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Chartist Intelligence.

TO THE CHARTISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

BROTHER DEMOCRATS,—According to promise I attended at Stockport on Sunday, the 26th, in the afternoon, for the purpose of forming a Youth's Association, in connection with the great Northern Charter Association. There was a very good attendance. One hundred cards of membership were ordered and paid for on the spot. The Stockport youths are resolved to extend the association of young men into every town of the County of Chester. At night I addressed the Chartists in their room, Bamber's Brow. The meeting was a bumper.

On Monday I proceeded to Dewsbury, and had, as fellow passengers, two Chartists from the midland counties, and a manufacturer from Huddersfield, who was rather the worse for liquor. The two Chartists were talking politics, and, as usual, introduced Feargus O'Connor, Bronterre O'Brien, Dr. M'Douall, James Leach, and others.

The well-clad manufacturer said that if he had his will, all the Chartist leaders should be hung or transported without either judge or jury. The fellow was a rank Tory. However, the two Chartists gave it to him in prime style, raking up in his face a many of the atrocious deeds committed by that cruel faction.

I arrived in Dewsbury about half-past seven o'clock, and attended a very numerous meeting, in the large pavilion that had been erected for the reception of F. O'Connor. When the meeting was over several persons wished me to attend at the different villages around Dewsbury. This I could not do, as I was previously engaged.

I arrived safe in Mytholmroyd, on Tuesday evening, and had a crowded meeting. Deputations awaited on me from Warley, Wadsworth, Midgley and several other places requesting my presence, but as I had other engagements I could not meet their wishes. On Wednesday I attended a tea party in Halifax, and held a good meeting in the evening, and after I had concluded my address, they did me the high honour of putting me in nomination for the forthcoming Convention. On Thursday night was in Hebdenbridge, where there is an excellent association; the room I addressed them in was densely filled. The Hebdenbridge Association paid me £2 8s. 7½d. for the Executive; Warley, with only twenty-one members, paid 10s. I visited Luddenden on Friday night. I had a chapel, and such a meeting as would gratify any person. The chapel was completely crowded; Chartism was never publicly proclaimed in Luddenden. I formed the association, and left them twenty-two strong.

On Saturday, New Year's Day, I visited my old friends, the Sowerby Chartists. I addressed them for an hour in the evening. I was joined by Mr. Clayton, from Huddersfield: it was a refreshing sight to see nearly two hundred persons sitting down to tea in a country district on the mountains of Yorkshire. About ten months ago, when I visited Sowerby, they had not more than forty members in the Association; there are nearly two hundred in it now; and an order for forty more cards given. I had to leave at eight o'clock for home, where I arrived at eleven o'clock.

I again lectured at Openshaw, on Sunday, the 2nd; and in Newton Heath, on last night, the 3rd January. I have now sixty-seven letters ready for the post-office; there are orders for upwards of eight hundred cards, which will be all posted to-morrow to their various destinations; so that you see I have not been idle lately. The Executive ought to have met yesterday in Bristol, but could not: it is high time they should meet.

Yours, in the good cause,

JOHN CAMPBELL, Secretary.

YEOVIL (SOMERSETSHIRE).—The Chartists of this place held their weekly meeting on Monday evening week, Mr. White in the chair. After the usual business had been transacted, Mr. Hooper moved a resolution expressive of confidence in the Executive Council, which, after being seconded by Mr. Hewlitt, was carried unanimously. Mr. Bainbridge was appointed to draw up a memorial to her Majesty in favour of Frost, Williams, and Jones.

PLYMOUTH.—On Monday, Dec. 27th, a public tea took place at Plymouth, when 150 partook of the cup of beverage, and spent a few hours in social mirth and comfort. Everything went off splendidly; the room was tastefully decorated with banners and evergreens. [We ought to have had the account of this last week. We omit further mention of it on that ground.]

MACCLESFIELD.—Mr. West lectured on Sunday evening last, on Mr. Lawrence Heyworth's pamphlet "On the Natural Law of Wages;" and clearly proved that it is not only a fallacy, but the greatest compound of falsehoods ever issued to gull the working classes, and is therefore a complete failure as to its intended purpose.

HONLEY.—Mr. Christopher Doyle delivered an address at the George and Dragon, on the evening of the 24th of December. A memorial on behalf of the exiled patriots was adopted.

TODMORDEN.—On New Year's Day, the Rev. W. V. Jackson, of Manchester, visited Todmorden, and delivered a most eloquent address. He showed very forcibly the absurdity of meddling with effects, and leaving the cause of those effects as powerful as ever to do mischief. He gave the Corn Law League a deserved castigation for their inconsistency. The Chartists had made excellent arrangements for a public tea party and ball, for the afternoon of the same day—tea on the table at four o'clock; and, such was the anxiety to procure tickets, that some offered sixpence extra for them. At the close of the tea party it was found necessary to divide the company, on account of the room being too small, and accordingly the large room, at the York Tavern, was procured, and other musicians, and then commenced the evening's entertainments. The ball was opened in both rooms by a country dance. There were some excellent pieces recited, and some sentimental and comic songs sung in excellent style.

BOLTON.—The cause of Chartism is progressing in this district. A new room has been opened in Howell Croft, capable of containing one thousand persons, but this, though the best that could be obtained, is not large enough. Mr. Candy, of Wolverhampton, lectured on Sunday evening, and sixteen new members were enrolled when he had done. Ten thousand signatures to the petition have been already obtained, and ten thousand more are expected. Those who have sheets in hand are requested to take them in. The room is open every Sunday for lectures, Monday for receiving subscriptions and transacting business, Tuesday for council meetings, Wednesday for discussion, and the remainder of the week for reading and desultory conversation.

COVENTRY.—A festival and ball was held here the last day of December, upwards of 120 sat down to tea, and the amusements of the evening were highly satisfactory.

PRESTON.—The progress here of late has indeed been cheering. A youth's association has been formed; they had their opening on new years' eve, 135 were admitted by ticket. The room was beautifully decorated, and the evening was spent in agreeable festivities. The first public meeting was held on Monday last, Mr. John Peart in the chair, and the talent which was exhibited augurs well for a spirited agitation. Mr. Joseph Hutchinson, Mr. Cartwright Howarth, and Mr. John Kilner, delivered their maiden speeches on the occasion, each one speaking in a strain that surprised the audience and elicited much applause. The secretary to the association also addressed the meeting at considerable length on the subjects of emigration, education, the rights of woman, &c.

DEWSBURY.—Mr. Bairstow preached two eloquent discourses in the splendid pavilion here, last Sunday, in the afternoon and evening. Powerful impressions were produced. On Monday evening, the same gentleman delivered a masterly and luminous lecture in the same spacious place, to a very large and attentive audience, which was received most enthusiastically, "on the origin, progress, principles, and prospects of Chartism." The concluding paragraphs of his lecture were devoted to an earnest caution to the Chartists to be on their guard against the professed friends of Universal Suffrage, who, from their squeamish fear of losing caste would not join our ranks. A vote of thanks was carried to the lecturer amid much applause and prolonged acclamation. A ball concluded the evening.

BELPER.—At the local delegate meeting, held on Sunday, it was resolved to suspend the labours of the missionary for two months, to afford opportunity to the friends of that district to recruit the fund for the Executive.

SALISBURY.—A Chartist supper took place here on Wednesday evening, Dec. 29th, which was numerously attended. After the cloth was cleared, a number of patriotic sentiments were given and responded to.

SOWERBY.—A tea-party was held here on New Year's Day; Mr. Campbell, of Manchester, and Mr. Clayton, of Huddersfield, attended, and each addressed the meeting.

SALFORD.—Mr. Littley lectured in the Chartists' room here, on Sunday evening.

SELBY.—Mr. Jones lectured here on Monday evening, to a very respectable audience, and with much ability.

CHALFORD, (GLOUCESTER.)—The National Petition has been adopted here at a public meeting.

COLSNAUGHTON.—CHARTIST SOCIAL MEETING.—The first of a series of social meetings was held in the New Hall of this place on Saturday the 1st inst. The house was crowded, a good number of the fair sex being present. Nothing could exceed the harmony and spirit which pervaded.

BLACKBURN.—On Monday evening, Mr. Duffy lectured here, to a numerous audience and gave great satisfaction. After the meeting twenty-two persons joined the association. Three cheers were given for O'Connor and the Charter; three cheers for Frost, Williams and Jones, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Duffy for his lecture.

BARNSLEY.—The Chartists held their weekly meeting on Monday. After the enrolment of some new members, and preparations for holding a public meeting on the 10th, for the adoption of the National Petition, one of the members addressed the meeting at considerable length on the utility of petitioning Parliament in support of Mr. Sharman Crawford's Landlord and Tenant Bill. It was agreed that a petition be adopted. The Chartists dined together on New Year's night in Mr. Thomas Aclam's great room. Some good speeches were delivered on responding to various toasts.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE EXECUTIVE FROM NOVEMBER 27TH TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1841.

The line across, gives the name of the place where the Association is held, the probable amount of paying members and calculating from July 14th, until Dec. 31st, 1841, or for five and half months, the period that the monthly contributions ought to have been paid, the Association can gather at a glance by referring to this and the last Balance Sheets, the amount of money due to the Executive. I have made the accounts out at the rate of sixty paying members for every 100 cards issued, and places where I have over or undercharged, can write to me at once, and shall receive every satisfaction. The cards that have been unpaid for, are brought from the last sheet to this.

INCOME.

Place	Cards		Status	£.	s.	d.
London	500 cards per Wheeler, 18 en. cards,		in debt	1	5	0
"	200 cards, per Cleave,		clear	1	13	4
"	„ Gibbs,		clear	0	5	0
"	„ Salmon,		clear	0	10	0
"	„ Lefevre,		clear	0	4	6
"	100 cards, Marylebone		in debt	0	0	0
"	„ Robson, Tow. Hamlets,		clear	0	13	10
Nottingham	115 cards	...	clear	0	19	2
Stokesley	...	...	clear	1	0	0
Ryde, I. of Wight,	24 cards	...	clear	0	4	0
Ashton-u.-Lyne,	150 cards	...	clear	1	9	6
Stockport	100 cards	...	in debt	0	10	6
Doyle	270 cards	...	in debt	0	11	8
Salisbury	...	...	clear	0	3	7
Plymouth	30 cards	...	clear	0	10	0
Wortley	...	...	clear	0	4	0
Wingate Grange,	100 cards	...	clear	1	16	8
Redruth	60 cards 8 en. cards		in debt	0	10	0
Chowbent	...	...	clear	0	2	6
Chorlton	...	...	clear	0	6	8
Chelmsford	...	...		0	6	0
Todmorden	...	...	clear	1	4	2
Oxford	50 cards	...	clear	0	8	4
Sutton-in-Ashfield	130 cards	...	in debt	1	2	6
Hunslet	...	...	clear	0	5	0
Harleston	...	...	clear	0	5	6
Ovenden	...	...	clear	0	4	6
Eccles	24 cards	...	in debt	0	4	0
Middleton	48 cards	...	in debt	0	4	0
Bolton	300 cards	...	in debt	1	13	4
West	18 cards	...		0	3	0
Halifax	140 cards—20 en.		in debt	1	10	0
Sowerby	...	...	clear	1	1	4
Warwick	...	...	clear	0	10	0
Bradford	400 cards—20 en.		in debt	3	10	0
Northampton	20 cards	...	clear	0	7	4
Brampton	20 cards	...	clear	0	3	4
Rochdale	100 cards, per Leach,		in debt	0	10	0
Ditto	1 card, per F.		clear	0	1	2
Oldham	268 cards	...	in debt	1	10	0
Huddersfield	...	...	clear	1	10	0
Southampton	...	...	clear	0	4	0
Rooden Lane	16 cards	...	in debt	0	0	8
Market Weighton,	per a patriotic farmer			0	2	6
Barnsley	...	...	...	0	10	0
Bp. Wearmouth	150 cards	...	in debt	0	10	0
Warrington	50 cards	...	clear	0	8	4
Stockton	30 cards	...	clear	0	5	0
Kettering	...	...	clear	0	10	0
Penzance	13 cards	...	in debt	0	1	0
Newport, Mon.	30 cards	...	clear	0	8	0
Newport, Edwards	100 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Leicester	200 cards	...	in debt	2	13	4
Astley	48 cards	...	in debt	0	4	0
Leeds, per Hick	...	...	clear	0	9	4
Miles Platting	36 cards	...	in debt	0	4	0
Mosley	30 cards	...	clear	0	6	0
Stafford	100 cards	...	in debt	0	12	4
Mottram	30 cards	...	in debt	0	5	0
Newport, Salop	...	...	clear	0	3	4
Holbrooke	30 cards	...	clear	0	5	0
Bishop Auckland	...	...	clear	0	7	6
Worcester	24 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Norwich	100 cards—10 en.		in debt	1	0	0
Chitheroe	125 cards	...	in debt	0	10	10
Acrington	12 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Star Office	...	...	in debt	2	11	3
Bilston	100 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Banbury	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Failsworth	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	[illegible]
Gloncester	100 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Lees	35 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Howden	60 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Hull	100 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Hebdenbridge	100 cards	...	clear	0	0	0
Manchester Bn. St.	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Merthyr Tydvil	80 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Congleton	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne	60 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Wigton	60 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Salford	40 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Staleybridge	20 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Bury	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Birmingham, Free-man-street	200 cards	...	in debt	1	10	0
Ditto, Steelhouse-lane	70 cards	...	clear	1	0	0
Bacup	40 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Delph	12 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Dukinfield	50 cards	...	in debt	0	2	6
Stockport Youths	100 cards—2 en.		clear	0	17	8
Aberdare	150 cards	...	in debt	0	10	0
Openshaw	12 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Tavistock	30 cards	...	clear	0	5	0
Stourbridge	30 cards	...	clear	0	12	6
Midgley	...	...	clear	0	1	0
Wadsworth-row	...	...	clear	0	4	2
Batley	20 cards	...	clear	0	3	4
Morley	6 cards	...	clear	0	1	0
Dawgreen	...	...	clear	0	6	8
Warley, per Calpon		...	clear	0	10	0
Mytholmroyd	...	...	clear	0	2	6
Mixenden	...	...	clear	0	1	0
Arnold	...	...	clear	0	6	0
Lynn	25 cards	...	clear	0	5	0
Ipswich	54 cards	...	in debt	0	5	8
Canterbury	53 cards	...	clear	0	8	4
Preston Youths	50 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Cambridge	12 cards	...	in debt	0	0	0
Burnley	200 cards	...	in debt	1	11	8

Cards issued, 6586—enamelled cards, 60;

	£.	s.	d.
Total Income	£53	17	5½
Total expences	50	1	8
Balance in hand	£3	15	9½

Audited, and found correct,

JOHN MURRAY.
T. L.

EXPENDITURE.

Date	Item	£.	s.	d.
Dec. 4th.	Secretary's wages	2	0	0
—	Ditto coach fare and travelling expenses from London to Manchester	2	0	0
—	Two member's wages... ...	3	0	0
—	Extra expenses to Dr. M'Douall in agitating... ...	0	10	0
—	Postage	0	13	11
—	Stationery	0	4	5
—	Lent to the Manchester General Council	2	0	0
—	Account books	0	4	6
11th.	Postage	0	11	6
—	Stationery	0	4	10
—	Paid for cards printing to Fothergill	10	0	0
—	Two members' wages	3	0	0
—	Extra agitating expenses to Dr. M'Douall	0	10	0
—	Secretary's wages	2	0	0
18th.	Postage	0	3	7
—	Error in last ballance sheet ...	1	14	8
—	Secretary's wages	2	0	0
—	Two members' wages	3	0	0
—	Extra expences to Dr. M'Douall for agitating	0	10	0
25th.	Secretary's wages	2	0	0
—	Two members' wages	3	0	0
—	Postage	0	7	10
—	Stationery	0	4	10
—	Extra expenses to Dr. M'Douall in agitating...	0	10	0
—	Extra expenses to the Secretary in agitating	0	17	2
—	Paid Mr. Heywood for printing	3	0	0
—	Postage	0	4	[illegible]
	Total expenses......	£50	1	8

OUTSTANDING DEBTS.

	£.	s.	d.
Star office...	1	10	7
Gen. Council, Manchester	2	0	0
London, (Wheeler) ...	3	7	4
Marylebone	1	5	0
Stockport	0	15	0
Doyle	1	13	4
Redruth	0	4	0
Eccles	0	15	0
Middleton	0	10	6
Bolton	2	1	3
Bradford	1	7	0
Rochdale	1	4	2
Oldham	2	15	11
Rooden-lane	0	9	4
Bishopwearmouth ...	1	5	0
Penzance	0	2	0
Newport (Edwards) ...	0	16	8
Leicester	6	0	10
Astley	6	4	0
Platting	0	2	0
Stafford	0	7	0
Mottram	0	18	4
Worcester	0	4	0
Norwich	0	10	0
Clithero	0	13	4
Banbury	1	11	8
Failsworth	0	10	10
Gloucester	1	1	8
Lees	0	5	10
Howden	0	15	0
Hull	2	2	2
Manchester, Brown-str.	2	5	0
Merthyr Tydvil	3	16	8
Wigton	0	12	6
Salford	1	3	0
Stalybridge	0	3	4
Bury	0	8	4
Birmingham, Freeman-street	3	19	2
Bacup	0	6	8
Delph	0	2	0
Duckinfield	0	5	10
Aberdare	0	15	0
Openshaw	0	2	0
Ipswich	0	3	4
Preston youths	0	8	4
Cambridge	0	2	0
Manchester, Strand-street	0	7	6
Lancaster	0	16	6
Preston	0	9	5
Blackburn	1	7	0
Chorley	0	9	0
Liverpool	1	13	0
Hyde	0	5	0
Millbottom	0	6	8
Newton Heath	0	12	11
Burnley	2	5	5
Colne	0	16	8
York	0	16	8
Sheffield	3	8	4
Halifax	2	0	10
Ripponden	0	14	2
Scarbro'	0	18	4
Leeds	3	0	5
Dewsbury	1	17	6
Keighley	1	7	6
Longton	0	8	0
Wolverhampton	0	16	0
Redditch	0	10	0
Walsall	0	2	6
Coventry	0	5	0
Darlaston	0	7	6
Belper	0	18	4
Brighton	1	2	6
Bristol	1	7	6
Manchester, Youths	0	2	0
Bath	1	4	2
Stroudwater	0	9	7
Rotherham	0	7	4
Derby	1	13	0
Potteries, Simpson ...	0	12	1
Ditto, Richards ...	0	10	0
Mansfield	0	8	9
Bristol, Youths ...	0	5	6
Yeovil	0	7	8
Macclesfield	0	19	10
Kidderminster	0	10	0
Sunderland	0	15	0
Out debts, total	£89	17	0

	£.	s.	d.
There has been printed 21300 cards at £1 8s 4d per thousand and 380 enamelled ones at 16s 8d per hundred. Total amount of card printing	33	6	10
Of which there has been paid	20	0	0
Leaving due to the parties	13	6	10

CHORLEY.—Mr. Duffey has been lecturing here with great success.

MANCHESTER.—The Chartists of Miles Platting held a tea party in their room, on New Year's Day. About fifty sat down to tea. The room was beautifully decorated with flags and Chartist mottos, also the portraits of Feargus O'Connor, Dr. M'Douall, Frost, Hunt, Emmett, and several others. After tea, several patriotic toasts were given, and the evening was spent very pleasantly.

HUDDERSFIELD.—ODD FELLOWSHIP AND CHARTISM.—The Paddock Unity of Independent Odd Fellows, held a general meeting in the Loyal Protest lodge room, Stanley Court, Huddersfield, according to the decision of the grand annual meeting of the 30th of Oct. last. Provincial G.M. Waterhouse, of Lee Gap district in the chair. The chairman opened the meeting in a brief but pathetic speech, after which the delegates gave in the opinions of their various lodges, who had one and all divided by large majorities to agitate for nothing less than the People's Charter. The meeting was spirited and well conducted; amongst the speeches of the day, those of P.G.M. Ingham, of the Youth's Glory lodge, and P.P.G.M.W. Ranson, both of the Halifax district, stand pre-eminent for talent, research, and eloquence. The following resolution was passed unanimously, amidst the cheers of the members of the different lodges, who had assembled to witness the proceedings:—"That while this meeting denounces the Corn Laws as impolitic and unjust, we also believe that the selfishness of the monopolists would not be overcome until all classes be fairly and fully represented in the Commons' House of Parliament, and this meeting further pledges itself to agitate, in the name of the order, for nothing less than the People's Charter, and also to render no opposition whatever, individually or collectively, against the repeal of the Corn Laws.

CHESTERFIELD AND BRAMPTON.—A meeting of the Chartists was held in the silk mill yard, Chesterfield, on Monday evening last. The National Petition was adopted, every one promising to use his utmost endeavours to procure signatures. Four new cards were given out. William Martin read a letter from one of our suffering brothers, Samuel Holberry, in York Castle, by which it appears the officials are at their hellish system again, in laying restrictions on his correspondence, only allowing him to write one letter a week.

BRADFORD.—LIDGET GREEN.—On Monday evening last, a meeting of the Chartists of this place was held in their Association Room, to hear a lecture from Mr. Smyth. Mr. H. Haley was called to the chair, who briefly stated that the business of the meeting was to adopt a memorial to her Majesty on behalf of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and all political convicts, which was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Smyth then delivered an able and talented lecture on the People's Charter, and the benefits that would result from that measure being made the law of the land; and exhorted all present to join the National Charter Association. The meeting was very numerous.

LEES.—A public dinner is to be holden at the Friendship Inn, Lees, on the 15th inst., in honour of the liberation of Mr. Samuel Danson. Messrs. Leach, Griffin, Campbell, and Duffy, are expected. Tickets—males, 1s. 2d.; females, 1s. may be had from the following persons:—Messrs. Reuben Hague, Lewis Harrop, Lees; Leonard Haslop, Temperance Hotel, Manchester-street, Oldham; Robert Beaumont, Waterhead-mill; Mr. John Robinson, Brookbottom, Mossley; Mr. George Bottomley Roughtown, Saddleworth.

WAPPING.—The female Chartists of Wapping held their weekly meeting at the North Tavern, on Sunday evening last, when two shillings was voted to Mrs. Frost's fund, which was handed over to the sub-Treasurer of the Council.

DELPH HOLE.—The Chartists of this locality met at their usual place of meeting, on Sunday evening last, Mr. James Leatherbarrow occupied the chair. Mr. Brook moved, and Mr. John Haigh seconded, that a room now vacant in the neighbourhood should be taken for a meeting room, which was agreed to without one dissentient; and thirteen members gave in their names to pay one shilling each for the first quarter's rent.

WHITE ABBEY.—A meeting of the Chartists of this place was convened by a watchman's rattle, on Monday night, to hear a lecture from Messrs. Jennings and Raspin, but neither of them attended. This is not as it ought to be. Mr. Brook, in the absence of the lecturers, offered his services, which were accepted. Mr. Brook delivered an able and interesting lecture on class legislation—the conduct of the Whigs and Tories—and the law of primogeniture, which occupied upwards of an hour in delivery. Mr. Robert Sutcliffe occupied the chair. The following resolution was carried by acclamation:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the prevailing distress of this country is owing to class legislation, and the industrious classes will never be better situated until the Charter be made the law of the land, and that it is the bounden duty of every labouring man to use every legal and constitutional means in his power to make the Charter the law of the land; and that this meeting pledges itself never to rest satisfied until every man has a voice in making the laws which he is called upon to obey." The room was crowded to excess with an attentive and delighted audience. A Sunday-school is held in the room, which is filled to overflowing every Sabbath. The children are taught to read and write. The place is far too small for the number that attends; they have it in contemplation to take a larger room. May the Chartists of every place go and do likewise, and success will speedily crown our efforts.

BRADFORD UNITED REFORM CLUB.—This Society issued large placards last week, announcing that Dr. Samuel Smiles, the Editor of the *Leeds Times*, would deliver a lecture on Tuesday evening, January 4th, in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute, "On the necessity of the diffusion of political knowledge amongst the people." The members were admitted by the cards of membership, and each member was allowed to introduce a friend. Mr. Forbes, as President of the club, was to take the chair. The Chairman briefly opened the business of the meeting, and hoped every person had received at the door an address which had been issued that day, stating the objects which they had in view, and then called on Mr. Smiles to address them. On his presenting himself a cheer was attempted but failed. Mr. Smiles' lecture was written, and may be considered a pretty fair Chartist lecture. He set completely at rest the question of the Corn Laws being repealed with the present House of Commons, and if it were possible, by threats and intimidation to compel them, they would be able, at some future time to re-enact them, when they thought proper. He advised them to go to the root of the tree, and extend the suffrage to all that were not convicted of crime, not insane, *and all those that were not paupers.* He read various authors to prove how happy those nations were who enjoyed Universal Suffrage, particularly Switzerland and America. Mr. Smiles' address lasted about an hour and a quarter, and then sat down. The Chairman advised all to read the address which had been given to them, and he said he agreed with every word Mr. Smiles had said, and told his audience that it would be impossible to stop at Household Suffrage, and called on all present to join the Reform Club. Mr. Mensford, one of their own members, then stood up and addressed the Chair, and thanked the Chairman and Mr. Smiles for advocating Universal Suffrage, and he as both of them had declared that Universal Suffrage was their right, why not adopt it at once, instead of trying to get Household Suffrage? He was proceeding in an able manner to expose the folly of such half measures, when the Chairman interrupted *him, and said, if he was not mistaken he was one of* the members when the rules were drawn up and agreed to. Mr. Mensford acknowledged that he was, but said that he objected to them when they were passed, and wanted them then to come out for Universal Suffrage. Mr. Mensford said, I mean, Mr. Chairman, to test the present meeting whether Universal or Household Suffrage is most likely to remove the evils under which we labour, and moved a resolution to that effect. Mr. Yates seconded the *motion.* The Chairman again interrupted Mr. Mensford when he was speaking, and said they were called together to hear a lecture and not a discussion. *Mr. Mensford again attempted to speak,* and was rewarded with a volley of hisses from the members of the Reform Club for his trouble. The Chairman said he was willing to discuss the question, but when pressed upon to name a time and place, he forgot to do so. A vote of thanks was moved to the Doctor, when Mr. Mensford again demanded that the original motion should be put to the meeting, but the Chairman, for reasons best known to himself, would not put it to the meeting. If he had, there is not the least doubt but Universal Suffrage would have been carried in his own camp.

SECOND EDITION.

THE CHARTISTS.

NORWICH QUARTER SESSIONS, JAN. 4.

(Before Mr. J. Jeremy, Recorder.)

Thomas Hewett appeared to answer to an indictment for a misdemeanour, having, with other evil-disposed persons, carrying various sorts of arms, unlawfully assembled to disturb the peace, on the 16th of November last, at Catton New Church, and then and there made a noise, riot, and disturbance, for the space of an hour or more. He was further indicted for having, on the same day, a second time, with other evil-disposed persons, unlawfully assembled, and thereby created a disturbance during the ceremony of consecration at Catton New Church.

The case excited great interest, the court being completely crowded during the whole time of the trial. Many of the magistrates were present.

Mr. Evans appeared for the prosecution. Hewett, who conducted his own case, objected to Mr. Nurse being sworn on the jury, alleging that he was prejudiced against the Chartists.

Mr. Evans called the following witnesses:—

Robert Coleman deposed—I am one of the police of this city. Was ordered to attend the church at New Catton, *on the 16th of Nov., in case there should be* a breach of the peace. I was at the station-house about a quarter before ten o'clock. I heard a band of music, and I went into the Market-place, and there I saw a band of music and several banners. Hewett was nearly in front. The procession went across the market and up White Lion-street. The church is situate by the side of the road to Catton. After I got to the churchyard, about half-past ten o'clock, I was stationed at the gate of the church. I saw some persons with a band coming towards the church. I saw Hewett close by the church gates; there were about 300 persons assembled: they were conducting themselves in a very tumultuous manner. People were not able to get up to the churchyard. I saw Hewett very active and prominent in those attempts. When the Bishop's carriage came it could not be driven up to the gate; there was a great deal of hooting and different expressions used, directed against the Bishop. After the carriage came up, the persons in it obtained entrance into the church by sheer force. The Mayor then personally assisted the Bishop, and succeeded in obtaining admission. About half an hour after the gate was broken, the conduct of the mob was such as to terrify the people attending the service. After the bishop had entered the church some of the parties went away towards Norwich. Just at the time that the bishop came out of the church the band and banners returned; they went on the Catton side of the church; I was in the churchyard. The bishop went round the churchyard, and then Hewett took a banner and struck it against the railings. The band was playing and the people were shouting. I saw Hewett take a banner and plant it against the railings. I suppose the string came loose and the banner fell from the pole. Hewett came and held it over the ground. I heard him say something, but do not recollect the words. The Mayor then took Hewett into custody. The Chartists behaved in a riotous manner, and attempted to rescue him. He was put into a carriage and conveyed to the station-house; he put his head out of the window and shouted "Hurrah for the Chartists; three cheers for Feargus O'Connor." The whole of the force with the superintendent went down to Catton. We were stationed in various parts to preserve the peace. When we went down the church-gates were not locked; the church doors were shut. The Mayor came down a very little time after we got there. There was no crowd before the band of music came up. The bishop's carriage came up alone.

Superintendent Yarrington examined.—I was ordered by the Mayor and magistrates to attend at the new church at Catton, because a riot was apprehended. I arrived there about half-past ten. I am able to speak to Hewett the defendant being there, who headed a procession with bands and banners. Hewett and a number of others came up and asked for admission. A rush ensued, and an attempt to force open the gate, which was broken. I saw Hewett, who called out, "Go it, my boys," or words to that effect; he was foremost amongst those who made the crush. The police succeeded in preventing them from getting in. In a quarter of an hour the Bishop's carriage came, and then there was a great noise and many bad expressions. The carriage could not drive up to the gate. With the assistance of the magistrates and police the Bishop was conducted into the churchyard; there were more than 100 persons. Hewett was amongst those who were making the rush. After the church was consecrated the bishop came out to consecrate the churchyard; then the same band came up with the flags; they came up playing "God save the Queen," and halted at the corner. After the bishop had gone round the churchyard he went into the church porch to read the service of consecration; the band then played the old hundredth psalm; the people were arraying the banners on the church rails. I saw Hewett plant a banner myself; the Mayor asked me to go with him and apprehend him. We did so, and the people endeavoured to rescue him; I saw the defendant in the station-house afterwards. He considered it a d——d odd thing that he could not hire a band and have it play without our interference, and that we had no right to stop his men on the highway. Hewett and the people with him acted together: their conduct was such as to alarm persons who might wish to attend the ceremony.

Cross-examined by Hewett.—You were in front of the band, and at the head of the procession. There were several banners; I told you that you could not come in. The Mayor said you might come in after the consecration. I saw you standing there twenty minutes or half an hour after I told you that you could not come in. You said the Bishop should not go in unless you were admitted; the Bishop came up in a quarter of an hour after. I never saw such a rush as that against a church-gate. I saw no stones thrown at him; there were stones thrown. You did not resist being taken into custody. I heard you personally insult many persons. I cannot say who they were: they were clergymen. It is not my business to say why you were not admitted. There was a rush on the coach when you were taken.

Sergeant Copeman stated—I attended at New Catton Church on the 16th of November last. I was there when the Bishop was consecrating the churchyard. After he had been round the churchyard he went to the church, and Hewett and others said, "Now we'll go and consecrate it." Hewett had a large banner with the inscription of the Bishops' and others' salaries. Hewett was then taken into custody. Some ladies came up in a carriage, and, observing the crowd, were alarmed. Witness went up and said he thought he could make way for them, but they went away. Ten minutes after the Bishop came up. Respectable people could not get into the church without the assistance of the police.

By Hewett—You said "Go it, my boys," when the rush was made to force the gate.

The COURT (to Hewett.)—You said you were going to call witnesses; what are you going to prove?

Hewitt.—I want to prove that no alarm was created at Catton.

Mr. Kitson, respecting this, deposed—I was near the church gate waiting the arrival of the Bishop; the people were conducting themselves in a very riotous manner. When the carriage came up there was the same noise and tumult and pushing; the Bishop had some difficulty in getting into the churchyard. When I entered the church the seats were nearly filled. Persons were asked to sit down at the steps of the altar. During the reading of the service the congregation rose up in alarm in consequence of the door being suddenly opened, and the service was for a few minutes stopped. The proceedings were such as to terrify the people. It was quite impossible for females to obtain admission into the church.

By Hewitt.—The band was not playing when the congregation rose.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Hewett, in defence, said, he could not see that there was any charge made out against him, and cited the act relative to riots.

The Learned Recorder stated, that any proceedings which had a tendency to riot were unlawful, and in summing up explained the difference between a riot and a rout—that where persons tumultuously *assemble together for the purpose of doing an unlawful act, and such assembling is accompanied with* some circumstances of actual violence or is calculated to inspire people with terror, and if they proceed to execute any unlawful purpose, then it is a riot; but if they do not proceed to execute any unlawful purpose, then it is a rout.

The Jury consulted for some time, and returned a verdict of Not Guilty of a riot, but Guilty of a rout.

The Learned RECORDER then, after remarking that the jury had found Hewett guilty of the minor offence only, and condemning such proceedings as took place at Catton, sentenced him to be imprisoned for two months, and to find two sureties after that time of £50 each, and be himself bound over in the sum of £100, for his good behaviour for twelve months.

TEN HOURS' FACTORY QUESTION.

The Short Time Committee of Bradford, having deemed it desirable, previous to the meeting of Parliament, to give to the body of overlookers in the town and neighbourhood an opportunity of expressing their opinions on the limitation of labour in factories to ten hours per day, invited them to a public meeting, to be held in the large School Room connected with Christ Church, on Thursday evening.

At the hour appointed, the meeting being very numerously attended,

Mr. BALME, Secretary to the Committee, said that it devolved upon him to explain the reason why the Short Time Committee had called the meeting. It was in consequence of frequent representations having been made to the Committee that if the overlookers generally were aware of the proceedings of the Short Time Committee, they would come forward and assist them in the obtainment of a further limitation of the hours of labour for young persons employed in factories. (Hear, hear.) The Committee had therefore called the meeting for the purpose of laying before it their present position in reference to this interesting question, and had invited their friends, Mr. W. Walker and Mr. W. Rand, to deliver an account of the interviews they had lately had in London with several of her Majesty's Ministers. He would sit down by moving that the Rev. Mr. Morgan preside over the meeting. (Hear.)

Mr. CHARLES WALKER rose to second the proposition, and to express his gratification at again meeting Mr. Morgan in connexion with the important question which they were assembled to advance. (Hear.) The Reverend Gentleman had long evinced a lively interest in the amelioration of the factory system, and it was doubtless, pleasing to the company to perceive their venerable friend still at his post of honour and usefulness, endeavouring to promote an object intimately connected with the national peace and prosperity. (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. MORGAN, B.D., having taken the chair, expressed his readiness to preside over any meeting having in view the improvement of his fellow beings, but he had particular pleasure in again helping forward a work calculated, as he conceived the Ten Hours' Bill to be, to benefit the working population of Bradford and its neighbourhood. (Cheers.) He would not enter into any argument concerning the question, but leave that province to others who were present. He hoped, however, that the proceedings of the meeting would be conducted in an orderly manner, and that every opportunity would be given for fair discussion. He was glad to find that the meeting was favoured with the presence of Mr. W. Rand and Mr. W. Walker, who, some weeks ago, had sought and obtained interviews with Sir Robert Peel and other members of the Government, regarding the factory question, and as it was the wish of the Short Time Committee that the overlookers generally should learn from those gentlemen the particulars of those interviews, he was glad to find that there existed a willingness to communicate the same. He would, therefore, call on one of them to address the meeting. (Hear.)

Mr. W. WALKER rose and said, that Mr. Wm. Rand and himself had been requested by the Short Time Committee to meet them, and the overlookers engaged in the factories of Bradford, and its neighbourhood, for the purpose of acquainting those so deeply interested in the important question of limiting the hours of factory labour to ten per day, with the result of their recent interview with her Majesty's Ministers. He had felt for some time past a conviction that he ought to seek an opportunity of declaring his sentiments to the Government, and he now felt satisfied and thankful that he had been able to acquit his conscience by discharging the duty. (Hear.) Having alluded to the very gratifying reception which Sir Robert Peel and the other members of the Cabinet gave to the subject, and the impression left upon his mind that those high functionaries are desirous of doing justice to the youthful factory population, he proceeded to give his decided opinion that the question which had so long been before the public was at length well understood, not only by the employed, but by their employers also, and that a very general feeling now prevails amongst all classes that the Ten Hours' limitation of labour is a just and necessary measure; well calculated to promote the real interests of all connected with factories, and at the same time fraught with advantage to the nation at large. (Loud cheers.) He declared his conviction that the ensuing Session of Parliament would see the question brought forward by that truly noble champion of the cause, the Lord Ashley—(loud cheers)—armed as his Lordship is with arguments and facts so influential and irresistible as to lead to the satisfactory settlement thereof. (Cheers.) He felt delighted to meet upwards of 200 overlookers on this occasion, who fully understand this question to involve the welfare and happiness of themselves, their families, and the masses of young persons daily working under their care. (Cheers.) Mr. Walker also added that when Mr. Wm. Rand and himself had the honour of waiting upon Sir James Graham they were interrupted by the announcement of some noble lords being in attendance, which led them to cut short their discussion of the subject, and consequently they had sought and obtained permission to address a letter to Sir James, going fully into the question, and answering the strongest objections which had been urged against a Ten Hours' enactment. (Hear.) The Short Time Committee had requested to be allowed to print that letter; but before consenting to that being done, he would rather leave it with the present intelligent meeting to decide after having heard its contents. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Walker then read the letter, after which it was unanimously resolved that the letter be printed and circulated.

Mr. WILLIAM RAND said he was very glad to bear his testimony along with Mr. Walker, to the kind and considerate manner in which they had been received by Sir Robert Peel and others of her Majesty's Ministers, with whom they had interviews on the factory question, but that no words of his could do justice to the deep interest taken in their cause by Lord Ashley, and to the admirable zeal and judgment with which he was conducting the management of it, and with whom they had had many gratifying interviews on the subject, he then said that notwithstanding he (Mr. R.) had not long taken a prominent part in promoting the object of a Ten Hours' Bill, he had from the very first most cordially approved of it. (Cheers.) He was of opinion that it was a measure not only of necessity, but one of strict justice, that its tendency would, in his judgment, be to increase the number of the employed, and that nothing was so undesirable, either for the prosperity or the peace of the country, as to have large masses of the people unemployed, even occasionally. Mr. Rand also said that he felt quite confident that a large portion of the Millowners who formerly viewed with jealousy and alarm such a limitation of labour, were now, if not the advocates of it, at all events less hostile to it, and he believed would take no steps to oppose it; he begged, however, to be permitted to tell them that it was their bounden duty to give credit to many of their opponents for being influenced by severe conviction in their former opposition—that this cause was the cause of justice, and that no measure of justice could be retarded in a country like this, under the influence of a free press, provided they used only the weapons of sound argument, in a calm and dispassionate manner, and without imputing motives in any way to their opponents. (Cheers.) That the meeting might rest assured that many of their opponents did in their hearts and consciences now approve of it, but that it required a large amount of moral courage in men publicly to acknowledge that they had been mistaken, and that therefore a public avowal of such a change of sentiment was hardly to be expected to any extent. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Rand concluded by saying, that it was his wish, as no doubt it was the wish of every gentleman near him, to hear any objection that might be entertained towards this limitation to ten hours, in order that it might undergo a full discussion before the meeting committed itself to a petition having that object in view, but that whatever dissensions of opinion might be entertained as to the effect of the measure, he had not the slightest apprehension of its producing any injurious consequences whatever; that it was at once a measure of justice and humanity, and that he was perfectly willing to leave the consequences to Divine Providence. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. S. AUTY expressed his pleasure that the letter to Sir James Graham had been read to the meeting. He was sure it would be of service. He considered that it ought to be generally read, and, in order that such might be the case, it ought to be printed, and he hoped that the authors of it would not object to such a course. He proposed that the letter be printed for distribution. (Hear, hear.)

An Overlooker seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. C. WALKER said that as the meeting appeared to approve strongly of the letter which had been addressed to Sir James Graham—to such a degree indeed as to deem it worthy of being printed for the public eye, he presumed they agreed cordially with the sentiments which were embodied in it, and would be glad to promote its object. (Hear.) He was not aware that any mode existed of doing this so effectually as by making a public profession of similar opinions, and asking the legislature to enact such a regulation as was proposed in the letter which had been read to them. In order that this might be accomplished, he had that moment perused a proposition which he would submit to the company, namely—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that Ten Hours per day form as long a period as any person under twenty-one years of age should be required to labour in factories, and that a petition be presented to Parliament at the earliest opportunity, praying for such a legislative regulation, and that the same be signed by the Chairman in behalf of the meeting."

As this proposition was quite accordant with the sentiments avowed in the letter which had been read he had pleasure in offering it to the meeting. (Cheers.)

Mr. SPENCER rose to second the resolution, and said that if any ministers of the Gospel, or other persons required "evidence" that a Ten Hours' Bill is needed, they should turn out into the streets at half-past five in the morning, and see the "living volumes" (cheers), passing along to their labour at that early period of the morning, and then again at half-past seven or eight in the evening witness their departure from the mill, and they could not need any further lesson to teach them that this system is unjust and unnatural. This country boasted of paying high consideration to the female sex, and it was not unusual to measure the degree of national civilization by this test. (Hear.) But assuredly the factory districts must admit their being comparativly uncivilised and barbarous when such destruction of female character and happiness were permitted to continue as is now inflicted by the long hours of factory labour. (Hear, hear.) He recommended them to be united, and not to rest until the Ten Hours' Bill should be the law of the land. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. WALKER again rose and said that it was important that no difference of opinion should exist in reference either to the sentiments or phraseology of the petition which the meeting had determined to address to Parliament. He was anxious that so numerous and intelligent a company should have submitted to them the entire address which it was proposed to transmit to the legislative assembly. (Hear.) He said that the main object of their solicitude was fully developed in the address which he had read to them. That object was the obtainment of a legislative decree, that no person under twenty-one years of age should be allowed to work in any factory more than ten hours per day. (Hear, hear.) He congratulated the Chairman that so numerous a company should be found assembled in that room to express so reasonable and just a request. It was evident that the work which they had met to promote was growing in the estimation of an intelligent community. Every opportunity had been rendered on that occasion for discussing any difficulties that might exist, in reference to a Ten Hours' Bill, but happily they all appeared converted to its favour, and were willing to remedy as much as possible their former supineness. (Hear.) If any persons were qualified to judge correctly on the question at issue, surely it was right to attribute that ability to the present company. Nearly all of them were day after day engaged in factory pursuits. They understood thoroughly all its features and interests, and although few comparatively had previously engaged in the conflict, yet this evening they had met to do their duty by resolving to aid, as far as possible, in the obtainment of the Ten Hours' Bill. (Hear, hear.) He begged to propose the adoption of the petition. (Cheers.)

The Secretary then proposed the following resolutions, which were approved unanimously:—

1st. "*That petitions be immediately got up to the* House of Commons from the various townships and villages in this neighbourhood.

2nd. "That a petition be got up from the Master Spinners and Manufacturers of the West Riding of this County.

3rd. "That a petition be got up from the Ministers of the Gospel resident in the West Riding; and that Mr. Mark Crabtree be appointed to wait upon them to solicit their interest."

Mr. JOSEPH KITCHEN then rose, and expressed his great satisfaction in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Morgan, the Chairman. He also alluded to the propriety of taking a firm stand upon the uniform Ten Hours' period of labour, as the most practical and simple regulation of factory employment. He meant that which Mr. Morgan had long advocated in connection with Mr. Oastler, Mr. Bull, and other valued friends and well-wishers of the factory workers. (Hear.)

Mr. WALKER seconded the resolution, when the meeting rose and carried the vote by acclamation.

Mr. MORGAN acknowledged the compliment, and the Secretary then announced that the Short Time Committee meet at the New Inn, every Friday evening, at eight o'clock, for the transaction of business.

After this three cheers were given for Lord Ashley and the Ten Hour's Bill.

Chartist Intelligence.

