigs"—the "West Britons," the coercers, the police enactors, the arms'-bill enactors, the appropriation concocters and abandoners, the rascally Whigs!

The *World*, upon the subject of Dan's last letter, has these few pithy lines :—

"With much contained in it we coincide; while from other parts we TOTALLY DISSENT. Mr. O'Connell we think perfectly right in not recommending that a Repeal candidate should be started, at this juncture, where his chance of success would be doubtful."

Aye, "*where his chance of success would be doubtful*"—there's the rub; and that one scorpion sentence will render the return of a Repealer doubtful in every part of Ireland; and that is the sole, and only, object of the deceitful stuff.

But, suppose he had said, "*men of Ireland, now is your time.* ONWARD TO REPEAL. *Every Repealer may be relied upon as an opponent to Toryism; let us have men of double force—first, anti-Tory, and then pro-Repeal, thus do we effect a double purpose at one and the same time. Kill the enemy and resuscitate our native land.*" Suppose he had said that, what would have been the effect? Why, just this; that in many cases, where the *order* will render the return of a Whig doubtful, the course which I recommend would have rendered the return of a Repealer certain. But what is the fact? Why that those very Whigs, now to be returned, will be Ireland's bitterest enemies, and the very stanchest anti-repealers, and that's the secret,—that's what O'Connell wants, A STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE WAY OF THE MONSTERS OF HIS OWN CREATION.

But then, a bit of religion,—the old seasoner of all dishes,—is brought in. By heaven! it is enough to make any man wild, and to set an Irishman mad to think of the barefaced villany of this old woman.

Well, my friends, thus they all act, as they profess to think, best for their interest, and without consulting us.

Now, let us, without reference to any of them, do the best we can for our Charter. Let us, wherever we can give, give 20, 30, 40, 50, yea, a hundred of either devils for one Chartist. O, how easily Glasgow could return my dear friend Moir, by giving them 20 Tories, or 20 Whigs, for Scotland for this one honest Chartist. That is, suppose Dundee, Dunfermline, and several other places, were to make common cause with Glasgow, and that the Chartists of those places were to say "20 Whigs, or 20 Tories," "*which you please, my dear*; choose your devil, and your devil's colour, and have him in exchange for one Chartist angel." Leicester, *Hull, and Nottingham could do this! Leeds, Bradford,* Halifax, Huddersfield, and York could do likewise. Rochdale has its out and outer—honest Sharman—glorious Sharman—amiable Sharman. Manchester, Stockport, Bolton, and Chorley could do likewise. Oldham has the two best men to be found—who will dare to oppose them, I should like to know? Then you have a little knot of Chartists well able to speak upon the hustings. I fear I should be considered "despotic" if I was to particularize, so you must judge for yourselves.

Now, *my friends*, to the point. "*Cæsar's wife should not only be virtuous, but should be above suspicion.*" No man shall ever suspect me, and, therefore, although solicited by many constituencies to offer myself, free of expence, where my return may be considered certain, as all and every sacrifice would be made in a whole county to insure it, I have come to the settled resolution not to accept a seat in the next Parliament, if offered to me—not to allow myself to be put in nomination anywhere, and for this simple reason, that *my recommendation may stand discharged of all self-ishnesss.*

Our time for returning *the whole House* is at hand, believe me, or a bloody revolution; one or the other is inevitable. I must keep my conscience clear, and my friends clear. I WILL NOT OFFER MYSELF FOR ANY PLACE. I will support a Chartist everywhere, at all hazards, and will join in returning a Tory in preference to a Whig, where the contest lies between the Devils and the Devils in hell. I do this from my bitter and unconquerable hatred to the Tories, from the hope that they will kill themselves.

Now my friends, as to any compromise for my liberty, I will not owe it to Peel, even if offered; but believe me, that on to-morrow night on Duncombe's motion, he will indignantly repel the assertion made at the Crown and Anchor. No, no; Sir R. Peel is too cold-blooded a politician to bear *with temper* such a taunt, as being charged with *an act of justice!*

I will not come out of my cell at all upon a compromise.—I will break the contract—I have been no party to it.

As to my getting out just now, you shall judge from the following true "unvarnished tale," whether or not it would be justice to me to enlarge me at the present moment, when so much would be expected from me, and when I should not be able to take any part whatever in public affairs. When I came here first, I kept my voice by reading aloud about two hours every day. This I practised till the winter compelled me to have fires, and then my cell chimney smoked to such an extent, that, by degrees, I was obliged to give up not only reading aloud, but speaking above my lowest tone. I could not speak without pain. When spring returned, it brought no charms for me. I tried, when the smoke vanished, to read aloud again, but found that I always spit blood, when I made the attempt, before I got through many pages; so I gave it up.

Now, I ask you, would it not be certain death to place me upon a public hustings or in a public meeting? Never was man treated as I have been! not one single restriction has been taken off since June 1st, 1840, to the present moment, but several fresh ones have been added. I pay for every thing I use, even my coals; and I pay £10 8s. a year's rent for one of the condemned cells! Every letter I receive is read; every letter I send through the post is read; every visitor is accompanied, for five minutes, by a turnkey, and every word we say is reported. I am in solitary confinement! and shall be in the fourteenth month on Tuesday week, a punishment unknown to the law!! In one of my recent letters, I stated that it was such a punishment as no man had ever endured *for any crime* since England was discovered; but some one altered it to *had ever before endured for libel.*

Now, again, I tell you that the law knows of no such punishment; and the Judges dare not, nay could not, sentence to such a punishment for any crime: and having borne thirteen months of it, unjustly, shall I say, "thank you," to the scoundrels who made me unjustly suffer, and, if guilty, would now UNJUSTLY liberate me for their own base ends?

No,—damn them!—never—"*No surrender.*" "The Charter," and "down with the 'bloodies.'"

Ever yours,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

DEAR SIR,—I have to *enclose* the following resolution passed at our meeting of this day:—"That in consequence of the letter received this morning from the Executive at Manchester, a letter be sent to the said Executive, and to the editor of the *Northern Star*, requesting them immediately to transmit to Mr. John Cleave, Shoe-lane, London, our unanimously elected treasurer, all moneys which have been sent to them for the use of the Convention or committee."

I am, &c.,
55, Old Bailey, THOMAS WALL.
21st May, 1841.

HOW TO STOP THE BANK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—In my letter to you of the 5th instant, I ask, "whether you think, if it were notorious that the Chartists really had the power to stop the bank if they pleased, *such notoriety* would be likely to be of any service to them in their *efforts to obtain their Charter?*" In your *Star* of the 15th instant, in your notices to correspondents, you say, referring to my inquiry, "We certainly think that such notoriety would be likely to be of service: will he shew us the *how?*" I will endeavour to do so, and thus I proceed.

Let every Chartist who can save at least one penny per week begin to imitate my example, and let him never discontinue such imitation until either the bank be restrained from paying its notes in gold, or the People's Charter have become the law of the land.

But before I proceed to state what I do myself, and what I want everybody else to do, I think it right first to state what I do *not* do.

In the first place, then, I do *not* lend my little savings to the Government, *by depositing them in any* Savings' or other Bank; for, by so doing, although I might receive a paltry dab of interest for my money in the course of a year, I should only be enabling the Government to appropriate the principal, or, in other words, to expend my own money in buying swords, and pistols, and bludgeons with, to cut, and shoot, and knock me about with. I, therefore, and for *another reason*, do not lend my money to the Government. That other reason is, that if I were to lend my money to the Government, or to *my employers*, or to any private individual, it would remain in circulation; whereas it is part of my scheme to withdraw it from circulation, and to have its place supplied by constant drains upon the coffers of the Bank of England. I, therefore, not only do not lend my money to the Government, but I do not lend it at all; I keep it myself: I hoard it, and in *gold and silver*, and *not in bank notes* of any denomination.

I will tell you how I manage. Every Saturday evening I drop into my "savings' box" (of which I have constituted myself sole and exclusive governer, director, treasurer, and secretary) as much out of my weekly earnings as I can possibly spare; sometimes, it is more, and sometimes less than others; but as it is not lent out at interest, nor spent, but *hoarded*, you must (I think) perceive that that money, however small in amount, *is yet so much money* withdrawn from circulation; it being distinctly understood all the while that I hoard nothing but *metallic coin*, gold, silver, and copper, but NO *paper money*: for if I were to hoard paper money, the place of the identical notes which I had so withdrawn from circulation would not be supplied by gold and silver from the coffers of the Bank of England, but *by other notes*, which the local bankers (here at Leeds, where I am living) would instantly and at no expense fabricate and put in circulation, whereas the place of the gold and silver which is hoarded must eventually come out of the coffers of the Bank of England, as I will presently demonstrate. I have now told you what I do *not* do and what I *do* do, and I have stated *my reasons for not* doing the one and for doing the other, and having done so, I beg further to observe, that to what little money I have already hoarded up, it is my intention to add weekly until the People's Charter becomes the law of the land. The money so already hoarded up and to be added to, as I have before stated, I do, and always shall, consider to be a sacred fund and dedicated to the Chartist cause; and it is my firm and unalterable determination not to touch it or any portion of it until the People's Charter be the law of the land.

