

sent Free to any part of the United Kingdom

of the Court of Bankruptcy, for the Petition to be praying to be Examined touching my Debts, Estates and Effects; and to be protected from all Process upon my said disclosures and surrender of said Estates and Effects, for payment of my just and lawful Debts; and I hereby further give Notice that the time when the matter of the said Petition shall be heard, is to be advertised in the *London Gazette* and in the *Northern Star* newspaper, one month, or the least, after the date hereof. As witnesses my hand and Seal, this Twenty-first day of December, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-two.

THOMAS GRUNWELL,
Signed in the presence of
THOS. F. FODEN, Solicitor, Leeds.

CAUTION TO LADIES.

THE PROPRIETORS OF KEARSELY'S ORIGINAL WIDOW WELCH'S FEMALE PILLS, find it incumbent on them to caution the purchasers of the said Pills against imitations, by the person of the name of SMITHERS, and calling herself the Grand-daughter of the late Widow Welch, by who has no right to the preparing of them, the Original Recipe having been sold to the late C. Kearsley, a sale which was duly attested, and necessary to make the following affidavit for the protection of her property, in the year 1793:-

AFFIDAVIT.

First.—That she is in possession of the Recipe for making Welch's Female Pills, which was bequeathed to her late husband.

Second.—That this Recipe was purchased by her late husband of the Widow Welch, in the year 1789, for a valuable consideration, and with a view to making the medicine for public sale.

Third.—That she, CATHERINE KEARSELY, is also in possession of the Receipt signed by the said Widow Welch, acknowledging the having received the money of the said Mr. GEORGE KEARSELY for the purchase of the absolute property of the said Recipe.

C. KEARSELY,
Sworn at the Mansion House, London, the 3rd day of November, 1798, before me,
ANDERSON, Mayor.

These Pills, so long and justly celebrated for their peculiar Virtues, are strongly recommended to the notice of every Lady, having obtained the sanction and approbation of most Gentlemen of the Medical Profession, and a safe and valuable Medicine, in essentially removing Obstructions, and relieving all the Inconveniences to which the Female Frame is liable, especially those which, at an early period of life, frequently arise from want of Exercise and general Debility; they create an Appetite, remove all correct indigestion, remove Giddiness and Nervous Headache, and are eminently useful in Windy Disorders, Pains in the Stomach, Shortness of Breath, and palpitations of the Heart; being perfectly innocuous, may be used with safety in all Seasons and Climates.

Sold, wholesale and retail, by J. Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; and by most respectable Medicines Vendors in Town and Country, at 2s. 9d. per box.

N.B. Ask for Kearsley's Welch's Pills; and observe none are genuine unless C. Kearsley is engraved on the Government Stamp.

Just Published, Price 2s. 6d.

(Or sent free to the most remote parts of the Kingdom, in a sealed envelope, on the receipt of a post-office order for 3s. 6d.)

THE SECRET MEDICAL ADVISER.

BEING a practical Treatise on the prevention and cure of the VENEREAL DISEASE, and other diseases of the Urinary and Sexual Organs, in both sexes, with a mild and successful mode of treatment in all their forms and consequences; especially Stricture, Glands, affections of the Bladder, Prostrator, Glands, Gravel, &c. showing also the dangerous consequences of the disease, and the necessity of a perfect restoration: embellished with engravings. An ample consideration of the diseases of women also nervous debility; including a comprehensive and judicious account of the venereal disease, its influence, celibacy, sterility or barrenness, and various other interruptions of the Laws of Nature.

Also some animal versions on the Secret Sin of Youth, which entails such fearful consequences on its victims.

THIS Work is undeniably the most interesting and important that has ever been published on this subject imparting information which should be in the possession of every one who is labouring under any secret infirmity, whether male or female.

BY M. WILKINSON,
CONSULTING SURGEON, &c.
13, Trafalgar Street, Leeds.

Of whom they may be obtained, or from any of his Agents.

MR. M. W. having devoted his studies for many years exclusively to the Venereal Disease, and the generative and nervous system, in the removal of those distressing disabilities 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 has a large number of foreign country patients requiring his assistance, by making one only 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; and he is so situated, that a regular course of medicine is completed in one week, or no charge made for medicine after that period, and in those cases where other practitioners have failed, a perseverance in his plan, without restraint in diet, or hindrance from any cause, will ensure to the patient a permanent and radical cure.

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 who are enabled to observe the progress of the disease, and the effects of the treatment.