SHEFFIELD.

(From our own Correspondent.)

MR. BAIRSTOW'S LECTURE.—Mr. Bairstow delivered his second lecture in the Town Hall, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 29th. Mr. Ludlam was again called to the chair, and Mr. B., who was received with loud cheering, commenced his discourse, his subject being,—"The origin, rise, progress, principles, objects, and prospects of Chartism." It has been said, observed the lecturer, that Chartism was dead; this had been declared from the lips of a Whig Attorney-General—had been echoed by a corrupt press—had been sounded through the length and breadth of the land—would he dare to gainsay it then? No; but if Chartism was dead, or if it had ever died, he was there to stand upon its tomb, and bid it, in the people's name, come forth. (Cheers.) Chartism, like all great changes, and all great principles, had sprung from the ranks of the working classes—that people from whom had emanated every beneficial change, every improvement in society; Chartism owed not its origin to the present generation; no, in other days, in other times, a Gerald and a Muir, a Cartwright and a Hunt, had, in defiance of persecution, advocated the principles of Chartism—principles which had descended to us a precious heir-loom, which we will transmit acknowledged and established in the land, a heritage to our children. (Cheers.) It unfortunately was the case that so long as the people could exist in comparative comfort, so long were they content to be politically slaves. You never can make the millions complain until suffering under terrible injustice, and all relief or alleviation of their misery denied them, they begin to ask, why is it that we produce and must not enjoy? It is when the millions find themselves sinking in misery, robbed by the tax-eater and profit-monger, the iron heel of adamantine oppression crushing them in the dust; then do they speak in a voice of thunder and demand the rights we call Chartism—rights that must, that will be conceded whenever the millions shall demand their own enfranchisement, for the voice of the people is the voice of God. (Cheers.) Our principles are none the less holy, none the less valuable, though in their assertion, martyrs perish and patriots fall, oceans of blood may be shed, and revolution may come. What is revolution? It is a change resisted too long, conceded too late. The oppressors of the poor are deaf to their cries; the tyrants of the people scorn their demands: they employ fraud and force to stifle the voice of freedom, and stem the progress of liberty, until the people, wearied of misery and slavery, rise in the strength of their fearful might, and with tiger-like fury dash to destruction all who oppose them. (Enthusiastic cheers.) Much as the press may calumniate our principles, the truth will triumph, and those principles will yet be the all-acknowledged, and triumphant over every opposition. Many wonder how it is that the working classes can be so blind to their own interests, as to allow themselves to be led by designing men—how they can be so stubborn and so stupid as to be led from the "big loaf," with all the attendant blessings of "cheap bread, "high wages," and "plenty to do," to follow after an ephemeral object—a visionary phantom, that must ever elude their grasp. (Laughter.) Strange it is, no doubt, especially when we remember the means, the influence that has been used to induce people to join the middle class, for the obtainment of "practical measures." Manufacturers, shipowners, factory lords, shopkeepers, dissenting ministers, understrappers, pimps, and licksptittles, have all combined—have employed by turns corruption and intimidation to effect their ends, but all in vain. The working classes, meeting their employers in the arena of public discussion, have negatived, to their teeth, their humbug resolutions, and quack nostrums: the working classes have declared, over and over again, that they will not agitate for a repeal of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) Well, and after all, the *Morning Chronicle* has been forced to avow—compelled to acknowledge that the course pursued by the Chartists was a wise one; yes, after all the abuse and misrepresentation—after all the calumny and slander heaped upon the Chartists by the Whig press, the great organ of Whiggery had been compelled to acknowledge that the Chartists had acted wisely and well. Many of the public journals were abandoning Whiggery; it was just he should mention and give his meed of praise to the *Nonconformist*, a paper that had defended the principles of the Charter *seriatim*; that had by its brilliant and convincing arguments, removed a thousand prejudices, and already converted to our cause thousands of the middle class. (Cheers.) If there is not the enthusiastic zeal of the past pervading our ranks, there is instead thereof a steady determination that affords, nay, assures a better issue of the struggle. Far be it from him to depreciate the exertions and labours of the patriots of thirty-nine; they were men who encountered terrible obstacles; they were men who braved no ordinary dangers, and if they failed in achieving the deliverance of their country, the failure was owing not so much to faults of their own, as to the lack of union and resolution amongst the people. We are told that our principles are impracticable—my answer is, look to America; when we see thousands of Europe's oppressed children flying from the homes of their fathers, to seek in the land of liberty a shelter and a refuge, did not that prove to a demonstration, not only that our principles are true, but also that where those principles were carried out, men were anxious to live. After earnestly exhorting the meeting to do their utmost to obtain signatures to the National Petition, Mr. B. concluded a lengthy and ~~surprisingly eloquent address by warmly~~ eulogising the character of that excellent patriot, Thomas Cooper, the leader of the Leicester Chartists, and sat down amidst repeated and enthusiastic cheers. Mr. Julian Harney, said he rose for the purpose of moving a resolution he held in his hand. They would remember that some few weeks back, a meeting of anti-Corn Law delegates was held at Manchester, at this meeting Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, attended. A conversation upon the subject of class-legislation took place, and the opinion generally expressed, was, that this was the principal cause of the Corn Laws and all the other evils borne by the industrious classes—a fact, by the bye, the Chartists for four years past had been dinning in the ears of these numskull Repealers. Well, "better late than never," and a new light having shone upon the delegates, they appointed Messrs. Sturge and Sharman Crawford to draw up a document which should be a bond of union for the middle and working classes. Well, after three or four weeks "serious consideration," this document appears, and a precious production it was. It declared—what? Why, what every man knew before hand, that the majority of the people are unrepresented! Why there is not a Tory in the land but would acknowledge this, but having acknowledged it, would he go further, would he help the people to obtain their rights? No; he would say it was not expedient the people should be represented. Aye, and if they do not say, so think the Corn Law Repealers—in the mass they are no friends to the principle of universal representation. Glad he (Mr. H.) was that Mr. Sharman Crawford had nothing to do with this humbug; and although Mr. Sturge's name was appended to it, he had too high an opinion of the honesty of that gentleman, whom he (Mr. H.) respected for his many labours in the cause of humanity, to believe that this only and wholly was his work. He had a notion, as the Yankee's say, that the original document had passed through the sieve of certain parties ere it had been permitted to see the light with Mr. Sturge's name affixed. (Hear, hear.) They knew what parties he meant, the Cobdens, Potters, Greigs, and Marshalls, fellows who would prefer the rule of the devil himself to the triumph of democracy. (Cheers.) He (Mr. H.) deemed it his duty to warn the people against this clap-trap; what need was there of giving three or four weeks' "serious consideration" to the drawing up of this or any other document? Was there not a document already in existence, a document, as the signatures to the National Petition would show, that had received the approval of a majority of the nation—their glorious Charter? (Cheers.) If the Corn Law Repealers had become converts to the principle of Universal Suffrage, let them, being the minority, submit to the will and adopt that document that had received the sanction of the majority. (Loud cheers.) He would not be at all surprised but that this document would be followed up by some scheme of organisation, by way of drawing the people from the National Charter Association; the Repealers would no doubt want to "get rid of Feargus" and the Executive Council, but he trusted they would fail. (Cheers.) Let the people remember the fable of the wolves and the sheep; the wolves entered into a treaty of peace with the sheep, the latter believing the hypocritical professions of the former foolishly consented to give up their dogs, and receive in return the cubs of the wolves as hostages of the faith of both parties; it was not long ere the dogs being set upon were basely murdered, and the sheep deprived of their faithful protectors, attacked from without and betrayed within, fell an easy prey to their enemies. Such would be the fate of the people if they abandoned those whom they had tried and proved to be false. If the middle class are honest let them adopt our Charter, and join our association; he was not opposed to the union of the two classes, on the contrary he desired it, but it must be a union the basis of which was justice, the object of which was the equal rights of all—yield not a hair's breadth of the Charter—whole and entire let it be our watchword and demand. Mr. Harney concluded by proposing the adoption of the following resolution:—"We, the Chartists of Sheffield, having waited with a degree of trustful expectation for the public appearance of a document announced by Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, which document we had been led to expect would contain the development of a fair and equitable scheme whereby the middle and working classes of this country might unite for obtaining universal rights, hereby declare, now Mr. Sturge's document has been published, that we regard it with feelings of unqualified disapprobation, as being no more than a mere negation of the justice of political rule as at present exercised in this kingdom, and in no way whatever as a distinct and unequivocal acknowledgment of the right of every mature Englishman to the suffrage; and we furthermore declare that whatever propositions for a political alliance may, in future, be made to us, as working-men, by the middle classes, we will most unreservedly and unhesitatingly reject them, unless they contain an entire and hearty acknowledgment of the principles developed in the People's Charter." Mr. Hollyoake considered the document of Mr. Sturge an insult to the working classes—here had the people repeatedly declared that the Charter alone would they accept, and now when the Corn Law Repealers found they could not deceive the people, they come to those they have strove to delude, and offer them something less than they have repeatedly declared they insist upon having—he would say, let the people insist upon having their Charter in full, and if the middle-class would not be content to give them their Charter, let the people insist upon having something more. (Cheers.) If they demanded more than the Charter they might get it—if they consented to take less they would get nothing, but would be deceived and juggled as they had been before. Mr. Hollyoake concluded an excellent address, in the course of which he was loudly cheered, by seconding the resolution; one forest of hands declared the resolution unanimously adopted. The thanks of the meeting having been voted to Mr. Bairstow and the chairman, and the last part of the Chartist anthem sung in full chorus, three cheers was given for the Charter and no surrender, and the meeting dissolved.

THE WELSH MARTYRS.—In reply to a memorial of the Sheffield Chartists in behalf of Frost, Williams, and Jones, the following has been received by Mr. Harney from the Home Office:—

"Whitehall, 23rd Dec., 1841.

"SIR,—Secretary Sir James Graham having carefully considered your application in behalf of John Frost, William Jones, and Zephaniah Williams, I am directed to express to you his reg et that there is no sufficient ground to justify him, consistently with his public duty, in advising her Majesty to comply with the prayer thereof."

The Sheffield Chartists memorialised the Queen—not Sir James Graham: it was the duty of Sir James to have presented the memorial to the Sovereign, and returned her answer—not his own. This straw thrown up shows which way the wind blows. The Queen is the Queen of the faction in power for the time being—not the Queen of the people. No mercy, no justice need the people expect at the hands of the men at present having sway. Well, let them buckle on their armour; let them prepare for the great moral struggle fast approaching: a struggle in which triumphant, as we shall be, if all will pull together, will realise our Charter law, and restore to their country our banished friends.

ROTHERHAM.—A public meeting was held at Rotherham, on Thursday evening, December 30th, to take into consideration the propriety of adopting the National Petition. Mr. Ibbetson was called to the chair. Mr. Ramsden moved the adoption of the Petition. Mr. Lindley seconded the motion. Mr. Bairstow supported the Petition, and delivered a most eloquent and truly masterly address, in which he triumphantly refuted every objection brought against the principles of Chartism. The Petition was unanimously adopted. Mr. Harney moved the adoption of the resolution denunciatory of Sturge's document, previously adopted at Leicester, Loughborough, and Sheffield. Mr Steele seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried. The Chartist anthem was then sung; and thanks having been voted to Mr. Bairstow, the meeting dissolved.

MANCHESTER.—Last week a placard appeared on the walls of this town, calling a public meeting for new year's day, to petition for a repeal of the corn laws, and compensation for injuries inflicted upon society by such laws. The Chartists seeing this, immediately issued a counter placard, warning the working classes against being led astray, and calling upon them to come forward and prove to their enemies that they were not to be made tools of by any party; and to agitate for nothing less than a full measure of justice. The placard put out by the league, though it was said to be a public meeting, stated that the chair would be taken at twelve o'clock, by Mr. Alderman Brooks.—On the Friday evening a number of individuals belonging to the league, who are willing to do any dirty job which may be laid out for them; a horde of tools who are hanging about, at one time denouncing the Chartists as Tory tools, and at another professing Chartism to the back bone, in order to glean what they can from them, waited upon Mr. James Leach, to know whether the placard was officially issued—and being answered in the affirmative, they went recruiting for an army for the next day, in order to carry their resolutions by physical force; their bounty being a good swig of whisky, and a few shillings. On the morning of meeting the police were collected and marched down the streets, which caused considerable excitement. About eleven o'clock the hall was surrounded by a vast crowd, amongst whom were the leaders of the Stephenson's-square and Carpenters' Hall butcheries. Policemen were at the door to prevent all but the privileged class from entering, whilst parties were going in at the side doors until the front seats were occupied. Alderman Brooks took the reporters of the Manchester papers in by the side doors, whilst the reporter of the *Star*, was shoved back by the police and refused admittance until twelve o'clock. When the doors were opened there was a general rush into the Hall. The reporters for the press for Manchester and district were comfortably seated, whilst the reporter for the *Star* had not even sufficient room to lay his book down to write, but was compelled to hold it in his hand amid the crowd, being all the time crushed and shoved about by the pressure. The reporter told Mr. Watkins, who acted in the capacity of general, that he should protest against the proceedings, and was told in reply, he might protest and go to the devil if he liked. Around the platform were placed all the leaders of the bludgeon men. The audience seemed impatient for the commencement of business, upon which a Mr. Duggan rose and proposed Mr. Brooks to take the chair, a person seconded it and before any person could even have time to speak, much less propose any one else, he proceeded to put the motion to the meeting. Mr. Linney said that he could not tell whether it was carried against him or not, and demanded another show, to which Mr. Watkins, in the capacity of general and prompter objected. Mr. Brook and others were ashamed of his conduct and insisted upon Linney having an opportunity of seeing whether there was a majority or not. The audience seeing the fair manner in which Brooks defended the right of Linney to take the sense of the meeting were highly pleased; and, as another Chairman was proposed, Linney requested the meeting to hold up again, and decided that the majority was in favour of Mr. Brooks. All that the Chartists wanted was free, equal, and fair discussion; and it mattered not to them who was Chairman, so that he dealt honestly, and procured every man a hearing. Mr. Brooks, in opening the meeting, said that he had been at a meeting on the night previous till twelve o'clock; and, when he returned home, he sat down to prepare himself for that day. He had come to the conclusion that the Corn Laws were base, bloody, brutal, and unrighteous. Mr. Rawson moved the the first resolution in a regular anti-Corn Law speech; and was seconded by Mr. Watkins in a mere echo of a tale a thousand and one times told. Mr. Falby, of Macclesfield, was called upon to support the resolution. In the course of a long, rambling, harangue, he uttered some scandalous, and insulting imputations against his townsman, Mr. West, endeavouring to prove him a supporter of the Corn Laws. The cotton masters, he said, were tyrants, and would reduce wages, so long as they had the power. In a short time after, he praised the cotton masters, for not dropping wages when they had the power. The speaker continued for upwards of an hour, putting forth contradictory positions, and was highly applauded by the respectable class. His address was a complete tissue of spleen, abuse, and nonsense. There certainly was one sentence something like consistency, which was, that the working classes had nothing against machinery, but against the monopoly, and unfair regulation of it. Messrs. Leach, Linney, and Candy wished to submit an amendment; but, instead of the Chairman soliciting a hearing, he played the same game as Cobden did at the Stephenson-square butchery, and put it to the meeting as to whether they should be heard or not; of course, he immediately decided against them; he said the amendment was altogether irrevelent, and asked whether they would allow them to speak, to which the "bludgeon men" replied in the negative; and by the by, every speaker declared himself to be a Chartist, but denounced, in the most bitter terms, Feargus O'Connor, and other leaders. "Prepare to meet your God" Finnigan spoke next, and during his speech fighting was going on in all parts of the room in the presence of the Chairman, without the least attempt to prevent it. The petition and resolutions were carried by intimidation and force, and ought to be labelled "the petition of the bludgeon men." Mr. Fleming said, if the proceedings of the meeting were correctly reported, it would not have much weight upon the public mind; they were disgraceful. The League, in order to ensure a triumph and to carry their point, selected Irishmen for speakers who endeavoured to work upon the prejudices of their countrymen who understood nothing about the question at issue, and thus make it dangerous for any but their own party to be in the room. The proceedings ended in great confusion.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—A Chartist tea party and soiree took place on New Year's Eve, in the National Charter Association Room, Old Factory, Wellington-road, Charlestown, in honour of the opening of their new room. The room was most tastefully decorated with evergreens, portraits, &c. Notwithstanding there were a large number of tea parties in the town on the same day, at six o'clock 300 sat down to tea, which, with its accompaniments, were of the best quality, and were served up with an unsparing hand. Ample justice having been done to the cheer, the tables were removed, when a large number were admitted at twopence each, to partake in the evening's amusements, consisting of songs, recitations, and dances. Mr. Geo. Johnson was chairman for the evening; after he had addressed the meeting, he called upon Mr. William Aitken and Mr. Wilcox, who each addressed the company. The old year was dismissed and the new year ushered in by singing the Chartist National Anthem. A vote of thanks were given the Committee for the excellent manner the tea party was got up.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM.—The Instruction Society of this place took tea together on New Year's Day. Ninety-five sat down, and afterwards spent a comfortable evening.

WARRINGTON.—A public meeting was held here on the 29th ult., when an address of congratulation to her Majesty, and praying for the release of Frost, Williams, and Jones, and all political prisoners, was adopted.

CITY OF LONDON.—Mr. R. Cameron, of Finsbury, delivered a very eloquent and instructive lecture on the growth and progress of Chartism, in the Institute, 55, Old Bailey, last Sunday evening, to a crowded congregation of respectable working men and women; the lecture lasted an hour and twenty minutes. Mr. Cater gave out the following announcements. Next Sunday morning this Hall will be opened at half-past ten o'clock, for reading and discussion; and in the evening of the same day, Mr. Stallwood will lecture. Free admission to the public on each occasion. Also on the Tuesday following, Jan. 11th, Mr. J. Watkins will lecture on the present distressed state of the country.—Every Monday night, a concert and ball will take place in this room. Tickets of admission, threepence each, to be had of the committee of management.—Forty shareholders' cards are undisposed of by the committee of the Institute, which can be taken up by the friends to the cause at sixpence per week; shares 5s. each.

MASONS.—DRURY LANE LOCALITY.—This association met, as usual, at the Craven's Head, on Saturday last, Mr. James Lambert in the chair, when the minutes of last meeting having been confirmed, it was determined to the send five shillings to the Executive.

DUBLIN.—The Irish Universal Suffrage Association held their usual weekly meeting at No. 14, North Anne-street, on Sunday, the 2nd of January, 1842. At one o'clock, Mr. Henry Clark was called to the chair. Mr. Dempsey, in the absence of Mr. Brophy, was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* The Chairman said, as there were several strangers present, he felt it his duty to explain as briefly as possible, the objects of the Association, and the principles upon which it was founded. Prior to the formation of this Association, there did not exist in Ireland any regularly and legally organised society founded for the purpose of petitioning the legislature, in favour of the rights of the working classes. There never was a petition laid on the table of the Imperial Parliament, praying that the Irish working classes of twenty-one years and upwards, be admitted within the pale of the constitution. (Hear, hear.) It has often been truly said in this spacious room, that the Irish labourers would never be treated as human beings, until every man of twenty-one years of age and upwards, would have a vote, and that is what we are looking for. Our object is to seek, by every lawful and constitutional means for Universal Suffrage, Vote by Ballot, Annual Parliaments, Equal Representation, No Property Qualification, Payment of Members, and the Repeal of the Union. (Hear, hear.) These are our objects; they are plain, clear, open, and defined. There can be no mistake about them. We have no secrets. We are most anxious to see all our acts and deeds published; and all our books, papers, list of members, finances, and so forth, are open for the inspection of the authorities at all reasonable hours. We neither send delegates to any society, nor receive delegates from any. We are, in the strictest sense, a petitioning society. We seek for the accomplishment of our objects by no other means than that of petition: and we are well advised that our society is lawful in every respect. (Hear, hear, and loud cheering.) Mr. Clark resumed the chair, amidst great cheering. Mr. Rafter called the attention of the Association to a speech of Mr. O'Connell's, delivered at the Corn Exchange on Tuesday last, and published in the *Morning and Weekly Register*, in which he insinuated, in as vile and truculent a manner as ever he (Mr. Rafter) had read, that their respected President (Mr. O'Higgins) would one day or other appear in the witness-box to swear away their lives. (Shame, shame.) He begged pardon—what Mr. O'Connell did say was, "he would like to see him in the witness-box swearing against the wretched persons he had deluded; he would be glad to see him prosecute the objects of his delusion, but he would not like to see the objects of that delusion explode." This sentence answers a double purpose; it directs the attention of the Attorney-General to our Association, while at the same time it holds up Mr. O'Higgins to his countrymen as an infamous character—a man to be avoided by all honest men—to be hunted out of society—to be utterly destroyed. And let me ask you, said Mr. Rafter, what would be the fate of Mr. O'Higgins under such a denunciation, coming from a man of such power and influence as the chief magistrate of Dublin, if Mr. O'Higgins were not so generally known and so much respected by every man that knows him? (Hear, hear.) There is no doubt but this vile slander—this atrocious libel will sink deeply into the *minds of those who are unacquainted with* Mr. O'Higgins's character: it will injure his reputation, and was intended to do so. On the part of the Association, there is nothing to fear: we have no "oaths registered in Heaven," or any other place. We have no secrets, and therefore we defy the Attorney-General, or his wily, deceitful informer. Why does he descend to lay informations against this Society by inuendo? He is chief magistrate of Dublin, and why does he not put us down? A day is fast approaching when everybody will know him. He had watched his political career, and he saw but very little to his credit. The mist will soon be dispelled. Mr. O'Higgins said he was out of town on Wednesday last, and did not, therefore, see that day's papers. He had hoped that Mr. O'Connell, whom he has heard, goes to communion once a fortnight, would have come forward ere this, and made some reparation to him (Mr. O'Higgins) for the grievous wrongs which he had done him. It is now nearly nine years since Mr. O'Connell first attacked him. He was then in a flourishing trade, carrying on extensively the wholesale Irish woollen trade in that very house where they were then assembled for the purpose of promoting the real interests of their fellow countrymen. Mr. O'Connell's foul denunciation of him (Mr. O'Higgins) broke up his establishment at that time. He had embarked all his capital and all his credit in the promotion of Irish manufactures. It was going on prosperously until the foul, false, and infamous calumny, which Mr. O'Connell and his cowardly satellites published against him, destroyed it. There is no doubt but that sentence greatly affected all Mr. O'Higgins' prospects. It drove him to seek for private discounts for the first time in his life. It closed the banks against him. The bills he received from the shopkeepers for the Irish cloths he sold to them, were refused at the banks, and some of the shopkeepers, who were predisposed to act the rogue, had taken advantage of Mr. O'Connell's denunciation, and not only failed in his (Mr. O'Higgins') debt, but were the loudest, and still are the basest propagators of all the slanders which Mr. O'Connell has heaped upon him; and some of them, those whom Mr. O'Connell praises most, and recommends to the notice of his countrymen as honest men, actually swindled him (Mr. O'Higgins) out of a sum of £750. (Hear, hear, hear.) The sum lost in this way and in consequence of those proceedings exceeds £3,000. They can well afford to villify and slander him; his money is in their pockets. He had suffered deeply, but he paid every body. He never did Mr. O'Connell an injury; on the contrary, he had done him signal service, and he had acknowledged them even since January, 1833, the date of Mr. O'Connell's first attack upon him. But, the cause of his ire now is, that he refused to vote for him at the election of 1837 and at the election of 1841, unless he would sign a pledge that he would support no administration but one that would give its official advocacy to Universal Suffrage, Vote by Ballot, Annual Parliaments, Equal Representation, No Property Qualification, and Payment of Members for their time and services. This is the "Head and front of Mr. O'Higgins' offending." And now, when Mr. O'Connell deems it expedient to recommend to the Repealers of Dublin a candidate in lieu of the late Mr. West, who is pledged to civil war in preference to Repeal; he does not scruple at libelling him (Mr. O'Higgins) in the most atrocious terms for the purpose of destroying his character, lest he might have sufficient influence to give a formidable opposition to Mr. O'Connell's nominee, Lord Morpeth. (Hear, hear.) This is the root of his present malicious *slander. This is the real secret of his having* pronounced the flagitious libel which you have heard read, and which shocked you all. As the laws of God seem to have no effect upon this pious gentleman who goes to communion once a fortnight, perhaps the laws of man may The report in the *Morning* and *Weekly Register* is calculated, and was intended, to blast and utterly destroy all his prospects. What, said Mr. O'Higgins, am I to be held up by a man of such influence as Mr. O'Connell, as a person who is deluding the people for the purpose of swearing away their lives? There are thousands of my confiding countrymen who read the *Register*, and receive what Mr. O'Connell says as gospel truth, who deem it a great service to their country to knock the brains out of any man whom Mr. O'Connell would point out as he has pointed me out. Bear in mind that Lord Morpeth, whom the Chartists of Yorkshire kicked out of their county for political treachery, is now recommended to the Repealers of Dublin, and they will be called upon to-morrow to ratify the recommendation, in fact to pledge themselves to vote for this man who at a dinner in New York the other day said that he would shout Orange Boven every where but in Ireland. Here are his words. Let him deny them if he dare. The dinner was given by Dutchmen. It was an annual dinner. "If" said Lord Morpeth, "we gave them a navigator, they (the Dutchmen) gave England a deliverer and a hero; and although this is not perhaps an appropriate place to mention a king. I may be permitted here to acknowledge gratefully, the benefits we have received from William, the Dutchman, and I am ready to shout Orange Boven every where but in Ireland." Here is an Orange candidate for the Repealers of Dublin! Here is Lord Morpeth in his true colours, vouched and authenticated by himself. Will you vote for him? ("No, no, never; we'll oppose the Yorkshire outcast; no, no.") Now, said Mr. O'Higgins, notwithstanding all the injury he had suffered, at Mr. O'Connell's hands, yet he would not only forgive him heartily, but vote for him, and perhaps be the means of returning him for Dublin, as he had been upon two former occasions, provided that he would give up the Whigs, stand by the people once more, and give him a pledge, in writing, that he would support no administration but one that would give its official advocacy to Universal Suffrage, Vote by Ballot, Annual Parliaments, Equal Representation, No Property Qualification, and Payment of Members. (Great cheering.) The Repeal Question he would leave in his own hands. (Hear, hear.) It is the mere circumstance of having required this pledge that stings Mr. O'Connell to the very soul. (Hear, hear, and great cheers.) No doubt of it! He is a Whig to the back bone.) Mr. Dyott said that he thought that the time was now fully come when they should take measures for vindicating themselves against the repeated and calumnious attacks made upon them by an individual whom he need not name. The paragraph just read, which so maliciously and so falsely charged their respected President with being a deluder, and all the old cant, superadded to the daring and most malignant assertion that he administered secret oaths. Could Mr. O'Connell have seriously believed such a charge? Impossible! and what must be thought of a man, who not believing, yet advanced it deliberately, before those who received every word which fell from his lips as gospel? In order to meet this most audacious assertion he would move the suspension of the standing orders, that a committee might be appointed to consider the most effective means of indignantly repelling the base and groundless imputation, and laying afresh before their fellow citizens the objects and rules of their association. This denial should be presented for insertion to the liberal press of Carlow. If they refuse to insert it, it would then be seen of what kind their liberality was, and they (the association) would pay a neutral or Tory journal for a fair and full repudiation of the absurb, the wicked and malicious aspersion. Of Mr. O'Higgins he would only say that to adopt the words of the paragraph, he Mr. D., "knew" him and to "know" him well was to respect him thoroughly. To that gentleman he should leave his own personal exculpation, it was in competent hands, but the society to whom he (Mr. D.) belonged, should not be maligned and he sit idle, and he felt the insult more particularly grievous having become a member of the Repeal Association when it was given. He then moved the suspension of the standing order, and subsequently the appointment of a Committee for the purpose alluded to.—Mr. Dillon seconded the motion.—Mr. Freebairn gave notice of the admission of five members on next Sunday. Mr. Dyott was called to the chair, when thanks were voted to Mr. Clark, after which the meeting separated.

BARNARD CASTLE.—Mr. Maw, from Middlesbro', delivered an excellent address at this place, on Wednesday evening, December 29th, in Mrs. Barker's large room.

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It is a melancholy fact that thousands fall victims to this horrid disease, owing to the unskilfulness of *illiterate men; who, by the use of the* deadly poison, mercury, ruin the constitution, causing ulcerations, blotches on the head, face, and body, dimness of sight, noise in the ears, deafness, obstinate gleets, nodes on the shin bones, ulcerated sore throat, 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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MEDICAL ADVICE.

TO THE AFFLICTED WITH SCURVY, VENEREAL, OR SYPHILITIC DISEASES, RHEUMATISM, AND NERVOUS OR SEXUAL DEBILITY.

MR. M. WILKINSON,

SURGEON, &c.

13, *Trafalgar Street, Leeds.*

And every THURSDAY, at No. 4, George Street, Bradford,

HAVING devoted his studies for many years exclusively to the various diseases of the generative and nervous system, in the removal of those distressing debilities arising from a secret indulgence in a delusive and destructive habit, and to the successful treatment of

VENEREAL AND SYPHILITIC DISEASES,

Continues to be consulted from nine in the morning till ten at night, and on Sundays till two,—and country patients requiring his assistance, by making only one personal visit, will receive such advice and medicines as will enable them to obtain a permanent and effectual cure, when all other means have failed.

In recent cases of a certain disorder a perfect cure is completed in one week, or no charge made for medicine after that period, and in those cases where other prectititioners have failed, a perseverance in his plan, *without restraint in diet*, or hindrance from business, will ensure to the patient a permanent and radical cure.

It frequently happens that in moments of thoughtlessness a person imbibes a disease where suspicion is least likely to be excited; this state of security leads to a want of caution which aggravates the nature of the complaint. But where immediate application is made, the corroding poison is checked in its infancy, smothered ere it takes root, and destroyed before its venom can effect a perceptible appearance in the system.—Where the disease has been allowed to exist and remain, the more cause have we to fear the undermining influence of this poison, and a mere removal of its external appearance is not to be depended upon; a thorough cure must be achieved to prevent a return of the disease, and leave the system free from all infection.

A complete knowledge of the symptoms and treatment of these insidious and dangerous diseases, can only be acquired by those who are in daily practice, and have previously gone through a regular course of MEDICAL INSTRUCTION; for, unfortunately, there are hundreds who annually fall victims to the ignorant use of Mercury and other dangerous remedies, administered by illiterate men, who ruin the constitution by suffering disease to get into the system, which being carried by the circulation of the blood into all parts of the body, the whole frame becomes tainted with venereal poison, and most unhappy consequences ensue, at one time affecting the skin, particularly the head and face, with erupt

Poetry.

THE OLD YEAR.

Thy locks are grey, old Pilgrim,
Thy mantle thin and bare,
Cold is thy cheek, and storm and cloud
Around thy forehead are;
And soon a voice will greet the ear,
Proclaiming thou art gone,
And midnight winds thy requiem sing
In wild funereal tone.

Thou once wert young, old Pilgrim,
And light of step, and gay;
Thy brow bedeck'd with choicest wreath,
With roses strew'd thy way:
While floated far on Zephyr's wing,
Sweet scent and holy hymn,
Thy heav'nly smile at morn and eve
What hand might hope to limn!

Much hast thou seen, old Pilgrim,
Much also hast thou heard—
The vow of love, the wail of want—
The toil without reward—
The realm where foodless thousands droop,
Where plenty fain would land;
But fell Monopoly guards each port,
And frights her from the strand.

Drink to the dying Pilgrim,
Ye fraud-supported crew,
And drain the mighty midnight bowl,
And oath and league renew!
Fit hour for league of murkiest sort,
For oath of fiercest tones;
Who would not wade through blood t' uphold
The "tyranny of thrones"?

Drink to the poor man's sorrow,
The orphan's want and wail,
The crime, the woe, the beggary,
That in these realms prevail;
Gaunt Famine, Agony, and Death,
Pledge with exultant yell,
Till Beelzebub grin horribly,
And demons laugh in hell.

Yes, traders in Corruption!
Oppression's iron hand!
Quaff on—the hour is on the march
Will sweep you from the land;
Nor would our tears fall fast and long,
Nor hopeless would we mourn,
Though with the Pilgrim most of you
Were pass'd the mystic "bourne."

Then fare-thee-well, old Pilgrim,
Thy last sand is in sight;
Though which of us must first take leave,
Is hid in deepest night:
And I will slander not thy name,
For thou wert good and kind,
And dealt with bounteous hand to all—
But tyrant-fiends combined.

27th December, 1841.

CORN LAWS AND EMIGRATION.

Has not the British farmer equal skill
With foreigners the yielding earth to till
Fears he fair competition? No; he knows
He could grow corn as cheap as there it grows,
And grew enough for all that want at home;
So that no foreign corn need hither come.
Why then is British corn so scarce and dear?
Because so much waste land lies barren here;
Our lords are locusts—"men of wealth and pride
Take up a space, that many poor supplied;
Space for their lakes, their park's extended bounds,
Space for their horses, equipage and hounds!"
Monopoly makes less and less our store,
While population asks for more and more.

High rents rack'd farmers pay to swell the state
Of little landlords whom we call the great;
And what is worse, they imitate them too,
Do nought themselves, nor see that others do.
Hunt, shoot, and drink—affect the country squire,
Live high, and as the markets fall live higher;
Grumble at times and seasons when they find
Their me ns fall short, and quarrel with their hinds.
Thus tenants ape their landlords—farmers live,
Not as their fathers did, or they might thrive.

More on themselves they spend than on their land,
Pastime obtains what labour should command:
The soil grows poor for want of management,
It scarce produces what will pay the rent;
Wages are low but tithes and rents are high,
Rates, cesses, taxes, buyers must supply.
No work! no money!—when our trade is gone,
Workmen must follow—buyers will be none.

JOHN WATKINS.

20, Upper Marsh, Lambeth.

Reviews.

BENTLEY'S MISCELLANY, for January, 1842.

This very attractive and interesting periodical reached us last week; but not in time for notice. We have read it all through and advise every one else who can get it to "go and do likewise." The pictorial illustrations are numerous, and we need but say that they are by the Cruikshanks, elder and younger, Crowquill, and Leech, to pronounce a warranty for their being well executed and appropriate. We must say, however, that the design of one of them—an illustration of a scene in the "The Razed House," a brigand story of intense interest—is not quite so happy as we could have wished. The expression given by the artist to the countenances of his *personæ* chords ill in our estimation with the description of the scene in the book. The tale itself is a graphic and powerful delineation of brigand life. "Save me from my friends" is a most serious comic recital of the woes and miseries inflicted on a young artist, by the determination of a couple of fussy old maiden aunts from the country, to "push him into notice" in town—and who bring into play all their village arts of finesse to the destruction of the poor fellow's credit and the loss of his cash and connections. "Welsh Rabbits," by Doctor Magin, is a capital story. "Richard Savage" is continued. In the present chapter, Poor Old Ludlow escapes from his tormentors "through the icy portal." The events preceding, of, and immediately following, his dissolution are of great interest, and finely narrated; while the last scene of Savage with his mother is depicted in most masterly style. The characters are drawn and sustained to the life. "Dick Dafter" is a well-told rustic story of events likely enough to have occurred in actual life, and which had it been read by Fielding, might have furnished the hint for his "Tom Jones." There are many other pieces worth reading: some of them very droll and amusing.

Local and General Intelligence.

NORWICH.—STRIKE OF THE MASONS OF LONDON.—On Wednesday evening week, according to announcement, a public meeting was holden at the Royal Bazaar, to take into consideration the circumstances relative to the masons' strike, and also to consider the propriety of organising a delegate meeting of the trades of Norwich. At eight o'clock the spacious building began to fill, which is built in the shape of an amphitheatre, and brilliantly lighted up with gas. Shortly after, Mr. Robert Howes, ladies' shoemaker, was called to the chair. He opened the proceedings by reading the placard convening the meeting; after which, he observed that this was not a strike to raise the price of fallen labour: if it were, they themselves perhaps might have equal claims upon society at large; but it is one which claims the sympathies of every son of labour, whatever be his cast or his creed. Who is there amongst you with soul so dead that would for a moment submit to be the crouching slave of such an iron-hearted taskmaster as George Allen, the foreman of the masons, whose cold, pitiless heart could punish a man for attending the obsequies of his nearest and dearest relative, the wife of his bosom? He trusted the working men of Norwich would not be behind other cities and towns in sympathising with the masons of London, who had so nobly stood forward, and resisted tyranny and injustice. (Cheers.) He trusted they would give every man a fair and impartial hearing. He would not longer detain them, but would introduce Mr. Ironmonger, a delegate from the masons of London. Mr. Ironmonger then stepped forward, and in a clear and lucid manner explained their present position, and the hardships under which they laboured previous to their strike, and in the course of his address, which lasted upwards of an hour, frequently elicited the indignant execration of his audience against the heartless and oppressive conduct of George Allen. He was frequently cheered throughout an address which evidently told well upon his hearers, and will, no doubt, effect much good in this hitherto divided city; he concluded by stating his willing readiness to answer any questions which might be put to him by any person in the meeting; but no one having appeared, the chairman called upon Mr. Briggs, mason, to propose the 1st resolution. Mr. Briggs said he did so with pleasure, as he was convinced that the masons of London deserved the support of every working man in the community, and as they would be addressed by others who were more capable than himself to do justice to the cause, he would content himself by reading the following resolution:—"That this meeting sympathises with the masons of London for their manly and straight-forward conduct in resisting the attempts of their foreman, George Allen, in his oppressive and tyrannic conduct towards themselves and brethren at the works of the new Houses of Parliament. Mr. Clancy, on being called on to second this resolution, said—It is a trite saying, and a true one, "if we do not assist ourselves, who ought to assist us?" The mason's strike ought to come home to the fire side of every working man for discussion; if we allow the masons to be walked upon with impunity; if we allow them to be struck down by the uplifted arm of Allen's heartless tyranny, are we quite sure that another, and perhaps a more fatal stab will not be made at the small vestige of liberty that we yet retain? are we quite sure that what the Whigs have commenced, the Tories will not carry out? past experience teaches us that what has been done one day, may be done another. We have it from Mr. Wakley that the Tories will attempt, in the ensuing Parliament, to introduce a measure to crush Trades' Unions; let us, then, men of Norwich, band ourselves together for the coming struggle; let the women urge their husbands, and the children their fathers for the coming contest. (Cheers.) What would you think if a bill was to be introduced into Parliament to oblige every working man to procure a discharge from his last employer, and that you should wear a badge of servility as the servants of the aristocracy are now obliged to do? You may tell me that they will not attempt such a thing; but I tell you that they may attempt such a thing. Such a bill was once attempted to be privately carried through the Irish House of Commons; but the tradesmen of Dublin heard of the nefarious scheme; and what did they do? they instantly called a public meeting in the Phœnix Park, from whence they marched down to the House, and demanded the bill, or the head of its proposer. (Long-continued cheering.) Past experience has taught us that there is a cold-blooded inclination on the part of our rulers to deprive labour, or in other words the property of the working man, of the slightest protection from the avaricious graspings of the master manufacturers. Recollect, the sons of labour are eight millions seven hundred thousand! and that they produce annually the enormous sum of £737,140,883. Yet with all this vast wealth passing annually through your hands, are you not the most impoverished and degraded serfs on the face of the globe? Your new Houses of Parliament will cost you upwards of £170,000. Allen boasted that he had employed on its first works the flower of the masons of England, but how did he treat them? with brutal contumely and scorn. He introduced *blacks*, who are spoiling the works! One piece of stone worth £40 was spoiled the other day, and your pockets by and bye must be picked again, perhaps to rebuild this edifice, all to gratify the caprice of this steel-hearted oppressor, George Allen. (Loud cheers.) Men of Norwich, think on this, and rally to strike down the monster. Let no false prejudice of names prevent you from coming forward in the glorious struggle. He (Mr. C.) would join with any party that would pledge themselves to assist him in crushing oppression. With the Whigs, or with the Tories. (A voice—"Or with the Chartists.") Aye, or with the Chartists. What was in a name? "The rose would smell as sweet if called by any other name." The Americans were rebels, but they happened to be victorious, and now they are the free and independent citizens of the world! let but the Charter become the law of the land, and in an instant the degraded Chartists were changed to the independent and noble minded men of England. (Laughter and cheers) He would again impress on the trades that the fate of their own existence was in their hands. A Provisional Committee sat every Monday evening, at the Jolly Dyers, Tombland, for the enrolment of delegates; let but the trades come out manfully, and soon would we be able to tell Allen, Lincoln, and the rest of the profit mongers, that their day of retributution was at hand; that they (the trades) were determined to assist in crushing the hydra-headed monster of tyranny and injustice. He concluded by seconding the resolution, and sat down amidst much applause. Mr. Walker, shoemaker, proposed the next resolution, which was in accordance with the foregoing resolution, "We the trades of Norwich, pledge ourselves to use our best exertions to support the masons of London in their present just and legitimate struggle, and that we open subscription sheets for the same laudable purpose." The resolution had his hearty concurrence, and as the subject had been so ably discussed by the preceding speakers, little remained for him to add; he, however, with others, who spoke before him, would urge the necessity of union to protect their rights; he hoped too, as Mr. Clancy had said, that this was but the precursor of many other meetings which they would have to discuss the grievances under which the various bodies of trades laboured. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Holl, in a neat and appropriate speech. Mr. Atkins proposed the next resolution in an able and efficient manner:—"That the best thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the workmen lately employed at Nelson's monument, Woolwich Dockyard, and Dartmoor Quarries, for their noble conduct in refusing to proceed with their respective works so long as their brethren at the Parliament Houses were unjustly and oppressively dealt with." This resolution was seconded by Mr. Hill, and ably supported by Mr. John Hurrell, weaver, in a speech of great length and ability, castigating Allen and his associates in a masterly manner, which called forth the repeated plaudits of the meeting. Mr. Laws proposed the next resolution, eulogising the people's press that had so nobly taken up the strike of the masons. The resolution was to the following effect:—"That the foregoing resolutions be respectfully sent to the *Northern Star* for insertion, together with a brief report of this meeting; and that the *Daily Sun*, *Scottish Patriot*, *British Queen*, and *Statesman* be requested to give publicity to the same." Mr. Hawes seconded this resolution, which, together with the foregoing three, were passed by the meeting without a dissentient voice. Thanks were proposed to the chairman, and three rounds of cheers given for the masons, after which the meeting broke up, all highly gratified with the harmony and good fellowship that reigned throughout.