Such is my plan or scheme, and I do firmly believe that if the Chartists would individually begin now, each according to his respective means, to imitate my example, and would persevere in such imitation, the Bank of England would suspend cash payments before the *last* day of the year, (and I think so for reasons which I will explain in my next, if you should agree with me in the opinions expressed in this,) and whenever that event does take place, from no matter what cause, it will be attended by at least an immediate, and most extensive and sweeping Reform. of the Commons House of Parliament. I have already shown that the hoarding of paper money does no good, for it does not annoy the local bankers or the Governers and Directors of the Bank of England. But the hoarding of gold and silver to any considerable amount would not only annoy but would absolutely terrify as well the local bankers as the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, for it would cause a drain to be made upon the coffers of the Bank of England for a sufficient amount of gold and silver to supply the place of the gold and silver so hoarded, and consequently withdrawn *from circulation, as I will now endeavour to* show.

Let us suppose that the average amount of gold and silver constantly in circulation here in Leeds is £10,000 or thereabouts. We will next suppose that in this town there are one hundred persons, each of whom, upon reading this letter, is determined, according to his respective means, to adopt the principle here laid down for his imitation. We will further suppose, that at the end of *three months*, each of those persons has hoarded up £5 in gold and silver which would otherwise have remained in circulation. In that case these one hundred persons would not only have withdrawn from the circulation £500 in gold and silver, *but would be in possession of it themselves*, which they would not otherwise have been. In that case also, the £500 so hoarded up would be missed and felt, if its place were not supplied. There would evidently be a want of a sufficiency of small change for the daily purposes of life or business, its place therefore would be supplied; but how? We shall soon see. A tradesman, a butcher for instance, finding that his customers did not pay him so much gold and silver as usual, but more £5 notes, leaving him to pay himself and give them the change, would every now and then send a package of £5 notes to the different bankers here, who had issued them, and get them exchanged for gold and silver, for the accommodation of his customers. The baker and all other trades people would do the same, until by that process the place of the £500 so hoarded up would be supplied. But those bankers would then have in their tills £500 less in gold and silver to honour their notes with than they had before the hoarding commenced; and they would then scrape together £500 in Bank of England notes, and send them up to their agents in London to get converted into gold and silver, and that gold and silver remitted back to them instead of the notes. Thus the agents would very easily do, by simply going to the Bank in Threadneedle-street, in London, and there exchanging the notes for gold. There then is a drain upon the coffers of the Bank of England for £500 in specie!! But it must not be forgotten, that the hundred sturdy fellows in Leeds don't relax in their efforts or their principle, and in another three months they have got another £500, whose place would be supplied in precisely the same manner. Here let me not be misunderstood; I have merely supposed a case for the proper illustration of my assertion, that if the Chartists were to hoard weekly as much money as they could, the place of the money so hoarded must eventually be supplied by drains upon the coffers of the Bank of England. But I do not mean to *assert* that there would be *exactly* 100 or any other given number of persons who upon reading this letter either would *or* could hoard weekly, any sum of money which in *exactly three* months, would amount to *exactly* £5, or any other given sum, but I do believe that there would be *some such persons here to be found*, who upon reading this letter, would hoard up weekly as much money as they possibly could, and therefore I further believe that there would be *some* such persons to be found in every town, city, parish, village, and hamlet in this country, whose united hoardings I do believe would in three or four months amount to such a sum of money as would make an evident diminution in the quantity of the gold and silver in the coffers of the Bank of England; if so, it is evident that the Chartists alone, and unaided and poor as they are, can, if they please, cause such a constant and continuous drain upon the coffers of the Bank of England for its gold and silver as if persevered in, must eventually end in the stoppage of the bank. I fear that I have already trespassed upon your time too long, but I cannot conclude this letter without expressing my conscientious conviction that the mere knowledge by the middle and aristocratical classes of the power which I have contended that the Chartists possess, and *more especially of their determination to exercise it*, would be more likely than any thing else to procure for them the speedy concession of all their political rights and privileges.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A MIDDLE CLASS CHARTIST.

22nd May, 1841.

NORMANBY AND THE PRISONERS' LIBERATION CONVENTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—As our interview with the Marquis of Normanby, in regard to the presentation of the memorials for Bronterre O'Brien, has not been correctly stated in the papers, we beg to lay a plain statement of the same before the readers of the *Star*.

At the time appointed by Messrs. Buller and Hawes, that is twelve o'clock, we proceeded to the Home-office, but found that the Marquis of Normanby would not be there before one o'clock, and an appointment was made to meet them (Messrs. Buller and Hawes) at four, or something later. We went and found they were there before us, and were closeted with the Home-Secretary. We waited a considerable time in the ante-room, and were joined by the two gentlemen. They informed us there would be no difficulty in getting the memorials to her Majesty, as they would, if we would chose, undertake their presentation; but this, not suiting our wishes, was of course declined. They next told us that the Marquis would see us, but that we were not to enter upon a discussion as to the contents of the memorials; because that might lead to some language which would not be pleasant to either party. With this understanding we were admitted to his Lordship's presence, and his Lordship told us that he could not see deputations in regard to criminals, as that would be inconsistent with his duties as a Minister of the Crown; but that he would receive the memorials which we then had, and give them his serious consideration, and that whatever opinions or arguments which we might have to adduce, he would thank us to put in writing; and, upon these grounds, he would give our wishes every consideration. In regard to Mr. O'Brien, he had caused enquiry to be made, and he found that his case was not so bad as it was represented to be. This was in substance, nay, indeed, everything which passed between us and his Lordship.

We are, yours,
L. PITKETHLY,
MORG. WILLIAMS,
M. CULLEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

DEAR SIR,—By inserting the following address in this week's publication, you will greatly oblige those friends to O'Connor whose names are attached thereto, and likewise your humble servant,

THOMAS CLARKE.

Temperance Yard, Hillgate, Stockport,
May 19th, 1841.

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ.

HONOURED AND PATRIOTIC SIR,—We, your fellow-countrymen in exile, and members of the National Charter Association of Great Britain, seeing you surrounded on all sides by numerous and perfidious enemies, take this opportunity of assuring you that we place the most unbounded confidence in you, having seen nothing to lead us to a contrary conclusion, after closely watching your every act, both in the legislature, and in your struggles amongst the people, in endeavouring to obtain the universal rights of man; notwithstanding the call which has recently been made by Daniel O'Connell to his countrymen in England, to form no connection with the English Chartists, and also his indirect way of persuading the people to "get rid of you, if possible," who, we are aware, have been a sore thorn in his side, and a stumbling-block to those whom he so strenuously supports.

We, Sir, have been strict observers of your conduct since you first graced the Senate House of Great Britain with your presence and splendid talents, down to the present moment. It is, therefore, with feelings of pride, that we Irishmen, in the face of God and our country, unbiassed and uncourted, voluntarily swear or follow you to the death, if required, so long as you persevere in the righteous cause in which you have embarked, in the straightforward, manly, and upright manner you hitherto have done. We tender our most grateful thanks for the past, believing that your exertions and integrity are unparalleled in the history of our country, for the furtherance of just principles, and the general welfare of mankind. We consider that we would be guilty of base ingratitude, were we to forget the many sacrifices which not only you, but also your noble ancestors, have made for our country's good. No, Sir, we do not forget that your illustrious, patriotic, and virtuous father, Roger O'Connor, was sent to an untimely grave, for his devotion to his country's cause. Nor are we ignorant of the fact, that your revered uncle, the brave, venerated, Arthur O'Connor, was as cruelly banished from his home, his family, his friends, and his country, for his honesty and fond attachment to our lovely Green Isle of the West.

We would, indeed, be unworthy the name of Irishmen, if we were to allow this favourable opportunity to pass unembraced, without informing the "Rat Catchers" that though you are bound hand and foot, body and mind, from your fellow-men, for committing no crime but that which your charitable feelings and good sense, and the misery of the people, and your sympathy for them, propelled you to do; and, by-the-bye, only a crime in the eyes of tyrants; and while a contrary line of conduct, though not half so praiseworthy in the eyes of the blistered hands and unshorn chins, would have caused you to have been lauded to the skies by the same men who have resorted to the arm of the law to paralyse your designs, instead of removing those grievances of which you have complained, and for which you have so indefatigably laboured; that there are yet Irishmen whose hearts pant, and who wait with longing desire to see, and whose very blood boils to avenge the wrongs of "their Chief." And we are constrained to declare that, though you were deserted by all the world, we, though poor, simple, unlettered men, we, at least, are determined to stand or fall with you, and the great and glorious principles which you advocate consistently, honourably, and determinedly.