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, and never give them through a regular course, 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, and at another the internal organs, and producing ulcers, closely resembling, and often treated as scurvy, at another period producing the most violent pain in the limbs and bones, which are frequently mistaken for rheumatism; thus the whole frame becomes debilitated, and ends in a lingering death, put to a period to their dreadful sufferings.

What a grief for a young person in the very prime of life, to be snatched out of time, and from all the enjoyments of life, by a disease always local at first, and which never distends the mind, and is cured by all its fatal results are owing either to neglect or ignorance.

Mr. W.'s invariable rule is to give a Card to each of his Patients as a guarantee for cure, which he pledges himself to perform, or return his fee.

He is so situated, that a regular course of medicine, or distance or delicacy prevents no personal visit, his

PURIFYING DROPS,

price 4s. 6d. can be had of any of the following agents, with printed directions, and claim, that they may cure themselves without even the knowledge of a bed-fellow.

They are particularly recommended to be taken before persons enter into the matrimonial state, lest the indiscretions of youth should create a foundation to him the remainder of his existence, by afflicting his innocent but unfortunate offspring with the evil eruptions of the malignant tendency, and diversity of other complaints, that are most assuredly induced by the same neglect and imprudence.

AGENTS.

HULL.—At the *Advertiser* Office, Lowgate, and Mr. Noble, Bookseller, Market-place.

LEEDS.—At the *Times* Office, and of Mr. Heaton, 7, Briggate.

Wakefield.—Mr. Hurst, Bookseller.

Halifax.—Mr. Hartley, Bookseller.

Huddersfield.—Mr. Dawbirt, 33, New-street.

Ripon.—Mr. Taylor, Bookseller, near to the Post-office.

London.—Mr. Butler, No. 4, Cheapside.

Barnsley.—Mr. Harrison, Bookseller, Market-place.

York.—Mr. Hargrave's Library, 9, Cony-street.

Ripon.—Mr. Hargrave's Library, 9, Cony-street.

Knaresboro' and High Harrogate.—Mr. Langdale, Bookseller.

Manchester.—Mr. Watkinson, Druggist, 6, Market-street.

Beverly.—Mr. Johnson, Bookseller.

Boston.—Mr. Noble, Bookseller.

Louth.—Mr. Hurton, Bookseller.

Liverpool.—At the *Chronicle* Office, 25, Lord-street.

Manchester.—At the *Times* Office.

Mansfield.—Mr. S. Dobson, News Agent, 519, Belvedere-street.

Pontefract.—Mr. Fox, Bookseller.

Gainsborough.—Mr. R. Brown, Bookseller.

TO THE CHARTISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

MY FRIENDS,—I am one of those who think that "an assessor should come into court with clean hands." I think that we should exhibit consistency in our character and in our conduct. Struggling with and for each other, for common rights, against a common enemy, no other virtue is so necessary and important to us as that consistency of character, which may give the lie to the most plausible and most frequently reiterated objection of that common enemy to our righteous demand.

These blusters about public meetings and about my "facing them man to man before the people," &c., know that they have a great advantage over me; they know that I am peculiarly situated; they know that my health is delicate and very uncertain—that I can never calculate upon being well from one day to another; they know that my physical strength is unequal to great public exertion; they know that my ordinary duties are so many and laborious, that any addition to them is a very serious inconvenience; and hence they think themselves perfectly safe in daring me to "come out before the people." They think that I shall not meet them in discussion. They commit a small mistake here. I shall not suffer them thus to escape. They have no right to force me into this position. The people had no right to permit them to do so. I deny the right of either the Executive, or any body else, to represent the inquiry now going on into the conduct of the Executive as a quarrel between me and them. It is no such thing. In the *Northern Star* I have merely, as a journalist, given honest comments upon facts and documents. I had a right to do this; and no man had a right to complain of it. I ask nobody to take my opinions for more than they are worth, and I have as much right to express my opinions as any other man. I have done more than most journalists would have done in giving free admission to coarse and scurrilous vituperation in reply. I have given the free use of my own columns to the Executive, not only as a body, but to every member singly, in reply to every thing I said. They have used them for that purpose. They have said and written in the *Northern Star*, both collectively and individually, whatever they liked. What more do they want? What more have they a right to? I have already given them much more liberty for defence than they were at all entitled to; because my observations on their conduct were general and directed against the body; while I have given free room to them to reply in both capacities; both as a body and as individuals. And I deny the right of any man, or set of men, to expect me after that to waste time in public discussion with them.