CARLISLE.—GREAT DISTRESS AND DESTITUTION. We stated, last week, that a public subscription had been entered into, and a committee chosen for the purpose of ascertaining and relieving the present distress, which, we are sorry to find, exists to a most alarming extent. The committee to which we have just alluded, consisted of thirty gentlemen, who it appears divided the the town into nineteen districts, and have published the following as the result of their inquiries. The great privation, destitution, and misery which the committee met with far exceeds what had been anticipated. In the nineteen districts which were examined, there appears to be 309 families, consisting of 1,146 persons, who have no settled income; 334 families, consisting of 1,465 persons, receiving less than one shilling per week; 411 families, consisting of 1,623 persons receiving less than one shilling per head per week; 157 families, consisting of 692 persons receiving less than two shillings a-head per week; 140 families consisting of 635 persons, receiving less than three shillings per head per week. The committee brought forward the foregoing as the result of their inquiries; but in consequence of several cases of great destitution having been brought before them, which, the committee, with all their care, had overlooked, it was deemed expedient that a public meeting of the working classes should be held for the purpose of forming a committee amongst themselves, for the purpose of aiding the committee already formed. In accordance with the above resolution, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, which was granted for the purpose, by our present worthy Mayor, G. G. Mounsey, Esq. At the time appointed for the meeting, the body of the Hall was crowded to excess; Mr. Joseph Broom Hanson was unanimously called to the chair. He opened the business of the meeting as follows:—My friends and fellow townsmen, within this fortnight back, a great number of the influential classes, who felt for the sufferings of the poor, came forward with a view to relieve the great distress which at present exists. A committee was formed, consisting of thirty persons, who divided the town into nineteen districts, to ascertain the amount of suffering. They found it to exist to a very great extent, and their inquiries opened up such a scene of misery and distress, which is disgraceful to any Government. We have met to night at the request of Mr. Dixon and others, who wished the assistance of working men, whom they thought would assist them by forming themselves into a committee to aid them in their endeavours to find out worthy objects of relief. It remains for you, my friends, to form a committee or committees, and do all you can to mitigate the great suffering that exists. Mr. John Armstrong then came forward and said, I was not aware of the present meeting until about six o'clock this evening. It will be necessary to form a committee to investigate the extent of the suffering which at present exists. You must have men in each district, and this will be the best way to form your committee. Mr. H. Bowman rose and said, Mr. Chairman and friends, I beg leave to make one or two observations on the subject before the meeting. I was of opinion when the existing committee was formed, that it ought to have been mixed up with working men, who were better acquainted with the poverty of the people, than those who at present formed the committee. I would have suggested the propriety of doing then, what you are now about to do, but as the meeting at which the committee was formed was composed principally of the higher classes, it might then have been considered presumptuous on my part; however, I am glad they have seen the necessity of such a step being taken, and I hope you will now form a large committee for the purpose of taking a complete enumeration of the condition of the working classes. This had been done in Leeds, one of the largest manufacturing towns in Yorkshire, and one would have thought, that owing to the woollen trade not having been so depressed as the cotton trade in general, that the distress would not have been so great. [Mr. Bowman here read an extract from Hobson's "Poor Man's Companion," which contained a report of the "Enumeration Committe," which had been formed in Leeds, and which showed to what an awful extent the distress prevailed.] Mr. Bowman proceeded to read from the same work, the plan which had been taken at Leeds, with some remarks of the Editor of the work, but when he got to that portion where it states, "that the weekly income of the whole of the 19,936 is only 11¼d. per head, being less than 1½d. per head per day!!! and yet the Queen has for her own private use the sum of £164 7s. 10d. per day; Prince Albert has, for "pocket money," £104 per day, he was interrupted by some middle class-man, or aristocrat, with a cry of "question," "question." Yes, (said Mr. Bowman,) this is rather away from the subject of the meeting; but it seems to bear very closely on the question, and until there is a material alteration in the condition of the people, there will be no peace in the land. What availed the casual hand of charity? Something substantial and lasting must be done, or there would be a constant drain on the purses of good and benevolent individuals, who had humanely come forward on the present trying occasion. I will propose, that a committee be now formed, for the purpose of taking a complete enumeration of the present distress, with a view to report thereon, and assist the other committee. Also, to furnish such information to the members for the Borough, for the purpose of bringing the same before Parliament. Some one in the meeting, Mr. James Arthur, we believe, seconded the motion of Mr. Bowman, which, after some discussion as to the difficulty of getting a sufficient number of working men to perform the duties incumbent on the Committee, without some slight remuneration, the motion was carried, and a committee of thirty-eight persons chosen. A vote of thanks was then given to the Mayor, for granting the use of the Hall. Also, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, when the meeting quietly dispersed.

ANTICIPATED MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, TO CONGRATULATE HER MAJESTY, EXPLODED—THE TORIES AND WHIGS FRIGHTENED FROM THEIR LOYALTY, BY THE IMAGINARY INTERFERENCE OF THE CHARTISTS.—We have been much amused with a long string of correspondence, which has been published in the Carlisle newspapers, by the High Sheriff for the county, James Robertson Walker, Esq., and which has transpired between himself, Mr. Hasell, of Dalemane, chairman of the Quarter Sessions, and a Mr. Matthews, of Wigton. The burden of the song appears to be, that a respectful requisition had been got up and signed by many of the resident gentry of the county, to the High Sheriff, to call a county meeting, to congratulate her Majesty on the auspicious event of the birth of a Prince. The High Sheriff like a loyal and dutiful subject, readily *agreed to call a county meeting* for the above purpose, which was to have been held at Wigton, the usual place of holding county meetings. No sooner, however, was this made known than Mr. Matthews takes the alarm, his mind becomes oppressed with horrible visions of "routs, riots, insurrections, and rebellion against the peace of our Sovereign Lady the Queen," and in his great perturbation of mind, he writes two letters to Mr. Hasell, beseeching that the said county meeting should not on any account be held at Wigton, for in that case "he was sure some of the leading Carlisle Chartists would attend, and move some amendments, *which must be resisted*; in that case, he would not be answerable for any breach of the peace which might be committed." These letters (so full of illusory fears) so shook the delicate nerves of Mr. Hasell, that he too becomes dreadfully alarmed, and immediately writes to the High Sheriff, begging he will not call the meeting at Wigton, but at Cockermouth, where they were not so likely to meet with interruption, and could, in case of necessity, retire into the safe keeping of the Court House! But the High Sheriff, like a brave and gallant officer, as he is, having withstood the thunders of the British navy, and for many years "the battle and the breeze," *heeded not the childish fears* of these two old women, but insisted on calling the meeting at Wigton, as was the practice on all similar occasions. In consequence of the High Sheriff's intrepidity, Mr. Hasell and his friends requested him to return the requisition, which he accordingly did; and so has ended, or rather never begun, the enacting of another fulsome and disgusting farce to loyalty. In consequence of the correspondence above alluded to, the following pertinent letter has been addressed to the High Sheriff by three of the leading Chartists of Carlisle, and will tend more fully to illustrate this ludicrous proceeding:—

TO JAMES ROBERTSON WALKER, ESQ., HIGH SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

SIR,—You have our unfeigned and hearty thanks for publishing the very curious and important correspondence, which has taken place between yourself, Mr. Hasell, of Dalemaine, Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, and Mr. Matthews of Wigton. The publication of this correspondence was a duty which you owed to yourself, as High Sheriff of the county, and as a loyal and dutiful subject of her Majesty.

You have thus placed the blame on the right shoulders—*those of Mr. Hasell and Mr. Matthews* who, from their illusive fears, have been the sole cause of preventing a county meeting being held, for the inhabitants of Cumberland, to testify their loyalty to her Majesty, on the auspicious event of the birth of a Prince.

Mr. Hasell and Mr. Matthews speak of the temper of the "*lower orders*" and "*lower classes*," *terms*, by the bye, which their good sense ought to have suppressed; for the expression of them will only tend to still further *convince the people, of the great want of sympathy* which prevails, on the part of the wealthy portion of society, towards the poor.

"The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The man's the goud for a' that."

Mr. Matthews *deems* it probable, if the county meeting should be held at Wigton, that the leading Carlisle Chartists, would attend and move some amendment, which must be resisted. It appears, then, that a numerous body of her Majesty's subjects are to be placed without the pale of the constitution, and not be allowed to express their wants and wishes to her Majesty; but that a few magistrates and others of the wealthier classes of the country are to meet unmolested to pass fulsome and adulatory addresses to her Majesty and Prince Albert, and not allow the *working classes, who are the* real wealth and support of the state, to express their feelings and state their real condition. Are Mr. Hasell and Mr. Matthews ignorant of the fact, that, whilst the cottage is desolate there is no security for the throne? that whilst the great body of artisans, mechanics, and agricultural labourers are suffering abject want, there will be no safety for property? Then why disguise matters? Let her Majesty be put in full possession of the real condition of her people. Surely it cannot be disrespectful nor disloyal to remind her Majesty, that whilst her Majesty and Prince Albert receive daily, for pocket money, the enormous sum of *£268 7s. 10d.!* there are tens of thousands of her Majesty's industrious subjects compelled to live on one penny three farthings her head per day! Ought this state of things to be continued? should these horrible disparities be allowed longer to exist? Should there be, or can there be, either peace or content in the land until the condition of the people be improved? Mr. Matthews anticipates a breach of the public peace, providing the Chartists should be resisted, as they must be, he says, if they should move any amendment at the county meeting. What sort of resistance does Mr. Matthews contemplate? If he means physical resistance, then his forebodings might prove but too correct. If he simply means mental resistance, by himself and his friends, endeavouring to carry their address, in spite of the anticipated Chartists' amendment, then he may rest assured that his fears, as to a breach of the peace, are quite illusory; and that the Chartists themselves will take upon them the preservation of the public peace, either at Carlisle or Wigton. How is it that Mr. Russell and Mr. Matthews consider the Chartists so disloyal? They ought to be aware that the Chartists of Carlisle were the first and foremost in the field to move a congratulatory address to her Majesty, on the auspicious event of the birth of a prince; and that address was as respectful, though perhaps not so fulsome and adulatory as theirs could possibly be. The address alluded to was passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants, convened in the Town Hall several weeks ago, and that meeting was conducted in a peaceable and orderly manner. Let the magistrates and others first do their duty as conservators of the public peace, by calling public meetings in order to ascertain the amount of distress and suffering which now prevails among the working classes, with a view to remedy the same, and then they may hold their public meeting to pass flattering addresses to her Majesty, in quiet and without the slightest molestation.

H. BOWMAN,
J. ARTHUR,
J. B. BOWMAN.

LEEDS.—ANNIVERSARY DINNER.—It being customary with Messrs. Dunn and Son, cornfactors, of this town, to give their workmen an annual treat, they, of course, provided an excellent dinner on the 30th ult., at the house of Mr. Witton, Parrot Inn, Call-lane, when thirty of the workmen sat down. The dinner reflected great credit upon Mr. and Mrs. Witton, who are becoming celebrated for their "good providing." The evening was spent in the greatest harmony and good fellowship, and many excellent songs, toasts, and recitations enlivened the party. The *example of the Messrs. Dunn, ought* to be more generally adopted, as nothing can have a greater tendency to generate a good feeling between the employed and the employer. The workmen, who highly respect their "good masters," concluded the proceedings by giving three times three for their employers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—LOYAL ORDER OF ANCIENT SHEPHERDS.—The officers and delegates of the Lodges of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds round Bishop Auckland met on Friday, the 31st of December, at the house of brother William Hall, the Shepherds' Inn; they were met by the officers of Ossett district. They proceeded to business at ten o'clock in the morning; and at three they sat down to an excellent dinner provided for the occasion, which gave great credit to the worthy host and hostess. The day was spent in harmony and good will.

ON SATURDAY, the 1st of January, the members of the Jacob's Ladder Lodge, held at the house of brother Ralph Lawson's, Hermitage, met to celebrate their first anniversary. At three o'clock, upwards of forty members sat down to an ample repast, which gave satisfaction to all present.

THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL is so extensively undermined, that churches and churchyards, mansion-houses and hostelries, are many of them suspended over a yawning gulf, and in danger of crushing the lives out of some scores of adventurous miners. The *Cornwall Gazette*, of last week, gives the following "narrow escape":—"On Tuesday, at Illogan, as the wife of a labourer called Dunstone was crossing her kitchen, the ground suddenly gave way, and she was left suspended by her arm over a shaft, but fortunately was rescued from her perilous situation without any injury."—*Falmouth Packet.*

OLD CHICHESTER BANK.—The failure has caused a complete stagnation to business in Chichester, and numerous cases have occurred where persons in comparative affluence are reduced to the most abject distress. Amongst them may be named two aged maiden ladies (sisters) named Elizabeth and Nanny Fowler, one of whom is a cripple. They proved for £1969 1s. 4d. They are left without a shilling, have been compelled to apply to the parish for relief and are now in the receipt of a miserable weekly pittance. Another case was a farmer with a large family named Smith; he had £295 16s. 6d. of his own money, and borrowed £1000 for the purpose of taking a large farm, the whole of which he deposited in the bank for safety a few days before the stoppage. He has by the occurrence been reduced to beggary. The largest creditor was Mr. Kent, training groom to the Duke of Richmond; he proved for £4595 16s 7d. the savings of many years' servitude, intended for a large family. Such was the confidence placed in the bank that numbers, particularly females, deposited every pound they possessed in the concern.—By the way a correspondent calls our attention to the fact, that no one banker will take another's notes! For example, a bill becomes due—the banking clerk presents it for payment—you tender him notes, and unless they be the Bank of England he refuses to take them; and unless they can be converted into gold, your bill may be noted. It would seem that those men are wiser than the public.

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Saturday night, an aged female, about 60, was found sitting on the lower stair, No. 31, White Hart-street, Drury Lane. When spoken to, with the utmost difficulty she said she wanted the common necessaries of life (her awful countenance showed the fact); and she added, "If I *could only get to the house* of Mr. Short, a tavern-keeper in the Strand, opposite Somerset House, he would give me some victuals." The deceased was lifted up from the stairs, and a surgeon was in instant attendance, but in a few seconds the poor creature dropped dead. A Mrs. Johnson, who resides in the neighbourhood of White Hart Yard, had often afforded the deceased shelter and food, but on the present occasion advised the deceased to proceed to the Union, which it is supposed she declined.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—A most diabolical attempt was made on Wednesday night to cause a further accident on the Great Western line. The mail train was on its way from London, and when within about three miles of Bath, the signal was given by the engine-driver of something wrong, and the train was stopped with all possible dispatch. On investigation it appears that some villain had placed two large stones (one on each rail) with the view of scuding the engine off the line, but which did not take place. One of the stones was crushed into a thousand atoms, and flew over the driver and stoker without doing them any serious injury; the other stone was forced on one side by the sword, or guard, which is placed before the wheels, but both the guards were put out of their place, and much bent and twisted.

THE RECENT FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—READING, THURSDAY, DEC. 30.—It is with extreme pain we have to announce that the catalogue of those whose lives have been lost in consequence of the lamentable catastrophe in the Sonning-hill cutting on Friday week, is increased by the death in the Royal Berkshire Hospital, of Richd. Woolley. It will be remembered, that the unfortunate sufferer was admitted an in-patient, and the injuries were described in the hospital books "compound fracture of the skull." The unhappy patient underwent the operation of trepanning, and was proceeding most favourably until Monday night, when erysipelas presented themselves, and though they were combatted with some success by the medical attendants of the hospital, Woolley died on Wednesday afternoon about half-past three o'clock. On inquiry at the hospital to-day, we learnt that all the accident patients remaining (nine in number) are progressing favourably, with the exception of Thos. Hankins, Eliza Barnes, and Thomas Hughes, with regard to whom a change for the worse had taken place, and these three unhappy sufferers now lie in a most precarious state. On Friday, an inquest was held on the body at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, before Mr. J. J. Blandy, coroner. The verdict of the Jury was that Richard Woolley came by his death from a fracture he received on the skull, caused by the engine, called the Hecla, coming into collision with a mass of earth, having *fallen from the slope of a cutting on the Great* Western Railway, at Sonning, in this county; and they are of opinion that the accident might have been avoided, *had there been a night police, or watch* in the cutting. They, therefore, placed a deodand on the engine and train of carriages of the sum a hundred pounds. And further, they recommend that the passenger trucks be in future placed further from the engine.

BOYS LED TO THE COMMISSION OF CRIME BY BEING REFUSED WORKHOUSE RELIEF.——On Thursday, Thomas Jones and Richard Eaves, two ragged boys, were charged with stealing a piece of bacon from a shop in the neighbourhood of Union Hall. Sergeant Logan, of the N division, stated that on the preceding afternoon the prisoners called at the Station-house in the Southwark-bridge-road, and begged to be admitted, saying that they were without food or shelter, and had nowhere to go to. He directed them to proceed to the workhouse, where, he told them, they would be temporarily relieved, and they went, but returned in a short time afterwards, saying that they had been refused any assistance, and threatened with the cane if they did not go away. The sergeant then told the boys that they would not be admitted into the Station-house, which was only for the reception of offenders, and they both walked away. In less, however, than a quarter of an hour afterwards the same two boys were seen in the act of stealing a piece of bacon from a shop window, and being pursued, both of them were taken into custody, and the one upon whom the bacon was found was in the act of gnawing it when the policeman went up to secure them. The owner of the bacon, on hearing the circumstances under which it was stolen, said that he had no wish to press the charge against the two unfortunate boys. Mr. Cottingham questioned Jones as to the cause of his present apparently destitute condition; and his account was that his father and mother were dead, and that for the last seven years he had been travelling about the country, in company with a man selling bootlaces and other small articles; that on Wednesday morning he arrived in town from St. Alban's, and that the man with whom he went about left him suddenly, and he did know where he was gone; and that, being without food or money, he went with the other boy to the Station-house to ask for shelter; that thence they both went to the workhouse, and having described their situation, and that they were starving, the man at the door told them that he could do nothing for them, but desired them to stay till the master came; that they waited for some time, until at length a man made his appearance, and on seeing them he exclaimed—"These are the young scamps who were here before; fetch me the cane and I'll soon send them about their business;" that on hearing this threat they (the boys) ran away, and on passing a shop they took a piece of bacon out of the window, as they were starving. Mr. Cottingham having sent for the master of the workhouse where the boys made the application for relief, in the parish of Christchurch, described to that person the circumstances under which they were brought before him, and said that his refusal to give them temporary assistance, and threatening them besides, led to the commission of the offence for which they were brought before him. The Magistrate then asked the master of the workhouse for his explanation of the transaction, but he referred to the porter, who, it appeared, was the person of whom the boys made application. The porter admitted that he refused to give them relief because he had, on three different occasions, relieved them before, and that on seeing them on the evening in question he said, "You are the young rascals who have been here before." On hearing these words they both went away, but he made no threat of using the cane. Mr. Cottingham said that the boy Jones declared he had only arrived in London the same morning, and therefore he could not have been at the workhouse previously, according to his account. The porter, however, positively denied the truth of Jones's statement. Mr. Cottingham said that he was bound to rely upon the testimony of the persons belonging to the different workhouses that Jones had been previously relieved by them, and therefore the probability was that the account he gave of himself was utterly without foundation. The Magistrate added that Mr. Pearson, a ship-owner, who had heard the previous part of the case, and commiserated the apparent state of destitution of the prisoners, had humanely undertaken to place the boy Jones on board one of his vessels as an apprentice. The facts, however, which had subsequently come out in the course of the inquiry would have the effect of doing away with that act of kindness, and instead of being sent on board ship, Jones should stand committed for three months to gaol. The other boy was ordered to be passed to his parish. In the course of the magistrate's observations he said, that he was determined on enforcing the provisions of the New Poor Law Act as far as related to the cases of destitute persons who were either sent from that court or taken by the police to the workhouse of the district for temporary relief. In the event of such persons being refused such assistance he (the magistrate) had made up his mind to inflict the full penalty of £5 on the party so refusing.

THE LATE EXPLOSION ON THE BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTER RAILWAY.—George Collins, another of the sufferers by the explosion of gunpowder, near Wickwar, Gloucestershire, died in the Bristol Infirmary, on Thursday night last. This makes the fifth death.

INFAMOUS FALSE ALARM.—At twelve o'clock on Christmas night a fellow on board the Monarch steamer, then on the passage from London to Hull, caused a fearful alarm among the other passengers, of whom there were several of both sexes, by stamping on the deck over the fore cabin, and bawling out "All hands on deck, the ship's on fire." The consequence was a general consternation among the fore-cabin passengers, during which a man, jumping from an upper berth, fell on a bench beneath, where the wife of a soldier in the 98th regiment was asleep, and being far advanced in pregnancy a serious result might be anticipated. All rushed to the ladder; but few gained the deck before they discovered the infamous hoax, and that there was no cause for alarm. The fellow, on being told he should be given into custody on arrival in Hull, threatened he would give any one two inches of steel who dared to lay hands on him; and this, probably, deterred the summary punishment which many of the passengers were disposed to inflict. We fear the law does not enable the owners of the vessel to punish so heartless a wretch; but our informant received a satisfactory assurance from them that care should be taken to prevent a recurrence of such disgraceful conduct in any passenger.

FORTUNE-TELLING IN LANCASHIRE.—Our Middleton correspondent gives us a long account of a visit which he and two other persons paid, on Friday last, to a conjuror or fortune-teller residing in Burnley-lane, North Moor, Chadderton, ostensibly to inquire into the fate of an old man who has been missing since the 13th Dec., and is supposed to have been drowned on his way home from a funeral, but really to ascertain by what means he and his brethren have succeeded in impressing a large portion of the population of Oldham, Middleton, Chadderton, Tonge, and other places in the vicinity, with a firm faith in their knowledge of things past, present, and to come. The "wise man" went through a good deal of mummery, and fished very adroitly for information whereon to found his oracular responses. He was purposely misled, and made the most ridiculous blunders, and of course the visitors only learnt for certainty what they shrewdly suspected before—that the conjuror was an arrant cheat. Our correspondent says that there are seven persons of this description in Oldham and the neighbourhood, one at Collyhurst-bridge, and several others near Manchester; that there are thousands within ten miles of Manchester, and those not confined to the lower classes, who believe in fortune-telling; and that one old jade has made an independent fortune of her own in the business. Can this be true of any part of enlightened, civilized, and Christian England? If it be, how fearful is the responsibility of those who have spent hundreds of millions in war, and nothing for the education of the people!—*Liverpool Mercury.*

FATAL ARBITRAMENT.—My ancient enemy and I now confronted each other; a loaded piece, which he usually carried, rested across his arm. We gazed at each other in amazement for some time, until at length he stepped back a pace or two, cocked his gun, and told me, if I did not quickly walk before him as his prisoner, he would shoot me. I felt hot blood riot in my veins, and told him to turn the muzzle of his piece from me, or I might settle in deadly sort, the long account betwixt us. He advanced upon me as I spoke, and thrust the end of his weapon against my breast. I staggered from the force of the blow; but seeing me about to spring upon him, he raised the piece to his shoulder and fired. The charge shattered one side of my head, and arrested my impetuous course for the moment. I then seemed to look at him through crimson flame, but I still saw him—through blinding streams of blood, he was still palpably before me,—but he took advantage of the severe check he had given; and seizing his piece by the barrel, he aimed a tremendous blow at my head with the butt-end, which I received with my left hand, and rushed in upon him with a wild shriek of maddened infuriation. He was in an instant upon the ground, my hands grasping his throat, and his effort to force me off was terrible; but I tightened my fatal hold until his chest ceased to heave beneath me—his arm dropped—the limbs slowly contracted, and then—I saw that he was dead!—*Parley's Penny Library.*

AN INGENIOUS DEVICE.—Thomas Hogel was on Wednesday last charged at the Liverpool police-office by a recruiting sergeant with having practised a *singular imposition*. It appeared that the prisoner was extremely anxious to enter the service of the East India Company, but being one-eighth of an *inch under the standard height* he fixed to the crown of his head a ball of wax covered with hair. Having by this means elongated himself to the required dimensions, he was passed on Friday week, but being ordered to attend again on Sunday, the ingenious device was detected. Mr. Rushton said he knew of no law which condemned a man to punishment for such an act as that committed by the prisoner. He was cautioned not to repeat the offence, and was discharged.

AN AFFAIR OF HONOUR.—An affair has just occurred in a certain northern city, which has occasioned some amusement to the lieges. A young gentleman belonging to the *beau monde*, was ambitious to become possessed of a pair of whiskers, and made application to a friend to whom nature had been particularly bountiful in regard to that article, to be instructed as to the method of furnishing himself with the desired ornament. The friend promised to comply, and presented him with a pot of ointment with which he was to *anoint* the parts on which he wished to raise a crop. The ointment was used accordingly, and produced—not whiskers, but blisters. An offence of this heinous description nothing but blood could atone. A challenge was given and accepted—the parties met—and, somewhat abated of their first ardour, faced each other with mortal intent, and weapons loaded with cork; though it is due to their valour to mention that they believed them to be charged with a heavier material. On the word being given, shots were duly exchanged, and one of the parties, the challenged, fell overpowered by deadly terror. The seconds, to continue what they intended for a joke, but which was certainly carried a little too far, applied a handkerchief stained with red ink to his side. At this sanguinary spectacle, the challenger, believing he had done murder, took to flight, and was with difficulty so much re-assured as to appear again in public.—*Edinburgh Witness.*

OLD YEAR'S NIGHT AT THE HANWELL LUNATIC ASYLUM.—On Friday evening, the last in the old year, the above institution, for the reception of lunatic paupers belonging to the different parishes within the county of Middlesex, exhibited an extraordinary and pleasing instance of the gratifying effect of the humane system at present pursued in that establishment, whereby coercion has been done away with, and corporeal restraint no longer forms a part in the treatment of the insane. It has been the practice of the last year or two to give the female patients an evening's entertainment as the close of the year, and to prepare for that joyous occasion, *the patients had been for the week previously busily* engaged in decorating their wards with laurel, holly, and other evergreens, which were most tastefully and fancifully displayed on the walls of their rooms, in various devises, amongst which were the initial letters of the Queen, "V.R.," of Prince Albert, "P.A.," and of the illustrious infant, the future Sovereign of the united empire, "P.W.," with crowns and Prince of Wales's feathers, &c., the whole forming an alcove of upwards of seventy feet, *in which the utmost tranquillity pre*vailed. Soon after five o'clock, the patients had assembled, to the number of nearly four hundred, *who had ranged themselves on each side on forms*, which had been provided for the occasion. At that time scarcely a word was to be heard, and the effect the scene produced was most striking and pleasing. Tea and cake were then served out to the patients, by the matron, Miss Conolly (the superintendent's daughter), and the nurses, by whom afterwards were played on a pianoforte many cheerful and enlivening tunes, to which the patients commenced dancing, which they kept up with much spirit and glee for upwards of an hour. On their again resuming their seats, they were each presented with half an orange, after which dancing again *commenced, and was continued with music* at intervals until eight o'clock, when supper was served, and at the conclusion the patients retired to their several apartments, apparently much delighted with their evening's entertainment.

TRUE WISDOM.—A wise general, on the eve of battle, makes a proper disposition of his forces beforehand, and does not wait till the enemy has made an attack, and thus, by forethought and due preparation, reasonably expects a victory;—thus, he who has a desire to attain a healthy, and, consequently, happy old age, does not indolently wait for the attack of the enemy, which is sickness, but is constantly on his guard against his insiduous approaches, by paying proper attention to the state of his health. Many would fain occasionally use medicine to assist nature in her operations; but like a mariner at sea without his compass, knowing not where to steer, they first try this, and then that, and meet with nothing but disappointment; to these, how welcome must be the important fact, that Parr's Life Pills are now proved to be all that is required to conquer disease and prolong life."

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.

THE EXCHEQUER BILL FORGERY.—On Monday morning an order was sent to Newgate, from the Home-office, for the removal of Edward Beaumont Smith to the hulks, in pursuance of his sentence. He was *accordingly placed in a carriage* and conveyed to Woolwich, where he was placed on board the usual receiving hulk.

ANOTHER CALAMITOUS FIRE IN MANCHESTER.—On Friday evening last, about nine o'clock, an alarm of fire was given, and which was found to be at the weaving mill and calender house in Boleman's-buildings, Manchester. The fire commenced on the part occupied by the late Mr. E. Dickinson, calenderer, &c., and which raged with such fury that in about an hour that part of the premises, six stories high, was a complete ruin; not anything worth notice was saved. The loss will probably be about £5,000. There were two rooms over the calender room filled with looms which were all burnt. The principal part of the weaving establishment, being separated from the premises burnt down, by a wall, did not receive much injury; but, as the steam engine was much damaged, all the hands employed will, necessarily, be thrown out of work for some time to come. No lives were lost, nor is any one injured.

EFFECT OF COMPETITION.—The competition in the slop business is almost ruinous to a numerous and industrious class of women at the east end of the metropolis, who managed to support themselves decently by their needle. A few years ago, when shirt-making was reduced to three shillings a dozen, it was considered so low a price that it was impossible to make a bare existence at it. Yet from that price it became gradually reduced, and many of the large Jew slop-sellers at present pay but ninepence a dozen, or three-farthings each shirt, *for them*. If three shillings was a price at which these poor women could make a mere existence, what must be the effect of the present allowance? And yet thousands are to be found even glad to get such work!

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Monday night an inquest was taken before Mr. Higgs at the Edinburgh Castle, Strand, on the body of Charlotte Closson, aged 63. Deborah Johnson, of 31, White Hart-street, deposed that she knew the deceased. About three weeks since she saw deceased in the street. It was raining at the time, and the deceased crying, said she was very hungry. She (witness) took her home and gave her something to eat, and she appeared grateful for it. She called several times since, and on Wednesday last called and appeared very ill. She gave her some tea and allowed her to sit by the fire. She called again on Saturday last, and had the appearance of being in a dying state. She was very bad, and said "she had had nothing to eat the whole of the previous day." She begged of her to give her some tea or she would die. She borrowed 6d. and gave her some tea. She offered her some bread and herring, but she could not eat. She asked her the reason she did not apply to the workhouse, when she replied "that she would sooner die in the street than enter the workhouse." Deceased having a sister in the Dover-road, she sent her nephew to her residence for some relief. The deceased said she knew Mr. Short, of the Strand, and could she get there he would give her relief. She (witness) and her niece assisted her down stairs, and on getting into the passage she died. The deceased was in the habit of sleeping in public-houses, and on one cold rainy night she came and implored of her to give her 6d. to pay for her night's lodging. Her clothes were thin and wretched. She was very thin and emaciated. Three doctors attended. By the Coroner——The deceased's sister sent back some bread and meat and a note, on which was written, "Penitent sinner, to-day on earth, to morrow in hell; seek pardon and delay not." The deceased was much hurt on reading it. I called on the sister on Sunday, who said that the deceased was a very bad person, and had left her husband thirty-five years since, who is still living at Harwich. From other evidence, it appeared that deceased might have been well off, but for her conduct, having had a great deal of money left her by her father. Verdict—"Died from want, brought on by her own stubborn temper."

PLYMOUTH, SUNDAY, JAN. 2.—This afternoon the Conway, 26, Captain Bethune, from China, having on board two millions of dollars, anchored in the Sound about six o'clock. Her destination was Portsmouth, but a change of wind having taken place, she was compelled to come in here. She entered at the eastern end of the Breakwater, and it being after sunset she did not salute the Admiral's flag. She brings home many invalids from the squadron in the China seas. She was at the Cape of Good Hope on the 1st of October. It is reported that she will be paid off at Portsmouth. Of course she brings no intelligence that has not previously reached England.

THE PHILIPSTOWN MURDER.—The horrible murder of a poor idiot, by a party of gentlemen who were sojourning at a country seat in the immediate vicinity of Philipstown, and to which we adverted on Tuesday last, has been considered as wholly incredible. So horrible are the facts, that scarcely any person is willing to believe that such barbarous cruelty could be practised by a party of gentlemen in a Christian country. It is our duty, however, to reiterate our statement. The horrible murder did take place; but we have received additional information, which states that the idiot murdered was not a *boy* but a *man*. He was besmeared over with oil and turpentine, and literally roasted to death. An inquest was held—a mock one, we are led to believe, from the fact that one of the parties engaged in the murder sat on the inquest! Money has been squandered in profusion to hush the matter up; almost all the parties have decamped to England or elsewhere. The majority of them were officers, and, we suppose, are now with their respective regiments. What will the Government do in this matter? We call upon Lord Eliot to send a stipendiary magistrate to the spot to inquire in the matter—we ask Colonel M'Gregor whether the police in the district made any report to him on the subject?—we call upon the Government to make the proceedings of the Coroner's inquest public. A most foul and barbarous murder has been committed, under circumstances of aggravated barbarity, unequalled by the horrible atrocities of Indian cruelty, and no steps have been taken to bring the savage perpetrators to justice.—*Dublin Monitor.*

DISTRESS AT STOCKPORT.

The following statement has been published by the authority of the Mayor of Stockport:—

It is well known that the cotton manufacture of this kingdom has been long and greatly depressed, and that numbers of persons engaged in it have been thrown out of employment, and great distress occasioned in the various towns and districts of which it is the staple manufacture. The borough of Stockport, the working population of which is engaged almost exclusively in this manufacture, has suffered *in common with other towns, from its general and* long-continued depression. The distress so occasioned has been increased to an extent, it is believed, beyond that of any other town by special and peculiar circumstances of a local influence. We allude to the entire stoppage of some of the largest establishments in the town and neighbourhood, by which several thousand persons have been thrown out of employment, who still remain without any prospect of being able to return to it.

Of the establishments at work, a great part are so only partially; and the working of short time (that is of four days per week) has been continued to a greater or less extent since May last. Upwards of one-third of the horse-power in the town and neighbourhood is unemployed, which, if at work, would *give employment to more than 4,000 persons*. It is believed that there are, altogether, about 5,000 operatives of various trades unable to obtain employment. The consequence of this suspension of labour are extensive loss and suffering among all classes dependent upon trade, and unexampled distress and privation among the working population. This distress, heightened as it now is by the severity of the weather, has arrived at a pitch of which it is impossible to convey any adequate idea by mere statistical information. The Poor-rates have regularly increased, and are now become a serious drain upon the diminished resources of the comparatively few who are able to pay them. Families, two or three together, are crowding into one house, or leaving their cottages for cellars: some are quitting their native land: numbers having exchanged all but the last articles of their wearing apparel for the means of sustaining life, are on the verge of destitution. Honest men, willing to work, are compelled, with their entire families, to become street mendicants, or to live, day by day, on the precarious charity of their neighbours; and, besides, an increase of disease, arising, in a great measure, from a deficiency of food; many, it is to be feared, are literally starving to death. Of 15,823 individuals, inhabiting 2,965 houses, lately visited under the direction of a Committee appointed for the purpose, 1,204 only were found to be fully employed; 2,866 partially employed, and 4,148, able to work, were wholly without employment. The remainder 7,605 persons were unable to work.

The average weekly income of the above 15,823 persons was 1s. 4½d. each.

The average weekly wages of those fully employed were 7s. 6½d. each.

The average weekly earnings of those partially employed were 4s. 7¼d.

The Committee appointed for the purposes of the relief now to be afforded, being fully convinced that all the efforts that can possibly be made in [illegible] and neighbourhood will be utterly inad[illegible] meet the pressing necessities of the case, [illegible] solved, under the direction of the meeti[illegible] they were appointed, to make an a[illegible] countrymen generally, and especiall[illegible] dividuals and classes of society who [illegible] pressure of the times, or who are re[illegible] fear of personal suffering and privati[illegible]

NEWSPAPER

NORTH LANCASHIRE DELEGATE MEETING.

TO THE CHARTISTS OF NORTH LANCASHIRE.

GENTLEMEN,—According to a rule made at the first delegate meeting, held at the Temperance Hotel, Blackburn, it is particularly stated that delegate meetings shall take place every six weeks, for the purpose of transacting the business of the district; a delegate meeting will therefore be held at Accrington, on Sunday, 16th Jan., 1842. Business to commence precisely at one o'clock.

Now, my friends, let every place send a delegate to this meeting, so that every place may be properly represented; and have their opinions laid before the meeting. I find that there has been some dissatisfaction existing in the towns connected with the district that proper notice was not given of the last delegate meeting through the columns of the *Northern Star*; and, therefore, they had no means of either knowing when the meeting would take place, or of sending a delegate. I beg leave to assure such places that I sent due notice to the *Star*; but, on account of leaving home in a hurry, to attend a discussion on the Corn Laws, at Barnoldswick, on the Mondsy evening, I forgot to put the letter in the Post Office before I left. I wrote the letter on Monday at noon, and just at that time a person came up from Barnoldswick for me, to go that afternoon to the meeting. There was no time to be lost, for it was then after one o'clock, and the distance we had to go was upwards of seventeen miles, and a rough road; the meeting was to commence at seven o'clock. I, therefore, in the hurry of the moment, forgot to post the letter on the Mondsy, but on the Tuesday I wrote another, and sent it, along with a report of the meeting, taken by Mr. Mooney; but neither the report of the meeting, nor the notice of the delegate meeting, appeared. This caused a great deal of dissatisfaction. The people of Barnoldswick were hurt that such a triumph over the Plague, in an open discussion, and the cowardice of the Plague advocates, in running off the platform, and out of the Chapel, and leaving the meeting in the hands of the Chartists, who had defeated them not by blows, but by argument, should have been left unexposed.

The different towns expressed their resentment at me, for not sending notice to the *Star*, so that they might have been able to send delegates to the meeting. I am as sorry as them that they did not appear in the *Star*; but I have since received a very kind letter from Mr. Hill, the Editor, expressing his regret that the letter had been mislaid, and, consequently, non-inserted. I expect that we shall this time have a full meeting of delegates, for there is a good deal of business to transact; and there will be the business of the Convention to settle.

I am sorry that a misunderstanding should exist between this district and the Executive with regard to the election of members of the Convention, it being the opinion of North Lancashire that it should send its own member; but the Executive have decided that it cannot—it must be in connection with South Lancashire. I am sorry that I should have been elected by the different towns in North Lancashire to represent them in the Convention, but when I consented to become a candidate for the Convention, I knew not but that North Lancashire would send its own delegate; but it having been decided differently by the Executive, I beg leave to have my name withdrawn from the nomination list, for this reason—I cannot conscientiously allow myself to be elected for South Lancashire. I know nothing of them; I am not personally acquainted with them; I do not know their feelings, wishes, desires, and determination with respect to the Charter becoming the law of the land, only from newspaper reports; I have never been amongst them at any time; I have never attended any of their private or public meetings, with the exception of three or four; and therefore, being totally ignorant of their circumstances, I should not be justified were I to allow myself to become the representative of those whose condition I am unacquainted with. I have not that ambition to want to become a member of the Convention for the sake of its name; we have had too many of that description already. I would rather be at home in my own district, increasing the number of our Associations, and spreading our principles into every village and hamlet, so that by any means I might be doing good, and assisting in the bringing about the political redemption of our common country.

I am,
Your humble servant,
In the cause of Chartism,
WILLIAM BRESLEY,
District Secretary.

TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,—In my recent letters to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, I pointed out the necessity of a union betwixt you and the Chartists of Great Britain, and answered objections which were raised against that body, both morally and physically. I have also shewn that the prejudices of country and sect are passing away and stated that Englishmen were worthy of your confidence and desirous to become your friends; and whilst I thus stated my opinions, I most anxiously wished you would be led to think and inquire for yourselves, and shake off that confiding credulity which has ever been your greatest political fault, and with your own senses examine calmly, reasonably, and dispassionately your present position in the field of political strife.

I will, now, with your permission, clearly prove the fallacy of those objections and prejudices, which cause you to stand aloof from the struggle in which the people of England, Scotland, and Wales, are now engaged, and which they are so nobly sustaining, not only for their own sake but for yours. I am well aware that it is not in the nature of Irishmen to be either pusillanimous, or ungrateful, and that it is for want of a proper knowledge of the principles of the Charter, and an acquaintance with the character of the people of England, that you hesitate to join in the contest.

Know, then, my fellow countrymen, that the People's Charter contains nothing that is illegal or unjust. It seeks for nothing save that natural and political liberty, which every subject of these kingdoms ought to possess, and to which he is constitutionally entitled. It aims to redress those grievances and remove those burthens which overwhelm the manufacturing and commercial interests of the country, and to give the people a voice in the making of the laws which govern them. It seeks for Ireland's rights as well as England's rights, and it is Ireland's cause as much as it is England's; for do not be deceived, a repeal of the Legislative Union would not be worth accepting, unless you were in possession of Universal Suffrage. I have every reason to believe that by far the greater number of the people of Ireland look forward to a "Repeal of the Union," as the end of their political sufferings. In this they will assuredly find themselves disappointed; they should rather look to it as a means to an end, for, unless the Charter become the law of the land, they will only have benefitted themselves by bringing their tyrants nearer home, to witness the abuses which existed heretofore amongst them. But suppose a "Repeal of the Union" would confer all the benefits and blessings which you so fondly anticipate. I ask, why are you so inactive? Why do you not bestir yourselves to obtain it? You answer, "so we do," —"we have a Repeal Association"—we have meetings—we have our cards—and we have at our head the Lord Mayor of Dublin, who promised to obtain it for us."—When? "When the young Prince of Wales becomes Vice Roy of Ireland!" But suppose his little Highness should never condescend to visit you, when, then, are you to get it? Has not the "Liberator" told you? Oh, no! the cunning fox; he is too wise to do so; but he has not forgot to tell you that Chartism is synonymous with violence and infidelity, and that the people of England are your natural and hereditary enemies. Now, I am as much an Irishman as his Lordship, and as much of a patriot as to feel the necessity of your adopting a more speedy and certain method to obtain your political regeneration, than the "tortoise"-like course you are now pursuing; and yet, I unhesitatingly say, such assertions are false and unfounded. I have already, in my letters to his Lordship, refuted the charges of infidelity and violence, and will now show that Englishmen are not your enemies, and that the prejudices which have long existed are not to be traced to the people of England, but to an interested portion of them. I know you have many reasons for believing that the English are opposed to your interests; but, were you to reflect, that in so opposing you they would only increase their own burthens, you would at once admit, they would not, for their own interest sake, continue it. The fact is, the aristocracy and class interests are that portion of the English, who not only oppose you but their countrymen. Those are they who first insinuated themselves into the green fields of Ireland, and who afterwards deluged them with the blood of her children; those are they who hold all offices of trust and power, and monopolise the resources of the country, and who, like locusts, devour the fruits of your industry, and compel you to drag out a wretched existence in want and misery; those are the leeches who suck the life's blood from the hearts of the wretched widow and the famishing orphans—who drink felicity from the fountain of a nation's misery, and who build up their fortunes on the ruins of social happiness.

They have always known that you possessed an [illegible] love of liberty, and therefore they used [illegible] as well as force to suppress and curb [illegible]pendent spirit; they taught their depen[illegible] to believe that Irishmen were little better than [illegible] and thus the people of England were im[illegible] by those vile and contemptible wretches who [illegible] your blood, and made a merchandise of [illegible] country's liberty.

Yes, my countrymen, it was the aristocracy who first sowed the seeds of slavery and oppression amongst you; they established laws and systems which were intended to grind and coerce you: it was they who forced a "State Church" upon you, and compelled you to pay for prayers which were offered contrary to your notions of worship; it was they who introduced those hypocritical monsters who came amongst you armed with a Bible in one hand and a sword in the other—who spoiled and devastated the homes of your fathers—uprooted the foundations of peace and literature, and who, with the words of charity on their lips, but the daggers of political assassination concealed beneath their hypocritical disguise, awaited the opportunity of plunging them into their unwary victims; and it is the same aristocracy which still lords it over you, and are even now crying out for "coercion for Ireland."

It is not, my friends, the working men of England who are opposed to you; they have no prejudices against you, and if ever they had any, it was the effect of misrepresentation, and not otherwise. It is not because a man is an Englishman, that he is your enemy—he suffers as much as you do, and even more. Nor is it because he has the moral courage to assert his political independence that he is to be looked upon with an eye of suspicion—he sees that all classes of the aristocracy are leagued against the poor man's interest, and, with a laudable zeal, he advocates the liberties of his class against the tyranny and misrule of his oppressors, and holds out the hand of fellowship to you, as it is your cause as well as his. Can you then as Irishmen refuse the proffered friendship? Will the blighting influence of prejudice or party keep you aloof from a contest in which your interests are so deeply concerned? Remember the enemies you have to encounter are the same, who once trampled on the graves of your fathers; they are the same who persecuted you for your religious opinions; who hunted your unhappy clergy into mountains and caves, to perish with want and misery, and who offered a premium for the head of a Catholic priest equal to that offered for the head of a wolf.

The same parties who plundered you of your birth-right, and insulted you by calling you "aliens in blood and country," are still forging chains to fetter and bind you to their will. Is it not time, then, that you ask yourselves—shall we be free? Is it not time to ask yourselves—are we pursuing the right road to liberty? or are you in possession of that spirit which animated your fathers when "liberty" was the watch-word? Yes, it is time you asked those questions; your political position, and the duty you owe to your country, demand that you not only ask, but act. Weigh well the principles of the "Charter," and if you find that they are such as I have stated, come boldly forward, and show the men of England that you can accept and receive them as brothers; join your moral strength to theirs, and convince your tyrants that the working men of Ireland and England are determined to obtain that "liberty which is their birth-right, and that "justice" to which you are entitled. Let unity be your motto, moral agitation your only weapon, and you may rest assured victory will crown your efforts.

I have the honour to be,
Fellow-Countrymen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. H. CLIFTON.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1842.

THE WORKING PEOPLE AND THE PRIME MINISTER.

THIS day we publish a portion of one of the most important documents ever presented to the British public,—a document which will be read with avidity and absorbing interest by every working man in the kingdom.