Yes, noble O'Connor, you have justly earned, and truly deserve the respect and veneration of all honest men who really know you, and have witnessed your every act. We admire the readiness with which you are wont to concede to suggestions in the public cause, although, perhaps, in opposition to your own; that you are willing to acknowledge when corrected, and to give credit where credit is due, even if it may be to those who have not had the chance of receiving that education which is calculated to make them proficient in the most enterprising concerns of life. This, we conceive, is a sure indication that you are actuated by disinterested motives, and a desire for the well-being of every man, woman, and child in the British dominions. The above is not the only token, by many; there are hundreds of generous actions—some private, which the world never hears or sees—besides public ones, which entitle you to the love and esteem of every true lover of his country. We cannot praise you too much for your exertions in dragging before the public, and exposing the atrocious doings of that notorious parson, Rider, *alias* the "Rathcormac Butcher," which exposure has been so nobly followed up by the Catholic representatives of "improved Ireland." We have witnessed your endeavours for, and on behalf of the Dorchester Labourers, the Glasgow Cotton Spinners, the Welsh Martyrs, the Imprisoned Chartists, the defence of the Whiteboys,—in short, the unjustly persecuted of every class, clime, or colour, have found in you the philanthropist, the vindicator, the sympathiser, and a benefactor.

Honoured Sir,—*If you remain true to your professions*, which we have not the slightest reason to doubt, having been many times so well tried in body and mind, and never known to flinch, nor ever yet found wanting, your name shall be handed down to posterity, and our children will be taught to lisp it with the same admiration and respect, as those of the martyrs and patriots who have gone before, but who are firmly engraven upon the tablets of our memories, and though even dead, yet ever living. The immortal Emmett, Fitzgerald, O'Coigley, Murphy, Bagnall, Harney, Doyle, Roger and Arthur O'Connor, and the several other patriots, who fought and died for the rights, liberties, and independence of Ireland. Not the independence evidently sought for by the Exchange patriots, who feed on the misery of our unhappy, (and, we are sorry to say, in fearfully numerous instances,) deluded fellow-countrymen—men who, in your absence, and in an un-Irishmanlike and cowardly manner, take every opportunity to vilify and misrepresent you, the only man who stood by Ireland when it was

"Treason to love her, and death to defend."

Accept, therefore, kind Sir, the sincere (better felt than expressed) and heartfelt thanks of your affectionate and devoted fellow-countrymen,

Peter Welsh, Catholic,
W. H. Owens, Protestant,
Stephen *Clark*, jun., Catholic,
Edward Cuddy, Catholic,
Dennis Lenand, Catholic,
William Cunningham, Catholic,
Hugh Ewins, Catholic,
Peter Fitzsimmons, Protestant,
Thomas Webb, Catholic,
Dennis Morgan, Catholic,
Thomas Cullen, Catholic,
James Farren, Catholic,
Nicholas Murphy, Catholic,
John M'Hindley, Protestant,
Patrick M'Guinness, Catholic,
Patrick Beswick, Catholic,
James Holeran, Catholic,
Peter Dunavan, Catholic,
James M'Cawley, Protestant,
Thomas Colbert, Protestant,
James Starkie,
Owen Fygens,
Thomas Clark, Catholic.

THE CORN-LAW QUESTION.

(Concluded from our last.)

"Do you not perceive, do you not feel in what a despicable view you are considered? Were it in their power, they would hinder you from sharing even the light of the sun. That you breathe, that you enjoy the *faculty of speech*, that you wear the human shape, are subjects of mortification to them."—LIVY.

We want Agrarian Laws, not Corn Laws; but how are we get them—how can we obtain any good—how can we remove any evil until the People's Charter gives us the power? Our Gracchi are imprisoned and would have been murdered if the nobility did not fear the people.

O, say the owners of the waste lands, they are not worth cultivating—they would not repay the expence. Would they not? Many broken farmers, who are wiser than to emigrate at your bidding, retire with the remains of their fortune to some freehold moor, where they buy and enclose a few acres. I know one near Pickering, who gave eighteen shillings per acre for about twelve acres, and by his own labour alone, so improved the soil, that in the course of ten years, he increased its value to £30 per acre, besides maintaining himself the while upon its produce. The method is this—you pare the *moor* and have turf fuel which supplies you with ashes for manure; you *get stones* out of the ground, with which you wall round your enclosed space, and set potatoes, or sow oats; in process of time, cowslips will spring where nothing but black heather was seen before, and you will make a garden in the midst of the desert, where the rose will blossom and the thrush will sing. Nature will supply you with almost all things needful, and you will not be troubled with the tax-gatherer. There is the best herb-gale or moor-tea. In winter time, we make besems.

Now, if Government would colonize our English moors—if it would employ felons to drain bogs in Ireland, instead of sending them off at an expence of £60 per head to Van Diemen's Land—if the unemployed poor were set to work to kid the whins that now grow for fox covers, and to clear away underwood, each man might earn his own keep, besides increasing the national resources by improving the capabilities of the soil.

GENERAL COMMITTEE

FOR SUPERINTENDING THE NATIONAL PETITION.

SATURDAY, MAY 22.

Mr. Smart, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Letters were read from various places respecting the petitions and their number of signatures.

A letter was read by Mr. Skevington, from T. Fletcher, respecting the Nottingham election, and the moves of the Whigs, who, it was said, were trying to wheedle the Chartist party over to their purposes. A second letter was also read from William Bilbie, of the same place, asking the following questions:—

1. Would you vote Whig or Tory?

2. If Sir John Hobhouse and Mr. Larpent were to pledge themselves to vote for the return of Frost, Williams and Jones, within twelve months; and Mr. Walters and Roworth, both Tories, would not have anything to do with the matter, and would not interfere at all: which would you vote for?

3. Would you vote for Hobhouse and Larpent if they were pledged to use their influence with the Government, not to persecute the Chartists, so long as they did not threaten to carry the Charter by physical force, while the Tories say they would send the Chartists to the devil, and further, if possible, send the Convention to the shades below, within six months of their being raised to power, if they attempted to sit for the purpose of getting back Frost and his companions?

D. M'Douall read the following from M. O'Connor, which was listened to with the deepest attention by the committee and strangers.

TO THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED.

York Castle, May 21, 1841.

Gentlemen,—Emboldened by your appeal to your constituents, and having the honour, as a prisoner, to be one, I address you.

Never in the whole course of my life have I been so delighted as by the perusal of your proceedings. I always said that the errors of the old Convention would ever act as beacons for any succeeding one. But to the point. I find that you have resolved yourselves into a committee—an army of observation to watch the enemy. Had the Whigs dissolved, I think your presence in London would have been superfluous; but as the enemy is still in front, I hold that your dissolution would have been a triumph to them, and almost an insult to the country. In my opinion, you have adopted the wise course. I have had letters, which I preferred not replying to, from individuals, although complimentary to myself, highly creditable to you, and honourable to the members who did me the honour to write. I have written to the Executive for instructions how to act as joint-treasurer of both funds—£60 for your use, and balance for their use, but not having received any decisive answer further than properly allowing the country to decide, I beg to remit to your use the whole of the balance, *ad interim*, thinking it unfair to hold it till the decision would render its receipt useless.

Should the country decide against the step I have taken, I will refund it for its original use; and if I now had enough, I would pay you all £5 a week each, to continue your noble exertions.

I am rejoiced you have left me to fight my own battles, but I cannot avoid receiving the communications relative to my treasurership, which I learn have been sent to you, and a full reply to which you will see in Saturday's *Star*. The person who has sent those communications has been a working man, but ceased, from time to time, and is now sore that the people will not supply the means of idleness; you, however, will have the goodness to remit a receipt through your treasurer, for the £20 now sent, making £80, with the £60 previously sent to your former treasurer. I remit this sum through my agent, Mr. Cleave, between whom and yourself I rejoice to find the most cordial understanding subsists; a man, I believe in every way most worthy of public confidence, and entitled to public support. Gentlemen, I have also directed the sum of £1 to be paid in aid of your forthcoming meeting; pray get the very largest room. I know a person who will qualify Dr. M'Douall. By God you are shaking their old bones in great style; stick to them, and present your memorial in person, and get 20,000 if you can to accompany your petition to Mr. Duncombe. I rejoice to find a good understanding creating between you and Mr. C. Buller; believe me that he is the most democratic man in the House of Commons, as well as the most talented and brave, always excepting our old friend, Mr. Thomas Duncombe. My opinion is, that you should remain in London as long as the enemy is in front, and I make no doubt but the country will cheerfully support you. Gentlemen, before I close, allow me to suggest the importance of selecting four of the most eloquent of our body to oppose Lord Russell at Stroud, Lord Palmerston at Tiverton, the Attorney-General at Edinburgh, and above all, Fox Maule at Crieff. Mr. Cullem may suggest two for the What say you to Vincent for Stroud, and Dr. M'Douall for Tiverton, or Northampton, or Halifax, where he would make a tremendous impression! Have at least 300 good men there as the balance of power. You must choose eloquent men, and determined men, not afraid of physical force. But you will think of it again. Congratulating the country upon the success of my first act of, and rejoicing that you have given such unmeasured and overflowing satisfaction to, your friends, and such a taste of your power to your enemies.