But to leave no room for escape; and test it may be said that I am valiant only in the *Star*, and that I fear discussion. I am quite ready to meet either Mr. Leach or any other member of the Executive, as an authorized representative of that body, at any mutually convenient time and place; and then and there, as a member and councillor of the National Chartist Association, to make good my charge against the Executive of having violated the PLAN OF ORGANIZATION WHICH THEY WERE APPOINTED TO ENFORCE, AND OF HAVING THEREIN MANIFESTED A DISREGARD OF CHARTIST PRINCIPLE AND OF MORAL AND POLITICAL HONESTY.

I make the charge against them now; as a body. I have proved it in the *Northern Star*; and I am ready to prove it before a public meeting; stipulating only for a free, open, and fair discussion before the people—a clear stage and no favour. Fair play is all I ask. If Mr. Leach be prepared to meet me upon that question, having authority from the other members of the Executive to appear as the champion of the body, and to defend the acts of the body, he will find me quite ready. I will meet any other member of the Executive, or any other man in England, on the same conditions. But mind; I deal with the Executive, as a body; not with Mr. Leach as an individual. I have brought no charge against individuals; and my time is a little too valuable to be wasted in individual squabbles. Who does not see that after the discussion with Mr. Leach, Mr. Balfour might put in a similar claim for his share of the defence; and that I must then begin again for Mr. Donnell, and so on for the whole; and that then, when every one had had his "go," the Executive, as a body, might disclaim all individual dispute, and begin *de novo*. This might very well suit the bravest, because it would weaken and neutralize all decent men of the broil. For that reason I shall not be party to it. I deny the right of the Executive, or any of them, to claim from me any other opportunity of defence than that they have already had. I repeat that even that has been more ample than they had any right to. But if public discussion of the matter will gratify them—and they talk loudly about it—I am quite ready. Let them appoint their man; no matter to me whom: Leach, Mr. Donnell, Balfour, Campbell, or even any volunteer, in whose powers of eloquence and tact they may have more confidence than in their own; I am ready for any man, let him be but duly authorized, the arrangements fairly made, and the discussion fairly and openly conducted.

WHENEVER EITHER OR ANY OF THEM MAY BE READY AUTHORIZED TO APPEAR FOR THE EXECUTIVE, HE HAS ONLY TO APPEAR ME. I WILL THEN NAME A FEW FRIENDS, AND THE EXECUTIVE SHALL NAME A LIKE NUMBER BY WHOM ALL THE PRELIMINARIES FOR THE DISCUSSION SHALL BE AGREED ON; and I fancy I am quite able to give them enough of it. If the "bonneting" of Mr. Donnell and of Leach have been authorized by the Executive, they will take this as the acceptance of their challenge; if it have been only individual "bonneting," I have something else to do than to notice it. And now mind; let us have no misunderstandings and no shirking nor shuffling. I have been forced into this position, very unfairly, and very much against my inclination; I am not now to be forced out of it again. If the Executive mean discussion, I am their man; and whether they mean it or not I do. I have been challenged; and I accept the challenge. As the challenged, I have a right to fix the place of meeting; and I fix it at Manchester, where the Executive will surely have every advantage; where Mr. Leach, if he be their champion, will be at home and have no expense in travelling; where the Executive should be best known and have most influence; where Chartistism has a stronger hold on the population than in any other town in England; where they have had the full opportunity during all this time of making a party for themselves by telling their own tale their own way, with none to contradict them; where Mr. Leach has had full swing at me in my absence, to vent whatever fabrications and perversions he pleased, in private circles or public meetings, *ad libitum*; at Manchester; in the very midst of his own friends, disciples and admirers; where the people have at their own command a spacious building in which they have been so long used to be delighted with his eloquence, and to hear his denunciations of me, I am quite ready to meet Mr. James Leach, or any other champion of the Executive, and there prove—

1st. That the Executive have neglected the duties of their office.

2nd. That they have violated the organization they were appointed to enforce.

3rd. That they have done so WILLFULLY, after repeated caution and remonstrance.

4th. That they have wrongfully appropriated the monies of the Association to their own use and benefit.

5th. That they have both manifested in their own conduct, and countenanced in that of others, a disregard of Chartist principle.