LABOUR has been to head quarters, to tell its wrongs, and to ask for a remedy! Its statements have been attentively listened to, its representatives courteously received, and a friendly discussion had upon the measures of relief it had to propose! Working men have been in conference with the Prime Minister, telling him the truth, and demanding from him, in respectful but *firm* language, measures which will tend to place them in their proper position: and their statements have been heard, and a more than ordinary interest manifested by those unto whom the tale of woe was old! This is a new era in the history of English Legislation and Government.

The Deputation that waited upon Sir ROBERT PEEL were not coolly and politely "bowed out;" they were not received in a mere formal manner, and got rid of as soon as assumed politeness would admit; but they were met with cordiality of manner, (and we hope we may add of feeling); and the startling truths they told, as to the operation of our present commercial system upon the happiness and well-being of the operative community, both infant and adult, made such an impression upon the mind of the Prime Minister, that he, himself, gave the Deputation introductions to others of his colleagues, that they, too, might hear from the lips of the working men in person, the statements which had so forcibly arrested his own attention. No greater proof than this could be offered of the interest excited in the head of the Government by this mission of working men.

And not less has been the interest excited amongst all classes of society by the publication of the Report of this important interview. It has appeared in the columns of a great portion of the newspaper press. Nearly *all* have noticed it, either in one shape or other. The *Times* has had THREE "LEADERS" devoted to its consideration, in the course of which it has brought forward into more particular notice, the more important points of the very important conversation. The *Standard* and *Morning Post*, too, we hear have also commented on the document, and so has the *Morning Advertiser*. Their articles we have not seen; but understand they are like those of the *Times*, exceedingly favourable to the purposes and object of the Deputation. The *Chronicle* has not yet appeared openly against the document; that is, it has not yet either attacked (in its "leading" columns,) the members of the deputation personally, or even defended those principles of political economy which the deputation have impugned and assailed, and which principles are the *Chronicle's* stock-in-trade. Sir JOHN EASTHOPE has not yet *openly* "come out of his shell;" but he *has* written a letter to the members of the deputation, and inserted it in his *Chronicle*, where it appears without date or address, other than the assumed signature, "A WORKING MAN." *Sir* JOHN attempts to make it appear that the interview with the Premier was "a farce," and respresents that the whole thing was got up for "dramatic effect"! This will not do, *Sir* JOHN! This will not answer your purpose! You must meet and *upset* the positions taken by the Deputation, ere you take away from the "effect" produced by the interview and statements. Meet them, man! "You can easily prove the Deputation to be ignoramuses." Do so; but do it openly, *Sir* JOHN! Do not assume to be that which you never was—"a working man." You have no conception of the character, *Sir* JOHN: you cannot play it. The "dramatic effect" is wanting. You betray your ignorance, *Sir* JOHN. Give it up, or do your business openly, and in your own character; that of a defender and apologist of the most horrible and cruel system of human slavery that ever existed.

The "effect," however, of that Report upon those who plead so earnestly for another "extension" of our commerce, for the purpose of filling the money bags of the "great" masters yet more fully, is prodigiously disheartening. Whether it be "dramatic" or not, we leave *Sir* JOHN EASTHOPE to determine: but, that it has not put them in very good humour, is evidenced by the following strange production, addressed:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.

SIR,—After the amusing description which has been given of the interview of the Ten Hours' Deputation with the Minister, it remains only to anticipate the time when the manufacturing capitalists shall present themselves to the Grand Vizier of the hour, with a corresponding request to have the evils of the agricultural management looked into, and repressed by the strong fingers of the law.

When this time comes, how pathetic will the remonstrants be, on the evils physical and moral, which always arise from agriculture where the manufacturing interest has not a controller on the spot. To say nothing of the toils of harvest-women, and the total absence of care for the fingers of female and infant weeders when the thermometer is below 40, the moral view alone will be terrible and sad. Our popular poetry is full of little but the moral dangers inseparable from the encouragement of an agricultural population. The bush, the brake, the "rigs o'barley," and the "rushes green," have each their several temptations, leading all one way, and calling for pensive reflection on the legislator and the parish officer. Shall there be no balm for this, while an active superintendence on the part of a moral and religious manufacturing public might do so much to prevent the apprehended evils? Why not appoint an inspector of hay-fields? Do the landlords properly box off all dangerous places? Are these matters to be left to adjust themselves; or ought the law to interfere to ensure the doing right? The requirements of humanity imperatively demand it.

The landlords may find out some time, that it is just as easy for one set of men to plague and vilify another, as was the converse. Of course it will be understood, that if the question has been treated here with levity, it was in the full persuasion that what is called the Ten Hours' question, after making the needful reservations for well-meaning blunder, is a fraud directed to the preservation of the evils it pretends to remedy, and by the active operation and encouragement of those who made and maintain the evils for the sake of their own personal and dishonest gain.

Yours very sincerely,
T. PERRONET THOMPSON.

Blackheath, Jan. 3, 1842.

The "effect" must have been very galling upon the party with whom Colonel THOMPSON fraternizes to have drawn from *him*,—a generally good-tempered and quaintly humourous man,—such a piece of petty malignant spite and gratuitous insult as the above! Yes, petty malignant spite and gratuitous insult! The letter contains these, and nothing else! The fling at the landed interest, which nothing but spiteful malignity could have prompted, is petty and paltry enough, God knows: but the *insult* heaped upon the manufacturing operatives by the COLONEL is not so easily got rid of. The operatives engaged in factory labour have felt the woeful blasting effects of the factory system upon their household comforts and domestic happiness. They have had to submit to the power of iron and steel, which has dragged their infant children from their poor resting place, and demanded their close and constant attendance for eighteen hours together, with only thirty minutes intermission for rest, meals, education, and recreation! They have seen their little ones murdered before their very faces: and, because they have *complained* of this; because they have demanded protection for the infant; because they have asked for a curb to be placed upon the power which works such murderous effects; Colonel THOMPSON, of all men in the world, insults them by representing that they have no more to complain of than the agricultural labourer, the "harvest women," and "female and infant weeders"! He represents their efforts as a "well-meaning blunder," and "a *fraud* directed to the preservation of the evils they pretend to remedy"!!! The operatives know that their tender offspring have to attend upon the machinery of the factory-master for twelve or fourteen hours, in an atmosphere artificially heated to seventy, eighty, ninety, and even ninety-four degrees, when the thermometer in the open air stands at twenty-five; they know that this is destructive to the health of the strongest-formed men brought within its influence; they know that their children have, by its means, become "weakly, emaciated, stunted in their growth, dull, sluggish, and diseased;" and yet Colonel THOMPSON represents that they have no *more* cause of complaint than "female and infant weeders" who follow their occupation *in the open air*, "when the thermometer is below forty"! He represents their efforts to obtain a *medicum* of protection for their children, as the efforts of one set of men determined "to plague and villify another" set of men, the millowners! The insult is grossly outrageous!

"The Ten-Hours question is a *fraud* directed to the preservation of the evils it pretends to remedy." So says Colonel THOMPSON! He only *says* so, however. He does not condescend to show *how* the enacting of a law prohibiting the working of any child between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one more than ten hours per day, with two hours for meals, will "preserve the evil" of working him eighteen hours with only thirty minutes intermission, which was the evil complained of. He does not show *how* the bringing out of the mills, the daughters and wives of the working people, and sending their brothers, and sons, and husbands to supply their places, instead of their walking the streets workless and penniless as they do now; he does not show *how* the doing of this would "preserve the evil" complained of. He does not show *how* the keeping of the wives of the working men at home, to attend to their domestic cares and duties; to keep the poor man's HOME cleanly, and prepare his food, and mend his clothing, *and nurse his children*; he does not show *how* the accomplishment of this "would preserve the evil" complained of, which evil is that the man has to do the duties at home, while the wife works in the factory for his support. He does not show *how* the keeping of the daughters of the poor at home with their mothers, to learn how to make a pudding and broil a steak; to learn how to make a shirt, and knit a stocking; to learn how to bake and boil, and mend, and darn; the COLONEL does not condescend to show *how* the accomplishment of all these things would "preserve the evils" complained of; and all these things, and many more, are involved in that "Ten-Hours' Question" which the COLONEL designates as "a well-meaning blunder" and "a *fraud* directed to the preservation of the evils it pretends to remedy"!!!

The fact is, the "Free Trade Party," as they call themselves, are stung to the quick, at the exposure of the hollow sophistries and baseless "principles" upon which they have built their superstructure of fraud and deceit, in the hope of "gulling the natives" into another "extension" of that system which has given "millions" to a few, and taken comfort and plenty from the many! They are mad with rage at the fact, that the working people have detached themselves from the car of MALTHUSIANISM to which they were chained by the Whigs, *and have set up business on their own account*; sending, of themselves, to the Prime Minister in person to detail their wrongs and grievances, and to set forth their requirements, AS A DISTINCT PARTY IN THE STATE. LABOUR never before could get to head-quarters, only when CAPITAL chose to let it. *Now* it has been there personally and by itself. Is there nothing in this? Do not the "great" masters see, in this proceeding, the prostration of all hope of their being able to deceive the Minister, or humbug the people? Their power to do these things is gone! Well may they rage and rave! and well may the cautious and prudently-calculating COLONEL THOMPSON forget himself, and heap insult upon the heads of those who have disappointed a faction's hopes!

In keeping with the COLONEL'S pitiful spleen are the malignant lies of the *Weekly Dispatch*. That "friend of the poor," whose knowledge is so extensive that he stands in need of no information, gravely informs the public that "the Deputation included the President of the Executive Secret Council of the Chartist National Association, and another noted Chartist orator." No matter that the Editor knew there never was any such body in existence, as the "Executive *Secret* Council of the Chartist Association;" no matter that the Editor knew that Mr. JOHN LEECH, of Huddersfield, was not Mr. JAMES LEACH, of Manchester, the latter of whom is the President of the "Executive Committee of the National Charter Association," *(with no secrecy)*; no matter that the Editor of the *Dispatch* knew these things; he knew also that the "effect" of the Report of the Deputation would not be to serve the interests of the class whose prejudices he panders to; he knew that the statements and arguments used by the Deputation were irrefutable; he knew that nothing but enormous lying, which would stir up the class and party prejudices of the upper and trading classes against the Deputation *personally*, could avail him; he knew the worth of the bugbear, *Chartism*, amongst these classes; he knew that lies were wanted to conjure up his man of straw; *so he told lies*, and created a President of a body that never had existence, for the purpose of representing him as composing one of the Deputation! O! "Free Trade"! to what despicable shifts art thou reduced!

The veracious *Dispatch*, who is so very knowing as to know *every thing*, informs the world—

"That the Ten Hours' Committee was set upon its legs by one of Sir Robert Peel's own colleagues, who went to Leeds with lots of gold, after the General Election was over, to get up a counter agitation to the Manchester Corn Law movement, and to cause the manufacturing system to be vilified and misrepresented by bribed hackney spouters."

"The Ten Hours' Committee:" the "knowing one" does not know that there is a Short Time Committee in every town in the manufacturing district, both in Yorkshire and Lancashire! "The Committee was set on its legs by one of Sir ROBERT PEEL'S own colleagues, who went to Leeds with lots of gold." Which of Sir ROBERT'S colleagues was it, Mr. WISDOM? Lord ASHLEY is the man pointed at, who did visit Leeds, after the election, to inform the Committee that he should still persevere in his efforts to obtain from Parliament a measure of justice for the infantile labourer in the factories, notwithstanding the altered position of parties, which altered position the patrons of the *Weekly Dispatch* had predicted would alter him; and yet Mr. WISDOM does not even know that Lord ASHLEY is not a colleague of Sir ROBERT PEEL!—nay, he does not know, what all the world knows besides, that Lord ASHLEY *refused* office under Sir ROBERT PEEL, because that Minister had not made up his mind on the question of the "Ten Hours' Bill"! Verily, Mr. WISDOM, your "knowings" are very extensive! But the "Ten Hours' Committee was then set upon its legs." The Leeds Ten Hours' Committee has been in existence *ten years!* Really, Mr. WISEMAN, the "world is ignorant!"

As for the "lots of gold," all we have to say is, we hope the "Ten Hours' Committee" got them. They will need them! The opponent is rich and powerful—his length of purse is such, that it can manage to get the *Weekly Dispatch* on its side. Monopoly is a bad thing, says the *Dispatch*. Don't let it want to have all the "lots of gold" to itself. The Short Time Committees have as much right to be "*bribed*" as he has.

Leaving the press for the present, let us once more revert to the interview with Sir ROBERT PEEL. The Deputation spoke with a truthful boldness which makes the whole Report of their conversation interesting in the highest degree. No doubt every one of our readers will peruse the entire document, as far as we give it this week; but we cannot forbear from quoting the solemn appeal made by these working men to the Prime Minister of England:—

"You, Sir Robert," said they, "are now placed in the most important and commanding position of any individual in Europe, perhaps in the world. At the head of a strong Government, with a powerful majority in the Commons, and an influential portion of the population thinking with you; unfettered as you declare yourself to be, save by your own convictions of what is right and useful; the resources of an empire on which the sun is said never to set—an empire unparalleled in its natural and artificial appliances—at your command, and a population whose enterprise, industry, and genius is proverbial, looking up to you; a grave, an awful responsibility rests upon you, Sir Robert! The means for producing national well being are superabundant; the population is but limited. Broad and comprehensive views, vigorous and decided action, are all called for by the exigencies of the times, and we earnestly hope that such will mark your course."

This is not the language of sycophancy or of prostitution. It is the honest but eloquent appeal of LABOUR to POWER! May it be responded to as it deserves!

In the second portion of the Report, which details the interview the Deputation had with Sir JAMES GRAHAM, the reader will perceive that the "question of the land" is fairly set before the Government, as a remedial measure for the manifold evils we endure and are still further threatened with. The *end* of the present system, whether we "extend" it or restrict it, without giving a new direction to the energies of our population, is there truthfully depicted; and an awful and sorry *end* it is! Government, however, have now the truth before them. If they dare to act on it, and fairly grapple with the difficulties, *the nation is saved!* If the Prime Minister has not moral courage to do this; if he adopt a faltering temporising policy; he submits his own judgment to the cautious and tardy movements and desires of others; if he be not fully prepared to take the bull by the horns, *and fling him*, his Cabinet will speedily go to smash! and he himself sink below the level of the would-be-statesman.

Time will speedily decide! The battle will shortly commence. On prudent energy and firm determination the Minister's existence depends: but, whatever may be *his* fate, the cause of the people is sure! They stand aloof from the "rich oppressor," and perseveringly and successfully prosecute their suit, as the "poor oppressed," in the court of public opinion. Neither bribes, nor threats, nor vilification, nor calumny, nor intimidation can turn them from their course! Their motto is, "Onward, and we conquer; backward, and we fall" The cause of the people is safe! whatever becomes of the Minister! Cabinets may smash; Parliaments may be broken up; Governmental difficulties may increase and abound: THEY DO SO BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO DO JUSTICE! The Minister who dares to do this will be the Minister of the people, and will stand: all others must fall!

WAGES OF LABOUR AND "EXTENSIONS" OF COMMERCE.

THE great demand upon our space this week by the Report of the Short Time Committee's Deputation, and the proceedings at several meetings, and of the Scottish Delegates, will prevent us from giving, in the present paper, the observations we promised on the last mooted infernal "scheme" of the "great" Cotton Masters of Lancashire, to get rid of the poor unfortunates they have inveigled and trepanned from the agricultural districts, now that they have no further use for them. Those observations will keep, however; and though we are prevented just now from giving them, the world shall know the nature and sincerity of that "sympathy" with the operatives which the "great" masters now pretend so *feelingly* to entertain. Their *scheming*, both to get the agricultural labourers here into the manufacturing districts, and to get them back again now that they are worked to death, shall be laid bare! O! yes! we will know the value of their "sympathy"!

Meanwhile, we cannot but congratulate the country upon "the fix" in which the "great" masters are placed. The gauntlet has been fairly thrown down to them; they have been challenged to show that former "extensions" of commerce have had the effect of adding to the wages of labour and the profits of the master; they have been fairly told that if they will but do this, the working people will join them in demanding another "extension;" and they have also been told that if they fail to do this, the working people will still continue to stand aloof from "the extension of *foreign* trade agitation," and go on in their own way, on their own account, and for their own object: the "great" masters have been invited to a fair encounter; *and they shrink from the contest!* Not one of their organs or advocates have dared to answer or notice the questions we have recently put to them. Neither the *Chronicle*, nor the *Sun*, nor the *Globe*, nor the *Manchester Guardian*, nor the *Leeds Mercury*, have dared to accept the challenge we have given them. Nor has Mr. COBDEN or Mr. PLINT dared to attempt to shew that our "extended" commerce and improved machinery have added to the comforts of the cottage and the till of the shopkeeper. *Nor have they even ventured to attempt to shew that they have not taken from both.* They dare not thus attempt! They will shirk the questions we have raised, and affect to treat them with contempt. This, however, will not do! Those questions must be met, and satisfactorily answered; or the working people will never join the "great" masters for "Corn Law Repeal," as a means of further "extending" commerce: and the "great" masters are powerless for this purpose until the working people do join them!

We have before dared the "great" masters to open their ledgers, and tell us the exact amounts they have paid as wages for the same description of work, every year from 1810 to 1842. WE AGAIN DARE THEM TO DO THIS, and we tell them they will have to do it! The nation must fathom this thing. We must know all about it. No measures can be safely taken until we have this information. We must know accurately what the past effects of our "commerce" have been, with all its "extensions," before we can judge what is likely to accrue from future and further "extensions." The information must be had!

Tho' the "great" masters dare not, voluntarily, give this information, the working people *dare!* The reason for this conduct on the part of both master and workman, is obvious! It is the interest of the one that the truth should be concealed; it is the interest of the other that it be blazoned forth! Accordingly the operatives are at work in all parts of the kingdom, preparing the tables of wages we have asked for. To those who have written, apprising us that they are so engaged, we beg to tender our best thanks, accompanied again by the request that they will take care to *be very exact*. Be SURE of every thing you set down; and then we will defy the devil, with all the "great" masters to boot, to upset our positions.

Perhaps we cannot do better than close this short article with two specimens of the "honour" and "honesty" of the "great" masters in the woollen and worsted districts. These personages make "great" pretensions to these two qualities: let us test them.

The *woollen* merchants, then, we boldly aver, are so "honourable" and so "honest," that they do not pay a single penny for the "finishing" of their cloths! They CHEAT out of the clothier the finisher and the puchaser *more* than pays for the entire cost of dressing!

Here is the operation.

It is well known, now, that none but "great" masters have any chance in the market. Those of small capital are done up! There are none left now but a few of the "great" ones, who are known to be "great:" that is, they are known to possess "immense capital." These go, then, say into the Leeds or Huddersfield Cloth Halls, amongst the clothiers who have their "baulks" there for sale: that is, cloths in an unfinished state,—just as they have left the weaver, and scourer, and fuller. The clothiers who attend these Halls are men of small means; men who reside in the country villages so thickly studded throughout the West Riding of Yorkshire, and who are just able to make one or two pieces, and bring them to market for sale. *But they must sell.* The small capital they have, and the other pressings of the system, render it necessary that their money should be turned over. The man with the purse knows this. He shakes the purse in the poor clothier's face, when he bids him a price for his cloth. The clothier is at his mercy. *He must sell*; he is forced to do so in many instances, at less than prime cost: and, in almost all instances, at a sacrifice of the greater portion of the profits his class used to get. The consequence is, that the race of clothiers is rapidly declining—the *little* master sinking into the rank of journeyman weaver.

Next follows another "process." The clothier, when the price is agreed on, takes his pieces to the "measurer-in" for the "great" master. This is generally an important, fussy, stand-out-of-way personage. He knows what he has to do. He has *to cheat* in the measurement! He will do this, to the extent of two yards in each piece, spite of all the clothier can do. In vain the clothier measures it fairly before his face. The MEASURER "*can make it into no more.*" The clothier is forced to submit to the robbery, or take his piece back again. But he must have money! He cannot *eat* his cloth! He is compelled to accede to the measurement of the "measurer-in," though he well knows that if he had to go, the next hour, to purchase the piece back again, the "measuring out" would be quite different!

Those two yards, thus *cheated*, ROBBED, from the poor clothier, will in most instances, pay for the after dressing! But the cheating does not end here. In the course of the dressing the cloths have to be "tentered," after they are "wetted" and "raised." These "tenters" are formed of long horizontal bars fixed upon upright posts, and made of wood or iron. The bars are filled with hooks, on which the cloth is hung by the "lists." The uppermost bar is generally a fixture to the top of the upright posts; and the lower bar, in short lengths, with joints something like those of a turn-up bedstead, is formed so as to slide a certain distance in "slots" made in the upright post. This is done to accommodate the "tenter" to the different widths of the cloths, and to stretch them to their proper width when affixed to the hooks. When "master croppers" were more rife than even factories now are, these "tenters" might be seen occupying the fields around their houses in almost every direction: for then the "drying" was nearly all done in the open air. *Now*, however, these have nearly disappeared, along with the "master cropper" himself; and the "drying" is mainly done in the "stoves," or "dry-houses," attached to each factory. This prevents the process we are now describing from being seen, as it would be, were the "tenters" in the open air, as formerly.

When the "piece," then, goes to be "tentered," it is first affixed by the "yead-hend" (head-end) to the topmost, or endmost post, but not to the bars, other than loosely, on some slight pieces of wood that turn down from the posts to keep the cloth from the ground. When thus hanging loosely in front of the tenter, the men all get to the "hinder-end" of the "piece," *and pull it to the length required.* Now, this is a hard task; and a rope and pair of blocks (sometimes with three sheaves) are provided, to enable the men to stretch the cloth to the "extent" required. Formerly the manufacturer or merchant was *prohibited* by Act of Parliament from stretching his piece of cloth more than a yard beyond the length *stamped* upon it in the "baulk" by the supervisor; for the stretching it beyond this point *injures the texture of the fabric.* Now, however, that law has become hitched off; and the pieces are stretched two, three, four, and five yards longer than they measured when in the "baulk"! The length thus obtained will more than again pay for the whole process of "finishing," including the new schemes of "boiling" and "steaming" resorted to to make coarse wool into fine. All this is to the manifest injury of the consumer. The texture is injured by the "tentering;" and what is left short by that process is finished by the "boiling" and "steaming;" for after the cloth has undergone these several processes, it is more *rotten* than it used to be after many years' wear!

And the men who thus systematically ROB and CHEAT, are "honest" and "honourable" men! Quite "respectable!" And they want to repeal the Corn Laws solely to ensure the operatives' "*cheap* food, HIGH wages, and PLENTY TO DO." No doubt they do! Had they not better give up *cheating* the clothier, and thus allow *him* to have a modicum of wages, before they make such "great" pretensions about the interests of the operatives?"

Now, then, for the Stuff Trade. "Honest" and "honourable" and "respectable" men are engaged in this department too. The following is a sample of their practices.

The standard length of a Stuff Piece is twenty-eight yards. It is so posted up in many places in Bradford Stuff Piece Hall. No manufacturer has any right to make a piece one yard longer. If he does, he infringes upon an established rule of the trade. The Stuff manufacturers, almost universally, set this principle at nought! They are too "honest" to be bound by rule! They make their pieces from 36 to 39 yards long! And they do not pay one single penny more to the weaver for weaving the 39 yards than they paid for the 28!!! They do not pay one single penny more to the printer, or dyer, or finisher! And when they send them into "our foreign markets," they send them, and pay duty for them, as though they were of the standard length, 28 yards!!!! Their "honour" and "honesty" first teaches them to rob the weaver and dyer at home; and then to *defraud* the foreigner abroad, to keep and "extend" whose custom we are to ruin the British farmer and agricultural labourer! "Honest" men! give over *robbing* and *cheating* before you ask the working people to "extend" *your* "commercial system"! "Honourable and respectable" men! a Repeal of the Corn Laws to enable you still further *to cheat* and *rob* would be of infinite service; would it not? "Don't you wish you may get it"!!

THE LEEDS MAYOR AND THE LEEDS CHARTISTS.

Again have the public been most grossly insulted by the new Whig official, who seems determined to eclipse even the old woman who sat in the civic chair last year. A requisition, signed by six member of the Town Council—the body who elected *him* to be the wearer of the "gold chain"—and signed, too, by not less than fifty borough voters, and by more than a hundred municipal voters, was presented to him last week, asking him to call a public meeting to consider the propriety of memorialising her Majesty for a free pardon for Frost, Williams, and Jones. The parties who presented the requisition, so signed, to his worship, were also instructed to ask him, if he felt the least hesitation about calling the meeting, to grant the requisitors the use of the Court-House, and they would convene the meeting themselves. But no! Both these requests were refused! His worship "could not recognise any other party in the town than Whigs and Tories." 'Tis true. *That* was his reason! Fit man to be a Mayor!

Well: the parties whom he had thus grosaly insulted learned that a public meeting was to be holden in the Music Hall on Tuesday evening last, at which it was announced the Mayor was to take the chair. Many people were curious to see what sort of a thing it (the Mayor) was; and so determined *to go!* But *no time was fixed for the meeting.* The Bills calling it duly set forth, that it was under the auspices of the "Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade;" and they also pompously announced that "Prince Albert" was "Patron and President:" but they announced no *time* for the meeting to commence! No matter; the time was learned; and, though the doors were opened so early as five o'clock, and though all means had been used to get together a meeting of the Mawworm, Cantwell, and Praise-God-bare-bones sort, yet when the business was proceeded with at half-past five, it was found that more than three-fourths of the meeting were of that party which the Mayor had refused to recognise!

Alderman Tottie moved that the Mayor should take the chair, which was seconded by a broad-cloth gentleman near him; and the Mayor was proceeding to seat himself without a vote. He stopped short, however, when he heard a deep sonorous voice in the body of the Hall moving, "as an amendment, that Mr. William Brook should preside." This was duly and promptly seconded and put to the meeting, when it was carried *unanimously*, not a single hand being held up against it.

The Mayor and his few friends,—after Alderman Tottie had sillily enough bawled out "this meeting is dissolved!" precipitately rushed from the platform at the very moment Mr. Brook took his seat in the chair! A number of policemen were in attendance at the meeting; and ALDERMAN "Captain" TOTTIE was so frightened, that he took a number of them away to guard him home!

When the Mayor and his friends had departed, Mr. BROOK opened the business of the meeting, and introduced Mr. JONES, and several other gentlemen to address it, and move the resolutions. A real good Chartist meeting was thus had. The room was more than ordinarily lighted. The glass chandeliers were filled with wax candles; and these, in addition to the gas-lights, gave the splendid room a very elegant appearance.

A memorial to the Queen for the free pardon of Frost, Williams, and Jones, was unanimously passed; and several resolutions were also passed, as will be seen from an advertisement inserted in another part of our paper.

To Readers and Correspondents.

THE NATIONAL PETITION.—*Our publisher, Mr. Hobson, has printed the* National Petition for 1842, *on a neat sheet, for the purpose of being extensively distributed amongst those from whom signatures are asked, that they may know for what they are signing. He is ready to supply them to the Associations and to individuals at the following charges:—100 copies for 2s; 1,000 for 15s. Petition sheets, of good strong paper, ruled in four columns, and holding two hundred names when filled, may also be had, price 2d. each. The Petition and sheets may also be had from Mr. Cleave, London; Messrs. Paton and Love, Glasgow; and Mr. Heywood, Manchester. But in all cases the money must be sent in advance—the price being so low as to preclude credit.*

BRIEF RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF ALL WHO WRITE FOR NEWSPAPERS.—*Write legibly. Make as few erasures and interlineations as possible. In writing names of* persons *and* places *be more particular than usual to make* every letter *distinct and clear—also in using words not English.* Write only on one side of the paper. *Employ* no *abbreviations whatever, but write out every word in full. Address communications* not to any particular person, but to "The Editor." *Finally, when you sit down to write, don't be in a hurry. Consider that hurried writing makes slow printing.*

THE POETS.—*Our poetical friends have been as usual exceedingly bounteous: we have so large a stock of poetry and apologies for poetry on hand

John Skerritt.—*The official report sent is an advertisement.*

Robert Watson, Leith.—*Notice of the two meetings on the 20th of December last is a leetle too late.*

Mr. Stephen Binns, *blacking manufacturer, and member of the General Council of the National Charter Association, Nun-street, Newcastle, will supply any seaport town in Great Britain and Ireland, carriage free, with first-rate Chartist Blacking as low as any in the trade, and will give one-twelfth of the proceeds to the Executive Council in Manchester. P.S. The blacking cannot be surpassed in quality; and any quantity can be procured in penny packets, or otherwise, packed in neat boxes.*

Pinder's Chartist Blacking.—*Thomas Hanson, 24, Currant-street, Sussex-street, Nottingham, has become retail agent for Pinder's Chartist blacking; and he will allow one penny per shilling out of his profits to the Executive.*

Truro Chartists *complain that their reports are not given at greater length. We received from them a report of a meeting held on Tuesday, the 28th of December, on Thursday, the 6th of January, ten days after the meeting had been held, and only a few hours before we are obliged to go to press with the Cornwall papers.*

Mr. N. Morling *will feel obliged if any Chartists o Rye, Battle, Winchelsea, Chichester, &c., will report to him, by letter, the state of the cause in their respective neighbourhoods. His address is No. 22, Albion-street, Brighton.*

In the last Balance-sheet, *instead of 5s. being placed opposite Wolverhampton, it should be Wigton.*

H. Stonehouse and the Leeds Chartists.—*The list of nominations for the Convention was sent to us officially by the Secretary for the Executive: if any mistake have occurred it must be corrected through him—we cannot do it.*

Mr. Edward Clayton and the Charge of Drunkenness against Mr. O'Brien again.—*We received by this day's (Thursday) post a letter signed* John Chapman, Joseph Bray, Joseph Rushworth, William Sellers, Robert Peel, Andrew Emmerson, *and* James Gledhill. *These persons, of course, knew when they sent their letter that (coming at that period of the week) it would not appear this week. It is such a letter as they have no right to expect any newspaper to insert at all; but we shall not deviate from our usual course of allowing persons to abuse us in our own columns. The conductor of the* Northern Star, *whom these persons please to speak of as* "establishing a dictator *little short of that assumed by the Conqueror of old," has made a constant practice of endeavouring to show "fair play" to every one but himself. His anxiety on this head has caused him to open the columns of the paper to so many communications abusing its conductor and misrepresenting his statements, under colour of some petty complaint or other, that many such persons as Messrs Chapman and Co. seem to have taken up the notion that every body has a right to abuse the Editor of the* Northern Star *as much as they please; and that it is a very serious crime in him to give any explanation of whatever misrepresentations may be made, or any contradiction to whatever falsehoods may be asserted respecting him. We shall give this letter of Messrs.* Chapman and Co. *in our next week's Notices to Correspondents; we shall answer its falsehoods by simply stating facts; we shall leave its abuse to answer itself; and shall have no more of these* "capers" *from either Mr. Clayton or his friends.*

Mr. Penny.—*We are reluctantly compelled to withhold his excellent letter to Hamer Stansfeld, Esq. for this week.*

William Cook.—*We think his communication better not inserted. Let the "lads" go on—let them not be daunted. Truth must prevail.*

Edward M'Ewan.—*We only received the paper from him containing the report of the saintly brawl in the Relief Church by the last post before going to press. We shall make use of it for our next.*

Bernard M'Cartney.—*His letter in reference to Col. Thompson arrived too late for this week: it shall appear in our next.*

Pinder's Blacking.—Support for the Executive, and the Cause generally.—*In our last we noticed the patriotic offer of Mr. Robert Lundy, of Mytongate, Hull, to give threepence out of every shilling of his receipts for Pinder's blacking to the Executive. Since then we have received the following letter from Mr. Lundy, to which we have great pleasure in drawing attention:—*

"Sir,—When I wrote you last week, I was not aware that Mr. Pinder allowed more profit on his blacking than 4d. to the shilling; but I find the profit to be 100 per cent. I shall then give 3d. per shilling, as I stated, to the Executive, and 10 per cent. additional, out of my receipts, to the funds of the Hull Chartists. I hope other agents will follow the example.

"Robert Lundy."

We hope so too. Let the thing be set about at once and in good earnest. Surely there is in every place some good Chartist as patriotic as Mr. Lundy! About it at once! Let every locality have its agent—let not an ounce of any other blacking come into a Chartist's house—let the sale of it be pushed among other parties as much as possible and the "rent roll" of the Executive will soon be worth something.

Charles Davidson *is dissatisfied with the reason we assign for the non-publication of his letter; that reason being "no room." He threatens to cease reading the paper unless we assign a more satisfactory reason. We should certainly deprecate so heavy a calamity, as the loss of Mr. Davidson's patronage as seriously as we shall deplore it, if compelled to bear up against it; but what can we do in so perplexing a dilemma? if we assign any other reason, 'tis ten to one but it might be less "satisfactory" instead of being more so. Upon the whole, therefore, we see nothing for it, but to leave the matter as it is; trusting that second thoughts may awaken our friend's commisseration*

John Butterworth, Milnrow.—*We charge 5½d. for the paper and medal to the agents—they sell them at 6½d.*

R. B. Todmorden.—*It has been forwarded to A. Heywood.*

R. Benfield.—*The parcel of Plates, Medals, and Almanacks was sent to T. Ingram, Neville-street, Abergavenny.*

An Old Subscriber, Devonport.—*Send 2s. 11d. to this Office, naming the Plate wanted. He will receive the Plate by return, and the papers weekly till the six weeks end. If he could send 5s. 10d., for two, it would save twopence in the postage, and two will pass safer than one. He will then get twelve weeks' papers.*

FOR THE WIVES AND FAMILIES OF THE INCARCERATED CHARTISTS.

	£.	s.	d.
From Mr. W. Coltman, pianoforte-tuner, Leicester...	0	9	6
From James George, Bristol	0	1	0

FOR THE EXECUTIVE.

	£.	s.	d.
From James George, Bristol ...	0	2	6
From the Woodhouse National Charter Association	0	5	0
From the Chartists of Wakefield, per Mrs. Lancaster	0	10	0
From Roger Pinder, Hull	0	5	11½

FOR THE O'BRIEN PRESS FUND.

	£.	s.	d.
From Lambley, Nottinghamshire ...	0	5	3
From Merton, Surrey, per J. Dale...	0	8	0
From London, 1d. per week subscription, by H. M.... 4 9; M. C., by H. M.... 0 3	0	5	0

FOR MRS. FROST—THE "WHIG-MADE WIDOW."

	£.	s.	d.
From J. Sweet's shop, Nottingham	0	6	6
– the Chartists of Swan-green, near Bradford	0	4	0
– the Chartists of Bradford-Moor	0	1	0
– James George, Bristol ...	0	2	6
– the "New Town Class" of Chartists in Bishopwearmouth	0	15	0
– the Chartists of Skegby, per J. Hardstop	0	2	0
– the National Charter Association, Woodhouse	0	2	6

THE SMALL PORTRAITS.

To meet the wishes of many who desire to have the Small Portraits formerly issued with the *Star*, and who say that 4½d. is an awkward price to remit, we have determined to offer them at 4d. each. The list comprises Portraits of—

F. O'Connor,	H. Hunt,
R. Oastler,	Andrew Marvel,
J. R. Stephens,	Arthur O'Connor,
Sir W. Molesworth	Thos. Attwood, and
Wm. Cobbett,	Bronterre O'Brien.

All these will be allowed to the Agents and Booksellers, so as to retail at 4d. each. Any one experiencing difficulty in procuring them has but to inclose six Postage Stamps, either to the office, or to our principal agents, Mr. Cleave, of London, Mr. Guest, of Birmingham, and Mr. Heywood, of Manchester, and he can have any one on the lis returned to him by the next post.

RE-ISSUE OF THE LARGE PORTRAITS.

We are constantly receiving applications from new subscribers, or from friends, wishing to know upon what terms they can be supplied with the Large Portraits that have been, at different times, issued to the subscribers to the *Star*; to these applications our invariable answer has hitherto been, "*not at any price.*" The calls upon us, however, have now become so numerous and so urgent, that we have determined to issue them again on the following terms:—

A person wishing to subscribe for any one of the large Plates, must enter his name with his News-agent, and Subscribe regularly for the paper for six weeks, specifying at the time he enters his name the Plate he wants.

At the end of his six weeks' subscription he will receive the Plate along with his Paper for that week, for both of which he will be charged 1s. by the Agent, and no more.

The Agent will be charged for Paper and Plate for that week 9d.; so that he will have 25 per cent. profit for his trouble. The Papers will cost him nothing for carriage, as they go by post; and we will contrive to get the Plates to him for as little cost as possible.

Any subscriber who receives his paper direct from the office, can have the plates on the same terms as from an agent.

Here, then, is an easy manner by which all who desire can have any of the under-mentioned plates:—

The Convention.	John Collins.
John Frost.	Dr. M'Douall.
J. R. Stephens.	R. Emmett, and
Richard Oastler.	F. O'Connor.

The agents had better open their subscription lists immediately, and apprise us of the number they will require of each.

*** In answer to several applications respecting the time to commence the Six Weeks' Subscriptions we have to say as soon as the next plate, "Monmouth Court House," shall have been distributed. When one Portrait, or Plate has been obtained in accordance with this plan, the Subscriber may enter his name for another; and so on till he receive all he may desire to have. Every person can have just those which he pleases to subscribe for; and is not expected or desired to take others he may not need.

Local and General Intelligence.

LEEDS.—Distressed Printers of London.—We beg to call attention to an advertisement elsewhere, of a subscription by the printers of this town, for the purpose of alleviating the distresses of 1500 of their unemployed fellows in the Metropolis. The object is laudably benevolent. We are happy to hear that in other towns considerable sums have been contributed by the wealthier classes of the public, whom this deserving class of operatives have done so much to serve and to instruct. We trust Leeds will not be backward.

Last Saturday night Mr. J. Smith lectured on the benefits of teetotalism, to a crowded audience; he delivered a powerful address, which gave great satisfaction to his audience.

DEWSBURY.—Poor Law Mercies.—At a meeting of the Guardians, a vote of censure on Mr. Bradbury, the parish doctor for Mirfield, for neglecting the child of Thomas Robinson that was dangerously ill, was agreed to. It appeared from the evidence, that the father delivered the order, in writing, from the relieving officer, to Mr. B., between ten and eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, Nov. 24th, when he described the illness of the child, and requested him to attend as soon as possible. Mr. Bradbury promised to call either on that day or the day after. He did not attend until twenty-six hours had elapsed, and in sixteen hours after that the child died!

STALYBRIDGE.—The members of the Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 18 of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, assembled on the 31st of Dec., to celebrate their twelfth anniversary, at the Royal Oak Inn, when upwards of 100 members sat down to an excellent dinner provided by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Allen.

OLDHAM.—On Saturday evening last, the members of the Mechanics' Institution, Side of Moor, Oldham, had a tea party in their large and commodious room, and about one hundred and fifty persons sad down to a most excellent tea. After which, Mr. Joseph Brooks was called to the chair. A selection of sacred music was performed by Mr. Josh. Winterbottom and a number of his pupils, from the works of Handel, Haydn, and other composers.

Free Born Englishmen.—A correspondent writes us that, on Christmas Day, the colliers, in the employ of Messers. Unsworth walked in procession through the streets of Oldham, dressed in new suits of flannel, bought for them by their masters, and which they were forced to have or be turned out of employ; and for which they have to pay the full value.

HALIFAX.—Sacrilege.—On Sunday night last, some villains broke into the church at Coley, near Halifax, and took away books, cushions, &c.

Burglary.—On Thursday night last, the house of Mr. David Parkinson, stone-merchant, Northowram, near Halifax, was broken into by means of taking the cellar window out, and nineteen stones of bacon, which was laid in salt, was taken away. Mr. D. Parkinson, has had his house broken into five times during the last eighteen months.

ROCHDALE.—A meeting to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament for a Ten Hours' Bill took place in the Social Institution on Tuesday evening. The room was not half filled; showing that the working classes wanted something more. Mr. James Bailey was called to the chair. Mr. Doherty spoke for upwards of an hour, pointing out the evil deeds of the Whigs. He concluded his address by giving an account of the interview a deputation from the Short Time Committee had with Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, and others, when the Chairman read the petition to be adopted. A resolution was here moved and seconded for the adoption of the Ten Hours' Bill, when Mr. John Leach moved an amendment and was seconded by Mr. James Ashley, to the following effect,—"That while this meeting consider the operatives of this country are overworked and cannot obtain the common necessaries of life by their labour, they are of opinion that the people will never be permanently benefitted until the Charter becomes the law of the land." After some desultory conversation, both the amendment and motion were put from the chair, when the Chairman declared the amendment carried.

THORNTON.—The second degree of Ancient Foresters held their usual anniversary, on New Year's Day, when upwards of forty members sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Driver.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On Friday night last, a most melancholy and fatal accident happened to Mr. George Robinson, fancy woollen manufacturer, of this town, as he was returning home from Wakefield, on the road betwixt the Black Bull, Mirfield, and the Three Nuns. When found he was quite insensible, and died shortly afterwards. He was riding a very spirited horse, from which he fell, either from the effect of a fit or some other cause unknown. There were no particular wounds found upon his body, except what had been inflicted by the feet of the horse. He has left a widow and two children to mourn his loss. An inquest has been held, and a verdict of "accidental death" given.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—This theatre has been crowded during the week past to witness a new pantomime called "Sinbad the Sailor," composed by Mr. De Hayes, who enacts the clown. It is got up in a most splendid manner, and gave the holiday folks great satisfaction. It abounds with novel and clever tricks. A series of the best stock pieces of the drama, have also been performed, thereby forming a double attraction. The principal characters, Macbeth, Brutus, &c., have been performed by a Mr. Woolgar, of the Theatres Royal York and Hull, who bids fair to become a favourite here. Mr. Woigar, Mr. Nantz, and Miss Saker were called for at the conclusion of their performances.

BRADFORD.—Fire Damp Accident.—On Friday morning last, two men and two boys were dreadfully burnt by an explosion of fire damp, in the pit called the Junction, on Low Moor, belonging to the Low Moor Company. The two men are so severely burnt it is thought they cannot possibly recover. These make twelve persons that have been burnt this week within the space of a mile.

KENSINGTON.—Dissolution of the Poor Law Union.—A public meeting of the rate-payers was held in the spacious rooms of the Civet Cat Inn, High-street, Kensington, on Monday evening, at seven o'clock. John Percival, Esq., was called to the chair, and opened the business in a most masterly manner. Mr W. S. Hanson moved the first resolution. Mr. Hanson then submitted to the meeting many cases of cruelty perpetrated under the provisions and through the agency of the Poor Law Amendment Bill. He concluded by moving the resolution as follows:—"That an association of the ratepayers of the parish of Kensington, be formed to aid the parochial authorities in breaking up the Kensington Union, and placing the poor under our own controul," which on being seconded by Mr. Long, was carried unanimously, amid the loudest applause. Mr. Preece, in a speech replete with good sense, in which he laid bare the sophistry of the Malthusians, and cut up root and branch their infernal principles, moved "That a committee be formed in furtherance of the above views," which being seconded, was carried unanimously. A large number of members were enrolled. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

MANCHESTER.—Teetotalism.—Mr. John Hockings, the Birmingham blacksmith, has delivered recently twenty-five lectures on total abstinence and the evils of drunkenness, and has had crowded audiences every night, and done much good. On Sunday evening he lectured at Blakeley-street; on Monday at Ashton; and on Tuesday at the Mechanics' Institute, Manchester.

LONDON.—Three Crowns, Richmond-street.—The tailors of the above Association held their usual meeting on Sunday last, when Messrs. Cuffey and Parker addressed the meeting, in the absence of Mr. M'Grath.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

Brothers,—I find it announced by the *Northern Star* of Saturday, the 1st of January, 1842, that my fellow-members of the Executive are unable to assemble at the appointed time in Bristol, for want of funds.

I beg earnestly to submit that unless the Executive immediately assembles, our cause will be seriously retarded.

Reflect for a moment on the movement in the Midland Counties, and the proceedings of the Corn Law League, and I am sure you will at once see the necessity of our immediately meeting, and completing the arrangements for the election of the National Convention.

In the present peculiar position of the several *movement parties*, I will not enter upon a statement of my opinion regarding the policy of our body. But I entreat our members immediately to place in the hands of the Treasurer the funds requisite to enable the Executive to assemble forthwith.