I am, your faithful friend,

Feargus O'Connor.

P. S.—The trick of not receiving deputations upon the subject of criminals is paltry. I have, upon many occasions, attended deputations, and had long discussions about the Dorchester Labourers and other prisoners, whose sentences I have had commuted. But then I was only a Radical not a Chartist, they suppose; and, gentleman, observe, this even after I ceased to be an M. P. The tyrant should have said there was an exception to *Political offenders*. One word more; I find by the *Times*, that I had a petition from myself inserted praying the House to liberate me. This is an error. I have not sent any petition since the batch last met, not one, nor written to mortal to say a word for me. I think it would be highly necessary to direct public attention, to the recent judgment of Lord Abinger, relative to the liability of candidates to election expenses, in the case of the Returning-officer of Birmingham, Sturges v. Muntz. He decided that no candidate was liable to any expenses who did not go to a poll. I contend for the same at the election at Manchester, on behalf of O'Brien.

F. O'C.

Mr. Rose said that he had an interview with Mr. Hawes, who told him that he was asked at a public meeeting if he was a Chartist. Mr. Hawes expressed great anxiety to know if the communications between him and the convention had been published. (Hear.) He (Mr. Rose) was afraid that he was about turning his coat. Mr. Hawes said that they would never obtain their object by intimidation, as the Government, who was favourable to them, would not accede to their prayers if it were supposed that they did so from intimidation. He did not see how he could assist them. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Rose then alluded to General Evans and Mr. Humphrey's conduct, and told Mr. Hawes that he was inclined to think that he would have a poor chance at the next election, if he deserted the people. Mr. Hawes replied "I must take my luck, for I am getting tired of these things." (Hear, hear.) Mr. Rose observed to him, how miserably situated the working classes were. Mr. Hawes replied that they could get plenty of work abroad. (Oh, oh.) Mr. Rose concluded by telling Mr. Hawes that it was a sad thing that a man could not obtain his livelihood in his own native land—but what he could do, and will be enabled to do, as soon as they got rid of the bad laws that harassed them. (Hear.) At the next election, they would endeavour to devise means by which they would be enabled to effect so desirable an object. (Hear.)

Chairman—Well done, Whigs. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Martin wished it to be understood that his allusions on a previous day to the cruel treatment of Bronterre O'Brien, had no reference to the Governor of Lancaster gaol, who was a most humane man, but to the despotic Government who placed Mr. O'Brien in that gaol. He (Mr. M.) had been most kindly treated by the governor. This explanation he made lest his remarks which appeared in the *Northern Star* might be misunderstood.

Upon the motion of Dr. M'Douall, the Secretary was directed to enclose to Mr. John Cleave, the two resolutions appointing him Treasurer to the General Committee.

Mr. Ridley enquired if the Committee had prepared the document respecting the number, situation, and term of confinement of the prisoners.

Dr. M'Douall—There is a printed return.

Chairman—They ought to attend to that. They were in honour bound to supply that document to Mr. Duncombe.

Mr. Martin—Peter Foden's name is omitted in that list. He was sentenced to twenty months in Wakefield, and also to solitary confinement. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall—Individual cases of hardship should be specified.

Mr. Ridley—The document can be prepared on Monday.

The Chairman—Oh! oh! no, no; a moment should not be lost in preparing it. (Hear, hear.) They ought to set about it immediately.

Mr. Williams said his constituents wrote him, expressing a strong wish to be furnished with a list of the divisions during the session. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall said it was their duty to set the public right regarding their position with the deputation. They should be also anxious to remove the opinion (if such existed) of the Birmingham Committee that a division existed between the Committee and the deputation. (Hear, hear.) He therefore moved—"*That while the Convention regretted the* separation of the Frost, Williams, and Jones' deputation, by direction of the Birmingham Frost Committee, who appointed them, from the Convention, they still proffer their services to forward the objects which the deputation had in view."

Mr. Martin seconded that motion, and expressed a regret that any private communication had been carried on between the members of the deputation and the Birmingham Frost Committee. He, however, trusted that all would push forward with unanimity, and look to nothing but the great cause of humanity, in which they were embarked. (Hear, hear.) He took that opportunity of stating that he would press that day the resolution of which previous notice had been given, directing the Secretary to write to the Marquis of Normanby to ascertain when he would be ready to receive a deputation from their body. (Hear, hear.) If he refused to receive the deputation, then they should adopt other methods of attaining their object. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cullen moved as an amendment that the members of the Petition Committee are satisfied that every effort was made by the Birmingham Frost deputation, and the members of the Committee, to present the memorials to her Majesty, and discharge all their other duties; and that their want of success in obtaining an interview with her Majesty did not arise from the want of exertion on the part of the deputation, or of the Convention. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Barmby most heartily seconded the amendment. There was no clashing between it and the original motion. Indeed, the amendment ought to be a substantive motion. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Ridley—There was only a partial separation on the part of the Birmingham deputation; although two seceded, he was inclined to think that they were still with them.

Mr. Cullen never parted from the body, (Hear, hear.) He hoped that no man would be for a moment so foolish as to suppose that there was a division amongst them. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall approved so highly of the amendment, that he withdrew his motion to come in the form of a resolution. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cullen's motion was then put, and carried *nem. con.*

Chairman—I am delighted at the course pursued, for I am sure that no man could have departed from the amendment. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. M'Douall's original motion was then put and also carried.

The Chairman—Nothing could be so good or satisfactory, as to have a plain understanding between the two committees. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Martin—The were all bound to acknowledge the services of Mr. Cullen. He hoped sincerely that he should remain until then. (Hear, hear.) He, therefore, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cullen, of Glasgow, with an expression of hope that he would continue with them so long as they were a Convention. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cullen was always anxious to co-operate with the Convention in every act calculated to forward their great and grand objects,—(hear, hear,)—but he most respectfully begged that they would not confer upon him so signal a mark of their favour for merely having done his duty.

Dr. M'Douall seconded the motion.

The Chairman expressed his deep regret for the hasty conclusion to which the Birmingham Frost Committee had come. There could be, however, but one opinion regarding the conduct of Mr. Cullen. (Hear, hear.) He most cheerfully proposed the resolution.

The resolution having been carried with every mark of esteem for Mr. Cullen, that gentleman again said, that it was a mark of attention to which he had no right.

Mr. Martin moved, and Mr. Rose seconded, that a copy of the above resolution be forwarded to Mr. Cullen's constituents, at Glasgow.—Carried.

Mr. Cullen made a vain effort to prevent that resolution being carried. He was proud in being the associate of men who were superior to the temptations of filthy lucre, and who only had in view their country's good, which was dearest to their hearts, and for which they would even face death. (Hear, hear.) He was proud to say of his constituents that they were ready to give to the Convention every support in their power. He was in justice compelled to acknowledge the immense assistance he received from Mr. Morgan Williams, whose services were as indefatigable as they were sincere in the cause. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Morgan Williams wished to give an explanation for the course which he pursued.

The Chairman inquired if it was the wish of the committee that Mr. Williams be heard.

Mr. Barmby moved that Mr. Williams be allowed to give the explanation, which was seconded by Mr. Skevington, and carried.

Mr. Williams assured the committee that he did not refuse taking an active part in the proceedings of the committee, from the slightest disrespect to a single member of that body. He highly respected them as men fully capable for the work they had undertaken, and of fulfilling the objects of their mission. (Hear, hear.) His reason for not joining the committee was, because he deemed himself the servant of the Birmingham committee, who had deputed him to discharge a certain and specific duty. (Hear, hear.) When the time allotted to him for discharging that duty had transpired, he considered he could not any longer take a part in the proceedings, without being appointed by the committee so to do. (Hear, hear.) His position was quite different from that of Mr. Cullen, who had been elected by the men of Glasgow to sit in the Convention. (Cheers.) He had been only elected to present the memorials to her Majesty. He attended the full time that he was directed to remain. Although he took no part in the discussion of the committee, yet he approved of every thing that they had said or done. He was also satisfied that the prisoners were equally well pleased with the committee. (Hear, hear.) He was ready to obey any further call that might be made upon him by his country. If he had authority so to do he would most willingly co-operate with the committee, but in the absence of such order he had no other alternative than that of waiting further instructions from the Birmingham committee. He again repeated his respect for, and his confidence in, the general committee. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cullen bore testimony to the exertions of Mr. Williams who was late and early at his post, and did all in his power to have the memorials presented. His whole conduct was characterised by an independence worthy of the cause. (Hear, hear.) He was of opinion that Mr. Williams was perfectly justifiable in the course which he pursued.