I beg to urge my Executive colleagues, Leach, M'Douall, Campbell, and Williams, to be in Bristol with all possible haste. The people of this part anxiously await their coming; and I have good authority for stating that Bath, Bristol, and Trowbridge will jointly contribute £8 or £10 towards the expences of their sitting.

Respectfully,
In the good cause,
R. K. Philp.

Bath, Jan. 6th, 1842.

Forthcoming Chartist Meetings.

Bradford, North Tavern.—The Chartists who meet at this place, are requested to attend at six o'clock, on particular business. Mr. Ibbotson will lecture in the Council Room, on Sunday next, at six o'clock in the evening; also, at Mr. Holt's, Thompson's House, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. Jennings and Raspens will lecture at Mr. White's, Manchester Road, on Sunday evening, at five o'clock. Mr. Hodgson will lecture at Bowling Back-lane, on Sunday evening, at five o'clock. Middleton Fields: Mr. Brook will lecture at the the Three Pigeons, on Sunday evening, at eight o'clock.

London.—Mr. Matthews will lecture at the Albion Coffee House, Church-street, Shoreditch, on Sunday next, at seven o'clock precisely.

Old Bailey.—Mr. Stallwood will lecture at the Political and Scientific Institute, on Sunday next, at seven o'clock precisely, on the necessity of a change.

Golden-lane.—Mr. Stallwood will lecture to the shoemakers, in the Large Room, Star Coffee House, on Sunday evening next, at nine o'clock, on the principles of the People's Charter, and the means of obtaining the same.

Limehouse.—A lecture will be delivered in the Limehouse School Room, on Tuesday next, at eight o'clock, in furtherance of the Chartist cause.

Hammersmith.—Thomas Paine's Birthday.—A public dinner will be held on Monday the 31st instant, to celebrate the birthday of Thomas Paine, at the Black Bull Inn, Hammersmith Road.—Communications to be addressed to Mr. E. Stallwood, 6, Little Vale-place, Hammersmith-road.

Hammersfield.—Mr. L. H. Leighs will deliver a lecture, at the Black Bull Inn, Hammersmith-road, on Tuesday next, at half-past seven precisely.

Sloane-square.—A public meeting will be held on Monday next, in the Temperance Hall, Lower George-street, at eight o'clock precisely.—The attendance of the members and their friends is particularly requested.

Lecture.—Mr. Farrer will lecture on the repeal of the Corn Laws, on Sunday, at the Three Crowns, Richmond-street.

Lecture.—Mr. Stallwood will lecture on the principles of the Charter, on Sunday, at the Three Crowns, Richmond-street.

Marylebone.—Mr. Wm. Benbow will lecture, in the Working Men's Hall, Circus-street, New Road, on Sunday evening next, at half-past seven o'clock.

Croydon.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Croydon, and its vicinity, will take place at the Rising Sun Tavern, on Monday next, to take into consideration the present unparalleled distressed state of the country; to address her Majesty, and to petition Parliament thereon.

Sheffield.—The council will meet, on Sunday, at two o'clock precisely.

Lecture.—Mr. Julian Harney will lecture in the Association Room, Fig Tree-lane, on Sunday evening,—Subject: the New Poor Law.

A Public Meeting will be held in the Large Room, Fig Tree-lane, on Monday evening next, to nominate fit and proper persons to serve in the Convention for the West Riding.

Halifax.—Mr. Bairstow, of Leicester, will deliver a lecture in the Charter Institution, this evening, (Saturday,) at seven o'clock.

Macclesfield.—Mr. West will lecture in the Chartist Association Rooms, on Sunday next.

Mr. Doyle's Route for the ensuing Week.—On Saturday, (to-day,) in Middlewich; Sunday next, in Congleton; Monday, the 10th, Tuesday 11th, and Wednesday 12th, in the Potteries; Saturday 15th, in New Mills.

Dukinfield.—Mr. Thos. Storor, of Ashton, will lecture to the Chartists of Duckinfield, in Hall Green, on Sunday next, at six o'clock in the evening.

Horbury.—Two sermons will be preached on Sunday next, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon, and at half-past six o'clock in the evening, by Mr. John Arran, of Bradford.

Upper Wortley.—Mr. John Smith, of Pottery Field, will deliver a lecture in this place, on Wednesday evening, the 12th instant, at eight o'clock.—Subject: The nature and importance of truth.

Newcastle.—Mr. Bronterre O'Brien will deliver three lectures, in the New Lecture Room, Nelson-street, on the evenings of Monday, the 10th, Tuesday, the 11th, and Wednesday, the 12th. The latter open for discussion.

Singlehurst.—Mr. Henry Hunt will deliver a lecture, on Monday evening, the 10th instant, on the Anomalies of Class Legislation, and its inefficiency to harmonise Society.

Sacriston.—Mr. Mowbray will lecture here on Saturday, the 15th inst.

Bolton.—Mr. Bairstow will be in Bolton on Wednesday, Jan. 12, and Mr. Leech on the Sunday following, at the Association rooms, in Howel-croft.

Mr. Leach will lecture in Openshaw, on Sunday evening, the 9th, at six o'clock.

Mr. Campbell will lecture in the room of the National Charter Association, York-street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, on Sunday evening, at six o'clock.

Barnsley.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Barnsley will be held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, on Monday evening, at seven o'clock, for the purpose of adopting the National Petition. Mr. T. B. Smith, of Leeds, will address the meeting.

Mr. Jones, the East and North Riding lecturer, will visit the following places during the next week, viz.:—Malton, on Monday and Tuesday, the 10th and 11th inst.; at Scarbro', on the 12th and 13th; at Bridlington, on the 14th and 15th.

Huddersfield.—Mr. B. Rushton will give three Chartist lectures in the Chartist Room, Upperhead Row, Huddersfield, on Sunday next. viz.:—At half-past ten in the morning, half-past two in the afternoon, and six o'clock in the evening. *There will be* a collection made in the afternoon and evening to defray the expences.

Newark.—Mr. W. D. Taylor will visit Newark on Sunday and Monday next; Radford on Tuesday; Sutton on Wednesday; and Mansfield on Thursday.

Leeds.—Mr. Charlesworth will preach in the Association Room, as half-past two o'clock in the afternoon; and Mr. Brook at half past six in the evening.

Todmorden.—The Rev. W. V. Jackson, of Manchester, will preach three sermons, in the Mechanics' Institute, on Sunday, (to-morrow,) at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon; in the afternoon at half-past two; and in the evening at six o'clock. Collections will be made after each sermon towards erecting a chapel for the minister and his congregation.

Rochdale.—Mr. Bairstow will preach two sermons on Sunday next, at half-past two and six, in the Association Room, Yorkshire-street.

Belper.—A delegate meeting is to be holden on the 27th of February. Each neighbouring town and village is requested to send a delegate.

Darlington.—J. B. O'Brien is expected to deliver two lectures, in the long-room at Mr. Bray's, on Thursday and Friday evening, this week.

Holbeck.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 9th, Mr. Frazer, will deliver a lecture, in the Association Rooms, Holbeck Bridge—to commence at half-past six o'clock.

On Wednesday evening, Jan. 12th, Mr. T. B. Smith will lecture at the same place—to commence at half-past seven o'clock.

Halifax.—Mr. Bairstow will deliver a lecture in the Chartist Lecture Room, Swan Coppice, on Saturday (this day), to commence at seven o'clock in the evening.

Birmingham.—Mr. J. Mason, Chartist Lecturer, will lecture in the Chartist Room, Feeeman-street, on Sunday evening next, at half-past six o'clock, in aid of Mr. White's defence fund.

Delegate Meeting.—Notice to Birmingham District.—A delegate meeting will be held at the Chartist Room, Freeman-street, on Sunday next, January 9th, 1842, when a delegate will be expected from each locality, without fail, as business connected with the forthcoming Convention, National Petition, and Lecturers' Fund will be brought forward.

Mr. Candy, from Wolverhampton, wishes to announce that he is going through the West Riding of Yorkshire, next week, and will call on his way and address the Chartists of Bradford, Dewsbury, Todmorden, and Halifax.

Case of Reeve.—Mr. Watkins has received this week, from a poor man, Bristol, second subscription, Sixpence.

An unprincipled character, Reeve says, wrote to Sir William Molesworth, on his behalf, and received a donation of £10, which he pocketed, giving Reeve only 10s out of it.

Pinder's Blacking.—*The following sums are due* to the Executive from Mr. Roger Pinder:—

	s.	d.
Mr. Ford, Knightsbridge, London, ...	0	6
Mr. Green, Kidderminster, ...	1	10
Mr. Mawson, Nottingham, ...	0	10
Mr. Rushin, Salford, Manchester ...	1	10
Mr. Halton, Preston, ...	1	0

Tricks of the "Plague."—A correspondent writes us:—"There has been lately employed a man who is stationed under the Colonade of Drury-lane Theatre with a table and other requisites, for the purpose of getting signatures to the Anti-Corn-Law Petition; and even boys of eleven or twelve years of age are allowed to sign it. I saw the signature of one boy whom I knew very well, and he assured me he had signed twice."

Testimonial to Mr. Oastler.—We learn from a paper which has been forwarded to us, and which is about to be advertised, that the friends of this gentleman, whose advocacy of the rights of the poor has endeared him to a very large portion of our working classes, are about to raise a subscription in his behalf, the purpose of which will be best explained by the following short extract from the paper alluded to:—"*The great efforts* which Mr. Oastler has made for his country have, however, cost him much. No considerations of private interest have ever restrained him in his endeavours to fulfil that which he conceived to be his public duty. This great, benevolent, and patriotic man is now the inmate of a debtor's prison; debarred the full exercise of those admirable faculties of mind and body which are so well adapted to procure an ample provision for himself and family. A most earnest appeal is made to those who are attached to the cause of British constitutional government to contribute towards raising a fund for the purpose of placing Mr. Oastler, his wife, and their adopted daughter, in comfortable circumstances. The money which is raised will be under the control of the trustees whose names are before mentioned, who will decide on the best method of fulfilling the object intended." Among the names of the trustees we observe those of Lord Feversham, Sir George Sinclair, Bart., &c. *There is little doubt, taking* into consideration the exertions of Mr. Oastler to benefit the condition of the factory children, the disinterestedness of those exertions, and the many affluent and zealous admirers he has among all classes of politicians, that the subscription will realise the expectations of the most sanguine of his friends.—*Morning Herald.*

A LIST OF NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION, FOR MARCH, 1842.

Northumberland and Durham.

Cumberland and Westmorland, Bronterre O'Brien.

Yorkshire, Feargus O'Connor, George Julian Harney, Edward Clayton, John West, George Binns, Thos. Vevers, J. B. O'Brien, James Penny, Wm. Otley, John West, and John Campbell,* Secretary to the Executive.

Lancashire, James Leech,* John Beesley.

Cheshire, W. Griffin, John Campbell,* and Christopher Doyle.

Derbyshire, Leicester, Nottingham, Thomas Raynor Smart, Dean Taylor, George Harrison Farmer, Jenathan Bairstow.

Staffordshire, G. B. Mart, John Mason, John Richards.

Warwick and Worcestershire, George White.

Northampton and Oxfordshire.

Monmouth and Herefordshire, Morgan Williams.*

Devon, Cornwall, and Dorset, Thomas Smith.

Gloucester, Somerset, and Wilts, Wm. Prowting Roberts, Robert Kempt Philp,* George Merse Bartlett, Felix Wm. Simeon, John Copp.

Hants, Sussex, and Isle of Wight, Nathaniel Morling, Wm. Woodward.

Essex, Middlesex, Surrey, and Kent, P. M. M'Douall,* Wm. Carrier, Wm. Prowting Roberts, Wm. Benbow, Goodwin Barmby, J. W. Parker, John Fussell, Edmund Stallwood, Ruffy Ridley, Wm. Robson French, Philip M'Grath, Wm. Fox, John Watkins, —— Rainsley, —— Robson, —— Balls, John Knight, and John Maynard.

London, John Knight, John Maynard.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge.

It will be seen that in the above list there are no nominations for several of the Electoral Districts. We believe there are candidates for each District, but their names, residences, &c. have not yet been forwarded to the General Secretary, without which it is impossible for them to be taken cognizance of. The nominations not yet forwarded must be immediately sent in, when the complete list will be issued, and a day for the Ballot fixed. Those who desire information on this subject should consult the instructions issued after the sitting of the Executive in Birmingham.

* Those marked thus * are members of the Executive.

TO THE

PATRONS OF LITERATURE,

AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY OF

LEEDS AND ITS VICINITY.

It is with feelings of the deepest regret that the LETTER-PRESS PRINTERS of LEEDS in expressing their own sympathy for their distressed brethren, are called to the painful duty of respectfully soliciting the attention of the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, Professional Gentlemen, and the Inhabitants of Leeds and its Neighbourhood, to the destitute condition of about ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED of their fellow-Printers in the Metropolis, who with their dependant Families are labouring under severe and protracted privation and suffering, from want of Employment.

When the Printers of Leeds recur to the many advantages to mankind consequent upon the past labours of their profession, and when they consider how prominent and distinguished an auxiliary the Art of Printing has been in promoting the instruction, the edification, the prosperity, the happiness, and the general advancement—social, moral, and political—of this country and of the world, they are led humbly to trust, in making a general appeal to public sympathy on behalf of their unfortunate brethren, with a view to the alleviation of their distress, that the liberal responses of the benevolent will confirm and establish the propriety of the measure now adopted.

It is with great pleasure and gratitude, that the printers of Leeds can record, amongst other places, the very benevolent response of the City of York, to the object of the present appeal, and especially the handsome donations of the Archbishop of York, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of York, and the Ven. Archdeacon Todd.

The Printers of Leeds cannot refrain from again urging this appeal upon the benevolent of all classes, by stating that the case is one of deep and long-continued distress, and calls loudly for immediate relief, as will be observed from the following Address of the London Printers:—

"To the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public in General."

"Central Committee Rooms,
Bell Yard, Temple Bar.

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—The Committee appointed by the unemployed Printers of London to isssue a public Address, in appealing to their benevolence, do so with full confidence of their sympathy and support. It is calculated that, at the present time, there are upwards of twelve hundred unemployed Compositors and Pressmen, and many of them, with large families, are in an absolutely starving state. Numbers of our worthy brethren have already applied for parochial aid; and as the public must well know, from the present state of our Poor Laws, any assistance from that quarter, but that of entering the Union Workouse, is denied; and members of our trade have been compelled to submit to that alternative. The committee beg to inform them that the sedentary occupation, and many hours which they must necessarily apply to their business, preclude them from any chance of obtaining a livelihood in any way unconnected with the printing business. And no class of men are sooner debilitated, with the loss of sight, and paralysed limbs, than your humble supplicants, which the noble and generous patrons of the Printer's Pension Society are fully aware of, from the reports of that society. The principal cause of their great distress being that of the numerous failures amongst booksellers, and others connected with the printing business; also, the little business done by Parliament, in consequence of the unsettled state of public affairs. The public must be aware that these are the chief sources from which their labours are called into action. The generous nobility and public, on a former occasion, in the years 1825—6, having so nobly responded to the call of benevolence in their behalf, the Committee have every reason to believe that in the present distressed state of the printing business, a like sympathy will crown their efforts.

"J. T. Gregg, Chairman,
"W. Dargan, Hon. Sec."

In conclusion it may be proper to announce, that the Printers of Leeds have contributed the Sum of TEN POUNDS, and appointed Two of their number to collect and receive Subscriptions, who will make an early call upon the various Gentlemen of the Town.

Subscriptions will be received at all the Newspaper Offices and principal Booksellers.

Leeds, Jan. 6, 1842.

THE ENGLISH CHARTIST CIRCULAR. No. 50, now publishing, contains MAGNA CHARTA, (perfect and entire).

"What Englishman would be without such a document—always scarce, but not to be had for a Halfpenny."

Also, "An Address to "THE TRADES OF GREAT BRITAIN," by Dr. M'Douall, (written expressly for this paper.)

Part V., Price Sixpence, now ready.

No. 51 will be published on Saturday next, the 15th Instant.

London: Cleave, Shoe-lane, and all the Agents or this paper, in Town and Country.

At a PUBLIC MEETING of the Inhabitants of Leeds, convened under the auspices of the "Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade;

President and Patron, His Royal Highness

PRINCE ALBERT, K.G."

And attended by the Mayor of Leeds, W. Aldam, Esq., M.P., Rev. W. Sinclair, Alderman Tottie, Mr. Jabez Bunting, and a whole host of the most "*Respectable*" *Ladies* and *Gentlemen of Leeds*,

It was resolved,—

1st.—"That while this Meeting deeply deplores the existence of the Slave Trade, and heartily sympathise with the unfortunate Victims of that nefarious system which recognises property in human flesh abroad, still, we are of opinion, that all our energies should be directed to *the total abolition of Slavery at Home*, where, we lament to state, it exists to a most alarming extent."

2nd.—"That this Meeting is of opinion, that neither the White Slaves of Britain, nor the Black Slaves of the West Indies, will ever obtain complete Emancipation until the People's Charter be made the law of the Land; that then, and not till then, will we, together with our darker brethren, enjoy the inestimable blessings of true liberty."

3rd.—"That the Memorial now read, praying for Free Pardon of Frost, Williams, and Jones, be adopted and passed."

4th.—"That a subscription be now entered into to defray the expences of Advertising these Resolutions."

5th.—"That the Thanks of this Meeting be kindly given to the Parties convening it, for the opportunity thus afforded the People to express their sincere detestation of Slavery in every shape; more particularly as the Mayor lately refused the use of the Court-House for such a purpose, though requested to do so by six Common Councilmen, fifty Borough Voters, and more than a hundred Municipal Voters."

WILLIAM BROOK, Chairman.

TO SICK CLUBS, SECRET SOCIETIES, AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MONEY TO LEND, UPON GOOD SECURITY.

THE TRUSTEES of the HYDE WORKING MEN'S INSTITUTION are ready to receive £600 as a Mortgage on the above building, at 5 per cent. interest.

The Institution is built of good stone, and contains two splendid rooms, capable of holding 1500 persons each, comfortably. The lecture room has a fine Gallery which will hold three hundred. The annual rent is £60; chief rent £4 10s. 9d.

Early application must be made to John Bradley Clothier, Hyde, or to any of the Trustees, who will furnish every information required.

Institution Vestry Room, Dec. 28, 1841.

Still on sale at all the Publishers,
Price Threepence only,

THE POOR MAN'S COMPANION:
A POLITICAL ALMANACK FOR 1842,

SETTING forth, at one view, the enormous amount of Taxes wrung from the industry of a starving people, and their extravagant and shameful expenditure. Also *containing tables of useful reference on almost all subjects connected with general policy.*

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"Essentially a 'Poor Man's Companion' and fully deserving the highest eulogium as fulfilling the promise of its title. In addition to the usual subject-matter of an Almanack, we are presented with tables of the utmost importance, as *affording the very information* the working classes are much in need of—the gross misappropriation of *their* property in pensions and high official salaries given for bad government. A chapter is also annexed on 'the condition of the people,' calling for universal perusal. We would particularly commend the work to the attention of Chartist Lecturers,—they will find it an invaluable text book."—*English Chartist Circular.*

"This little compendium of useful information is entitled to our warm commendation. The statistical details bear ample evidence of having been prepared with much care, and the tables relative to taxation, and the appropriation of the monies thereby derived, are not more curious than useful, while the commentary appended to each division of the subject cannot fail by its tone to make the 'Poor Man's Companion' highly popular."—*Weekly Dispatch.*

"We are accustomed to speak of unequal laws and of the enormous burdens that are laid upon the poor for the benefit of the rich, and we are accustomed to speak thus so often that the very iteration of the remark causes it to loose its force, and to pass harmless. Hence the necessity for details; and details, come from whatever quarter they may, if well substantiated, always come to us as acceptable visitors, and are welcomed as an effective force which we can wield against the strongholds of corruption. The details in this Almanack are clearly set forth, and really they tell a dark and fearful tale. Unhappily we have too good grounds to believe them correct. Mr. Hobson refers to dates and state documents—for it is a mercy that we have a *precedent* which forces the public plunderers to trumpet forth their robberies. In a word we may state that the national taxation—who pay it—who devour it—are set forth in a lucid manner in this 'Poor Man's Companion.'"—*Leeds Times.*

"This is verily a Poor Man's *vade mecum:* the cheapest and best book of general reference for almost all subjects in which the people's interests are immediately involved that we have ever seen. In addition to all the usual information of an Almanack, it contains a mass of statistical information crammed into the smallest possible space upon most important subjects. We feel persuaded that there is not a working man in the kingdom, who will be without his 'Companion,' if he can possibly procure one."—*Northern Star.*

"This is a Political Almanack for 1842, shewing the amount and application of the taxes raised from the industry of the working classes, and containing much information for them, and some also that may be useful to those born only to consume their productions. Among other statistical tables, it gives a summary of the resources of Great Britain, a comparison between the productive and unproductive classes, and long and instructive answers to the question, 'how are the taxes applied?' 'The Cost of the Church,' and the 'Black List,' may also be perused with advantage."—*Sun.*

"This is a threepenny Almanack, and worth twice the money at which it can be purchased. The Almanack is equal to any other we have yet seen; and the work contains besides a great variety, as well as condensation, of political information with which it is important the 'Poor Man' should be acquainted."—*British Queen and Statesman.*

"A Chartist Almanack, in which much use is made of the now readily accessible Parliamentary Returns, whose totals are presented and commented upon in the style to be expected from a shrewd and vigorous mind."—*Spectator.*

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BY JOHN FRANCIS BRAY.

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Chartist Intelligence.

BIRMINGHAM.—Chartist Meetings.—A meeting was held at the Chartist Association Room, Freeman-street, on Sunday evening last, Mr. Welsford in the chair. The Chairman, who is an active member of the lately formed discussion class, displayed in his person the usefulness of such societies. He opened the business in a neat and effective address, and concluded by introducing Mr. George White, to address the meeting. Mr. White entered at great length into the attempts which were made to split up the Chartist body, under various pretences. He maintained that the Corn Law repealers, the *Rational* Chartist, and other parties which were endeavouring to force themselves into existence, were no other than their old and bitter enemies, the Whigs under a mask. He next adverted to a paper published by Hetherington of London, purporting to be the organ of a National Association, the first number of which contained an attack on Mr. O'Connor, for the statement which he made whilst in Scotland relative to the "New Move" plotters. That document called on Mr. O'Connor for proofs of that which was as clear as the sun at noonday. He could give proof sufficient of the paltry intrigues of Hetherington, Brewster, Lovett, and Co., for there was hardly a town in England or Scotland, where there was not a few empty-headed, paltry shop-boys, who were so puffed up with their own importance, and so full of conceit, as to suppose that everything which was done by the working classes ought first to receive their sanction. When those parties were exposed, they declared they were wronged, and called for proofs, but they were like moles—they worked underground. Their secret workings could hardly be traced, were it not for the heaps of dirt which they continually turned up, as an evidence of their industry. He denounced the party as a cheat on the public, for when he was in London there was not above thirty of the "new move" men (or rather shop lads) to maintain the cause of humbug. He thought the real originators of these doings were Hume, Warburton, Molesworth, Place and Co., who supplied the money to the clique in London and elsewhere for the purpose of doing all in their power to the present organisation, which was constructed in such a manner as to preclude the possibility of any person holding office of any description against the will of the Chartist body. Some of them had expressed a wish to see local organisations, instead of the present national one, under a *supposition* that it would be more safe, but a moment's consideration would satisfy any reasonable being on that score, for under a local organization they could not possibly employ lecturers as they did; besides a few men in any town might, under the local system, do serious injury to the cause. He went on at great length to shew the superiority of the National Charter Association over any other plan which had been previously in existence, and informed the meeting that they were about receiving some help from an unexpected quarter, which would enable the National Charter Association in Birmingham, to raise its head higher than ever. He next adverted to a speech made by Mr. Joseph Sturge, at a late meeting in Birmingham, in which he rejoiced at the decline of the physical-force party, and after exposing the sophistry of Sturge and other sham-Chartists, he concluded amidst general applause. The chairman and others, afterwards addressed the meeting, after which notice was given that a new council would be nominated on the following evening; after which the meeting separated.

Monday Evening.—The usual meeting of members of the National Charter Association was held at their room, Freeman-street, on Monday evening, Mr. Charles Ashton in the chair. The Chairman, after a short address, introduced Mr. George White to address the meeting. Mr. White addressed the assembly on the poverty which pervaded the country, and exposed the rottenness of our glorious Constitution. He showed up the fallacy of the proposed emigration plan, and pointed out the People's Charter as the only panecea for the manifold evils under which the nation laboured. He traced the conduct of Whigs and Tories, and showed that a middle-class Government was one of the most intolerable curses that could afflict a nation; as a proof of which, he compared the extreme wretchedness of the labouring population of Great Britain with the inhabitants of those countries who were living, under what was termed a despotic Government, and stated his conviction that the people of Great Britain would, ere long, have real liberty, or an open and undisguised despotism. He appealed to their love of justice and humanity, and hoped that all who were determined to obtain freedom would enrol their names in the National Charter Association. The Secretary (Mr. Creswell) then read the minutes of the last Council meeting; after which, about sixteen persons were nominated as members of the next Council, and a ballot appointed to take place on Monday evening next, at which *time every member is requested to attend.* After the transaction of other business the meeting separated.

Steelhouse Lane.—The usual weekly meeting of this energetic body was held at the house of Mr. Smith, Ship Inn, Steelhouse Lane, on Tuesday evening last, Mr. Horsley, cabinet-maker, in the chair. The Chairman opened the business in his usual straightforward and manly way, and called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting; after which the various *members handed in their* subscriptions. The meeting then proceeded to arrange for procuring signatures to the National Petition; after which five shillings was handed over to the lecturers' fund, as the fortnight's payment agreed to by the members. It would be well if other Associations were as punctual. Several cards were afterwards distributed to new members; after which a letter from the members meeting at Freeman-street was read, calling on the members at Steelhouse Lane to elect delegates to the meeting to be held in Freeman-street, on Sunday next. Mr. Porter, of Moor-street, and Mr. Follows, of Monmouth-street, were then unanimously appointed a deputation from "Mr. White's Defence Fund" Committee, consisting of Mr. Alfred Fussell and Mr. Walter Thorne, who then addressed the meeting, requesting their assistance, when twelve shillings was immediately subscribed to the fund; and after the transaction of various other matters, Mr. Richards, Secretary to the Association, and Mr. Follows were appointed, in conjunction with Mr. George White, to see after a piece of land which had been promised by a lady, for the purpose of erecting a Chartist Hall; after which the meeting separated.

Birmingham Petition Committee.—A strong committee has been formed here for the purpose of facilitating signatures to the National Petition. Upwards of eight thousand signatures are already obtained and it is confidently expected, through the exertions of the committee, who meet every Wednesday evening in Freeman-street, that the number will be increased tenfold. The committee solicit the friendly co-operation of all friends of the People's Charter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st ult., Mr. James Wilson, to Miss Ann Blackburn, of Darlington.

On the 1st inst., Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Darlington, to Miss Ann Fell, of Bishop Auckland.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., Mr. John Kipling, to Miss Ann Spencer, eldest daughter of Mr. G. Spencer, cabinet-maker, Darlington.

On the 25th ult., Mr. *John Bedford, miner*, of Garforth, fifth son to Mr. James Bedford, carpenter, of Barnsley, to Miss Ann Hoyle, milliner and dress-maker, eldest daughter of Mr. John Hoyle, plumber and glazier, of Whitkirk.

On Saturday last, at St. Mary's, Bridlington, by the Rev. Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Samuel Seller, draper, to Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. George Danby, all of that place.

On Thursday, at the parish church, Kirkheaton, by the Rev. J. R. Oldham, incumbent of St. Paul's, Huddersfield, Wm. Dawson, son of Mr. Wm. Grubb, gentleman, of Southwood Lodge, Cheltenham, to Marriane, eldest daughter of Mr. Joseph Beaumont, of Mold Green, Huddersfield.

Same day, at the parish church, Skipton, by the Rev. William Cartman, Mr. James Rawson, third master of Skipton Grammar School, to Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. John Watson, cordwainer, of that place.

DEATHS.

On Monday, the 29th inst., Mr. William Backhouse, aged 81 years, much respected by a large circle of friends.

On Friday, Dec. 31st, Mr. Thomas Stones, aged 33, letter-press printer, and landlord of the Green Dragon Inn, Westgate, Wakefield. He was highly respected by his fellow-workmen, and by all who knew him.

On the 28th Dec. last, aged 74, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Mirfield Holroyd, joiner, of Meadow-lane, in this town.

On Friday, the 31st ultimo, at Woodhouse, Mr. James Binks, aged 55, late landlord of the Trafalgar Inn, Meadow-lane, in this town.

On the 5th inst., in Tanner-row, in York, aged 48, after a painful illness, borne with great patience, Mrs. Ellison, relict of the late Mr. Ellison, coroner for York.

On Tuesday morning, the 4th inst., after a long and painful illness, at the house of his grandfather, at Scruton, near Bedale, in the 23d year of his age, Thomas, eldest son of Mr. Cundall, of Osbaldwick, near York.

On Monday last, very suddenly, in the 80th year of his age, Mr. Abraham Hobson, of Oxford Terrace, Leeds.

On Sunday last, aged 36, Mary, relict of Mr. Hazeltine Crabtree Sharpin, of Mount Pleasant, near Ripon.

On Saturday last, in Jarratt-street, Hull, aged 24, Robert, the eldest son of Wm. Todd, Esq., of Turmer Hall.

On the 20th ultimo, at Newton-Stewart, Mr. A. M'Douall, well known in Galloway as "Will Wander," the poet of Cree, father of Dr. P. M. M'Douall, the advocate of the People's Charter.

THE TEN HOURS' FACTORY QUESTION.

A REPORT ADDRESSED TO THE SHORT-TIME COMMITTEES OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, OF CERTAIN CONFERENCES HELD WITH THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART., M.P., AND SEVERAL OF HIS COLLEAGUES, ON THE SUBJECT OF THE TEN HOURS' FACTORY QUESTION, AND OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS.

Having been deputed by you to wait upon the leading Members of the present Administration, to urge upon their attention the necessity and importance of a bill for the better regulation of infantile and youthful labour in factories, we beg to present to you an abstract of our proceedings in the various interviews with which we were honoured, as the best mode of laying before you the results of our labours in the discharge of the duty confided to us.

At a preliminary meeting of your delegates, certain general principles were agreed upon for the guidance of the deputation. It appeared a matter of primary importance to occupy as little as possible of the time of the Ministers with whom it was proposed to seek interviews, and to lay before them, in the shortest period, clear views of the nature and extent of the measure to which their attention would be directed. To attain these objects, it was considered that one member of the deputation, who understood the question thoroughly, and the views of his associates, and was possessed of the power to explain these clearly, should be appointed to conduct the interviews on their behalf; the other members giving such assistance by way of suggestion, explanation, or corroboration, as might be necessary.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART., FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY, &c.

(No. 1.)

The first visit of the deputation was to Sir Robert Peel, upon whom they waited by appointment, on Thursday, the 28th of October, at his official residence, Downing street. Sir Robert received the deputation in the most courteous manner, and after requesting them to be seated, awaited in silence their statement.

The deputation opened the business by saying, "We have been deputed to wait upon you, Sir Robert, by the short-time committees of the West Riding of Yorkshire, in consequence of a *letter from Lord Ashley*, stating that Sir Robert Peel's opinions were not yet matured upon the Factory question. We were in hopes that you would have come, by this time, to a satisfactory conclusion respecting the Ten Hours' Bill; and we now press upon your attention the necessity which exists for introducing such a bill at an early period of the ensuing Session—a bill for the better regulation of labour in factories. In requesting this interference on the part of the Government and the Legislature, we wish to observe, that we have the sanction of precedent, inasmuch as this subject has already been repeatedly before both. Several acts have been already passed, and as these, owing to various causes, have not yet produced the effects which it is fair to presume the Legislature had in view in passing them"—

Sir Robert here interposed and said, "Will you please first, to explain the nature of the bill you propose?" The deputation explained that the leading provisions they were anxious to see enacted were—

1. "A clause declaring that in future no person between thirteen and twenty-one years of age should be employed more than ten hours per day in any mill or factory." The deputation added that it was more urgent now than ever to have a legislative protection for those above thirteen years of age, owing to the immense increase in the proportion of females now working in factories.

2. "That to insure the fulfilment of this clause, no young person should be permitted to stay or be found in the mills between six o'clock in the evening and six o'clock in the morning. The mill-owner or manager infringing the law to be subjected to the penalty of imprisonment.

3. "The gradual withdrawal of all females from the factories.

4. "The boxing off of all dangerous parts of machinery, under a heavy penalty, with a power of recovering compensation for any injury sustained through neglect of this provision."

Sir Robert said—"The last point is a mere matter of detail; but don't you think there would be very great hardship in the proposal respecting female labour? Suppose a widow with two daughters, without any other means of support than her and their labour. Would it not be very unjust to step in between her and an honest employment, and say, you shall not be allowed to support yourselves by your own labour?"

The Deputation—"There are certainly difficulties connected with this portion of the subject, and the one so strongly stated by you, is not the least. Such cases, however, would be the exception, not the rule; and it is the latter, not the former, to which all legislation is directed. Special cases might be provided for by special enactments. We do not believe that any evils which might arise from even a rigorous and entire prohibition of female labour could be compared with those which spring from the present system. The females employed in factories are generally the offspring of parents who have been similarly situated. They get little if any education worthy the name previous to entering the mills, and as soon as they enter them, (generally at a very early age, in consequence of the connivance of parents, medical men, and factory owners, to evade the present law,) they are surrounded by influences of the most vitiating and debasing nature. They grow up in total ignorance of all the true duties of woman. Home, its cares and its employments, is woman's true sphere, but these poor things are totally unfitted for attending to the one, or participating in the other. They neither learn, in the great majority of cases, to make a shirt, darn a stocking, cook a dinner, or clean a house. In short, both in mind and manners, they are altogether unfitted for the occupancy of a domestic position, as is evidenced by the fact, that the wealthy and middle classes very rarely engage any of this class as servants. Yet those who are thus considered unfit even to fill the office of menial to the rich, are the only parties among whom, ordinarily, the male factory labourer has a chance of obtaining a wife. They are married early. Many are mothers before twenty. Thriftlessness and waste even of their small incomes, and consequent domestic discomfort and unhappiness, generally succeed. Through these means is engendered a vast amount of immorality and misery, and while such are its results as respects private life, the operation of the system is not less injurious in a national point of view. It throws the burden of supporting the family on the wife and the child, and compels the adult male, upon whose shoulders the duty ought rightfully to fall, to be reluctantly idle. It is an inversion of the order of nature and of Providence—a return to a state of barbarism, in which the woman does the work, while the man looks idly on. The consequence of throwing loose such a mass of partially-informed men in such circumstances, cannot fail to be fraught with danger to the State. Disaffection and discontent must be engendered among parties so situated. If, therefore, such evils, both private and public, can be distinctly traced to this source, we think that it is the imperative duty of Government and the Legislature to step in and arrest their operation to the utmost practicable extent."

Sir Robert Peel—"I still see great difficulties in the way, admitting all you have stated. I believe that female and youthful labour is preferred, in consequence of its greater cheapness; is it not? And also, because it is, in some departments, better adapted for the purpose in view than adult labour."

The Deputation—"You are right as respects the cheapness, Sir; but the other point may admit of doubt. For instance, it is objected that adults could not stoop to the machinery, to the height of which children are perfectly adapted. But this objection could easily be obviated by having the mules raised, and other machinery fixed a little higher from the ground. And as to dexterity of fingers, you must be aware that the utmost fineness of touch and quickness of movement may be acquired and retained by constant practice."

Sir R. Peel—"It is evident that the course you propose would have the effect, if adopted, of compelling the employment of a greater number of adults, and consequently higher priced labourers; and the result of that would be to raise the price of British manufactures, and thus place our manufacturers under greater disadvantages in foreign markets than at present. Now, the complaint of our manufacturers is, that the competition in those markets is already so great that it is with the utmost difficulty they can maintain a footing in them. I feel deeply for the working classes of this country, and I am sure that if any measures could be devised by which the deep distress they now suffer could be alleviated it would be the duty of the Government immediately to adopt them. But we have not only their case to consider, but also the effect which such measures would have upon the employment of capital, and the interests of those classes who have invested their capital in these pursuits."

The Deputation—"Hitherto, Sir Robert, the interests of the capitalists have been attended to almost exclusively; and the consequence is, that the introduction of self-acting machinery, and machinery requiring the attendance of women and children only, together with intense competition between our own merchants, has thrown vast numbers out of work, and reduced the wages of those who are employed to the barest pittance which can support existence. This evil is likely to be still further aggravated by the immense increase of machinery abroad. The policy of the late Government had been to allow that it should be freely exported. Of late years machinery has been extensively introduced on the continent. Belgium, Saxony, Prussia, and other places have, instead of taking our goods, succeeded in their primary object—that of supplying their own markets: in some instances they have gone further, and now compete successfully with us in neutral markets; and in some articles even come into direct competition with us in our own markets. Above all, America is a rival that threatens ultimately to destroy one of the staple manufactures of this country—cotton. It can be shown, that, in consequence of the American manufacturer possessing the advantage of having the raw material almost at his own door, he is enabled, notwithstanding a higher price of labour, inferior machinery, and less economical processes of management, which give an advantage to the British manufacturer of 17 per cent., the American is yet enabled, with his water-power and cheaper raw material, in all fabrics in which quantity is more a matter of consideration than quality, to beat us in the end by a small per centage. Now, the disparity at present existing between us as respects machinery, cheap labour, and superior management, must, in the nature of things, be continually lessening, and a closer approximation take place. The population of the United States of America, by natural increase, aided by immigration, will lower the cost of labour; improvements will be daily introduced in the machinery, effecting more with a less expenditure of power, and experience will improve their modes of management, until at length they will be on a par with us in all these points, while the substantial and permanent drawback of having to send to America for our raw material, bring it home, and retransport it for sale in its manufactured state, will still press upon us."

Sir Robert Peel.—"Well, but do you not think that, according to your own admissions, the arguments against any interference which might aid the process *which you have so clearly and strongly* described as now going on, are very much strengthened."

The Deputation—"Pardon us, Sir Robert, such is not the case according to the light in which we view the subject. It is an axiom in political economy, that price is dependent upon supply and demand. If an article is scarce in the market, however small the deficiency may be, the price of all the stock in the market is raised. In like manner, if there be a surplus, however small that surplus may be, it affects not merely the surplus, but the whole of the commodity, which is thereby reduced in price. Now, we can shew, by statistical facts and irrefutable documents, that since the year 1815, there has been a constant introduction of self-acting machinery, or machinery which imposed greater labour on the smaller number of adult operatives retained; thus cheapening the cost, and increasing the amount of production. And what has been the consequence? Why, exactly in proportion as this has taken place, the profits of the capitalist and the wages of the labourer have regularly decreased; until at length, in 1832, we received no more money for three times the amount of raw material manufactured, than we received in 1815 for the one-third. This result, in our opinion, is clearly traceable to the unregulated use and extensive introduction of machinery, which has either superseded adult labour entirely, or replaced it by the cheaper labour of women and children. What is now the consequence? Throughout the manufacturing districts the mills are nearly closed. The capitalists and middle classes are in difficulties—insolvent or bankrupt; while the operatives are in a state of destitution which must make every heart bleed, and which arises from causes over which they themselves have no control. Now, if this insane course had been checked—if over-production had been discouraged by wise laws, and a prudent system of trade pursued, wages and profits would have been better, and employment more permanent and more equally diffused over the year. We should not have had flushes of prosperity, succeeded by long periods of depression; a continual recurrence of gluts and panics, each crisis following the other at shorter intervals, and finding us less prepared to bear it than its predecessor. For these reasons, Sir Robert, we believe that the dictates of sound political wisdom coincide with the dictates of humanity, morality, and religion, in calling upon us to retrace our steps, and arrest the progress of a system which is spreading disease, disorganisation, and disaffection in the factory districts. As a proof that we are not overstating the facts, we beg to present you, Sir Robert, with one illustration out of many which might be offered. It is a printed copy of the report of the Unemployed Operatives' Enumeration Committee of Leeds, in which a detailed statement of the condition of the operatives in the several wards of that town, the emporium of the woollen district, is given. The summary of that appalling statement is, that nearly 20,000 human beings are now living upon an average weekly income of 11¼d. per head. We leave to your own judgment what must be the ultimate end of such a state of things."

Sir Robert, taking the document, said—"I am sorry to say that I have already seen this melancholy statement in manuscript, through the kindness of Sir James Graham, to whom it was presented by Mr. Beckett. I am deeply grieved by the knowledge of such an amount of suffering, and sympathise most sincerely with the condition of the people as there described. It is, indeed, very distressing, and some efficient remedy is most desirable."

The Deputation—"The requirements of humanity imperatively demand it. No system which entails upon the great bulk of the community such suffering ought to be permitted to exist: such a baneful influence ought not to go unchecked, whatever reasons, political or economical, may be adduced in its behalf. We beg also to present you with a synopsis of the evidence of Mr. Joseph Henry Green, a medical gentleman of the highest eminence. (The deputation here delivered in a paper, for a copy of which see note.*) "This evidence," said the deputation, "is corroborated by many other witnesses of the highest standing in the medical profession; and we have also much pleasure in reminding you of the unequivocal opinion of your father, the late Sir Robert Peel, in favour of a Ten Hours' Bill. He was conspicuous among the earliest advocates of the regulation of factory labour; and as one of the most extensive employers in England, and a practical man, his opinions are entitled to the utmost deference. The following were his words:—'Such indiscriminate and unlimited employment of the poor, consisting of a great proportion of the inhabitants of trading districts, will be attended with effects to the rising generation so serious and alarming that I cannot contemplate them without dismay; and thus that great effort of British ingenuity, whereby the machinery of our manufactures has been brought to such perfection, instead of being a blessing to the nation, will be converted into the bitterest curse.'"

Sir Robert Peel then directed the conversation to the broad question of machinery, which he said was one deserving of the greatest consideration. The deputation said, "We will not attempt to conceal from you, Sir Robert, our opinion that, in order to meet the case *fully and fairly, the enactment of other and more comprehensive measures is indispensably necessary.* A Ten Hours' Bill ten years ago might and would have produced much more benefit than it can now produce. In the interval a vast amount of automaton power has been called into existence. It appears by the reports of the factory inspectors that between the years 1835 and 1839 the horse power increased at least one-half, while, so far from the new machinery calling new manual labour into exercise, the fact was that the number of spinners in Manchester required to work the enlarged and increased machinery was not more than one-third of the number previously employed. For such a state of things it would be very unwise, and a concealment of the truth, to say that a Ten Hours' Bill would be a complete and perfect remedy; but it would, at least, be a step in the right road. It would be an earnest to the operative classes that the Government sympathises with them, has its attention directed to their condition, and is anxious to do what lies in its power to ameliorate it. The subject, as we have already stated, is not a new one. The Ten Hours' question has been discussed over and over again in the Legislature. Several committees have taken voluminous evidence upon it—evidence which is conclusive of the justice, the humanity, and the sound policy of the measure. The question, in those districts where it is best understood, has long ceased to be a matter of dispute among the working classes; even the master class, who formerly thought it their interest to oppose it, have been taught by experience of a painful description to abate that opposition, and many of them are now favourable to the enactment which we seek. Public opinion, therefore, will be with the Government, should it resolve upon proposing this measure to the ensuing Parliament. But to insure effective relief from the dangers and evils by which we are now surrounded bolder and more comprehensive measures most assuredly are requisite, and if you, Sir Robert, will excuse us for stepping beyond the legitimate boundaries of our mission, we will tell you our opinions as to those measures. We have come to you in the spirit of friendship—not to dictate or dogmatise—neither have we come to find fault, without suggesting such a remedy as appears to us capable of alleviating the evil; and we also come free from all party feeling or prejudices. We are sick of party nicknames, and party contests, for party purposes. We are sick of the everlasting confusion and bad feeling arising from these contests, and are prepared to award our confidence, support, and gratitude, to any Government, or set of men (no matter what their party name may be), who will show by their actions that they sympathise with our wrongs and our sufferings, and are honestly desirous of removing them. We approve of the course you have pursued since your accession to power; and especially in your resolution to take time for the consideration and maturing of the measures on which you may resolve. We have had too much of legislation which can only be fitly characterized as being from "hand to mouth," and we are therefore willing that you should have all the time which may be requisite to enable you to decide both what measures are necessary, and how they may be most beneficially carried into effect. But, perfectly willing that such time should be accorded to you, we shall expect, Sir, that measures of real substantial justice will be the result. In order to aid this object, we now respectfully contribute our small *quota* of information and advice. We venture to recommend, for the reasons laid before you at length, the passing of the Ten Hours' Bill, and to accompany it, either by the total repeal of the New Poor Law, or by such an alteration of it as will render it applicable to the manufacturing districts, in which it is at this moment practically inoperative, and in which we defy any Government ever to enforce it. These preliminary measures would give confidence to the working classes and their friends, insure to the Government the support of the well disposed and humane of all classes, and clear the way for an equally important, and not less imperative measure—namely, the appointment at an early period of the session of a committee of experienced, practical, moderate men of all parties, to inquire into the causes of existing distress, and especially into the workings of machinery at home and abroad since the close of the war in 1815, with a view to the adoption of a comprehensive and efficient remedy.

Sir R. Peel, who had been sitting with his head bent down, in a manner expressive of very deep thought and attention, here raised it, and seemed favourably impressed with the suggestion.

The Deputation continued,—In order to the enactment of good measures full information is necessary. We have had inquiries into almost every question but this, which we believe lies at the root of all the difficulties we experience. We deprecate hasty legislation, but we also earnestly desire to see substantive measures adopted; and the course we respectfully suggest seems to us well calculated to insure immediate satisfaction and future permanent relief. If we have been bold in offering our opinions it is because we feel the importance of the position which we are now permitted to occupy, and fully appreciate the vast influence which your decision will have upon the happiness and prosperity of our own class, which has its state in national well being equally with that class who are the lords of vast possessions. You, Sir Robert, are now placed in the most important and commanding position of any individual in Europe, perhaps in the world. At the head of a strong Government, with a powerful majority in the Commons, and an influential portion of the population thinking with you; unfettered as you declare yourself to be, save by your own convictions of what is right and useful; the resources of an empire on which the sun is said never to set—an empire unparalleled in its natural and artificial appliances—at your command, and a population whose enterprise, industry, and genius is proverbial, looking up to you; a grave, an awful responsibility rests upon you, Sir Robert! The means for producing national well being are superabundant; the population is but limited. Broad and comprehensive views, vigorous and decided action, are all called for by the exigencies of the times, and we earnestly hope that such will mark your course.

Sir Robert, who seemed to be much affected by this appeal, paused for some moments after its conclusion, and then replied—"Well, gentlemen, I have listened with deep interest to your statements, and feel obliged by your waiting on me. I am free to confess that there is much force in what you have advanced; and that the evils you complain of are manifold and great, especially those which press upon the manufacturing operative. I also fear that an extension of our manufactures will not afford the relief desired; for past experience, I think, shows that such an extension would only bring into play more machinery, and not employ manual labour in any thing like the rate of the increase in the machine department. Of course I cannot pledge myself to any particular line of action in respect to the measures you advocate—

The Deputation.—We do not wish it, we do not wish it.

Sir Robert Peel.—But I shall give the subject that full and attentive consideration which its importance and various bearings deserve, and should I come to a different conclusion to that you held, I shall do so with a confident reliance on the intelligence, moderation, and good feeling you have now displayed, assured that these conclusions and the reasons I may adduce for them will receive a calm and impartial examination.

The deputation repeated, that they had no wish to draw from the Premier any premature avowals of his policy. Their sole object was to make a true and full statement of the condition of those whose interests they represented in the spirit of friendship to all parties. They sought not the injury of any class, but the welfare of all; and they believed that the policy and measures they recommended would insure this commendation. They wished it to be understood that they had no antipathy whatever to the masters—no desire to injure them. They neither accused them of selfishness nor cruelty. It was the system which made them what they were; and the object the deputation had in view was to alter the system in as gradual and beneficial a manner for all parties as possible.

The deputation then rose to take leave, observing that they had some thoughts of waiting upon Sir James Graham, and asked Sir Robert if it would be advisable or necessary? To which he replied, "Certainly, I think you had better see Sir James, and also Mr. Gladstone." Sir Robert immediately wrote notes of introduction to those two gentlemen, and rang for a messenger to accompany the deputation to their respective offices; after which he most courteously bade the deputation farewell, again expressing the satisfaction the interview had afforded him.

The impression left on the minds of every one of the deputation on retiring was, that Sir R. Peel is fully aware of the great source of our evils at the present *moment*, and that he *sincerely sympathizes* with the working classes. It is but fair to add, that the emphatic words which dropped from the lips of one of the members of the deputation, after they withdrew—"Well, at all events, it is clear that Sir R. Peel has a heart," conveyed the unanimous feeling of all.

GEORGE A. FLEMING.
JOSHUA HOBSON.
JOHN LEECH.
MARK CRABTREE.
TITUS S. BROOKE.

* A SYNOPSIS OF THE EVIDENCE WHICH WAS GIVEN BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE 4TH OF AUGUST, 1832, BY MR. JOSEPH GREEN, F.R.S., SURGEON OF ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL, PROFESSOR OF SURGERY AT KING'S COLLEGE, AND CLINICAL LECTURER AT ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

The period of growth is one of weakness; the purposes of growth necessarily require a more than ordinary supply of nutriment; children require not only a large supply of food, but that it should be nutritive, and given frequently. Assimilation cannot be perfectly formed without air and exercise. Children should be allowed long rest in the horizontal position, and sufficient sleep; eight or nine hours at least; under many circumstances, twelve hours. Children are extremely susceptible of vicissitudes of temperature. The muscles have not acquired that tone which enables them to perform actions which require strength and persistency of action. Their exercise should be varied, not long-continued nor disproportioned to their strength. Their bones and joints are soft and spongy in their texture. Children are not fitted by nature for laborious or stationary occupation. Subjecting them to business or work which requires strong exertion, or which, even being comparatively light, demands uniform, long-continued, and therefore wearisome exercise, must ultimately have an injurious effect upon their health. But if, in addition, their food is scanty, supplied only at long intervals, their occupation is not alternated with amusement and exercise in the open air, and their clothing is not warm, disease must be the inevitable consequence of this violent counteraction of all that nature suggests and demands. If you were to subject the healthiest child to the causes which I have enumerated, it is impossible that it should not become weakly, emaciated, stunted in its growth, dull, sluggish, and diseased. I fear that this country will have much to answer for in permitting the growth of that system of employing children in factories, which tends directly to the creation of all those circumstances which inevitably lead to disease. I am quite sure that the results will be, in regard to the health, most destructive, and, I think I may venture to add, in regard to morals most injurious, and that the consequence of this culpable inattention to the physical and moral welfare of the manufacturing class will be, a population weak and diseased in body, feeble and degraded in mind, and vicious and dangerous in conduct. Children were not designed for labour; but if some labour must be permitted both our conscience and our feelings equally demand that the labour of children should be under such restrictions as will insure them against their being made the victims of avarice and disease, and as will render it compatible with their physical and moral welfare; twelve hours' labour, including the time for meals, is the utmost average period of labour for the full-grown, strong, and healthy man. I am of opinion that the deterioration in the human frame caused by this system will become hereditary, and even increase from generation to generation, if the causes are to be continued. I should suppose that such results of the shortening of human life, as are shown to be the case in the factory districts by the official documents before the committee, would be the results of such a system. Manufactories and machinery, so long as they procure employment for the labouring poor, render the necessaries and comforts of life cheap and easy of acquirement, and are the means of the poor bettering their condition, and must be regarded as blessings, and in every way conducive both to the physical and moral welfare of the people. In order to obtain this desirable object, it is, however, necessary that the labourer should participate in the advantages and benefits arising from the employment of machinery; and in diminishing human labour by its use, the only legitimate purpose must be admitted to be, that of substituting a machine for the performance of that labour which would reduce man to a mere mechanism, to the end that he may devote the time and leisure acquired thereby to his moral cultivation. It is indispensable, I say, in regulating a manufacturing system, that the labourers employed should never be considered as merely the means to its success, but that their condition, moral and physical, should constitute an essential object of the system; and its success, as the source of wealth and power, be subordinate thereto. But if, instead of this legitimate object, and this wholesome restraint, ruled by the insatiable avarice of gain, the manufacturing system is without check, and has no bound but the possible means of creating wealth, and of making the rich richer; and *wages be lowered, till it be simply calculated* upon how little life and the motion of a pair of hands can be supported; if we find that these human beings (the factory workers) are only regarded as parts of the machinery which they set in motion, and with as little attention to their moral welfare; if we find that these, even at the tenderest age, and without respect to the distinction of sex, and without regard to decency, are crowded together under all the circumstances that contribute to disease and vice, and all this to add to the wealth of their employers, to minister to the luxuries of the rich, and to make overgrown capitalists still more vast and oppressive, whilst the labourers themselves are degraded into the mere negro slaves of Europe; then, I say, that these and all the physical evils incident to such a state require no medical opinion, but demand unsparing moral correction, or they await the punishment due to depriving man of the birthright of his humanity, of degrading him into the class of means and things to be used; instead of recognising, as the end, his happiness and dignity as a moral and responsible agent.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR JAMES GRAHAM, BART., SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

(No. 2.)

Previous to waiting upon Sir J. Graham, which they did the same day, namely, on the 28th of October, the deputation proceeded to the residence of Mr. William Beckett, M.P. for Leeds, with whom they had a very satisfactory interview the day before their conference with the Premier, and who had then, in the most frank manner, offered his services in any way which the deputation might think best calculated to further the object in view, either by accompanying them to the different Ministers, or otherwise. The deputation were, in the first instance, afraid that the object of their mission might be associated with the idea of a party measure, if they accepted this kind offer, and therefore respectfully declined it in the case of the interview with the Premier; but upon reconsidering the subject they were induced to come to the conclusion that Mr. Beckett's countenance and assistance would tend to promote the object of their mission, and therefore subsequently made an appointment with that gentleman, which they now proceeded to fulfil. Mr. Beckett listened with deep interest and evident gratification to the account of their interview with Sir Robert Peel, and immediately accompanied them to the Home Office, where, after the lapse of a few minutes, they were introduced to Sir James Graham, who received them most courteously.

The Deputation briefly stated the leading features of the measure which they were sent to press upon the attention of the Government. Sir James Graham asked if they had considered what effect a restriction of the labour of all factory workers between the ages of 13 and 21 to ten hours a-day would have upon the manufacturing interests of the country. "Do you not think," said he, "that it would very much aggravate the evils and the distress under which that portion of the community are now represented to be suffering?"

The Deputation replied, that if they thought such would be the result of the measure they would be the last persons in the world to press for its adoption; but it was because, after a mature consideration of the subject in all its bearings, they had come to the conclusion that it would be a benefit rather than an injury, that they now ventured respectfully to call the attention of the Government to the measure.

Sir James Graham.—Well, but I want to know the reasons which induce you to form such an opinion. It will be argued by those opposed to your views that such an interference with the free use of capital and labour will necessarily place the British manufacturer at a disadvantage in the market of the world, as compared with his rivals, and who are under no such instruction. Now, I wish to know whether you have looked at the question in this broad and economical light; or confined your attention entirely to the effects of the system upon the condition of the labourers themselves, and thus excluded from your calculation the general operation of such a restriction as you advocate?

The Deputation said they were, in the first place, convinced that they were justified in asking for this measure on the grounds of humanity, justice, and morality; and further, that it was in accordance with the soundest doctrines of political economy. They repudiated the idea of entertaining any hostile feeling towards the employers of capital and labour in the manufacturing departments of industry. They neither accused them of selfishness nor cruelty as a class, but they wished to alter the system which made it the interest of the employers to act in such a manner as to justify the use of such terms in relation to the treatment which the working classes received under its influence. The deputation proceeded to show, at considerable length, that the destitute condition of the operatives, in manufacturing districts, arose from the neglect of the very first principles of political economy—a neglect which led to an over-supply, a supply greatly beyond the substantial demand for their productions. Since 1811 there had been a continual improvement going on in machinery, by which three times the amount of goods was now manufactured with less adult manual labour than was required in the previous period for the smaller quantity. What had been the result? Why, that they were now actually receiving, for three times the quantity of goods, less than the same amount of money which they got in 1815 for the one-third. It was not, therefore, to be wondered at that, coincident with this over production of machine-made goods as compared with a substantial demand, wages and profits had both decreased; that the workmen who were still required had to work harder for a smaller remuneration, the capitalist for a lower rate of profit, and that pauperism had kept pace with each successive mechanical invention which displaced male adult labour, substituting in its place either the labour of mechanical automatons, or that of women and children. For these and other reasons, of which an outline only is here presented, the deputation said they were firmly convinced that the measure they advocated was in accordance with the dictates of the soundest political economy, and calculated to lead back again to a greater amount of national wellbeing than could be anticipated from any of those remedial measures which contemplated a continuance in the false *course* which had already entailed such evil on the community.

Sir J. Graham, in reply, urged most of the reasons adduced by the free-trade party. He dwelt with great emphasis upon the possible results of a policy which, by placing our manufacturers in a comparatively worse position than the manufacturers of the Continent and America, might ultimately render the capital of the former altogether profitless, and thereby induce them to close their mills altogether. He pictured the awful effects which such a course would have upon the thousands thickly congregated in the manufacturing districts, and entirely dependent on the continuance of our foreign trade for existence. He said it would be argued that with such an intense and increasing rivalry on the part of foreigners as the deputation had admitted, it would be impossible to interpose any checks to the production of manufactured goods in the cheapest possible way; unless indeed we were determined to give our rivals the advantage in the market, and thereby put a stop to our foreign trade altogether.

The Deputation said, that the extension of the foreign trade in the manner in which that had of late years been effected appeared to them calculated most certainly to produce the very results which Sir James Graham seemed anxious to avoid.

Sir J. Graham here said, "Understand me; I am not arguing as though I personally participate in these views; but my object is to show you what will be said by those opposed to your views, and to ascertain the ground upon which you claim such a measure as a Ten Hours' restriction."

The Deputation proceeded to say, that according to the arguments presented in favour of the policy of causing the operatives to be dependent on a foreign market for employment, it was admitted that our ascendancy in those foreign markets could only be kept up by a continuous cheapening of the cost of production. How was that to be effected? It could not be done by reducing much lower the wages of the adult operatives. That class of labourers were as near the bare "subsistence level," when in full employ, as it was possible to place them. The only way, therefore, to do it was by still further displacing these adult and comparatively high-priced labourers by self-acting machinery, or machinery so contrived that what little attendance it might require would be that of women and children, and as little even of that as possible; and thus we shall come to the same result. The great bulk of the labouring classes would be thrown idle, whether we extended or restricted our foreign trade under the present direction of machinery.

Sir J. Graham.—*Yes, but not so rapidly.*

The Deputation.—It is a sorry conclusion, Sir James, to think that this perversion of human ingenuity should make the multiplication of means for the increase of national wealth offer us only the alternative of slow or speedy ruin.

Sir J. Graham—Well! but how is it to be remedied? I do not see any practical mode of averting it; do you?

The Deputation.—Yes, we think we do.

Sir J Graham.—What would you recommend?

The Deputation.—The adoption of a comprehensive and efficient plan of home colonisation; for which purpose we would advise the passing, at the expence of the nation, of a General Waste Land Enclosure Bill, which should make provision for reasonable compensation to all those interested in these lands. We should then have a Parliamentary grant raised by loan, or by Exchequer Bills, to be applied under a Board of Control to the settling down upon these uncultivated but improvable wastes our now unemployed population; and if the waste lands were insufficient we would recommend that the Government should have recourse to the Crown Lands for the same purpose, and in the same way. This would increase real wealth at home, direct the energies of the people, in the first place, to provide food and shelter for themselves, and the surplus of their labour would form a fund for defraying the necessary expences, and ultimately repaying the principal advanced.

Sir J. Graham.—Ah! that might do very well if we were beginning *de novo*, but under present circumstances it seems quite impracticable.

The Deputation.—Well, Sir James, you have just these alternatives—either to commence this measure now gradually and peaceably, and thus avert the evils we have been anticipating, or to let the present system take its course, spreading destitution, pauperism, discontent, and disaffection, more and more widely, until it terminates in general disorganisation and anarchy, and then to be forced to begin *de novo*, amid the wrecks of former institutions.

Sir J. Graham.—I hope matters are not likely to end in that way, and that our prospects are not so gloomy as you appear to think them.

The Deputation.—We are convinced, Sir James, by long and painful sufferings, which have induced us to search deeply into and ponder often on the working and tendencies of the present mode of using machinery, that unless a different direction be given to its mighty capabilities it will become the destroyer of those who so misuse it; and not only the destroyer of them, but also of the working classes, whose fate is now, in a certain sense, in their hands. Glut after glut, panic after panic, has visited us of late years, the period between each progressively lessening, and each finding us still less able to bear it than its predecessor. The humble comforts of the operatives' cottage have disappeared. The middle classes of tradesmen, who depend upon the lower classes, are in all but an insolvent state, and trade is concentrated in the hands of a few overgrown capitalists, in consequence of the inability of smaller capitalists to contend with them. Such is the state of our towns at the present moment. We have given you our reasons for believing that the increase of our foreign trade under the present system would permanently increase neither wages nor profits, or arrest their downward tendencies; and we leave to you the consideration of these reasons.

Sir J. Graham, who throughout the interview had appeared to take a deep interest in the subject, said that the views of the deputation were certainly startling, and deserving of serious attention; and that one thing was certain, that we must lay aside the notion that we could ever again become "the workshop of the world." In 1815, the case was different. Then we were almost exclusively possessed of machinery; since then other nations had rapidly advanced in this particular, and were manufacturing for themselves. For this and other reasons it was manifestly impossible that we could ever again command the markets of the world, as we once had done.

The deputation then pressed more particularly upon Sir James Graham the moral aspects of the questions involved in the passing of a ten hours' bill, the extent to which the present system produced ignorance, a want of domestic comfort and economy, a disruption of family ties, and, consequently, both reckless and vicious conduct. The deputation mentioned many particular instances of the working of the system, which strongly confirmed the general premises laid down, to all which Sir James Graham gave an attentive hearing. As, however, those portions of the subject have already been treated of in the report of the interview with Sir Robert Peel, it is unnecessary to go over them again.

In the course of the interview the deputation had drawn attention to the fact that the self-acting machinery and the "double deckers" introduced of late years into the cotton districts had thrown out of employ a great number of adult labourers. These alterations had been carried to such an extent in Manchester as to reduce the number of spinners from 2,000 in the year 1830 to 600 in the year 1841; in the short space of eleven years that prodigious alteration had been effected, chiefly by the introduction of self-acting machinery, and double, treble, and quadruple-deckers.

Sir J. GRAHAM said,—Why, you complain of labourers being out of employ, and yet a few years ago the manufacturers were advertising for labourers to be sent down into those parts of the country.

Deputation.—True, Sir James; but that was connected with a contract made between the Gregs and Ashworths and the Poor Law Commissioners, the purport of which was to reduce wages in the manufacturing districts. The effect was twofold. This migration system assisted the commissioners in carrying out the New Poor Law in the agricultural districts, and it enabled the manufacturers to lower and keep down wages. This keeping down of wages was so clearly the *great object of the manufacturers in many parts of the country*, and the additional hands were in many places so utterly uncalled for by any real extension of the demand for labour, that it is a fact, and it is one, Sir James, *which we are most anxious to press upon your attention*, that in very many instances, where new families were taken on by the manufacturers, an equal number of the older families and hands were dismissed to make room for them.

After a long and very interesting conversation, of which this report will give but an imperfect idea, Sir James Graham said,—You will not expect that I should *give any* distinct pledge as to the course which the Government may take on the subject you have brought before us in such a temperate spirit, and in support of which you have argued with equal intelligence and good feeling. All I can say is, that, in common with my colleagues, I am most desirous to adopt any measure which may have the effect of introducing and maintaining prosperity among our fellow-countrymen; and you may rest assured that we will use our best exertions, and give our most careful consideration to any measures which seem to us calculated to effect that primary and paramount object. I am obliged to you, gentlemen, for your kindness in calling upon me, and for the information and pleasure you have afforded me, and will only add, that it will always be the duty of the Government to receive such deputations from the working classes, and to listen to their statements attentively, aye, and respectfully.

At the conclusion the deputation pressed upon the attention of Sir James Graham the same ulterior measures which they had suggested to the Premier, and again disavowed all party feeling, their object being to unite the wise and moderate of all parties, and, through the medium of the constituted authorities, to carry such measures as would tend to promote the welfare of all classes of the community. The deputation then withdrew.

Of the Home Secretary it may be remarked, that while his treatment of the deputation was unexceptionable throughout—while there was no want of expressions of politeness and cordiality on his part, upon the whole the impression produced upon the deputation was less favourable than in the previous case. Sir James Graham seems to us to have drunk too deeply at the fount of the Malthusian philosophy (which has inflicted so much evil on this country) to be able to get rid entirely of its influence; and though, while putting forward the arguments of that school, he repeatedly cautioned the deputation against supposing that he was uttering his own sentiments, the deputation think that there is reason to apprehend, from the earnestness of manner which he displayed in arguing, and the importance he seemed to attach to those opinions, that the dogmas of that school continue to exercise a considerable influence over his mind.

GEORGE A. FLEMING.
JOSHUA HOBSON.
JOHN LEECH.
MARK CRABTREE.
TITUS S. BROOKE

INTERVIEWS WITH LORD WHARNCLIFFE, LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, AND MR. W. E. GLADSTONE, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

(No. 3.)

On leaving the Home-office, the deputation, accompanied by Mr. William Beckett, proceeded to the office of the Board of Trade, for the purpose of waiting upon the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, its Vice-President. The gentleman was unable to grant an interview that day, but appointed the following day, at three o'clock. Mr. Beckett promised to meet the deputation at that hour.

On the following morning application was made to Lord Wharncliffe, President of the Council, to know when it would please him to grant an interview; and he, learning that we were to see Mr. Gladstone in the afternoon, kindly agreed to meet us at the same time. Accordingly, at the hour stated, the deputation had an interview with Lord Wharncliffe and Mr. Gladstone.

As in former cases, the deputation proceeded to explain the nature of the measure which they advocated, and the economical and moral reasons upon which they based their claim.

Lord Wharncliffe testified, from his own knowledge, to the fact that the statements thus presented as to the physical, the domestic, and the mental and moral condition of the factory workers, were not in the slightest degree exaggerated. His Lordship expressed his deep sympathy with the manufacturing population, and his desire for an amelioration of their condition.

Mr. Gladstone appeared to take an earnest and absorbing interest in those portions of our statement which had reference to the educational, the domestic, and the moral and religious statistics of the subject, and paid particular attention to the proposed restriction, of which Sir Robert Peel seemed to doubt the practicability—namely, that which would limit the employment of female labour. Mr. Gladstone treated this subject in a very able and practical manner. Agreeing in all the deputation stated as to the evil effects, both on individual character and on the domestic condition of families, which resulted from the present mode of substituting female for adult male labour, he asked, "What practical measures would you suggest to make such a clause as you propose generally operative?" The deputation, in their replies to this question, were rather aided by Mr. Gladstone than otherwise; and it was ultimately suggested that the object might be effected by means of three regulations. First, by fixing a higher age for the commencement of infant male-labour in factories. Secondly, by limiting the number of females in proportion to the number of males in any factory. Thirdly, by forbidding a female to work in a factory after marriage, and during the lifetime of her husband. It will be seen that these suggestions meet the case put by Sir Robert Peel, and at the same time obviate the objections taken.

The working of the present Factory Act was also very fully canvassed, and the unwieldy and impracticable nature of its provisions illustrated by facts well known to all conversant with the subject. The deputation, while on this part of the subject, stated, in the first place, that the short-time committees, and the friends of the factory labourer, had been no parties to that measure (the Act of 1833); that they had seen from the beginning that it would not work, and they were thoroughly convinced that it had been adopted more as a means of evading, than satisfying the demand for the due regulation of the labour in factories. With respect to the education for which it professes to make provision, it was notorious that in most cases its provision had either been entirely evaded, or that what instruction had been given had been imparted under circumstances which made it a mockery both as to quality and quantity; and one instance in particular was adduced, in which the stoker of a steam-engine had been constituted the schoolmaster, and the fire-hole had been made the school-room. The inducements the Act held out to parents to allege that their children were of the full age required, when they knew that the facts were otherwise, and also to medical men to certify that the children appeared to be so, were also pointed out, and numerous instances were brought forward to show that this was very commonly the case. With respect to the inspectors, the deputation stated that it appeared to them that they would be unnecessary with such a bill as that proposed; and that experience had shown they were, in the majority of instances, rather a means of enabling the masters to evade the provisions of the bill than otherwise, by giving the idea of an efficient superintendence, when in consequence of the many motives which operated to make the inspectors take the side of the capitalist rather than that of the labourer, infringements of the law were frequent, the rich offenders either escaping with entire impunity, or being punished by such a trifling pecuniary penalty as to operate but slightly, if at all, in deterring the employer, in consequence of the profit which he could realise even with the drawback of much larger fines.

Mr. Gladstone inquired whether the deputation wished to abolish inspectorships altogether? To which the deputation replied, that they thought, with such a bill as they proposed, there would not be much necessity for them; and they also thought their abolition would remove a great source of irritation and annoyance in respect of the masters; for it was with them chiefly, and seldom with the operatives, that the inspectors came in contact. In fact, they were as a sort of spies upon the employers, which the deputation thought might be dispensed with if a bill of the nature indicated were passed into a law; for if the master or other directing person were liable, like the poor man, to be committed to the treadmill for an infraction of its provisions, and the common informer were restored to his former position, there would be very few infringements of the law.

Lord Wharncliffe and Mr. Gladstone both expressed their deep sympathy with the condition of the manufacturing classes, and in the course of a long and friendly conversation gave utterance to many truly benevolent and enlightened opinions.

After the Ten Hours' measure had been very fully canvassed in its various bearings, the deputation took the liberty of laying before his Lordship and Mr. Gladstone (as they had already done with Sir R. Peel) their views as to the imperative necessity of passing it in connection with an alteration of the *Poor Law*, in accordance with the dictates of humanity and justice, and as an instalment of good measures to the working classes. These were matters about which the deputation thought there should be no delay, as upon them an immense mass of evidence had already been accumulated. But while considering those points about which the mind of the Government ought to be immediately made up, there were other points, as the deputation had already stated to the Premier and Home Secretary, of vast importance to the prosperity of the country, on which the deputation thought that Parliament might collect valuable information; and therefore, though it was going beyond their instructions, the deputation took upon themselves to suggest and press for the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry into the causes of the present distress of the country, as arising from sources not likely to be reached by alterations in the Poor Law or the Factory Act, the Committee to consist of moderate and well-informed men of all parties.

Lord Wharncliffe asked whether the masters were not generally opposed to the views advocated by the deputation in reference to the Ten Hours' Bill? To which it was replied, that the masters were now in many instances becoming convinced, by dear-bought experience, that these views were correct; that a ten hours' restriction would be the only means of saving them as well as their work-people from utter destruction. His Lordship said that he supposed that might be the case with the smaller manufacturers, but such instances of approval of the Ten Hours' Bill, he thought, were rare among the more wealthy and extensive capitalists. The deputation stated that as a general rule that might be so, but that many of the large employers were now coming round to the same opinions. In corroboration of that statement the deputy from Huddersfield mentioned the names of several of the *most extensive and influential* mill-owners of that district, with whom his Lordship was well acquainted.

Mr. Gladstone, at the termination of a most friendly and encouraging interview, expressed himself highly gratified with the conversation, and said that it was impossible to direct the attention of Government to subjects of graver importance that those which the deputation had brought before Lord Wharncliffe and himself. "You may," said he, "rest assured that I will devote my best attention to them, in conjunction with the Cabinet, and with an earnest desire to discover and adopt those measures which may be best calculated to put a stop to the evils you have described. Where we may happen to differ, I feel a confidence (considering the candour, moderation, and intelligence which have characterised your representations) that our motives and opinions will receive from you a fair and liberal construction. But, indeed, it is not fair to assume that we do or shall differ, for the evils are palpable, demand immediate remedy, and your claims are just and reasonable. The spirit and tendency of your views are alike rational and conciliatory."

Lord Wharncliffe, at the request of the deputation, readily, and in the kindest manner, gave a letter of introduction to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, upon whom the deputation next proposed to wait.

The deputation then took leave, after expressing their high sense of the kindness and courtesy with which the Noble Lord and the Right Hon. Gentlemen had treated them.

The impression left on the minds of all the members of the deputation by the bearing of Mr. Gladstone was of the most favourable description, and gave rise to hopes of a cheering nature as to the ultimate results of their labours, and the intention of the Government, both with reference to the Ten Hours' Bill, and also to other measures deeply affecting the operative classes. And of Lord Wharncliffe the deputation have to report that he rendered them very valuable assistance by corroborating several of their strongest statements from his own personal knowledge of the manufacturing districts.

GEORGE A. FLEMING.
JOSHUA HOBSON.
JOHN LEECH.
TITUS S. BROOKE.
MARK CRABTREE.

(To be Continued.)

A FEW WORDS ABOUT TEXAS.

N. D. Maillard, Esq., having resided nine months in Texas, during part of which time he was editor of a newspaper published in that Republic, has recently published a volume, from which we extract the following:—

"CHARACTER OF THE TEXANS.—Texas, a country filled with habitual liars, drunkards, blasphemers, and slanderers; sanguinary gamesters and cold-blooded assassins, with idleness and sluggish indolence, with pride engendered by ignorance, and supported by fraud. The loafers are by far the most numerous class, and go about from one dram-shop to another for the purpose of gaming and spunging on their friends, and not unfrequently on strangers; but this latter practice is by far too common in Texas to be confined or strictly applied to any one branch in the community. * * * The Texans, either separately, or *en masse*, exhibit all the features of a ruffianised European mob, to whom, however, they are greatly inferior in social refinement, and much less formidable in a military point of view."

This character of the Texans, of course, is meant to apply, in the aggregate, to both sexes. But Mr. Maillard, whose notions of gallantry are somewhat peculiar, proceeds to specify the graces of the softer sex in Texas. The picture, as painted by him is so little flattering, that we shall not expose ourselves to the odium of being regarded as libellers by describing it. Here is the original, as touched off by his own coarse pencil:—

"TEXAN LADIES.—The Texan ladies seldom show themselves to strangers, and, *like those of the United States*, they use either the pipe or the swab. The swab is a piece of soft wood, about three inches long, which they chew at one end until it forms a brush, then dipping it into a small bottle of brown rappee snuff, which they carry about for the purpose of cleaning their teeth; this operation being performed, the swab is placed in one side of the mouth, while the pipe sometimes takes the other. They have little neatness or cleanliness of person to attract the eye. Their figures are scarcely to be described: *coarse from neglect, or emaciated from self-indulgence*, their skins have borrowed from the sun the exact hue of *the lemon*; and if the countenance be an index to the mind, I doubt not that their dispositions have somewhat of the peculiar flavour of that sour bullet of the tropics; but yet to those who admire silence above everything else in woman, permit me to introduce the ladies of Texas *par excellence* as mutes."

According to Mr. Maillard the climate of Texas is not a jot more inviting than its inhabitants. The prairies he describes as swamps, covered with water for several months in the year, and hardly habitable from the bites of insects during the dry season. The city of Sabine, he says, is 'very unhealthy,' the city of Galveston, 'extremely unhealthy and insalubrious,' the town of Valasco, 'very unhealthy,' and the city of Matagorda, 'most unhealthy.'

Even religious toleration, Mr. Maillard contends, does not exist in Texas, which he endeavours to prove. The great drawback, however, is slavery—the accursed traffic in human blood.

The Marquis of Waterford had several of his hounds poisoned in the covert of Dangan.

DISTRESS IN BARNARD CASTLE.—The carpet-weavers and others, amounting to upwards of 120 families in this town, are reduced to extreme distress, owing to the want of employ, most of the manufactories being at the stand still. The town has been divided into districts, and the habitations of the poor visited to ascertain the nature of each case of distress, and it appears that for the last six or seven weeks the average incomes of the above families have been at the rate of 1s. 2½d. per head per week, but now it will not be more than, on an average, 12d. per head per week, for many have no employment whatever. A subscription is now making amongst the neighbouring gentry and the inhabitants of the town, and it is determined, as far as it is practicable, to give employment to those able to work, in improving foot-paths, roads, &c. in and about the town, and also to afford some relief by corn at a reduced price, in those urgent cases where the parties cannot be employed at out-door work.—*Sunderland Herald.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—As it is generally known in Bradford and neighbourhood that I intended to visit my brother in Northallerton Hell during Christmas; and, as all will be anxious to know how he is coming on, I take this opportunity of informing them through the medium of your valuable journal. I left home on Christmas Day morning, and rode on shank's mare to Borough Bridge, through Knaresbro', when I sought out the leading Chartists of that town, and notified my intention of delivering a lecture to them, on my return from Northallerton, on Monday evening. After having made arrangements with them, I proceeded on my journey to Boroughbridge, at which place I stayed all night—a distance of nineteen miles from my journey's end. I rose early next morning, and pursued my journey to Northallerton; and, O, what a scene for the philanthropist to contemplate! The vast tracts of rich land, interspersed here and there with a solitary farm house, surrounded with a great number of hay and corn stacks, of every description, food for man and beast; when I looked round, and saw all this, and reflected on our great Champion's excellent letters on the Corn Laws and the land, I was forcibly struck with the truth of his assertions, that if the land was divided into five or six acres each farm, that every unwilling idler in the manufacturing towns might speedily be put in possession of everything that would make life happy and comfortable. I made inquiry about the quantity of land which each farmer occupied, and found the division generally from 25 acres up to 500! so that, in this district alone, a great many families might be brought from the contaminating atmosphere of a manufacturing town, where, instead of wretchedness and poverty, they might enjoy peace and plenty. I arrived at Northallerton at one o'clock, and presented myself at the prison doors, and was told by one of the understrappers that I was too late, the time of visiting being from twelve o'clock to one. I was introduced to the Governor, Mr. Shepherd, who, when I informed him that I was Wm. Brook's brother, said I should see him. He was busy at the time admitting another prisoner within the walls of the prison, and I could not, for my life tell whether the constable who brought the prisoner, or the culprit, was the person who would be left in durance vile, until the constable withdrew; he was a most respectable looking young man, a stonemason, and was committed three months to hard labour for vagrancy.

My brother was then introduced to me in the Governor's office, and, O God, what a sight! from being a stout athletic man, he was reduced to a mere skeleton. On taking his hand, a tear of affection gushed into my eyes, when he said to me, don't thou come here to blubber and roar, it will make it no better. He seemed determined that the Governor should not see him quail at his imprisonment. He wrote some time ago, and said the Whigs had taken the flesh off his bones, and left nothing but the skeleton for the Tories to prey upon. I found it was true to the letter; I enquired after his health; he informed me that he was much better than he had been, having laboured under a severe bowel complaint for several months. After I had informed him of all the political movements that were going on, he said when he gained his liberty, he should be ten times worse after the Charter than he had been before he was imprisoned.

The Governor told me that my brother had behaved well since he came there, and had not received a single moment's punishment since he entered the establishment. I took with me a large quantity of books which he could not receive until they had been inspected by the parsons. I gave the Governor a copy of the National Petition; and a discussion took place between me and the Governor on various subjects on trade and politics, which would make this letter too long for your columns.

My brother gave the Governor a good character for humanity, and said he would rather be there than at York.

I am, Sir, yours,

JOSH. BROOK.

CHARTIST "MEDAL" AND "RIBBON!"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—On returning thanks for the O'Connor Medal, I would suggest a hint to the whole Chartist body of subscribers who have been fortunate enough to obtain such a distinguished "order." For myself, it is the only one I would condescend to wear, as the various "stars" and "garters," &c., now in vogue, gracing the bosoms of aristocratic knaves and boobies, are but emblems of tyranny and corruption, or regarded by all intelligent persons as the playthings of a baby, or the gewgaws of a tom-fool.

Though but a feeble champion in the cause of Chartism, I take some little pride in being one of its earliest supporters; and the Medal which I have received, and which I prize most highly, will, by and by, be considered as a valuable heir-loom, and "sacred" as the "principal household god!"

But, Mr. Editor, its virtues are not only prospective, but immediate: it must not be shrouded in darkness, or laid in cotton among other jewels in a casket, but it must see the light, and be worn by its possessors on all public occasions, meetings, and soirees. I have had a small hole drilled just above O'Connor's head (for I should consider it a species of sacrilege to suffer a hair of his head to be injured, either in the semblance or reality) large enough to admit of a silver wire, forming a ring, to which a ribbon might be attached. I would further suggest that it may be worn round the neck, and that an English Chartist should wear a navy-blue ribbon, an Irishman one of emerald green, and the Scotch a plaid.

But why should not we Chartists have our tricolour as well as the French Republicans? Is there no patriotic ribbon manufacturer to be found capable of producing a Chartist tricolour? Like the Waterloo ribbon, it might very readily be formed in stripes, one of blue, one of green, and the other of plaid. Attach the medal to the Chartist tricolour, let it be worn, in contradistinction, on the left breast, to that of Waterloo, or all other stars and orders, and, my "life to a ducat" that ere long it will beat all the rest out of the field, nay more, it will become even fashionable! Even as a speculation it would answer; and the female Chartists might trim their bonnets with it, as it would be "an outward sign of the inward spirit beneath."

I trust the hint I have just given will be duly acted upon, as I am well aware of the efficacy of such symbols, and the enemy knows it well also. It cheers and enlivens the drooping hearts of many, and it fraternizes with all.

A WOOLWICH CADET.

Chichester, Jan. 3, 1842.

WEST RIDING DELEGATE MEETING.

A delegate meeting of the West Riding was held at Dewsbury on Sunday last. Delegates were present from the following places:—

Bradford ...	Mr. J. W. Smyth.
Holmfirth and Honley	Mr. Ed. Clayton.
Sowerby	Mr. Greenroyd.
Bingley	Mr. Ickeringill.
Huddersfield	Mr. J. Chapman.

Mr. Clayton in the chair.

Moved by Mr. Smyth, and seconded by Mr. Ickeringill:—

"That we request all the various towns who are in arrears to the West Riding Missionary Fund and to the West Riding Election Fund, to immediately send in their arrears to the Secretary, so that the balance sheet can be made, as the present Secretary is resigning his situation."

Moved by Mr. Smyth, and seconded by Mr. Chapman:—

"That each town in the West Riding do immediately furnish their quota of their expense for the forthcoming Convention; and, furthermore, would recommend that, as equal burdens break no backs, the West Riding furnish £15; and that the North and East Ridings (including Leeds), furnish £10, to be levied immediately, and sent to the Secretary without fail."

Moved by Mr. Smyth, and seconded by Mr. Chapman:—

"That this meeting do recommend to the West Riding to form districts for the purpose of employing lecturers without inconvenience, and give an opportunity of agitating the West Riding with more efficiency."

Moved by Mr. Greenroyd, and seconded by Mr. Ickeringill:—

"That the next West Riding delegate meeting be held on Sunday, January 30th, at ten o'clock in the afternoon, at Dewsbury."

DELEGATE MEETING FOR DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

A Delegate Meeting of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham, was held on the 1st of January, in the Council Room, Bridge-street, Bishop Wearmouth.

Delegates representing the following places were present:—

Newcastle, Ouseburn and Byker, Legg Hill, Cramlington, Foreman's-row, Sheriff Hills, Bedlington, North Shields South Shields, and Sunderland, when the following resolutions were passed:—

"That Mr. O'Brien be nominated to represent the Counties of Northumberland and Durham in the Petition Convention."

"That should Mr. O'Brien decline representing the Counties before named, that Messrs. Sinclair and Chapple be empowered to call a Delegate Meeting to be held in Newcastle, to nominate some other person."

"That Mr. Chapple be appointed General Treasurer to the Petition Convention Delegate Fund."

"That considering the disorganised and present limited resources of the Counties, it is the opinion of the Delegates present, that the permanent engagement of lecturers is impracticable, but recommend that those places who have lecturers, do as frequently as possible exchange them."

A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman and Secretary, and the meeting broke up.

DREADFUL MURDER AT MANSFIELD, NEAR NOTTINGHAM.

On Friday morning last, the peaceful little town of Mansfield was thrown into a state of consternation by the discovery of one of the most dreadful and cold-blooded murders ever recorded. The hapless victim of this atrocious deed was a young woman, in her 20th year, named Mary Hallam, the daughter of a labourer, who has resided in Mansfield for many years, and who has saved a considerable sum of money by his industry. The murderer is a young man, named John Jones, *alias* Samuel Moore, shoemaker, a native of Market Bosworth. He has resided in Mansfield for four years, and had, until a few months ago, been considered the accepted suitor of the unfortunate deceased.

Moore rented two rooms at the bottom of a yard in Lister-lane, Mansfield, and the deceased lived with her parents in a house at the top of the yard. A year ago the murderer lodged in the same house with the deceased, but about nine months since he became rather unsteady, and took to drinking, in consequence of which the parents of the deceased, thinking that his bad habits would not promote their daughter's happiness, declared against his suit. He then left their house, and went to lodge in the same yard, at the house of a widow named Wragg. At that time he made use of threatening language, but it would imply a degree of malignity unparalleled to suppose that he formed a resolution, in consequence of what then passed, to perpetrate so savage and diabolical a crime. He visited at Hallam's as a neighbour, and occasionally went out with the deceased. At Whitsuntide, whilst walking in Mansfield Forest, he committed a violent assault upon her, and frequently gave evidence of being a most passionate fellow. On Thursday night, the deceased, who had been out on a visit, called at his shop on going out of the yard, and from the evidence there appears not the slightest doubt but that he fell upon and murdered her by cutting her throat in the most dreadful manner. He stayed in the workshop, the scene of this dreadful tragedy, with the body of his victim for some time, and at length locked up the shop, and went to a public-house. He there drank several glasses of ale, and sang a song at the request of the company, after which he went home to bed. We extract the following from the evidence:—

William Hallam, the father of the deceased, deposed, that he last saw her alive at one o'clock on Thursday. She had just returned from a journey to Worksop, where she had gone on a visit on Christmas-day. Witness returned from his work about nine at night, and found that the deceased had just gone out without bonnet or shawl on. When the deceased did not return home, he became alarmed for her safety, and searched the whole town for her. At eleven he took a lantern and went to the mill dam, but without finding her. Witness then thought that he would go to the prisoner's shop, and put a table against the wall and look through the window, which was high up. By the light of a lantern he saw the deceased lying on the floor weltering in her blood. He did not attempt to get in at the window, but stood and looked for signs of life, but could not perceive any. She lay on her right side, and her clothes were down within an inch or two of her shoes. Witnes then took the table and chair away, and, after telling his wife that she was dead, went and fetched Metham, the constable. Witness and Metham with the nephew of the latter, went down to his lodgings and called up the prisoner, who was apprehended and taken to the lock-up. Witness then described the wounds on the body to be several large cuts on the throat.

Ann Hallam, mother of the deceased, corroborated her husband's evidence, and said she believed the prisoner was of sound mind. Knew that deceased was acquainted with the prisoner, and considered that at one time he intended to marry her, but he never asked witness about it nor mentioned it at all. Had heard prisoner threaten to do her daughter harm. It was when witness and he disagreed about nine months ago, when witness told him she did not approve of his conduct towards her. He then said he would be the death of her daughter, he said he would be the death of her if she went with any one else. Believes they were fond of each other at one time. Witness used to drink, neglect his work, and use abusive language to witness. She never knew him strike her daughter, but on Easter Wednesday she came running into the house almost fainting, with him after her, and said, "Oh, mother, here is Sam running after me. Yesterday he wanted to take my life. He kneeled upon my stomach and almost throttled me." He came into the house, and witness told him if he did not go out she would split his head with the poker. Never thought the prisoner was mad. Has no reason to think he had taken improper liberties with her daughter. (Here the witness caught sight of the prisoner, whom she had not not before perceived, and called out, "O. he's there, let me go; I did not know he was there," and was supported fainting from the room.)