Mr. Rose testified Mr. William's indefatigable exertions to obtain the objects of the Convention, and to present the memorials.

The Chairman—My opinion is, that so far from considering it a favour, they should demand the release of the prisoners as a matter of right. (Hear, hear.) I would not accept it as a favour; I demand it as a right. Favour indeed! shall it be called a favour to do justice! Oh, no, no! (Hear, hear.)

A deputation consisting of Messrs. Barmby, Cullen, and Dr. M'Douall was appointed to draw from Mr. John Cleave, their treasurer, the amount of Mr. O'Connor's order.

Mr. Smart said that it was he, and not Mr. Skevington, as reported in the *Star*, who read the letter from Northampton, asking Dr. M'Douall to stand as candidate at the next election, and that it was he who made the observations on that letter, which observations were, in the *Star* of last week, also attributed to Mr. Skevington. He likewise wished that his exact words respecting the Members of his county should be correctly reported. The *Star* stated that he had said, "That he knew it would be useless to call upon the Members who represented him;" whereas he said, "That he knew that it would be useless to call upon the Members who represented Leicester."

Mr. Smart—It was upon the Members for Derby that he (Mr. S.) waited, and not upon those of his county.

After some further business, the Convention adjourned.

It may be well to correct a clerical error in the *Star* of last Saturday. It was to Mr. Balls, and not to Mr. Bates, to whom, in company with Mr. Parker, a vote of thanks was passed for having accommodated the delegates with the room for holding their meetings.

SATURDAY EVENING.

In the evening the delegates again resumed their sitting.

Mr. Smart was in the chair.

Mr. Hogg said that he was deputed to wait upon the Convention, to solicit that nine delegates be appointed to draw up the resolutions and make the necessary arrangements for the public meeting to be held on Monday next. He was also directed to suggest that twenty minutes be allowed each speaker. He had the pleasure to inform the Committee, that the large room at the Crown and Anchor was engaged for the meeting. (Hear, hear.)

MONDAY, MAY 24.

The General Committee assembled at ten o'clock for the despatch of general business. A great number of letters were read from various places, stating that petitions had been forwarded.

Mr. Roland, of Hackney, handed in 4s. collected by a few shoemakers at Hackney, in aid of the General Committee.

A letter from Jackson-court, Postern-gate, to Mr. Cleave, enclosed £1, being the second subscription from that place.

The Secretary read the following letter from the Marquis of Normanby:—

Whitehall, 22nd May, 1841.

Sir,—I am directed by the Marquis of Normanby to acquaint you, in reply to your letter of yesterday, that he is not able to appoint any time for the interview with you respecting the case of any prisoner; but that if you wish to submit any written statement respecting any prisoner for his Lordship's consideration, he will consider it.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S. M. Phillips.

Mr. Thomas Wall,
55, Old Bailey.

The reading of the above was followed with the most marked symptoms of disapprobation.

Mr. Smart moved that Mr. O'Connor be respectfully solicited to direct the balance in Mr. Pitkethly's hands of the funds for the Convention to be forwarded to Mr. Cleave, the Treasurer of the General Committee.

Mr. Martin seconded the motion, which was carried.

The report of the Committee, appointed to draw up regulations for the great meeting, was read, and on the motion of Mr. Wall, which was seconded by Mr. Rose, adopted.

The Committee were engaged during the day answering letters, preparing the petitions, and devising the best means for securing a satisfactory presentation of the National Petition.

A letter was read from the Executive, stating that they could not give up, as required by the Convention, the letters, or correspondence, that passed between them and individuals. The latter stated that they addressed the country in behalf of the Committee, and could do no more.

A letter from Queenshead announced that the petition from that place had the signatures of 523 men, and 361 women.

A letter from Warwick stated that the people there had forwarded two petitions, one from the males and one from the females.

A letter from Kennoway, Fife, stated that the petition from thence had 220 signatures.

A letter from Sunderland announced that the petition from Bishop and West Auckland had 789, and that from Sunderland 8,558 signatures.

A letter from Dorking stated that the men of that district had forwarded a petition.

The General Committee then adjourned.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

TO THE CHARTISTS OF THE UNITED QUEENDOM.

"Whatever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets."

Hull, May 18, 1841.

Fellow-Countrymen,—No words are of more frequent use, or more disregarded in practice by those who affect to be religious "and respectable," than those which I have placed before you as the motto of this brief address. They are admired for their beauty, extolled for their correctness, pointed at as the *summum bonum* of morality, and then thrown by as worthy of no practical attention, because a compliance with their requirements would be inconvenient and troublesome to the elastic consciences of those who pretend to revere them. Hence, when a minister of the gospel ventures out of the ordinary track of public instruction, and in the spirit of the great Saviour inculcates the bearing of such a precept upon the state and condition of social and political society, he is sure to be met by a torrent of invective and abuse, and to have his name cast out as evil by the advocates of things as they are, and which they in their blasphemous presumption declare to exist by the grace and providence of Almighty God. No one can doubt, however, who really believes the word of God, that one of the most essential duties of the christian character, is the promotion of the peace, the happiness, of all classes and all individuals of the human family; and he who fails to carry out this principle, let his religious professions be what they may, is nothing better than an infidel, and is in fact a living, walking, lie. These observations have been called forth by the recent exertions made to impede the cause of truth and righteousness by the Rev. John Scott, a tory parson, and Mr. R. Firth, a whig school master, in this town. You will recollect that a notice appeared in the *Star* a few weeks back, stating that Mr. Firth had declared the principles of the Charter to be contrary to the Scriptures and the doctrines of the New Church, and that, in consequence of such declaration, Mr. T. B. Smith would deliver a lecture, in which he would prove the perfect accordance of their principles with the Word of God and with the articles of faith.

Mr. Hill's church at Hull, of which I am a member, and of which Mr. F. sought to become a member, had solemnly declared, by a resolution, that the principles of the People's Charter were in accordance with the Word of God; and Mr. Hill had on several occasions enforced the demands of political justice in his pulpit discourses. This it was which incited the opposition of Mr. Firth, who declared before the whole church, that when he again became a member (his name had some months previously been removed from the church roll at his own request, he assigning no reason to the church for his withdrawal) he would make Mr. Hill account for the manner in which he had introduced politics into the pulpit. I, as the mover of the resolution, determined to meet him, and invited him to state his objections at the close of my announced lecture. To my letter, Mr. Firth, with that urbanity and courtesy for which he is so distinguished, failed to reply, and I, as you would learn from my short address to the "Lovers of Fair Play," published on the 8th instant, from certain kindly considerations as to his excited feelings in case he should be rejected by the church, which turned out to be the case, postponed the lecture for a fortnight. In the mean time, Mr. Firth, smarting under the castigation I and others had inflicted on him, and seeing that his "little best to put down Chartism" was "no go," after putting the friends of freedom at Hull to nearly £2 expences, and depriving the families of the victims of at least £5, has sought to escape from further chastisement, by the magnificent present of a sovereign, and the permission to hold a ball in the lodge, provided it be conducted on teetotal principles. In this Mr. Firth displays what he no doubt considers a rare piece of statesmanlike policy; the manœuvre, however, *shall not serve his turn*. He knew that the projected ball, which he prevented, was to be conducted by teetotallers, on teetotal principles, and he objected to it on the ground of its immorality; he at the same time receiving emoluments in the shape of rent weekly for the rooms being used as a school for the teaching of dancing! I think I hear you exclaim, with virtuous indignation, "Confound the hypocrite! but what better could be expected from a middle-class Whig?" Well, the lecture was postponed to May 17th, and on the previous Saturday, placards announcing it appeared on the walls. I was obliged to leave Hull on Saturday, and on my *return on Sunday night I was informed that the Rev.* J. Scott, to whom the Masons' Arms belongs, had forbidden the landlord to let us have the room, and the obsequious publican obeyed the orders of the clerical sinner, and forbid the lecture.

I do not know that Mr. F. and Mr. S. had laid their heads together, but I think it possible that in some way the former had operated upon the latter. I am induced to do so from the following facts:—

First—Mr. Scott has smarted under the lash which his intolerance has caused me pretty liberally to apply to him in by-gone days.

Second—Mr. Firth hates me on account of the independence which I have shown on all occasions in the Temperance Society and in the Church.