Priscilla Adcock was at work in the house of the deceased on the night in question, when she said she would go out and hear a little news. Witness then corroborated the former evidence.

William Metham, constable, Mansfield, was called up about twelve o'clock on Thursday night by William Hallam. Got up immediately, and went down with him to the prisoner's lodgings. Went to the front door and sent his nephew and William Hallam to the back door. Witness knocked, and a person's head protruded from the window above; it was Mrs. Wragg's son. Witness asked if Samuel Moore was at home, and was informed he was. Witness said he wanted to see him, and was soon after let into the house by Wragg. Witness collared Wragg, and asked him if he was Moore; he answered "No, but Moore will be down directly." Before they could get a light, prisoner came down partly dressed in his coat and shoes. Witness said he wanted him, and there was a woman at the door who said, "Oh, Sam, what have you been doing?" He answered, "I have been doing nothing." Witness then told him he wanted him on suspicion of murdering William Hallam's daughter, and that he must accompany witness. He said he would, and felt about for his shoes. He was very quiet, and made no resistance. When they had gone about 100 yards he said, "Mr. Metham, I am the murderer; I intended to destroy myself, but my heart misgave me, and I am pleased I have not done it, as I ought to suffer publicly as a warning to others." Witness said "What was the reason you committed this crime?" And he answered, "He wanted to have the girl, and her mother was not willing, and as he could not have her, he was determined no one else should." When they arrived at the lock-up he told witness where he would find the key of the workshop. He said, "You'll find the key of the workshop on the rabbit-cote, in the back premises, under a tile." He also said, that he had done it with a knife, and Metham would find it nigh to her; and so it was, in blood at her side. Went down to the premises, and found the key in the place he had described; unlocked the shop-door, and went up stairs with four others, and there saw the unfortunate girl lying nearly on her back, inclining toward the right side. In going to the lock-up, the prisoner said that "she died almost immediately, and that he stayed with her for some time after she was dead." Her throat was cut in four places, and she lay near to a pool of blood. He fancied she had been dragged away from the pool of blood, by the marks on the floor. He produced the knife, which was a common shoemaker's knife, with clots of blood on both haft and blade. The deceased's necklace lay in one of the wounds; her hands and gown were bloody, and the prisoner's trousers were slightly spotted with blood on the front part. He believed prisoner was of sound mind.

Samuel Hurt, surgeon, of Mansfield, was called up about ten minutes past twelve, on Thursday night, by William Hallam. Had made a *post mortem* examination. The external appearance of the body indicated good health. The arms were extended, the hands bloody, but not cut. The head lay under the window. Her dress not more deranged than would result from the fall. Found an incised wound, having been made at three or four different times, four inches and a half in length, extending from a little below the left ear to the centre of the chin, and separating a large flap of skin or integument from the angle of the jaw to the centre of the chin, and penetrating to the jaw bone, which was exposed to a considerable extent; another wound, extending from an inch below the mastoid process of the temporal bone to the thyroid cartilage, about four inches in length, one and a half in depth, and two wide, dividing some of the muscles and deep-seated blood vessels, particularly the carotid artery and internal jugular vein, and being the immediate cause of death; another incised wound about the middle of the neck, six inches in length, and about two inches in width, but not dividing the largest vessels. There was a great discharge of blood, and in addition to the pool of blood on the floor, her clothes were very considerably saturated. The knife now exhibited would be a very likely instrument to produce all the effects which he had described.

The prisoner, being cautioned, was then asked if he had anything to say. The prisoner rose from his seat and said, "I decline for the present," and then resumed his sitting. In answer to the coroner, he said, "My name is John Jones, and not Samuel Moore. I live at Mrs. Wragg's, Lister-lane. I am a cordwainer, and twenty-four years of age. I have lived in Mansfield four years." He then declined answering any more questions.

The room being cleared, the jury almost immediately returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against John Jones," who was fully committed upon the coroner's warrant to take his trial at the next Nottingham assizes.

The prisoner has since maintained a most unmoved demeanour, and has stated that before committing the fearful deed he asked the deceased if she would marry him. She replied that her parents would not consent. He then said, that he would take care that no one else did, and seized her. After he had inflicted the first wound, which it appears was not immediately fatal, she begged for her life, but seeing him resolved, then asked for time to pray before he killed her; he answered that he would pray for both of them, and completed his dreadful purpose. He then prayed for "God to have mercy upon two unfortunate lovers," and stayed a considerable time on his knees.

The deceased was a very good-looking girl, and being an only child, was suffered by her parents to have too much of her own way. She was very fond of visiting and partying. The prisoner is also very good-looking. He worked for Mr. Benten, a respectable shoemaker, residing in Church-street, Mansfield.

The sensation produced by this unfortunate event in Mansfield may be better imagined than described. This ancient town contains about 11,000 inhabitants, and its annals have never before been stained with a crime so deadly.

THE MURDER NEAR OSWESTRY.—COMMITTAL OF THE PRISONERS.

(Abridged from the Shrewsbury News.)

The prisoners Williams and Slawson, who have been several times examined on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of Emma Evans, at Bronygarth, underwent another examination, on Friday. The following evidence was given as to the state in which the deceased was found.

Mr. Perkins, surgeon, residing at Chirk, said, I went to the house of the deceased on Thursday evening. I found a great many persons about the house. I went in, and found the body on the kitchen floor. The body lay on its right side—the legs crossed, and the arms in the natural position. There was an arm-chair near the body. I knew the deceased and her habits. There was a considerable quantity of blood on the floor—the stream commencing from the neck of the deceased. I examined the body slightly, and saw that her throat was cut extensively and deeply. I felt with my hand that she had had a blow on the top of her head. She could not have struggled at all, from the position of her body, which remained in the same state till the coroner's inquest. I saw one drop of blood inside the slanting lid of the bureau, not then dried. There was a mark of blood on the inside and outside of the key-hole of the kitchen door, opening into the garden. There was no key in the door. For the coroner's inquest I made a *post mortem* examination on the following Monday. There were three wounds on the head, which had penetrated the skull. They had been given at three separate blows, and were of different lengths—the longest being about an inch and a half, the second about an inch, and the third rather more than half an inch. I think they were done by the same instrument. There was very little contusion on the side of the wounds of the deceased. I do not think the instrument could be very sharp, but heavy. There had been another blow at the top of the head which did not produce a wound. The effect of such blows would suspend animation, but probably would not cause instant death. She had raised her hands at the time her throat was cut. I then examined the throat, and found a wound five inches long and two inches deep, dividing the windpipe and the carotid artery. Upon her right thumb I found two wounds which appeared to have been inflicted by a sharp instrument. I also found a wound upon her right wrist, which appeared to be caused by the point of a sharp instrument. I found the back of her left fingers entirely covered with blood; and on the back of her hand was wet dirt, as if from a man's trousers. I also found a wound through her top lip, commencing inside, as if caused by a tobacco pipe. I found, also, dirt upon her chin, and the impression of the bars of corduroy trousers. The loss of blood was alone sufficient to cause death. The half of the cap strings were forced into the throat, and were rather jagged, as if from repeated strokes of a knife. A woollen neckerchief on her neck was likewise pierced.

Lord Dungannon asked if they had anything to say. They both made a long statement, denying that they knew anything of the murder.

His Lordship then addressed the prisoner Williams as follows:—"John Williams, it is now my painful duty to tell you that you are fully committed to take your trial at the next Lent Assizes for the murder of Emma Evans, of Bronygarth, in the parish of St. Martin, in this county."

The prisoner Slawson was then addressed by his Lordship in the same terms.

Mr. William Whalley, a nephew and executor of the deceased, was then bound over to prosecute, and each of the witnesses was bound to apppear at the next assizes.

ANOTHER MURDER AT BURNLEY.

Burnley, so lately the scene of the frightful catastrophe already recorded in the columns of *The Star*, has again been thrown into a state of considerable excitement, by a cruel outrage perpetrated upon a disabled old man, and from which his death resulted. William Dugdale, the deceased, was nearly seventy years of age, and very infirm.

On Friday an inquest was held at the Turf Inn, Burnley, upon the body of the deceased, before Mr. John Hargreaves, one of the coroners for the northern division of the county of Lancaster.

Several witnesses were examined, and below we give that portion of their evidence which throws light upon this unhappy transaction:—

Ellen Nuttall, of Burnley, deposed to the following effect:—The deceased William Dugdale was a cripple, who resided in a cellar in Eastgate. About half-past twelve o'clock on Sunday morning the witness, who lived in the adjoining cellar, was awakened by a loud knocking at the door of the deceased. She heard the door open, and the wife of the deceased exclaimed that they were all about to be murdered, and desired witness to get up. The witness got up and went into the area fronting Dugdale's dwelling. This area is entered by a flight of stone steps from the street. Witness saw at the top of the steps two young men, who cast ashes in her face, and then ran off. The deceased went up the steps and there met two lads, younger than the men witness had originally seen. The boys inquired, "Have they broken your windows?" Deceased replied, "You must go down and see." Witness then re-entered her cellar, and immediately after Sarah Dugdale called out, "They are murdering my old man." Witness had previously heard a noise like that of a person falling down the steps. She then went out and found the deceased sitting at the bottom of the flight. The young men who threw the ashes were standing on the steps. One of them wore a white hat, the only article of his dress that was distinguishable; the other had a broad-lappelled coat and a black hat. The man in the white hat said to his companion, "Run, run!" and witness saw no more of them or the boys. She assisted the deceased to his cellar, who appeared seriously injured. He got worse, and suffered much pain until eight in the morning, when he expired. Upon laying out the old man the witness noticed a black mark on the small of his back, and a lump at the back of his head.

Sarah Dugdale, widow of the deceased, stated that he was 68 years of age. On Sunday morning there was a violent knocking at her door, and upon the deceased partially opening it it was violently pushed by the young men before mentioned. After confirming the evidence of the previous witness, Mrs. Dugdale said that she returned into the cellar upon hearing her husband tell the boys they must come and see if his windows were broken. As soon as she had entered the deceased fell to the bottom of the steps, and she thought that he had been thrown down. With assistance she removed her husband to the cellar, when he said he did not think he should last till morning. The deceased told her that one of the young men took him by the waist and another by the legs, and threw him down the steps. Medical assistance was sent for, but none arrived while the deceased was living. The boys, whose names were Benjamin Sagar and Thomas Stuttard, told the witness that they saw the young men lay hold of and throw her husband down the area, but declared they were unacquainted with them.

After other confirmatory evidence as to the declaration made by the boys of their being present at the outrage,

Mr. Coultate, surgeon, stated, that upon a *post mortem* examination of the body, he found that the lungs had been ruptured in such a way as to cause death. Such a rupture might be caused by a heavy fall, especially in an individual whose lungs had been previously affected as was the case with the deceased.

The Jury, after a long deliberation, found a verdict of "Wilful murder against divers persons unknown, and against the boys Sagar and Stuttard, as aiding and assisting." The Jury, no doubt, believed them to be acquainted with the guilty parties.

The parties were then committed, upon the Coroner's warrant to Lancaster Castle.

MEETING OF THE DEDEGATES FROM THE LONDON MASONS AT DEVONPORT.

On Wednesday evening last, a meeting of the working classes took place at the Public Rooms, to hear the circumstances respecting the London Masons' Strike, &c., Mr. Edwards in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN having made some prefatory observations respecting the object of the meeting, called on Mr. Williams, one of the delegates, to address the assembly.

Mr. WILLIAMS on rising said, it had been reported that he was a mason and had struck, which he assured them was the truth. It was not his intention to say much on the subject, as Mr. Wood was present, and he should not wish to curb him in his intention of making a long speech. There had been much said of those who went forth to war, taking the sword, and shield, and helmet, killing their scores, but much more had since been said of men, who by their tyranny, had hurled them headlong into eternity. Heaven had been robbed, and hell filled, from the latter circumstance. Monuments had been erected to perpetuate the fame of heroes, and much had been told of the triumphs of war, but he hoped the day was not distant when every spear should be turned into ploughshares. But their battle was an intellectual and moral warfare; the masons had not struck against a reduction of wages, or for an advance of wages, but against the tyranny of the foreman of their work. A young man had asked of Mr. Allen, the foreman, for liberty to go to some distance to bury his mother. The speaker here feelingly and touchingly drew a picture of the close connection which existed between a parent and a child, and concluded by giving the foreman's answer to the request of a week or fortnight for a young man to go and see his mother interred. "What," says the foreman, "why I will not keep the job open for any man," but he should have one day to go, and another to bury her, and another to come back. And when he told his shopmates of the conduct of the foreman towards him, they said to him go, if you are discharged, they all would be. In the mean time, they held a meeting to remonstrate with Mr. Allen. When the young man returned, he (the foreman) said, "go to work;" but the next Saturday night discharged the Chairman, who presided at the meeting, and two or three others, who distinguished themselves on that occasion. He wrote to Messrs. Grissell and Peto, the proprietors, but to little purpose. The speaker then rehearsed two or three similar instances of cruelty and tyranny exercised over them by the foreman, especially of the men, one of whom being ill, was discharged at the same time abusing him in blasphemous language, telling him they did not want cripples there. The other was a man who went to bury his wife; and, notwithstanding the close relation which existed between them, even that of her being flesh of his flesh, and bone of his bone, was told, on his return, to go again and be damned, and be buried with her. The speaker further exhibited the conduct of the foreman in the refusal of one of nature's gifts (water). A man had been accustomed to bring beer into the building to sell, and in order that they should drink the manufactured beverage, stopped up the pumps that they should not be able to obtain any other beverage. (Cries of shame.) They appealed against the proceedings of the foreman to Messrs. Grissell and Peto, proprietors, but nothing would be heard respecting it, the proprietors replying, that they could not substantiate their charge against Allen. They continued thus for three weeks, and getting no redress, two hundred and forty of the masons took up their tools and came out of the Houses of Parliament. The proprietors, being brought acquainted with the circumstance, down they send to Cheltenham, where they engage thirty persons, promising to give them a two years' job; but it was to be a country job. The men being thus employed, down goes Mr. Allen; and it then turns out that he is to be their foreman; and being got into the railroad train, they find themselves soon after at Paddington, at the sign of the Nelson's Monument. The men closely watched their proceedings, and when they found it was the intention of the proprietors to allow him (Mr. Allen) to remain as their foreman, they sent letters to Messrs. Grissell and Co., that if their wishes were not complied with, they should not remain. The proprietors came and used much sophistry, saying, they thought it was cruel for so many to be against one man; but they did not think it cruel for one man to treat scores of men so barbarous and unnatural. (Cheers.) Suppose, said they, Parliament was to take it up, they would stop the work. He (the speaker) would much rather they had stopped the works. And at last he (Mr. Grissell) said rather than part with Mr. Allen, he would sacrifice his life's blood. The men thus perceiving that the word of Mr. Grissell was, like the law of the Medes and Persians, unalterable, they, for the last time, again remonstrated with him, when he told them he would not have his mind pained about it, and, of the two, he would rather believe Mr. Allen than they (the masons.) They then proposed to put it to arbitration, the decision of which should be binding, but it was not complied with; he (Mr. G.) had condescended so much, as to allow them a hearing. The Trade's Union had been deprecated for this conduct by Lord Lincoln; but how did Lord Lincoln assume his present situation but by a union? But he would now give it a new name and call it combination to make it, if possible, look horrible. If this combination, then, is necessary for Lord Lincoln—for those who are the capitalists, how much more essentially necessary is it for the working classes when they are their only protection? (Cheers.) Mr. Wakley, M.P., then interfered, saying what is the meaning of all this? He thought it impossible that two hundred and seventy or three hundred and seventy men would so sarrifice domestic comfort for any length of time, they could not do so by flinging themselves on their own resources, and thus endeavoured to persuade *us* to return; but he (the speaker) considered that the masons had thus played a manly spirit in striking against tyranny. All they asked was a more civil man, by whom they might retain liberty. (Tremendous cheers.)

Mr. WOODS was then called upon to address the meeting. He said they had just heard but a very partial statement of the cause of the strike from his brother Williams. He had given them a partial history of the strike, and had partially developed the cause that had produced it. He (the speaker) rejoiced to advocate the cause of liberty—(hear, hear)—and he rejoiced at being identified with a set of men who were struggling to obtain what they never had enjoyed—their just, their righteous, and their invaluable rights. The masons' strike was a strike for liberty; it was a strike to say whether they, as men, were to be oppressed and burdened; it was a strike to say whether they, as Britons, were to be reduced to the condition of the veriest slave—(cheers);—it was a strike to say whether their dignity, and their rationality and intelligence was to be trampled upon and abused; and it was for them to say whether the statement that Mr. Williams had laid before the meeting was sufficient to warrant any number of men to resist such cruel, such inhuman, and such unnatural treatment. (Hear, hear.) What man of feeling was there who could see a fellow-being deprived of paying the last tribute of respect to an affectionate parent or wife unmoved? How cruel to be told that unless a man went the distance of 300 miles in three days to bury his mother, he should be flung out of employment, and on returning, to be told to go back again and be buried with his mother and be damned. Such had been the conduct of Mr. Allen, their foreman. The speaker eloquently and very gravely commented on the account which had been given by Mr. Wiliams, which deeply impressed and affected all present. He went on to say that the great cause of their striking was the extra demand for an extra quantity of labour. This was the great cause of the strike and the all-pervading cause of the present struggle. They conceived they did a sufficiency of work. In fact, their employers had said, that they were perfectly satisfied with their work. (Hear) But, after all, they had been threatened by Mr. A. (the foreman), that if they did not work harder and do more, he would discharge two or three of them at a time, and to irritate the feelings of the men would serve them in the most insulting manner. What was more insulting to a masons' feelings than to have his job taken out of his hands and sent to another part of the building while another finished the job. There was a demand for an extra quantity of men for the work, for they were not going to injure themselves by the exertion of their physical powers and to satisfy and enrich Messrs. Grissell and Peto, and to satisfy their relentless tyrant of the industrious classes. (Cheers.) But another cause of their strike was the domineering and unfeeling manner in which he (Mr. Allen) continually assailed their ears. They were never looked upon by him like men ought to be. And if a man made the least trifling mistake, on account of the badness of the stone, and on account of its badness, if it was not finished perfectly and complete, like the stones in Solomon's temple, he was told, with a volley of oaths, to go about his business the next morning. And he (the speaker) rejoiced to see men were so moral, so intellectually awakened, that they were determined they would not be spoken to in such a manner, but would be addressed as men ought to be, and they claim the common rights of men. (Hear.) They had a meeting on the subject, and the subject was fully discussed, and 220 men, who worked at the new Houses of Parliament, agreed to strike. They said that the conduct of that individual (Mr. A.) was such that any man who valued his freedom ought to strike; and, therefore, they should cease from their employment, and they had done so now for fourteen weeks, and were determined to go forward. (Hear, hear.) As soon as they struck, the hue and cry was raised in London against them, and the press also, which has always identified itself on the side of wealth, corruption, and aristocracy and against proceedings of their conduct. But with all its tremendous lies it has not been able to shake their confidence or retard their object. (Cheers.) The men who have been since employed have been told by their new employers that only sixteen men had caused the strike and not the majority; it was only a few Chartists who had been the means of it. (Hear, hear.) They (the employers) sent Captain Rous, M.P. for Westminster, amongst them; became and told them he was perfectly uninterested, and had no sinister motive in view. They gave the Captain due credit for all. He said further it would not do for working men to fall upon their own resources, but he was not aware they had the pockets of the public at their command, and was thus promised aid to fight manfully their battle. The Captain saw it was of no use to remonstrate with them, and therefore left. They next sent a Mr. Jackson, who tried all his stratagems to persuade them to go back to work, but he found that he had not only sixteen or seventeen to contend with, there were 200 or 300 who said they would not go back till the monster was removed. (Cheers.) Last of all they sent a Doctor. (A laugh.) They told him if he had brought a box of Morison's pills, and gave them a good dose, it would be equally as effectual as to persuade them to go back. (Hear, hear.) It was true the doctor came and brought his plaister, but the masons' wound was too large, and on stretching the plaister he broke it in two, and retired. They had now struck fifteen weeks, and they were determined to stand as vigorously as ever. Their employers had said it was only a local strike, and they would soon come back, but their society took it up heartily, and placed us on their funds; all the trades in London were visited, and they recommended them to send delegates to their meeting in Drury-lane. About 200 or 300 assembled, and the delegates said it was their own strike, not only the masons, but of every man in England, and therefore they took up the subject actively and honourably; they felt their cause, and their motives were such as they ought to be, and therefore became united to struggle on in the warfare. What have the public done? What have the trades done? They have taken us off our own resources! (Hear, hear.) They have enabled them to commence the struggle, to contend with their foe, and are determined to help them to repel the monstrous tyrant from the field; and they were perfectly satisfied a cause so noble and honourable would ensure them the victory. (Cheers.) He (the speaker) would say, this was a glorious strike, not to resist a reduction in wages, but they were purely arrayed against tyranny. This was a strike for freedom and right —to crush oppression and tyranny. Some have thought because they were working men, they ought to be treated as soldiers; their late employers had had the audacity to tell them, that unless they were brought under such a mode of regulation as soldiers were, it was of no use to do anything with them, and they were determined to free themselves from such tyrannical men. He (the speaker) hoped, and was determined to persevere in preventing the tyranny, bondage, and cruelty that had continued to the year 1841, should not proceed during the year 1842. The speaker proceeded to make a very long and eloquent speech, appealing to the hearts and feelings of the assembly to judge of the justness of their claims, and we regret that previous engagements would not allow us to report the whole of it. Some observations having been made by the chairman, the meeting separated, we believe, perfectly satisfied with its proceedings.

Chartist Intelligence.

NOMINATIONS TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

Mr. Joseph Stewart, spectacle maker, Brick-kiln-street.

Mr. John Stewart, do. do., Graisley-street.

Mr. Joseph Cheshire, cabinet locksmith, Stafford-street.

Mr. William Simms, key maker, Graisley-street.

Mr. J. S. Farmer, accountant, Petit-street.

Mr. John Dunn, hinge maker, Falkland-street.

Mr. M. Whittingham, locksmith, Bradmore.

Mr. William Mace, hinge maker, Mill-street.

Mr. William Freeman, forgeman, Portland-place.

Mr. Joseph Green, toysmith, Meridale-street.

Mr. James Holland, chemist, North-street.

Mr. Job Hammond, sadlers' ironmonger, Hallett's Row.

Mr. James M'Keaig, bookseller, Melbourne-place.

Mr. William Mogg, coffee-house, Snow Hill, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. John Wilcox, news agent, Worcester-street, sub-Secretary.

UPPER WARLEY.

Mr. James Brear, stonemason, Little Moors.

Mr. Joseph Lilly, woolcomber, Shepherd House.

Mr. George Uttley, do. do.

Mr. Joseph Greenwood, weaver, Westfield.

Mr. Joseph Fletcher, woolcomber, South Clough Head.

Mr. William Mitchell, weaver, New Laith, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. William Sutcliffe, shoe-maker, Haigh House, sub-Secretary.

MACCLESFIELD.

Mr. Joseph Hibbert, joiner and carpenter, Stotham-street.

Mr. James Boulton, grocer, Great King-street.

Mr. Samuel Bancroft, silk-throwster, Water-street.

Mr. George Johnson, weaver, Chestergate.

Mr. John Walker, weaver, Dairy-bank.

Mr. Emanuel Robinson, weaver, Common.

Mr. John West, weaver, Union-street.

Mr. Benjamin Chandley, weaver, Waters.

Mr. Luke Ryley, weaver, Nixon's-yard.

Mr. William Frost, weaver, Newgate, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. Henry Swindells, labourer, sub-Secretary.

LEICESTER.

Mr. J. R. H. Bairstow, Chartist lecturer, (Mr. Cooper's,) 11, Church Gate.

Mr. T. R. Smart, carpenter, 47, Red Cross-street.

Mr. J. H. Bramwich, framework-knitter, Pingle-street.

Mr. John Markham, shoemaker, Belgrave Gate.

Mr. Thos. Winters, framework-knitter, 15, Eaton-street.

Mr. William Smith, hatter, Silver-street.

Mr. Joseph Culley, tailor, 47, Red Cross-street.

Mr. John Bowman, woolcomber, Pasture Lane.

Mr. William Barsby, shoemaker, Junior-street.

Mr. John Oldershaw, framework-knitter, 20, South Church Gate.

Mr. Daniel Toon, framework-knitter, 21, Brook-street.

Mr. Thomas Beedham, carpenter, 67, Barkby Lane, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. Thomas Cooper, Editor of the *Commonwealthsman*, 11, Church Gate, sub-Secretary.

MILNROW.

Mr. Charles Milnes, weaver, Back Lane.

Mr. Robert Clegg, ditto, Milnrow.

Mr. James Milnes, ditto, Milnrow.

Mr. Henry Clough, ditto, Meadowhead.

Mr. James Belfield, ditto, Laneside.

Mr. Thomas Brierley, ditto, Lanehead, President.

Mr. William Shore, ditto, Stone-pit Field, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. John Butterworth, ditto, No. 8, Laneside, sub-Secretary.

OLDHAM.

Mr. Isaac Nicholls, warehousman, Vineyard.

Mr. Henry H. Whitehead, stripper, Glodwick-lane.

Mr. Edward Fitton, spinner, King-street.

Mr. Thomas Smith, tailor, Fold.

Mr. Robert Ayerton, warehouseman, George-street.

Mr. Joshua Kershaw, spinner, Union-street.

Mr. Thomas Lesslie, tailor, Lord-street.

Mr. Thomas Lawless, basket maker, Vineyard.

Mr. Elkanah Scholefield, spinner, Rhodesfield.

Mr. Leonard Haslop, hatter, Manchester-street, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. William Hamer, schoolmaster, Lower Moor, sub-Secretary.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Mr. S. Robinson, china-painter, Oak-hill.

Mr. J. Morley, china-presser, Elder-street.

Mr. W. Garrett, bricklayer, Berry-street.

Mr. J. Moss, common ware-presser, Oak-hill.

Mr. T. Morley, china-painter, Hill-street.

Mr. T. Starkey, coal-dealer, Vale-street, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. G. B. Mart, china-painter, Boothen-ville, sub-Secretary.

LOWER MOOR, NEAR OLDHAM.—TEETOTAL.

Mr. Henry Rushton, warper, Lower-moor.

Mr. James Marsland, spinner, Church-field.

Mr. John Marsland, ditto, Lower-moor.

Mr. John Unsworth, twiner, Primrose-bank, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. Isaac Marsland, spinner, Lower-moor, sub-Secretary.

CHELMSFORD.

Mr. Thomas Gilbert, cabinetmaker, Conduit-street.

Mr. Robert George Gammage, coachtrimmer, Conduit-street.

Mr. James Lawe, tailor, Springfield.

Mr. George Brooks, chairmaker, Springfield, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. Daniel Ludbrook, watchmaker, Waterloo-lane, sub-Secretary.

READING, BERKSHIRE.

Mr. George William Wheeler, Coley-street.

Mr. Alfred Preston, shoemaker, 2, Finch-court.

Mr. James Gibson, stonemason, Friar-street, sub-Treasurer.

Mr. Thomas Major, 4, Whitley-street, sub-Secretary.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday evening the Chartist room, Oldham, was densely filled to hear Mr. Griffin, of Manchester, lecture. His subject was to prove that it was the duty of every Teetotaller to become a Chartist, and every Chartist a Teetotaller; a working man was called to the chair. The lecturer went through his subject in an able, convincing, and argumentative manner, the audience paying strict attention; and when he concluded there was a pause for a few moments, to see if there was any question to be asked, or any opposition to the position taken and supported by the lecturer, and no one coming forward the meeting dispersed highly gratified, many declaring that from that time they would abstain from all intoxicating drinks.

SHAW.—On Sunday evening, Mr. Linney, of Manchester, attended here and gave an excellent lecture. On Monday, a splendid tea party was held by the Teetotallers. Chartism and sobriety are going hand in hand; nineteen signed the pledge.

TAVISTOCK.—On Tuesday, the 28th ult., a democratic tea-party was held at the Market Chamber, Tavistock, when the room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, portraits, and banners of liberty, &c. At five o'clock, about two hundred sat down. At seven o'clock, a public meeting was held in the same room, when Mr. Wonnacott, builder, &c., took the chair, at which the National Petition was adopted, and a memorial in favour of Frost, Williams, and Jones.

GREAT HARWOOD.—A public meeting was held here on Monday night, Mr. Thos. Dean in the chair. Mr. Wm. Beesley, of Accrington, Member of the Convention for North Lancashire, addressed the meeting upwards of an hour and a half, exposing the fallacious arguments brought forward by the Corn Law Repealers, and proved to the satisfaction of all present, that a repeal of the Corn Laws alone, without other measures of reform, would not benefit the working classes; at the conclusion several new members joined the association; we now number upwards of seventy members, and have only been formed a few weeks, having had only about five lectures in the place.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—A Chartist ball took place here on Tuesday evening, Dec. 28th, for the purpose of raising funds for the support of the Petition Convention. It was numerously attended, and lectures, dancing, and singing were kept up till a late hour, when the company separated much delighted with the evenings amusements.—On the following Wednesday evening, a number of persons attended at Mr. Mogg's Coffee House, Snow-hill, to hear a lecture from Mr. Mason, the lecturer for the district, who, from some unforeseen circumstance, was prevented from attending. The Chairman, after apologising for his absence, called on Mr. Mogg, who delivered a most excellent address. At the conclusion fourteen members enrolled their names, eleven of whom paid their contributions.

STATE OF THE HOSIERY AND LACE TRADES.

The demand for plain bobbin net by no means keeps pace with the supply, which is increasing, it is said by persons who have the best means of knowing, to an extent which is pregnant with ruinous consequences. The number of machines worked by power are about equal in the Western and Midland counties; and we believe both are suffering from the want of demand. In this state of affairs common prudence says, that to avoid an extensive stoppage, it would be wise for the factory owners to work only half hours. A total stoppage would be fatal indeed to the workmen, especially in the Midland counties, who have in general no other employment to resort to. We have heard as yet but of four power factories on the Continent, viz., one at St. Quentin, consisting of sixty-seven machines, one at Douay, employing twenty-three machines, one at Hartha, in Saxony, employing eleven machines, and one at Litterwitz, in Moravia, containing about 145 machines. These factories do not require English hands, only as setters-up, or overlookers, women being employed in many of them.

A considerable hosiery firm in this town, have given notice to their workmen that they intend to reduce the prices for making full-wrought cotton hose from sixpence to two shillings per dozen, according to quality. This has caused a considerable sensation in the villages north of Nottingham. A meeting was held at Arnold on Monday, which appointed a deputation to wait upon the house in question, as many of the hands, contrary to expectation, seemed determined to strike, and, according to the usual custom in that branch, bring in their frames to the warehouse. Upon hearing this, the hosier retrograded from his original purpose, and proposed to only abate one description of hose 3d. per dozen, but the wary manufacturer artfully proposed that the workmen should increase their hose in width half a size, which is nearly equal to a shilling per dozen in fine stockings. Such is the state of excitement that a meeting of delegates from the numerous villages in which this manufacture is carried on, is called to meet next Monday at noon, at the Cross Keys, in Byard-lane. Another meeting, we understand, is called at the Nag's Head, Mansfield-road, at the same time, of the hands who work for the house proposing the reduction. So great has been the gradual encroaching peculations of the hosiers in respect of the size and width, that three whole sizes have been imposed on the workmen since 1821.

A report has reached us, of the intention of establishing a power lace manufactory in the United States, and we have heard that some parties have an intention of forming a joint stock lace manufactory at Patterson, where there are already some considerable cotton factories, the capital to consist of 600,000 dollars, to be subscribed in shares. The project is to build 200 power bobbin-net machines, a factory to contain them, and a spinning and doubling establishment, to supply the machines with thread; the whole is to be propelled by water, Patterson being admirably situated, having a constant supply and fall of water for any purpose. The report, it is said, arose from the New York projectors applying to the manufacturers of Calais, to ascertain if they could supply them with machinery and hands to establish the American factory, but this being found abortive, we are informed, they have applied to Nottingham. It is certain, that a master smith in this town has stated that he has been offered £400 per annum to superintend the erection of the lace machinery. We think if this Yankee agent will inquire what are the wages given in power factories in England, the cost of the material and other more unavoidable expenses, and the sale price of nets, it will put a complete damper on the speculation, unless they can persuade Congress to follow the example of France and Austria, and substitute an absolute prohibition of lace for the present duty of 12½ per cent., which certainly is intended if the project is ultimately proceeded with, as the manufacture of power-nets is now a losing concern in England, with all our advantages.

It is grievous to state, that there is no visible improvement in the drawer, glove, plain silk hose, or knotted branches. It is as mysterious to know what has become of one part of the workmen, as to conjecture how the others manage to subsist.—*Nottingham Review.*

Bankrupts, &c.

From the London Gazette of Friday, Dec. 31.

BANKRUPTS.

William Biddle, Holborn-hill, fishmonger, to surrender Jan 7, Feb. 11, at one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitors, Messrs. Hillier, Lewis, and Hillier, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn; official assignee, Mr. Belcher.

John Newstead and Joseph Hextall, Regent-street, lacemen, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Shaw, Friday-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Pennell.

Thomas Humfrey, jun., Great Stanmore, bricklayer, Jan. 11, at two, Feb. 11, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitor, Mr. Williams, Alfred-place, Bedford-square; official assignee, Mr. Green.

John Stevens and Robert Horatio William Drummond, Rhodes-well-wharf, Mile-end, road-contractors, Jan. 14, at two, Feb. 11, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitors, Messrs. M'Leod and Stenning, Billiter-street, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Groom.

George Carpenter, Chelmsford, chymist, Jan. 10, at one, Feb. 11, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitors, Messrs. Pain and Hatherley, Great Marlborough-street; official assignee, Mr. Graham, Basinghall-street.

William Elton Ponten, Ludgate-hill, chymist, Jan. 13, at half-past eleven, Feb. 11, at one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Solicitor, Mr. Parsons, Temple-chambers, Fleet-street; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

John Thompson, Blackburn, Lancashire, power loom cloth manufacturer, Jan. 26, Feb. 11, at eleven, at the Town Hall, Preston. Solicitors, Mr. Fiddy, Temple; and Mr. Ellingthorpe, Blackburn.

Charles Hilton, Manchester, cotton manufacturer, Jan. 18, Feb. 11, at two, at the Commissioners' Rooms, Manchester. Solicitors, Messrs. Abbott and Arney, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square; and Messrs. Bennett, Manchester.

William Goodwin, Dronfield, Derbyshire, maltster, Jan. 17, Feb. 11, at twelve, at the Town Hall, Sheffield. Solicitors, Messrs. Bicknell, Roberts, Finch, and Neate, Lincoln's Inn-fields; and Mr. Drabble, Chesterfield.

William Swift, and Robert Crampton, Manchester, drapers, Jan. 19, Feb. 11, at eleven, at the Commissioners' Rooms, Manchester. Solicitors, Messrs. Willis, Bower, and Willis, Tokenhouse-yard; and Messrs. Barrett, Ridgway, and Ford, Manchester.

Samuel Shingler and Sylvanus Thomas James, Liverpool, linen-drapers, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, at one, at the Clarendon Rooms, Liverpool. Solicitor, Mr. Booker, Liverpool; and Messrs. Holme, Loftus, and Young, New Inn.

John Fisher and Elizabeth Fisher, Meghtill, Lancashire, wine-merchants, Jan. 11, Feb. 11, at twelve, at the Clarendon-rooms, Liverpool. Solicitors, Mr. Carter, Liverpool; and Messrs. Sharpe, Field, and Jackson, Bedford-row.

James Lock, Northampton, tea-dealer, Jan. 8, at ten, Feb. 11, at one, at the Peacock Inn, Nottingham. Solicitor, Mr. Cattlin, Ely-place, Holborn.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J. Liversedge, T. Liversedge, and J. Liversedge, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, hatters. M. Steinthal, C. Worms, and H. Schlesinger, Bradford, Yorkshire, merchants; as far as regards H. Scleshinger. T. Holmes and T. Atkinson, Northowram, Yorkshire, silk-spinners. A. Kay and T. Kitts, Bolton-le-Moors, cotton-spinners. J. Jones and H. Rowlands, Liverpool, joiners. M. Cornthwaite and J. Alston, Lancaster, saddlers. J. Booker and A. Seignette, Liverpool, merchants. V. Potter, A. Potter, and J. Potter, Manchester, general commission merchants; as far as regards J. Potter.

From the Gazette of Tuesday, Jan. 4.

BANKRUPTS.

Robert Collinson and William Brown, upholsterers, Oxford-street, Marylebone, to surrender, Jan. 14, at one, and Feb. 15, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Whitmore, official assignee, Basinghall-street; solicitors, Allen, Gylby, and Allen, Carlisle-street, Soho-square.

John Luscombe, maltster, Plymouth, Jan. 17, and Feb. 15, at twelve, at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth. Solicitors, Bartrum and Son, Bishopsgate-street-Within, London; Were, Plymouth.

James Bisshopp, market-gardener, Westburton, Sussex, Jan. 17, and Feb. 15, at eleven, at the Dolphin Hotel, Chichester. Solicitors, Blackburn and Senior, New Inn, London; Ellis and Upton, Petwork, Sussex.

George Gilliard, tea dealer, Plymouth, Devonshire, Jan. 17, and Feb. 15, at eleven, at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth. Solicitor, Patten, Hatton-garden, London.

William Williams, corn dealer, Cowarne, Herefordshire, Jan. 13, and Feb. 15, at eleven, at the Black Swan Inn, Hereford. Solicitors, Clarke and Medcalf, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London, Reece, Leadbury, Herefordshire.

William Gibb, currier, Alnwick, Northumberland; Jan. 14, and Feb. 15, at one, at the Star Inn, Alnwick. Solicitors, Spours and Carr, Alnwick; Dunn and Dobie, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, London.

William Swift, mercer, Manchester, Jan. 19, and Feb. 15, at ten, at the Commissioners'-rooms, Manchester. Solicitors, Baxter, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London; Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

John Jacob Schenck, merchant, Addle-street, City, Jan. 18, at one, and Feb. 15, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Gibson, official assignee, Basinghall-street; solicitors, Austen and Hobson, Raymond-buildings, Gray's Inn.

Thomas Henry Ford, victualler, Rochford, Essex, Jan. 12, and Feb. 15, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Lackington, official assignee, Coleman-street-buildings; solicitors, Wood and Wickham, Gracechurch-street, for Wood, Rochford.

George Delianson Clark, bookseller, Strand, Jan. 12, and Feb. 15, at one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street. Johnson, Basinghall-street, official assignee; solicitor, Waugh, Great James-street, Bedford-row.

DURHAM.

GREAT PUBLIC MEETING.—THE MAYOR IN THE CHAIR.

(Abridged from the Durham Advertiser.)

The Worshipful the Mayor of this city having promised the Chartists, at the meeting held in the Council Chamber to address the Queen on the birth of the Prince of Wales, that he would call a meeting to consider the distress of the country, if a proper requisition was sent to him for that purpose, a requisition was last week presented to the Mayor, who called a meeting for Monday last, at ten o'clock. Shortly after that hour the body of the Town Hall was pretty well filled, and the bench also had a considerable number of occupants.

The MAYOR, who occupied the chair, observed that the meeting had been convened in pursuance of a requisition sent to him, and signed by forty-eight inhabitants or householders of this city; and the object of that requisition was to take into consideration the cause of the distress which at present existed in this country, and the propriety of petitioning Parliament for relief from that distress. (Hear.) He need scarcely inform many of them that this meeting had sprung out of that held not long ago for the purpose of congratulating our gracious Sovereign on the birth of the Prince of Wales. At that time observations were made with regard to the distress which affected the country irrelevant to the subject for which that meeting had been called, and which had not entered into the consideration of the requisitionists who called it; but still their sympathy was excited, and a decided feeling expressed on every hand that that distress should be fully considered, and as fully met and relieved as possible. (Applause.) It was in vain to say that it was only one class, or one neighbourhood of this country, or one interest, that was labouring under distress: it was in vain to say that the distress might be partial and not universal. This country was so constituted, and the ramifications of society—its business and commerce, were so firmly woven together, that it was impossible at one extremity or the other that distress could be felt which should not more or less affect the whole of this vast community. (Applause.) It was therefore, the wisest plan to investigate it and attempt to remedy it. If distress existed among the higher classes they might depend upon it that the poorer classes would presently feel it. (Hear.) The working classes full soon experienced that there was some defect in the general system; and therefore, whenever that distress existed in the commercial, manufacturing, or working classes, he repeated again that the wisest plan was to attempt to diffuse a general relief to that distress. It was therefore, for them, as requisitionists, to consider what could be done, and what relief could be proposed. It was for them, properly and in order to approach the legislative bodies of the country, to ask for that relief; it was for them, also, to expect that their prayers would be listened to, and that the remedy which they proposed, so far as it was founded in propriety, would, in some degree, be adapted to the case of necessity, and procure that relief which they desired. (Hear.) It was not for him to give advice, or to attempt to lead opinion; but they would allow him one suggestion, that as there might be a difference of opinion as to the cause of distress—as the causes might be various, and as the relief which must be applied to that distress might be difficult to find out, they ought to desire that species of relief which could be most easily and speedily obtained. (Hear.) He would advise them, therefore, not to be led away by fancied topics of relief which might at some future period, and after the present race of men were reposing in their graves, come into use and be adopted; but that they would let it be some species of relief which might be laid before Parliament on the 4th of February, 1842, and which might be the means of producing an immediate and proper measure of relief. If they did their duty, therefore, let their measures be so constituted—their resolutions so framed, that they might be adapted to present relief—that they might be so wise in their arrangement, so consistent and orderly, that it might be a relief that Parliament could grant, and that without much delay; and then he trusted that the distress which was felt more in the South than in this neighbourhood, might be remedied—that Parliament might remove that distress, that its sources might be dried up, and that universal harmony, kindness, and happiness, might once more cheer the happy homes, the hearths, and the altars of our own beloved England. (Much applause.) He should, therefore, only say, in conclusion, that as he had met the requisitionists in a spirit of candour and conciliation, so he believed that they would not introduce any topic merely inflammatory, or not in consonance with the language of the requisition; and as he had met them in this spirit of candour and consideration, he trusted the remedy they asked would be such as Parliament might grant—that they would meet him in the same kind spirit, and that their united object would be to procure relief and see the community happy. (Applause.) He should therefore call on the gentlemen who had resolutions to propose now to tender them.

Mr. MOWBRAY then came forward to move the first resolution. He said, though young and inexperienced, yet he considered it a duty which he owed to his country and to his God, to come forward and advocate those principles which he considered would best contribute to the happiness and welfare of his fellow men. (Applause.) They were called together to consider the causes of the existing distress which afflicted the working classes of this country. That distress did exist was a fact well known to many whom he saw around him; but how much more severely must it be felt by the manufacturing classes of Spitalfields, where 19,500 people were at that time out of employment, and thousands in the workhouse of Bethnal Green, while a number of others were receiving out-door relief? There were various opinions as to the causes of this distress. Some attributed it to the irreligion or immorality of the people; others to the over-run state of the population (hear); others to the Corn Laws; and some said it was the will of God that man should be such as he is. But he did not believe it was the will of God that there should be six millions of slaves in this country—he did not believe it the will of God that, where he had sent plenty of food, there should be thousands starving. (Applause.) He did not think it right that one class should live in idleness and luxury, whilst others had not the necessaries of life. (Hisses and cries of "Where's that?") But on the contrary, he believed that peace and plenty should be the lot of every man, for it was intended at the creation that man should reap the fruits of labour, and enjoy the fruits of the earth. He would now read the resolution which he was about to propose. [The resolution affirmed that there was great and general distress existing in the country.] He believed that this resolution was conceived in terms which could not meet with the opposition of any man, however much he might be prejudiced against the political opinions of the person from whom it emanated. (Hear, hear.) It must be to all a source of unfeigned regret to learn the distress which did actually exist in the country—to think that thousands were turned on the world to sink beneath the summer's sun or winter's blast, or to face the tender mercies of the Poor Law Commissioners. He would now move the resolution.

Mr. ANDREW WHITE *seconded the resolution*, which was put by the Mayor, and carried with four or five dissentient voices.

Mr. THOMAS CLARKE, a currier, then came forward, and said that he stood there in the place of a better man to propose the next resolution. Men of all parties now admitted that distress did exist, and to a greater extent than was ever known before. (Tumult.) One party attributed the distress which existed to the Corn Laws, but he did not believe that its existence was caused by any one law: it was caused by class legislation. (Hisses, and cheers.) If they thought they could put him down by hissing, they were deceived. But as there were men to follow him possessed of a greater amount of talent, it would be presumption in him to address them at any great length; and he should therefore simply move the resolution.

The resolution, which attributed the distress of the country to the "monopoly of political power by the privileged classes," was seconded by Mr. Thos. Cleghorn, and carried without opposition.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Sunderland, then stood up, and said, some ascribed the distress to a want of commerce, and contended that, when trade was in a flourishing condition, it promoted the employment of the working classes. In the abstract that might be true; but if they looked back to the past history of commerce, they found that in the exact proportion that commerce had been extended, the working classes had been doomed to a proportionate degree of misery. They found that as the wealth of a town increased, so had the condition of the working man been deteriorated. (Hear, hear, and applause) Compare the condition of Glasgow in 1841, with the condition of Glasgow fifty years ago; and they would find that in the same proportion as the population had increased—in the same proportion that the wealth and commerce of Glasgow had increased, in the very same proportion had the physical condition of the people been deteriorated. (Hear, hear.) At what time in the history of England was there such a vast amount of wealth produced as at present? and at what time did the working population of England suffer so much? It was evident, then, that there was no want of resources in the country—it was clear that there was now a greater amount of wealth produced than was necessary to supply the physical wants of the whole globe. Various remedies had been proposed for this distress. Some told them that the remedy was a repeal of the Corn Laws, and the Mayor had said that it was best to promote measures of immediate relief. There might be differences of opinion as to what those measures were. Some said the repeal of the Corn Laws would most likely remove the evils under which they suffered, but if they were to examine into the constitution of that house from which the repeal of the Corn Laws was to be expected they would find that there existed in that House a prejudice in favour of those laws. Were they likely to obtain a repeal of the Corn Laws from the House of Commons as at present constituted? And even should they do so were they confident that the effect of that repeal would be to better their condition? (Hear, hear, hisses, and cheers.) Did they expect if the Corn Law was repealed, and commerce extended, that they would be benefitted in any degree? They were told in 1832 that if they but assisted the class which then possessed political power to attain that power, they would obtain every advantage necessary for themselves. Ten years' experience had shewn them the fallacy of such expectations. The explosion of their hopes had taken place, and they had a duty to perform to their children and to their country, to see that they were not again deluded—to see that, whatever changes might be effected, such changes and remedies were well calculated to benefit them. (Loud applause.) Their worthy Mayor had done himself credit by calling them together; and if the wealthy classes of society would act towards them as the Mayor had done that day, the prejudice which now existed against them would soon be removed. He acknowledged that he was a Chartist—(hisses and cheers)—but he was so because he believed the principles of the Chartists to be consistent with every thing reasonable and just. He was a Chartist because he believed the principles of the Charter calculated to remove every evil which existed. Trusting that they would pass the resolution, he would not detain them any longer.

Mr. GEORGE WESTON contended that political matters should not be introduced into that meeting; and that as they were met to address Parliament to remove the distress in the country they ought to confine themselves to that object.

The motion was then put and carried without further opposition.

Mr. MOWBRAY then briefly proposed the third resolution, which affirmed that the only remedy for the distress was the adoption of the People's Charter. Mr. Clarke briefly seconded the motion.

The MAYOR objected to put the resolution as containing nothing specific—nothing to remove the distress which existed. He begged to interfere in order that there might be something specific added. (Applause and hisses.) The simple question was whether it was in order or not.

Mr. WILLIAMS—Will you allow me to offer a word or two respecting the resolution? (Cries of "no, no," "yes, yes.")

The MAYOR amidst a great noise came forward and said the simple point was this—they had already kindly and attentively listened to one individual who was not an inhabitant of the town, and he would candidly state to them that he had no such intention as to confine the requisionists to speak for themselves if they wished to have one or two advocates to speak for them. (Cheers and hisses.) There, therefore, need be neither heat nor vehemence about it. There was a point in the proceedings at which it was his duty to make a stand, and that they would find he would do. The resolution as moved was that the Charter was a specific for all these evils. (Some interruption.) He objected that this was not a specific remedy according to the terms of the requisition. (Cheers and hisses.)

Mr. Williams and the Mayor here held a conference on the terms of the resolution.

Mr. WILLIAMS then rose and said,—According to the strict letter of the requisition he was not entitled to speak to them because he was not an inhabitant of Durham; and when he was first applied to to attend, he had declined to come. He told them he had made it a rule never to attend public meetings called in any other town than that in which he lived, and take part in them unless by the special approbation of the parties who got up the meetings; for he thought the inhabitants of the town being called together to consider any public question ought alone to conduct their own proceedings; or if strangers did come forward, that they should not either move or second resolutions, but only deliver observations with the consent of the meeting. He had made it a rule in his public life never to attend a meeting unless he could attend it according to the strict terms of the requisition, and never to introduce topics not within the scope or object of the meeting, and he trusted the resolution now before them would, in the opinion of their excellent chairman, be deemed in order, and meet with their unanimous approval. They, then, were willing for him to address them for a short time as one of their countrymen—for they were not met to consider the distress which existed in Durham alone, but which pervaded the whole of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Every man lamenting this distress, and wishing to see it removed, could have no objection to hear the opinions of one who was a stranger to them, because he apprehended they were there to receive all the knowledge they could, and if it was in his power to convey to them any knowledge, or to do aught to remove ignorance, or extirpate error, and to advance the interests of truth, then he was sure they would give to him a fair hearing and receive his observations in that fair and candid spirit that he submitted them to the meeting. (Loud cheering with slight interruption.) He conceived then that the resolution was one strictly in order, and that it embodied a remedy, and the only efficient remedy, for those evils under which they all now suffered. The existence of that distress was undisputed; and it was important to know that that distress was not local, but extended throughout the whole of Great Britain and Ireland—that it was not of recent origin, and that it appeared to be increasing. That distress had been attributed to various causes; and people differed both as to its origin and remedy. He need not, therefore, harrow up their feelings by the details of that distress. He agreed with the Mayor, that this distress was nothing in Durham and the North of England to what it was in other parts of the country. They were met, then, not alone in regard to their own interests but out of sympathy for their fellow countrymen, and he felt bound to notice the leading opinions entertained, and which had been promulgated, regarding the causes of this distress. There were some who promulgated the belief—held conscientiously by some, and promulgated for sinister purposes by others—that the distress arose from immorality and irreligion. However he (Mr. W.) thought that the existing distress was not, as thought by those gentlemen, a visitation of Providence; and he did not conceive that the remedy for that distress would be found in the erection of additional churches, or the establishment of additional curates. (Hisses & cheers) He did not think that this would be found an adequate remedy, for though desirous of having true religion extended, yet he did not think the existing distress had arisen from any want of moral principle in the people, from a want of religious principles or feelings, or from a want of the machinery for dispensing religious truth, but from a want of energy on the part of those whose duty it was to diffuse it. (Hisses and cheers.) There were others who thought that the distress arose from a superabundant population. This was at variance with his own opinion, and at variance with the opinion of the most enlightened men and the most careful observers. He could give them in the spirit of the statistics of Mr. Alison—a gentleman who held Conservative opinions, and a gentleman of unblemished reputation, and of unblemished integrity—a proof that those who held this opinion were in error. He (Mr. Alison) was of opinion that the population of Britain was as nothing to what its existing resources could sustain. (Applause.) He could also give them other statistics to shew that the resources of Great Britain were capable of sustaining twenty times the population that now exists in this country. There was at the present time a productive power in this country equal to the labour of 600,000,000 of human beings. Fifty years ago it was only equal to 15,000,000. During the last fifty years, owing to the discoveries of Watt and of Arkwright, our productive power had increased to the extent of the labours of 600,000,000 of human beings. Obviously then the distress *arose not from the want of materials for producing* wealth; still less from the want of natural richness in the soil. Perhaps no country possessed a finer soil than Great Britain—notwithstanding the opinion of those gentlemen who were in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws. The number of acres, according to the report made to the board of public works, which were cultivated in Ireland, was 12,125,000; and of uncultivated, but capable of cultivation, 4,900,000 acres. Then there was a total of cultivated and cultivatable land in Great Britain, of 61,025,280 acres, and the number of acres in cultivation was only about half of what was capable of cultivation. (Hear, hear.) It was also an acknowledged fact that those lands already in cultivation, were capable of a much higher degree of cultivation; and that the science of agriculture, as a science, was capable of very great improvement indeed. The labours of many gentlemen in establishing home colonies had called out this cheering fact, that a very small portion of land was capable of sustaining a labourer and his family in comfort and independence. It had been proved by experiment that about five acres were capable of furnishing sustenance and comfort for a working man and his family, and placing him not only above the fear of want, but absolutely of securing to him independence as long as life existed, for the cultivation of the soil was not like manufactures; it was not connected with the financial system, or dependent on transient circumstances, giving at one time great prosperity, and at another plunging into great distress, for cultivation would ever yield a sure return for the labour expended upon it. He thought, then, that the evil arose not from super-abundant population; and that, therefore, the remedy was not to be found in an extensive scheme of emigration—in limiting marriages among the people, or in other matters of a disgusting character, which had been promulgated by those who thought that England was too densely populated. (Hear and cheers.) He was of opinion, therefore, that in emigration was not to be found a sufficient remedy. ("No," "no.") It appeared that there were now only half of the people employed; and the other half were only half employed. Only two or three years ago they were all in full employment. Had the population doubled since that period? If not, then the distress could not arise from the superabundant population. If they were to admit that England did possess a superabundant population, what followed? Why, that one-half of the population ought to be removed; and if one-half of these were to be removed, what a heavy sum of money would be required to transport them from their happy shores, to the wilds and wildernesses of foreign climes. (Hear and applause, with a few hisses.) If the capital requisite to carry on an extensive scheme of this sort were to be employed in increasing the cultivation of your own lands, it would be attended with infinitely better effects. (Interruption.) It would not be necessary for the people to be removed from those opportunities of mental and social improvement, which existed nowhere to so great an extent as in Great Britain, and to go to other lands to seek for a home and an asylum, and to seek an existence from their own proper labour. (Applause.) Having, then, said sufficient to show that the evils did not arise from a superabundant population, and that therefore, they were not to be remedied by a system of emigration, and still less by the immoral and degrading plans of Malthus, he must now pass to the views entertained by a very large and a very influential class of Reformers. There was then a very large class of Reformers who were of opinion that the chief cause of the existing distress were the laws restricting the importation of food, and the immense value of food decreasing the price of labour. While agreeing that the existing Corn Laws were unjust in principle and iniquitous in their character, and most pernicious in their operation, still he dissented from them in the belief that in a repeal of those laws would be found a remedy for the existing distress. When did the present law come into existence? By what means did it come into existence? Not merely through ignorant public opinion, because it was carried in utter opposition to the expressed wishes and will of the people. (Cheers and hisses.) The existing Corn Laws were passed because the individuals who passed them had powers which the people had not. He did not here allude to the sliding scale system, but to the *Corn Bill of 1815, which was passed at the point of* the bayonet; and the people were coerced into submission to that law, which they knew would be productive of injury to them. It was passed by the aristocracy, and for what purpose? To advance the interests of the labouring class of people? To advance the interest of trade and commerce? To advance the interest of those engaged in the cultivation of the soil—of the farmer or the farm labourer? No such thing; but to increase the rent roll of the landlord. That was the object which they had in view, and bitterly to their cost the object had been achieved. Having seen that this measure was passed in opposition to the people, because those individuals had unlimited power, they discovered at once that it was in consequence of those individuals having that which they (the people) had not—viz. political power, and it was that power which enabled them to set at defiance the wishes and interests of the people. (Hisses and cheers.) Since that period, but especially for the last two or three years, a very powerful agitation had been carried on to obtain a repeal of these laws, and with that agitation the Chartists occupied a very curious and singular position. The Chartists had been unable to co-operate with the Corn Law repealers, but were compelled to take an apparently antagonistic position, not from factious feelings but from a conscientious feeling that the opinions of the repealers were wrong. The reason why they had not been able to co-operate with the Corn Law repealers was that they (the former) believed the numerous evils under which they now suffered arose entirely from the monopoly of power by the privileged classes and from their not being amenable to the will of the people, and that therefore the only remedy for these evils was the enfranchising of the whole people, and giving them equal power with those who now enjoyed it. (Hear, hisses, and cheers.) Man was said to be selfish by nature, and if that were so, they ought not to give to any individual political power which would enable him to enrich himself at the expence of others. He would assert that it was unjust and unwise to give to any class unbounded political power, because they would use it to promote class interest at the expence of the interests of others, and on that principle was based the People's Charter. He contended that all being equally interested as citizens in the welfare of the state, all ought to be in the possession of equal political power to secure their own interests and to prevent others injuring them. All parties acknowledged the justice of that principle, but some differed from them and said that the principle was correct in the abstract, but that the time had not come for the exercise of the principles of justice. Now he (Mr. W.) said that it was never too early to begin to do justice, and that no good whatever was to be obtained by maintaining institutions which were not founded on justice. (Chartist cheers.) What was the argument used for the immediate emancipation of the negro slaves? It was said by the opponents of emancipation that they ought to wait until the negroes were enlightened and knew the benefit of religion. To this it was answered that the ignorance of the slave was not the result of native want of talent, but that in the state of slavery and degradation in which they were placed was in vain to attempt to improve their minds or morals, and that until the cause which occasioned that state of ignorance, immorality, and irreligion was removed it was totally impossible to remove these defects. "Therefore," said they, "strike off their fetters now and make those men who are slaves free. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.) Then they will receive the ministry of the gospel in the spirit of the true religion—then you will believe them to be what they pretend to be." If, then, the argument of the emancipationists were sound, his (Mr. W.'s) was equally sound, because it was based on the same principle. (Cheers.) Those who were opposed to the immediate emancipation of the people—those who were opposed to the immediate giving to the people political power, said that the people of England were ignorant. That ignorance he admitted, and was endeavouring to remove; but they would not be enlightened unless by exertion—they would not be enlightened as to what men were if they did not tell them what their rights were. The people were not born more ignorant than the richer classes. They had the same natural powers; and notwithstanding the disadvantageous position in which they were placed, men had sprung up among them of the noblest character, such as Watt, Arkwright, Burns, Elliot, and many other illustrious men. No one could deny that in intellect all classes were brethren; and if the masses were ignorant, it was not because they were naturally inferior, but, on the contrary, it was a strong proof that the existing institutions of the country were unjust. The more completely they proved the ignorance and immorality of the working classes, the more completely did they prove the mischief of the existing institutions and the necessity of a change. People working fourteen hours a day in a cotton mill, or in the deep, deep mine, had no time for mental improvement. Children were compelled at the age of five or six to go down the deep mine for fourteen or fifteen hours a day, and were thus deprived of all the means of good education, and of all things useful to them at that time of life. Still less could factory children be expected to receive any education; and it was no wonder to find in them such physical debility and moral depravity as were described in the reports of the factory inspectors. He who created us was not a partial father. He did not dole out blessings to one class, and deny them to others. But it was said that the people had nothing at stake. If the time should come when their shores were likely to be invaded, and the property of the aristocracy and the millocrats were likely to be endangered they should then hear nothing of the people having no stake in the country. They would be astonished to be told what a stake they had then. (Hear, laughter, and applause.) If they had to come forward in defence of the throne, the altar, the institutions of the country, and their homes, they would then find that they had most important interests at stake. (Hear, hear.) Now, if they had these interests at stake, it came with a very ill grace from those who had had their assistance if the day after the battle they came forward and told them that they were ignorant and had no interest in the country. But the people had an interest not merely as strong, but greater than the wealthiest in the land. A man's interests vitally depended upon his relations to the state; and any alteration in the law had a tendency vitally to affect his condition. If there were a law which would enhance the cost of food and diminish the price of labour what became of the working man. It reduced his supply of bread and of clothing also. But if there were an amelioration of the law which reduced the value of property generally it would only be necessary for the rich to retrench their luxuries. They might retrench a bottle of wine a day—keep a couple of horses where before they kept four, or a couple of servants where they had perhaps six, but they did not feel the pinchings of want. (Loud cheers.) The poorer classes instead of having a less, had a greater stake in the country than the rich; because, if danger did occur, those who had wealth could sell their landed possessions, and become voluntary exiles; but poorer people were chained to the soil on which they were born; and he therefore said that as men, as husbands, and as fathers they had an equal interest. but, as citizens, they had a greater interest than those who claimed an exclusive interest in the country. (Interruption, and cries of the "Remedy.") Well, then, now for the remedy. He had been speaking to the remedy all along—it was that to do justice to all was the surest means of promoting the interest, the honor, and the happiness of all. He held the opinion that the charter embodied these opinions which were based on justice to all, and what were they? That the electoral power of the country should not be vested in a body of men, who had property merely, but in the whole adult people—in all those who had come to maturity, and who had, therefore, the capacity to judge what was for the general interest. The present system vested the electoral power in the hands of the owners of property, or the occupier of a house of the value of £10, and the inefficiency of that constituency to effect beneficial changes or to remove the evils of the country, proved most clearly that the present system was wrong. The franchise was now vested in the middle classes. If they had chosen men ignorant of the principles of justice, they must have done so in ignorance or knavery (Hear, hear, and cheers.) If through ignorance then, they were unqualified to do their duty; and if through knavery they were equally disqualified. But if the whole people were enfranchised and should commit blunders they would only have themselves to blame, and the higher classes would be released from the odium which was at present attached to them. If they granted to the people their just rights, moreover, the higher classes would have an interest in weaning them from their ignorance, because their best security would be found in enlightening their minds and improving their morals. If, then, the men of Durham had entertained prejudices against the People's Charter, he trusted that those prejudices would be now removed. They now knew what those principles were, and what they were not. If they were lovers of justice they would support those principles. (Hear, hear, hear, and cheers.) They attributed to the representatives of the whole people the remedy of those evils. It was offered as an effective remedy and also as a speedy remedy The Chairman very probably thought the Charter was not a remedy of that description. He must tell him (the Mayor) that neither was the repeal of the Corn Laws. Sir Robt. Peel's plan had become known, and it was not in consonance with the views of the repealers. But did they expect to carry a repeal of the Corn Laws sooner than the Chartists could carry the Charter? He should say decidedly not; and in that opinion he was supported by the most intelligent portion of their own press, such as the *Spectator* and the *Nonconformist*. The Charter was a broader measure of justice than the repeal of the Corn Laws. The Charter was a comprehensive and sufficient scheme for improving the legislative power of the country. It was embraced by a larger number, and, therefore, was more likely to be sooner carried. The repeal of the Corn Laws originated with the middle classes, but it could never be carried without the support of the people. O'Connell had seen this, and at Manchester expressed a wish that the people should back him in order to frighten the aristocracy. Lord Melbourne had declared that to obtain a repeal of the Corn Laws would convulse the country from end to end—that it would bring the country to the very verge of a revolution, and if so why should they be called upon to pass through so terrible an ordeal as that to remove one evil when the system which had called that evil into existence was to be suffered to last? The middle classes, therefore, should unite themselves to Chartists. (Cheers.) Let the middle and working *classes join together to procure a broad measure of* justice. It was with no light feelings that he appeared there that day, and if he had uttered any expressions of an improper character he most sincerely regretted it. He desired that good and kind feelings should exist among them, and if they could not agree in opinion let them agree to differ. (Applause.) That meeting was one of the most cheering signs of the times. There was a period when the people were really treated as the "swinish multitude," when their still feelings felt no utterance on the public platform. But they now lived in times of a very different character when the working people had acquired knowledge, and when men in whom they had the fullest confidence were publicly heard to express their sentiments and expound their views. He thanked them for the patience with which they had heard him, and the Mayor for allowing him to speak.

The TOWN CLERK then read the resolution, which was to the effect that the meeting was of opinion that the most speedy and efficient remedy for class legislation, and the numerous evils arising from it, would be found in the adoption of the People's Charter.

Mr. FRANCIS M'CARTHY, a carpet weaver, ascended the bench to propose an amendment. He said that much as he agreed in what had fallen from Mr. Williams, yet he considered that the obtaining of the Charter would be at such a distant period, that it would be long ere they felt the benefit of it. (Hisses and cheers.) Being convinced of this, and at the same time considering that a repeal of the Corn Laws would sooner produce good effects—(much hissing)—he rose to propose a resolution to that effect.

Mr. WM. ALEXANDER, another carpet weaver, seconded the amendment.

The amendment was put, but not twenty hands were held up for it. It was negatived by a very large majority. The original motion was not put, the Mayor declaring it to have been carried.

Mr. MOWBRAY moved that petitions to both houses of Parliament be drawn up founded on the resolutions, and sent to Mr. Granger and Earl Stanhope for presentation, which was carried without opposition.

Three cheers were given for Frost, Williams, and Jones; for the *Northern Star*; and for Feargus O'Connor.

Mr. WILLIAMS moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, which was carried, and the Mayor having returned thanks, the meeting was dissolved.

LEEDS IMPROVEMENT COMMISSIONERS.

TRIUMPH OF THE CHARTISTS.

A vestry meeting was held on Thursday last, at twelve o'clock, to elect nineteen commissioners to execute the purposes of the Improvement Act for the ensuing year, in conjunction with the Borough Justices, who act *ex-officio*. The meeting was very numerously attended, the vestry before the appointed hour being so full as to render an adjournment necessary; the people being determined to be no longer gulled by either of the factions.

Mr. Councillor KELSALL moved that the chair should be occupied by Mr. Charles Cummins; whereupon,

Mr. WILLIAM HICK, *as an amendment, proposed* Mr. William Brook to the office.

Mr. James Green, Park Row, was also proposed; but the majority in favour of Mr. Brook was great, and he accordingly took the chair.

Mr. NAYLOR, the law clerk, then read the notice convening the meeting; after which,

Mr. HICK moved that the vestry meeting be adjourned to the Vicar's Croft, which was at once carried; and to the Croft the public repaired, where Mr. Naylor again read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon any one having persons to propose to do so, and stated the regulations in the event of a poll being demanded.

Mr. KELSALL then proceeded to read over a list of names, which he handed in to the Chairman, saying that in *his* opinion (an opinion, by-the-bye, in which the public did not seem to join to the full extent,) they were the most likely men, and the best qualified of any in the borough, for the office. The names he proposed were:—Mr. George Howard, Mr. Horatio Wood, Mr. Robert Drury, Mr. Wm. Sellers, Mr. Edward King, Mr. George Morton, Mr. Joshua Metcalfe, Mr. Benjamin Hebden, Mr. Joseph Woodhead, Mr. Thomas Otley, Mr. Charles Cummins, Mr. Richard Bissington, Mr. H. Gresham, Mr. Thomas Anderton, Wr. Wm. Binns, Mr. James Vickerman, Mr. John Whitehead, Mr. Joseph Raper, and Mr. John Wilson.

This list was seconded by Mr. Thomas Morgan, the Whig man-of-all-work; and we believe that when the list was proposed, they thought in good faith, they would be able to carry it by a large majority.

Several other names were then proposed separately by parties in the crowd, but without any idea that they would be carried. Some Tories were proposed by an operative, but the party, as a body, took no part in the matter.

Mr. HICK then proposed a list, *embodying seven* of the out going Commissioners. the most liberal of the lot, and twelve others, all staunch friends of the people's cause. This list was seconded by Mr. MICHAEL LONGSTAFF, and was as follows:—

Mr. Horatio Wood, solicitor, Hillhouse-place, East-street.
Mr. William Sellers, tallow chandler, 53, Portland-crescent.
Mr. William Binns, cloth manufacturer, Spring-field-place.
Mr. Edward King, woolstapler, Grove-terrace.
Mr. Joseph Woodhead, builder, Spencer-place, Roundhay-road.
Mr. Joseph Raper, builder, Holbeck.
Mr. John Whitehead, machine-maker, Holbeck.
Mr. Joseph Pickard, machine maker, Kirkstall-road.
Mr. Joshua Hobson, printer, Market-street.
Mr. William Hartley, broker, Kirkgate.
Mr. Joseph Inglish, butcher, 4, Ludgate-hill.
Mr. John Ardill, clerk, Burley-place, Kirkstall-road.
Mr. Thomas Otley, victualler, St. Peter's-street.
Mr. George Wood, gentleman, Woodhouse-lane.
Mr. George Dufton, gentleman, Richmond-terrace.
Mr. Joshua Barnard, toll-bar keeper, George's-street.
Mr. Henry Wilks, pawnbroker, *George's-street.*
Mr. John Holroyd, victualler, Meadow-lane.
Mr. Thomas Button, cloth finisher, St. Peter's-square.

The seven names first on the list, were retiring Commissioners.

The Chairman, in order that there might be no mistake, and that justice might be done to all parties, put each name separately to the meeting, taking one from each list in rotation.

For each name proposed by Mr. Hick, nearly every hand in the assembly was held up, while for "Morgan's list," (the concoction of the Corn Law League and the Fox and Goose Club) not above thirty or forty were held up for any one.

The CHAIRMAN therefore declared the election to have fallen on the nineteen gentlemen above-named, proposed by Mr. Hick.

A tremendous cheer followed this announcement. The united Whig-Rads had no chance. With them "Othello's occupation's gone"—clean gone. The people have left them far away behind, and it will now be seen that they, having fairly taken their own affairs into their own hands, *will* manage to conduct them to the credit and honour of the town

No poll was demanded, and thanks having been carried by acclamation to the Chairman, for his *gentlemanly and impartial conduct in the chair*, the meeting broke up.

Are the Chartists of *Leeds* generally aware that the qualification for a Town Councillor is lower than for an Improvement Commissioner? and have they asked themselves the question whether those who have power to carry the election of Commissioners may not be able *to* carry the election of Councillors if they try? The thing is worth thinking of.

LEEDS.—The Enumeration Committee will hold a special meeting on Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Old George, on important business.

THE LEEDS INTELLIGENCER.—We understand that since the publication of the advertisement which appeared in our paper of Saturday last, respecting the proprietorship of the *Intelligencer*, the matters in dispute between the parties have been put into a *train of settlement*.

HOLBECK.—Mr. Bronterre O'Brien addressed the Chartists of this place on Sunday evening last, for about three hours, in his usual excellent and effective manner; he explained his views in lucid and comprehensive language, and created a sensation of pleasure in the breasts of his hearers by the manly vigour of his ideas, and the satisfactory conclusions to which they led. The Chartists of this place have fitted up an excellent room, near the bridge, capable of holding six or seven hundred, and it was filled to suffocation. They are gaining a great accession of signatures to the "Great National," and are steadily progressing in number and in importance.

O'BRIEN'S PRESS FUND.—The Leeds Committee have received:—

	s.	d.
From Mr. French, per Mr. Swain ...	0	6
From Mr. Earnshaw	1	0
From Mr. Westlake, collected in half-penny subscriptions	13	6

LEEDS BOROUGH SESSIONS.

The Christmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the Borough of Leeds, were held last week, at the Court House in Leeds, before THOMAS FLOWER ELLIS, Jun., Esquire, Recorder.

The following Gentlemen were sworn of

THE GRAND JURY.

Mr. Robert Dennis Chantrell, architect, *Foreman.*
Mr. Thomas Barlow, hatter.
Mr. Wm. Bowes, stuff-merchant.
Mr. Wm. Brown, stuff merchant.
Mr. Robert Cadman, gentleman.
Mr. Benjamin Clark, farmer.
Mr. John Clark, architect.
Mr. Thomas Craven, cornfactor.
Mr. Thomas England, cornfactor.
Mr. Wm. Graveley, *farmer.*
Mr. Richard Harrison, timber merchant.
Mr. Wm. Hunt, gentleman.
Mr. Frederick Kirby, merchant.
Mr. Wm. Perkin, architect.
Mr. James Sanderson, *cornfactor.*
Mr. John Scott. cornfactor.
Mr. George Smith, merchant.

The RECORDER, in charging the Grand Jury, said that although the calendar was rather heavier in point of number than usual, it presented one very gratifying feature, namely, the almost total absence of cases of stealing with anything like violence. At the last sessions there were four or five cases of that nature, but on this occasion, so far as he had perused the depositions, he had not found one. There were only two or three cases with respect to which any thing that he could say would be of use to them. In one or two cases the excuse of drunkenness might be set up. Upon that he might observe that if there was drunkenness so great that a man did not know what he was about, or whether he took his own property or that of his neighbour, then there was no crime, because there was no malice; but that degree of drunkenness which merely blinded a man to the impropriety of the act he committed, was no excuse, but an aggravation of the offence. Therefore, in no case, unless the drunkenness had proceeded to a length which he thought it scarely ever did, of making a man unable to distinguish between his own property and that of his neighbour, could it be any excuse for the commission of a felony. There were other cases in which servants or agents were charged with embezzlement. In such cases it was not sufficient to prove that the accused had received the money, and that it had not come to the hands of the master, nor been entered in his master's books, because it might happen that the servant had forgotten to enter it; but the general proof was that the servant had designed to make the master believe that all was clear between them, when in point of fact he had misappropriated his monies to his own use. There was one case in which the defence would probably be that the article, a mackintosh coat, was borrowed not stolen, to protect the taker from the rain. If the Grand Jury should be of opinion that it was originally taken for that purpose, and not with a view to appropriate it ultimately to his own use, they would not send the bill down to the Petty Jury, as the offence would amount only to a trespass, and not to a felony. After some observations on cases of uttering base coin, the Recorder said, that there was a case of personation under the Municipal Act, the person charged having voted in the name of a person whom he was not. The 34th section of the act enacted that only three questions could be put to a burgess at the time of voting; the first was whether the person who tendered a voting paper was the person whose name was signed thereto; and an affirmative answer to that might be a correct one, although it was not his own writing. The second question was whether the person who tendered the voting paper was the person enrolled on the burgess roll for the qualification described at the foot of the voting paper handed in; and it was probable that the indictment would turn upon whether a false answer had been given to that question. Now if a person of the name of John Styles handed in a voting paper purporting to be signed by John Styles, and yet was not the John Styles who was *registered, he was guilty of a crime in personating the* true John Styles, in addition to the offence created by the statute in giving a false answer. The statute was framed to guard against one person voting for another; and if a person was ill at home he could not send another person to vote for him.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

THE QUEEN *v.* GEORGE NUSSEY AND GEORGE NUSSEY JUNIOR.

Mr. HALL said that this case was an indictment found at the last sessions against the defendants for nuisance in not consuming their smoke, and that since the indictment had been found they had made experiments which they hoped would succeed in effecting the object the prosecutor had in view; and as the prosecutor had *no* wish to press hardly upon them, but was willing to abandon the prosecution, he had to move that the indictment be discharged.

After some conversation between the Recorder and the Learned Counsel,

A verdict of Not Guilty was taken and recorded.

We understand that the remaining two of the three indictments for smoke nuisance, found at the last sessions, have been traversed till the next sessions.

TRANSPORTED SEVEN YEARS.—Mary Ann North, 22, an old offender, for stealing three printed cotton dresses from Benjamin Pollard. Henry Bottomley Hargreaves, 23, for having feloniously received several pairs of boots at Leeds, the property of Benjamin Jackson, well knowing them to have been stolen.

IMPRISONED ONE YEAR.—Joseph Butterfield, stealing boots from Dennis Topham. John Craven Fielding, stealing brass piping, &c. from John Cookson. Margaret Gollagher, stealing a purse containing £40 in bank notes, from C. Bell.

IMPRISONED NINE CALENDAR MONTHS.—Mary Thresh, *alias* Carr, stealing money from James Crossley. James Chadwick, stealing £7 10s. in money, a cash-box and other articles, the property of Messrs. Wm. Prichard and Company of Burley Mill. Harriet Marshall, 22, stealing money the property of Christopher Hunter.

IMPRISONED EIGHT CALENDAR MONTHS.—Mary Ann Brook, stealing a purse and half-a-crown from Wm. Gledhill. (The prisoner on leaving the bar, said, "I think ye might as well mak' it twelve.")

IMPRISONED EIGHTEEN WEEKS.—Robert Boynton, stealing from three different places of worship, hymn books, &c. from Thomas Wood, Wm. Walker Wilson, and Wm. Wilkinson Worrall.

IMPRISONED SIX CALENDAR MONTHS.—Ann Stott, stealing a drinking glass and an iron spitting box from Mr. Thomas Jubb. Wm. Farrer, stealing a canvass cover from John Kitson. John Edward Chambers, feloniously receiving boots, the property of Benjamin Jackson, well knowing them to have been stolen. Jane Mountain, 27, stealing bacon, the property of Thomas Fowler. Elizabeth Mellor, 19, and Elizabeth Candall 19, stealing wearing apparel, the property of Wm. Hey and others. Wm. Brayshaw and Ann Green, uttering counterfeit coin.

IMPRISONED FIVE CALENDAR MONTHS.—Elijah Routh, stealing a number of cow's tails, the property of Messrs. Nickols and Rhodes, from the Aire and Calder Navigation Wharf. Ann Wood, stealing money, &c. from Thomas Burnell. Frederick Gilbertson, stealing money from Margaret Harland. Wm. Conroy, stealing coals from Messrs. Brandling and Co.

IMPRISONED FOUR CALENDAR MONTHS.—Mark Ridgwell, stealing cow's tails from Messrs. Nickols and Rhodes. Byrom *alias* Bryan Hughes, stealing a pair of shoes from Christopher Atkinson. Thomas Kelly, stealing brass castings from Messrs. Maclea and March. William Edwards, stealing money from Thomas Barrett. William Matthew, stealing a wash-band-stand, &c. from William Baxter. Sampson Spender, stealing from Thomas Hebden. Esq., Wm. Ambrose Jackson, stealing silver spectacles from Bridget Cropper, and a silk handkerchief from Mary Ellis. Jane Kilroy, for feloniously receiving a muslin apron and other articles, the property of James Thompson, well knowing them to have been stolen. Ann Simpson, stealing money from George Spencer. Robert Cooke, obtaining money by false pretences from George Constantine, with intent to defraud him of the same. William Northrop, and Thomas Hemingway, stealing band and other articles, the property of Wm. Edward Ellis and another. James Holmes, stealing a quantity of tartar, the property of Benjamin Musgrave. Joseph Rathmell, and Robert Richardson, stealing a top coat, the property of David Pawson.

IMPRISONED THREE CALENDAR MONTHS.—Mary Tempest, stealing gingham from John Dalby. Paul Lockwood, stealing a fender from Jane Barker. Martha Megson, stealing a merino apron from Rachel Greenwood. Eliza Little, stealing a printed dress, &c., from John Burrow. Abraham Stead, stealing a coat and waistcoat from Wm. Kaberry. James Brook, stealing a woolsheet from Joseph Lister. John Parker, stealing beef from Thomas Higgins. George Woodhead, stealing a box from Benjamin Sharp. Thomas Horner, stealing beef from Elijah Law. Mary Hargreaves, stealing a silver plated pint from Abraham Castelow. Wm. Longbottom, st. a portmanteau from Robert Pool. Samuel Broadbent, stealing silk handkerchiefs from David Haywood. Thomas Longstaff, stealing beef from Wm. Harrison. Margaret Begg, stealing printed cotton, the property of David Butters. Gideon Galtress, stealing ham, the property of David Brotherton. John M'Ginniss, stealing money, the property of Matilda Shutt. Isabella Wise, stealing a coat and cloth, the property of John Snowden. Ann Spence, stealing shoes, the property of Isaac Cheetham. Thomas Longstaff, stealing beef. Edward Jackson, stealing a coat. John Land, obtaining a watch and other articles by false pretences, with intent to defraud Philip Lewin and another.

IMPRISONED TWO CALENDER MONTHS.—James Balmforth stealing caps from Ann Hudson. Elizabeth Redfearn, stealing shoes from Isaac Cheetham. Wm. Wright, stealing a hat the property of Benjamin Holroyd.

IMPRISONED SIX WEEKS.—Elizabeth Lynch, stealing wearing apparel, the property of John Lee.

IMPRISONED ONE CALENDAR MONTH.—Mary Smith, stealing wearing apparel the property of James Brown, Esq.

IMPRISONED TEN DAYS IN LEEDS GAOL.—Catherine Welsh, stealing a top coat from Michael Coulson.

NO BILL against Eliza Roadhouse, stealing money from Rd. Parkin. Henry Jackson, charged stealing a fowl from Thomas Barker. William Mayfield, stealing ham, the property of David Brotherton. James Hawkes, and John Ashworth Lister, stealing wearing apparel, the property of James Curtis. Maria Marshall, stealing money, the property of Jane Emmerson. Robert Corker, stealing a macintosh, the property of Robert Cross.

RESPITED TILL NEXT SESSIONS.—Patrick Burgoyne, personating a voter at the Leeds Municipal Election.

NOT GUILTY.—John Silkstone, charged stealing beef from Elijah Law. Caroline Kay, charged stealing three printed cotton dresses from Benjamin Pollard. Wm. Broadbent, charged stealing fowls from J. Flesher. Thomas Broadbent, charged stealing silk handkerchiefs from David Haywood. Daniel Kilroy, charged with receiving stolen property belonging to James Thompson, knowing it to have been stolen. John Kermon, stealing a hand-barrow from Robert Ward. John Cooper, charged stealing a coat from Thomas Walton. Sarah Askham, stealing money, the property of John Drake. John Robinson, stealing money, the property of Wm. Tetlow. Mary Burns, stealing wearing apparel, the property of Wm. Hey and others. Benjamin Illingworth, stealing money, the property of Wm. Rhodes. Joshua Brook, stealing cloth. John Broughton, stealing wearing apparel, the property of John Burnett. Ann Lumb, stealing a shawl, the property of J. Grower, and another. William Smith, obtaining goods by false pretences, with intent to defraud John Walghs. Elizabeth Blackburn, uttering counterfeit coin. George Brierley, obtaining goods by false pretences, with intent to defraud George Platts. Adam Lyon Hagineaur, attempting to defraud Wm. Johnson.

FORFEITED HIS RECOGNIZANCES.—Jonathan Fletcher, charged with having feloniously embezzled money, the property of Mr. W. Middleton, solicitor.

The sessions terminated on Saturday night, a little before twelve o'clock.

LOCAL MARKETS.

LEEDS CORN MARKET, TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.—There is a large arrival of Wheat to this day's Market, other kinds of Grain moderate. Wheat has been quite a retail trade, and prices 1s. to 2s. per quarter lower. Fine heavy Barley full as dear, but no improvement in other descriptions. Oats a halfpenny per stone, and Beans 1s. per qr. lower.

THE AVERAGE PRICES FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 4, 1842.

Wheat.	*Barley.*	*Oats.*	*Rye.*	*Beans.*	*Peas.*
Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
2610	1662	493	9	25	0
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3 7 0	1 12 9	1 3 7¾	1 19 0	1 18 5½	0 0 0

LEEDS CLOTH MARKETS.—We are glad to hear that a confident hope exists that trade in this district will in a very short time improve; and that a steady demand for manufactured goods is anticipated. Stocks are very low, the merchants not having for some time purchased beyond their immediate wants, so that the slightest extra demand would have the effect of causing more employment, the manufacturers having for some time limited their powers of production. The stuff trade is pretty brisk under all circumstances, though even here there are great complaints of want of demand in comparison with what there ought to be.

HUDDERSFIELD CLOTH MARKET.—Our first market in the new year was as gloomy as the one ending the old year. There was no improvement in any one department. Wools, Oils, &c. as usual.

BRADFORD MARKET, THURSDAY, JAN. 6.—*Wool*—Since our last report we cannot learn that any material change has taken place either in demand or prices. The deep stapled wether fleeces and matchings continue most in request. Colonial wools are still much neglected both in combing and clothing sorts. *Yarn.*—The inquiries for Yarns are rather on the increase, and perhaps on the whole quite as much done as for several weeks past, but without any improvement in Wool, of which the consumption is chiefly upon, to produce the numbers of Yarn most in request, makes the condition of the spinners any thing but an enviable one, and without some very extensive change for the better, either by a reduction in the prices of Wool or an advance on the Yarns, we fear it will be some considerable time before the spinners have either their idle machinery brought into operation, or the residue working full time. *Piece.*—We had a very numerous attendance at our first new market in the year, which is usually of a rather animated character. To-day has not been so much so as we could have wished, nor are the purchases made extensive, being in a great measure confined to Fancy Goods, made from Mohair and Alpaca Wool, the latter article having undergone an advance causes many to be eager buyers at old prices, which the Manufacturers state they cannot afford, and are seeking an advance commensurate. In other goods, six quarter Merinos, Saxony, and Orleans, the demand continues rather limited, but late prices are fully maintained, and the opinion is still gaining ground that things have seen their lowest point.

THIRSK CORN MARKET, JAN. 3.—Supply large, with a very heavy market. Wheat full 3d per bushel and Oats from 6d to 1s per quarter lower. Barley dull of sale, but best samples realized nearly former rates. Wheat 7s 3d to 8s; Beans 4s to 5s per bushel. Oats 9d to 11d per stone, or 16s to 22s per quarter. Barley 26s to 31s per quarter.

MANCHESTER CORN MARKET, FRIDAY, JAN. 7.—There is but little to notice respecting the trade during the present week, the general character being that of much inactivity; and, in consequence of the holiday usual at the commencement of the year, our market was held this morning. In the absence of several of the customary attendants few transactions were reported, and no change can be made in the quotation of any article.

LONDON SMITHFIELD MARKET, MONDAY, JAN. 3.—We had a very moderate arrival of beasts from the whole of our grazing districts, up to this morning's market, but the general quality of the bullock supply was unusually prime for the time of year; indeed, nearly the whole of it was above the middle quality. The limited nature of the receipts, and the large attendance of buyers, produced a very fair inquiry, and an advance in the currencies noted on Monday last of from 2d to 4d per 8lb was readily obtained; the primest Scots are going off at full 4s 10d per 8lb, and the market was cleared at an early hour. From Scotland, there were received about 125 Scots, and 190 sheep, in excellent condition. Amongst the supply, we noticed five oxen and a heifer offering by Mr. Willoughby, and fed by Mr. Hewison, of West Keal, Lincolnshire, which were the admiration of all beholders; in fact, finer animals were seldom, if ever, seen in this market, while they produced exceedingly high prices. The points were extremely smooth, and they would weigh extremely heavy. There was a fair average supply of sheep on sale, the inquiry for which was a firm, but without any improvement in their currencies. In calves, little was done, yet there was slight enhancement on Friday's rates. The pork trade was steady, at last week's figures.

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET, MONDAY, JAN. 3RD.—We have this week had moderate supplies of British Grain, &c.; but the arrivals from foreign ports amount to 5,530 quarters of Wheat, 1,076 quarters of Beans, 770 quarters of Peas, and 9,940 barrels of Flour; and from Canada there are reported 1,768 quarters of Wheat, 10,000 barrels of Flour, and 2,600 quarters of Peas. With very trifling exceptions, however, all these are for the present entered under bond. The rates of duty on foreign Wheat are advanced to 23s. 8d., on Barley to 15s. 4d., on Peas to 11s. per quarter, and on Flour to 14s 3d. per barrel. Since this day se'nnight, a few parcels of free foreign have been taken for shipment to Ireland: but the trade in Wheat has been of a limited character, and prices generally have declined 1d. per bushel. In Flour there has been little done at barely previous rates. Oats and Oatmeal have commanded little attention, though both articles have been offered on rather easier terms. Barley and Beans have sold only in retail, and must be quoted 1s. per quarter cheaper. Some parcels of foreign boiling Peas have found buyers at 42s. to 44s. per imperial quarter. In the early part of the week, two or three cargoes of Mediterranean Wheat to arrive changed hands at the previous currency. No further transactions have transpired.

WAKEFIELD CORN MARKET.

(BY EXPRESS.)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.—Our arrivals of Grain are good this week. The Wheat trade remains in the most lifeless state, and we note prices 1s. to 2s. per quarter lower for both New and Old. Barley dull, and 1s. per quarter less money would be freely taken. Oats and Shelling have declined, the former ½d. per stone, and the latter 1s. per load; New Beans are also very slow sale, and continue to recede; Old are also 1s. per quarter lower. No variation in other articles.

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