Third—John Wade, Esq., President of the Hull Temperance Society, is said, by Mr. Firth, to have the greatest objection to Mr. T. B. Smith on account of his politics; the said John Wade, Esq., being half Whig, half Tory, and a high Churchman into the bargain.

Fourth—Mr. Scott has recently become a temperance man, and would, no doubt, be ready to return the kindness of Mr. Firth who stood by him and his fellow bigots, and rendered them all the aid in his power, (God knows that is not much,) in their insane crusade against the recently established Hull Spring Fair. I put these facts together, and I think it just possible that as Mr. Firth did not dare to meet me, he would operate upon his friend the president, who would communicate the sympathetic feeling to the parson, who, in his turn, would consent to operate upon the publican, who like an obsequious slave bowed to his high behest and prevented the delivery of the lecture. I don't assert this to be the case, but it at all events looks very like it. And now I ask you, my honest-hearted friends, will you allow the Tory parson, and the Whig preceptor to beat us, and to injure the fund for the families of the victims? I ask you to aid me and we will make this a powerful weapon against the foes of right. THE LECTURE SHALL BE PUBLISHED, and some supplementary matter along with it, and EVERY PENNY OF PROFIT SHALL BE PAID TO THE REV. WILLIAM HILL, TO BE CARRIED OVER TO THE VICTIM FUND. I will not take a fraction for my trouble, only fifty copies for gratuitous circulation. And if you will make an exertion we may make much good come out of evil. The price of the pamphlet will be sixpence, and it shall be published, if possible, on the first of July. Now let every lover of right and justice, save but one penny per week, for six weeks, and you will make the heart of many a distressed one glad. You will cheer many a victim in his dungeon, and you will show yourselves worthy of the rights you claim. Let every agent for the *Star* receive orders immediately, and let the number of copies wanted, be sent to the editor, on or before the 15th of June, that I may know what number to print. Soliciting most respectfully your aid, and the sanction and approval of Mr. O Connor and Mr. Hill, to this undertaking,

I am, yours respectfully,

T. B. Smith.

Hull, May 18th, 1841.

P.S. Mr. Firth, finding his popularity on the wane, is now moving heaven and earth to get into favour with the Chartists, and the Catholic Temperance Society of Hull. On the latter manœuvre, the time is not yet come for me to tell what I know, but as far as the Chartists are concerned, I believe him to be only a Whig spy in the camp, who will, by means of his old friend the President, send all the information he can pick up, as to the movements of the council, to their opponents. At all events, he was no friend to the Chartist cause, a short time since, as his conduct referred to in the above letter proves. But I have a few other facts, to which I request the particular attention of those whom he is now, as I believe, seeking to cajole and betray. I had to attend a meeting at Mr. Pexton's, in Blanket-row, at which Mr. Firth, Mr. Pexton, Mr. Firby, myself, and one or two more were present, on the night when the news of the Newport disturbances reached Hull. Mr. Firth raved like a madman, declared Frost to be the most execrable villain in existence, and said that *he fervently and sincerely hoped that the jury would* convict, and that if they did so, he trusted that the full sentence of the law of treason would be executed by the Government, and that he would be hanged, drawn, ~~and quartered~~, as a terror to others. He further stated that no good and virtuous man ever took up arms against the Government of his country, and, on a subsequent occasion, in the Temperance Hotel, he tried to prove that when a Bill had received the Royal signature, it was as binding upon the conscience of a Christian man as the law of the ten commandments. I shall never forget the feelings which the brutal wishes respecting the Welsh patriots excited in my mind, and the impression was deepened by the following ludicrous circumstances:—Firby, after Mr. Firth's attention had been for some time turned to other matters, asked him, in his quiet way, whether he had ever read the life of John Hampden, and what his opinion was about him. Firth replied that he had, and that he was, beyond doubt, one of the greatest of patriots, and that his memory ought to be revered by all. Firby drily remarked, I should not have thought you would think so highly of him. "Why so," said Firth, quickly. "Why," replied Firby, "you said not half an hour since that no good man ever took up arms against the government, and John Hampden did so, and commenced a rebellion, which brought the King to the block. But I see how it is, he was a traitor in his own day, but he is a patriot now; and if you live three hundred years hence, you will find out that the villain John Frost was one of the best men that ever lived!" The Teetotal Captain was dumbfounded at thus finding himself in the trap. He rose from his seat, stammered something about the Government of Charles being oppressive, but that of Victoria being Christian and patriotic, and bolted, while we enjoyed a hearty laugh at his expence. I have no doubt that he and his friends will find it *convenient to have bad memories*, but I tell them that I have a good one, especially on such subjects, and am ready to make oath to the truth *of the statement before any bench of magistrates before* which Mr. Firth may choose to require me to do so. I make no comment on this case. Mr. Firth has a right to wish for the humane and Christian practices of barbarous ages being revived, and the public have a right to form their own judgment upon such superabundant proofs of attachment to liberty.

T. B. S.

The Armstrong Liver Pills are recommended as an Anti-bilious medicine, to every sufferer from bilious complaints and indigestion, or from an inactive liver, and are procurable at all Druggists, and at the *Northern Star* office. It is only necessary to see that the stamp has "Dr. John Armstrong's Liver Pills" engraved on it in white letters, and to let no one put you off with any other pills.

N.B. The Pills in the boxes enclosed, in marbled paper, and marked B., are a very mild aperient, and are particularly and universally praised. They are admirably adapted for sportsmen, agriculturists, men of business, naval and military men; as they contain no mercury or calomel, and require neither confinement to the house, nor restraint in diet.

TO THE PROPRIETOR OF THE "SUN."

Sir,—In a recent number of your paper you publish a letter *from* yourself TO yourself, under the signature of A. Why not add the double SS, Sir, and give to your readers all that confidence which the authority of your real signature and name must carry with it?

In your letter you would impose a belief upon your readers that Chartism was on the wane in Manchester; and you would support your assertion by the assurance that not more than 300 *Northern Stars* were now circulated in that district.

Sir, you were quite right to couple Chartism and its organ; and allow me to place before you, under the signature of a hard-working man, the present position of the cause and its organ, in answer to your two assertions.

Firstly, then, allow me tell you on behalf of Chartism, that the National Petition has been signed in a too brief space to admit of full justice being done to it, BY 67,000 PERSONS, or one-fifth of the whole population. Now, Sir, in what terms would you announce, in *long primer*, the fact of such an array of names on behalf of your "*anti-monopolist*" cry? So much for Chartism!

They, Sir, not wishing the people's paper to be judged by a single week's or month's circulation, but, in order to show you the steadiness with which it has weathered the greatest poverty ever known among its supporters, I beg leave to furnish you with the numbers ordered by one agent alone, for Manchester and immediate district, while many other agents in the same district receive over 300 weekly. The following is a correct list of the number of *Stars* furnished to Mr. Abel Heywood for each month of the last nine months, from June 1st, to March 31st inclusive; being the latest period to which Mr. Heywood could furnish his quarterly account, the last quarter having terminated in March:—

June, 4 weeks month	...	15,673
July, do.	...	15,432
August 5 do.	...	19,061
Sept. 4 do.	...	14,876
Oct. 5 do.	...	17,965
Nov. 4 do.	...	14,000
Dec. 4 do.	...	13,891
Jan. 5 do.	...	18,000
Feb. 4 do.	...	14,938
March 4 do.	...	14,448

Total for nine months, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY; being a weekly average, to one agent, of 4,043, something, I imagine, beyond the whole circulation of the *Golden Sun*.

I can corroborate this fact, as I pack every paper, and keep an account of all sent.

Now, Sir, what say you to your authority for the past? while I assure you, upon the honour of a hard-working man, that the number of papers printed, published, and sold at the usual price with no returns of unsold copies, for the quarter ending the 31st of March, exceeds the number printed, published, and sold during the previous quarter, ending in December, by 8,070 papers.

Now, Sir, what say you to the simultaneous increase of poverty and of Chartism? Don't you wish you had not made an ass of yourself?

I am, Sir,

A Working Man, and South Shields Chartist,
"bristles and all,"

William Rider.

Leeds, May 26th, 1841.

THE REV. MR. MORRIS'S DYNAMIC ENGINE.

TO CAPITALISTS, MILLOWNERS, PROPRIETORS OF MINES, AND GENTLEMEN OF SCIENCE.

A NEWLY-DISCOVERED WORKING POWER. That "he who causes two blades of Grass to grow where only one grew before, is so far a Creator," is a sentiment which has received the stamp of public approbation. And, surely, he who turns two spindles where only one was turned before, or who grinds two grains of Corn where only was ground before, or who discovers an Agent by means of which ten thousand tons may be lifted where none were lifted before, is as instrumental in serving his fellow-men as if he found means to sustain the People that would be required to perform the labour saved. Nothing but an ignorant impatience of improvement can prompt any man to deny this: although every new invention may be attended with inconvenience to the persons who happen to be deprived of employment in consequence of the sudden and unexpected introduction of a new machine. It is hoped, therefore, that in adopting the New Method of producing Working Power due caution may be employed, so that it may be an Immediate Benefit to all Classes of Society, without inflicting the least injury upon any person.

The Rev. John Williams Morris, Minister of Deanrow Chapel, Wilmslow, Cheshire, and Honorary Member of the Liverpool Total Abstinence Society, most respectfully begs leave to call the attention of Gentlemen of Capital, Millowners, Proprietors of Mines, and Gentlemen of Science, to this advertisement. Having made such discoveries in the art of producing Working Power as can be made only once in the duration of a Planet, (unless, indeed, the knowledge of these discoveries be lost, at the time of a general deluge, or by the whole race of rational beings falling into a state of savage life, or by some dreadful convulsion of nature of which there is no authentic record,) Mr. Morris is desirous of making his discoveries known under the privilege of Royal Letters Patent in every shade of the civilized World in which Letters Patent may be obtained, and wishes to receive proposals from Gentlemen of Capital in this very important undertaking.

Mr. Morris is willing to show one of his Working Models to any number of gentlemen of capital (not exceeding the number allowed by the laws relating to Royal Letters Patent,) who will join in a bond not to divulge the secret by means of which the Power is produced, until the Royal Letters Patent are obtained. He will pay all expenses attendant upon the negotiations, and the manner in which the profits arising from the Working Power shall be disposed of must be previously determined and agreed upon, and any of the gentlemen will be at liberty to withdraw from the undertaking, previous to the Royal Letters Patent being obtained, and without being at any expence: Mr. Morris being fully confident that so eligible an opportunity of obtaining a very large revenue from every state of the civilised world was never before offered to the public. Mr. Morris will then show the Working Model of a Dynamic Engine (an Engine producing Working Power,) so cheap in its construction, and producing its Power by means so economical, as has never been exhibited before.

Letters addressed to the Rev. J. W. Morris, Deanrow, Wilmslow *via* Manchester, (pre paid,) containing proposals for this very important undertaking, and stating the terms upon which Money will be advanced to obtain Letters Patent in various parts of the world for this new discovery, will receive immediate attention.

TO THE ELECTORS AND NON-ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BRADFORD.

GENTLEMEN,—A *Deputation having waited* upon CAPTAIN WOOD, of Sandal, to ascertain whether he would allow himself to be put in Nomination for the Representation of this Borough, in case of an Election, he has declared his willingness to stand on the following Principles:—

A full and real Representation of every Male Twenty-one Years of Age, of sound Mind and unconvicted of Crime; Annual Parliaments; Vote by Ballot; No Property Qualification for Members of Parliament; and equal Electoral Districts; Repeal of the New Poor Law; Abolition of all Monopolies; and a Redress of all practical Grievances.

Electors of the Borough of Bradford!

Reform is now in its Eleventh Year, and you and the Masses have been in vain looking for its beneficial Results: your Prospects are becoming increasingly beclouded, and the Condition of the *Working Classes* more wretched than ever; the *Non-enfranchised* feel degraded by their Political Disabilities, and that there is no hope for a substantial Social Improvement for them, but through *a Radical Reform of the House of Commons*. Such a Reform, it is evident, cannot much longer be delayed; it is for the Electors of England to render such a Reform peaceably practicable, by returning such Men as CAPTAIN WOOD: *the alternative is fearful to contemplate*. Act, then, like Wise Men and Patriots, by giving this Gentleman your Support, and you will have the consciousness of having done your Part towards the Salvation of your beloved Country.

Non-Electors!

Give proof of the Truth of the above Remarks as to your Views and Expectations, by standing nobly by your Man: you have no Vote, but you have a certain Influence which you can exercise. Do your duty like Men who respect their own manhood.

By Order of the Committee,

THOMAS ROBINSON, Chairman.

Committee Room, North Tavern,
North Street, May 25, 1841.

BRADFORD.—Shocking and Fatal Accident.—An inquest was held on Monday, at the Star Inn, Westgate, Bradford, on the body of Ann Coop, who met her death in the following lamentable manner. On Sunday, Mr. Nathan Coop, flour dealer, Westgate, (who had been a widower two months,) and deceased, whose maiden name was Newell (a mill girl aged thirty,) started with some friends in a gig, or some such vehicle, for Tong, for the purpose of being married. After the ceremony they proceeded to Wakefield, and spent the day. On returning home down Bowling, the horse took fright and ran away; when it came to the Wheat Sheaf Bar, the horse ran against a post, and for a moment stopped, when Coop jumped out, but the horse started again, when the bride jumped out also, and alighted with her head against a lamp post. She was taken up senseless, and expired immediately after in a neighbouring house. The wife of her brother, who was in the vehicle, was flung out of the gig, and sustained such injuries, that at the time we are writing we hear she is dead. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death" on Mrs. Coop.

Coal Informer.—A common informer, named Wheater, on Wednesday last, preferred several informations against persons in the neighbourhood of Bradford, "for selling coals by measure, and not by weight, contrary to law." However, the fellow was not entirely successful; for, although Messrs. Foster and Lassey submitted to convictions in mitigated penalties, another case was dismissed for want of proof; and, in a third, Mr. Clarkson appeared for John Sutcliffe, of Allerton, and by legal ingenuity succeeded in extricating his client from the fangs of his merciless antagonist.

BOLTON.—Independent Methodists and Chartism.—On Sunday last, an individual connected with the Independent Methodists of this town, and who has been engaged to procure signatures for the Anti-Corn Law Petition, gave notice that after the evening service, he would propose a petition in favour of a Repeal of the Corn Laws, to the congregation for their adoption. This the Chartist members were determined to oppose, and procured a heading of the National Petition for the Charter, release of prisoners, &c, and, at the appointed hour, when the Repealer brought forward his petition, the Chartists also produced theirs, to the no small astonishment of the Repealers. A regular discussion took place, and after an hour's debate, the National Petition was, on a division, carried by a large majority.

More Falsehoods.—The *Morning Chronicle* of Friday last, contains an account of an Anti-Corn Law meeting, said to be held in Bolton on the Monday previous. No meeting for such a purpose was held in this town on that day. A hole-and-corner meeting was held, convened by circular from the Mayor, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament to adopt the propositions of Ministers relative to the import duties, &c. There were about fifty millowners, manufacturers, and shopkeepers present. The petition was all but unanimously adopted—the Corn Law Repealers thus virtually and meanly abandoning total repeal, by praying for a fixed duty.

Town Council.—The quarterly meeting of this body was held on Wednesday last, when a petition to Parliament, in favour of the propositions of Ministers relative to the import duties, was read and proposed for their adoption. It, of course, received the support of all those sham-free-traders, and would-be Corn Law repealers, or anything else sooner than "let in the Tories"—those who regard no principle that does not quadrate with the support of Ministers. However, the really honest free-trade men in the Council were determined to show fight, and stick to principle. Mr. P. R. Arrowsmith said "he believed they were all for free trade," and proposed a resolution in which that principle would *be recognised; but this did not suit the Ministerialists* —the professing cheap-bread and total-repeal men. They said it would "embarrass Ministers;" admitted that there was *something* inconsistent in "a total repealer applying for a fixed duty;" but that they would "merge their little differences to support Ministers," at present, and look for more afterwards. Mr. Arrowsmith hoped the Council were not willing to make a compromise, and give up their principle. *As to damaging the Ministry*, that was nothing to them; let them adhere to principle. He was supported by Messrs. J. Lomax, Tong, Lawson, Haslam, &c. *On a division the resolution* was lost by a majority of two. This has caused the honest Corn Law repealers to reflect a little, and exclaim "How is this!"

RICHMOND.—On Saturday night, the 1st inst., the cow house belonging to Mr. Richard Pickersgill, of Brookes, near Richmond, was broken into and four hens feloniously taken away.

FROM OUR SECOND EDITION OF LAST WEEK.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, May 20.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

The House met at the usual hour; the presentation of some petitions, and the transaction of other routine business occupied some time. The House was crowded to excess.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and said —Sir, I give notice that, on Monday next, I will move that the House shall resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, with a view to move the usual annual Sugar Duties therein. (Cheers.)

Lord John Russell rose amidst the utmost silence, and said "Sir, I move that this House, at its rising, do adjourn till Monday next."

The House, which was *crowded, and the Members* of the other House, who had congregated under the gallery, seemed lost in astonishment for a few moments, and then burst out into loud cheers on one side, and laughter on the other.

The Earl of Darlington said, that after what had just taken place, he was relieved from all suspense as to the intentions of the Noble Lord, notwithstanding the division against him the other evening; and he (the Earl of Darlington) might be allowed to add, with a tenacity unparalleled—(Loud Opposition cheers)—after the decision which the House of Commons had so unequivocally delivered against him—(cries of "Hear," and "Order.") he might, however, be allowed to ask the Noble Lord on what day he intended to bring forward the debate on the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.)

Lord J. Russell—On Friday, the 4th of June. ("Hear, hear," from the Ministerial benches.)

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned to Mondhy.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19.

Mr. Martin in the chair.

The Hall was this evening very much crowded with strangers.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed,

Dr. M'Douall read a letter from Mr. Feargus O'Connor, in reference to the statement made by Mr. Ridley respecting Mr. Frost's opinion of Mr. Feargus O'Connor's sincerity in the cause. Mr. O'Connor stated in his letter that when he first heard of the charge made against him that he was much grieved; but that, on consideration, he felt convinced that it originated in a conspiracy against him, that he could prove it, and that he would expose it as a foul libel upon his character, and a base attempt to stab his character.

Mr. Rose said that he waited upon Mr. Hawes, in company with Mr. Skevington. Mr. Hawes was anxious to persist in seeing her Majesty. If so, he said, that he and Mr. Buller would endeavour to have an interview with her Majesty, and present to her the memorials. He further recommended that all documents referring to Mr. Bronterre O'Brien's health, should be furnished him. He Mr. Hawes further said, that the expence attending an interview with her Majesty would be enormous.

Mr. Wall reported that he had an interview with Lord Teignmouth, who objected to pledge himself to support the petition. He declared himself friendly to Lord John Russell's new Poor Law Bill.

Dr. M'Douall moved, and Mr. Rose seconded, that the letter from the Birmingham Committee on Frost, Williams, and Jones be received. The letter of the Committee directed that the memorials should be brought back, unless an interview with her Majesty could be obtained, and that they would not consent to their being left in the hands of the Marquis of Normanby.

A letter was read from Mr. White, of Birmingham, stimulating and exhorting the Convention to renewed exertions, until an interview was obtained.

Mr. Morgan said that he had met Mr. Walter at Mr. Oastler's, when Mr. Morgan asked him if he would support the petition. Mr. Walter stated that he would not vote against it. He also stated that Frost was sacrificed in consequence of his opposition to the New Poor Law Bill. Mr. Morgan was almost certain of Mr. Walter's vote and speech in its favour.

Dr. M'Douall said that being appointed to accompany Mr. Lovett to the ship Mandarin, for the purpose of ascertaining the accuracy of Mr. Ridley's statement, that he did so, and had an interview with Mr. Douglas, the steward, who was Mr. Ridley's informant. The result of the interview was positively nothing. He could elicit nothing from Douglas, beyond that he had a private communication to make to Mr. Lovett, the nature of which he (Mr. M'D.) could not learn.

Mr. Morgan Williams said that he went on board the Mandarin with Mr. Ridley. The steward appeared to be very friendly with Mr. Ridley. He (Mr. W.) put the question to the Steward, and asked him if the statement made by Mr. Ridley was a fact? The Steward replied, that it was a certain fact.

Mr. Morgan—Order, order.

After some further remarks, of no public interest, the subject dropped.

It was resolved that Mr. O'Connor's letter in reference to the balance in hand, be forwarded to the executive, and that they be requested to make a return of the communications sent to them on the same subject, of the names of the correspondents, and if possible copies of the letters.

The following resolutions were adopted:—"That the Secretary be requested to write to the Frost Committee, requesting a copy of all correspondence they have had with different members of the Convention regarding the Frost's Memorials, *i. e.* that all correspondence sent to the Executive Council, at Manchester, by members of the Convention, prior to the dissolution of the Convention, on Monday, 17th, be transmitted to the Committee, that Messrs. Pitkethly, Cullen, and Morgan Williams, be requested to delay the transmission of the memorials until tomorrow (Thursday) night, that in the mean time a deputation be appointed to wait upon Mr. Buller, M.P., and such other M.P.'s as the meeting thinks proper, to solicit their assistance and advice."

Dr. M'Douall, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rose, and Mr. Ridley spoke to and supported the above resolutions.

Mr. Cullen read the following letter from the Marquis of Normanby:—

"Whitehall, May 19th, 1841.

"Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Marquis of Normanby to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (without date), and to inform you in reply that it is not usual for persons to be admitted to Levees, for the purpose of presenting memorials of the description mentioned in your letter, and that no person is ever presented at Court, except by one who has himself been presented to her Majesty. The usual and most proper course is that memorials of the nature referred to in your letter, should be presented through the Secretary of State.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"Your obedient Servant,

"S. M. Phillipps.

"To Mr. Pitkethly,
" Mr. Cullen,
" Mr. Williams."

The Secretary then read a communication from Dewsbury, stating that the petition-sheets from that place had been forwarded, having 2,000 signatures from Dewsbury, and 1,100 from Dawgreen.

A letter from Chorley stated that the Working Men's Association of that town forwarded a petition, with 2,950 signatures. Mr. William Pitfield complained that two letters, which had been forwarded last week, were not noticed in the *Star*. Mr. Pitfield also stated that the petition which weighed 197 ounces, and for which £1 was charged as postage, was sent in consequence of his having been told at the Post-office that it would go *free*.

A letter was read from the Chartists of Deptford to Messrs. Williams and Rose, begging their assistance in forming a Charter Association in that place, and stating that a public meeting will be held at eleven o'clock on Sunday next, at which they respectfully solicited the attendance and assistance of those two delegates.

The remaining business consisted of reading letters accompanying petitions, and announcing the number of signatures.

THURSDAY, MAY 20.

The Committee assembled at nine, and after the transaction of some routine business, adjourned to five o'clock.

Morris's Dynamic Engine.—In another part of our paper will be found an advertisement of Mr. Morris's Dynamic Engine, to which we would direct the attention of all interested in such discoveries and improvements. We certainly look with pleasure upon every new discovery, whether coming under the name of mechanics, chemistry, or science of any description; and we think that Mr. Morris's Dynamic Engine is worthy of attention so far, at least, as regards the cheapness of its construction and the economy attendant on its operations. Our objection is not to machinery, in the strict sense of the word, but to the abuse now connected with its operation. We wish to see machinery made subservient to labour, by being restricted within proper bounds in its working, and not, as now is the case, made the curse of the industrious classes, and the pander of the avaricious capitalist. We do not cry "destroy the monster," but we say, make it the servant of the operative—curb the giant—let it benefit the millions, and not the individual interests of a few grasping, grinding millocrats, as it now does.

LOCAL MARKETS.

Leeds Corn Market, May 25.—The arrivals of all kinds of Grain to this day's market are rather smaller than last week. The demand for Wheat has been limited, at the rates of last week. Barley nominal. Oats and Beans continue in limited demand.

THE AVERAGE PRICES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 25, 1841.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
4107	396	826	0	256	5
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3 2 11¾	1 10 2¾	1 3 6¾	0 0 0	1 17 9½	1 17 0

Leeds Cloth Market, May 25.—There was a rather improved demand for manufactured goods at both the Cloth Halls on Tuesday last, better, indeed, than there has been for some weeks past. It is not often that the Tuesday's market is better than Saturday's, and that it is so this week is no proof of permanent prosperity. We should be glad if it were so, or if we could at all congratulate ourselves on the present demand being certain of continuance. Speculations as to the prospects and results of the anticipated general election are the prevailing topic; the bearing that this will have upon supply and demand is pretty freely canvassed.

Newcastle Corn Market, May 22.—We had a fair supply of Wheat at market this morning from the neighbouring counties, but the arrivals from the coast continue exceedingly light. Our millers showed more disposition to purchase, and fine fresh thrashed qualities realised an advance of 1s. per qr. while other qualities were a better sale on the same terms. Grinding barley is enquired after.

Hull Corn Market, May 25.—There has been more firmness exhibited during the past week in the Corn trade; and some few parcels of bond Wheat have changed hands at rather advanced prices. There was again a fair arrival of Wheat from abroad, which, with a few exceptions, is landing under bond.

Leeds:—Printed for the Proprietor, FEARGUS O'CONNOR, Esq., of Hammersmith, County Middlesex, by JOSHUA HOBSON, at his Printing Offices, Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, Briggate; and Published by the said Joshua Hobson, (for the said Feargus O'Connor,) at his Dwelling-house, No. 5, Market-street, Briggate; an internal Communication existing between the said No. 5, Market-street, and the said Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, Briggate, thus constituting the whole of the said Printing and Publishing Office and Premises.

All Communications must be addressed, (Post-paid) to J. Hobson, Northern Star Office, Leeds.

Saturday, May 29, 1841.