I offer to prove all these things against them in Manchester—their own town; where their sittings have been held; where their popularity as lecturers is greatest; and where, as an Executive they should be best known. I ask only "a clear stage and no favour"; that one full week's notice, in the *Northern Star*, and by whatever other means the Executive may please, shall be given of the meeting; that it shall be held in either the Hall of Science, or Carpenter's Hall; that free admission be given to the people; that no effort at "packing" shall be made, but that the meeting be fair, free, and open. I will pay one half the rent of the room, if held in the Hall of Science, (if held in Carpenter's Hall, I presume there will be no rent), and my own travelling and personal charges out of my own pocket; I will advertise the meeting in the *Northern Star* at my own cost; the other half of the room rent (if in the Hall of Science), their own travelling, if any, and personal expenses, and whatever other mode of advertising they choose to adopt, to be defrayed by them—also out of their own pockets, not touching the people's funds for it. The meeting to be at some time mutually convenient for attendance. All other matters relating to the discussion to be settled, without either their interference or mine, by a committee of five friends on each side to be named for the purpose.

Now, is this fair? I repeat that they have no right to expect this. My meeting them in discussion at all is a pure work of supererogation. But notwithstanding that, as they talk much about it—and as they would fain have it believed that they may be let him tell me when he is ready and I will instantly name my friends, and the arrangement shall be made.

After this matter is settled, let them bring their counter accusations if they dare. I am ready to answer in like manner to ANY CHARGES which they, or any of them, or any man in England, may be disposed to bring against me.

A public meeting is the Justice Hall for me; and to that tribunal I dare the whole pack of yelpers, whenever they have the manliness to put their charges into a tangible shape, as I have done, and "come fairly out"!

And now, my friends, as far as the *Northern Star* is concerned, this matter is for the present at least done with. Save what may be necessary to this meeting, if ever it take place, I will not insert another word upon it, *pro* or *con*, from any quarter; unless two communications which I expect in respect to a dirty rascal trick played by a Mr. Frazier should happen to be too late for this week's paper; if they be, I shall probably give them next week.

Earnestly desiring to see consistency of character among Chartists; and to see our movement purged of the ranting, mouthing locusts, who have done us much harm,

I am, My Friends, Yours, faithfully,

WILLIAM HILL.

Northern Star office, Leeds, Dec. 20, 1842.

THE NORTHERN STAR.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1842.

THE CONFERENCE.

Our readers will perceive that we have not as yet got in the whole report of the proceedings of this important body. In a further Edition we hope to give the whole. We have given up to last night—that is Wednesday night. And by reference to the report, they will see that our anticipations of the intentions and purposes of the SUFFRAGE party, as far as any real union with the working men was concerned, have been fully realized. We fancy the result of the debate on Mr. Lovett's amendment will do much to remove the film from honest eyes; and to show them the real value of their middle class friends. We have at present no time now for comment, but shall return to the important matters of this Conference at another time. Meanwhile let our readers read and think.

CHRISTMAS.

In times past this season of the year was characterized by joy and gladness throughout the length and breadth of the land. The winter's gloom was relieved by good substantial fare and heart-elastic merriment. The peasant as well as the prince—the plebeian as well as the monarch, could then enjoy the sweets of life. Youth then sported its playfulness and its vigour, and age gazed smilingly on the scene. Warm and substantial clothing, a good fire, a clean hearth, and plenty on the festive board, were visible on every hand; but alas! how changed is the scene. Instead of joy we behold sadness depicted on the countenance of the once athletic and hardy labourer—the prospect of the skillful artisan is overcast with gloom—want has become the inmate of the cot, embittering the cup of life—youth, nay even toothless in fancy, is the victim of the monster; and age is dejected, drowned in sorrow and veiled in melancholy. The young and the aged are clad in rags; the hovels are scenes of wretchedness; in grief they

"Haver o'er the pigmy fire;" while the most worthless garbage constitutes their food, and of this but a scanty portion falls to the lot of many.

But such is not the case with the drones. They roll through the streets in their gilded carriages; are attired in the most costly raiment; are filled to repletion with all the luxuries that they can desire. Their eyes stand out with fatness; and in the height of their pride, they look with contempt on the poor by whose labour they acquire all their grandeur.

Why is this strange anomaly? Why are the bees perishing while the drones enjoy the fruit of their industry? Because all power is given into the hands of these devourers instead of being possessed by the rightful owners. That power will never be regained until the only efficient axe—the Charter—be applied, by the united strength of the people, to that Upside tree, class legislation. Then, but not till then, may we hope to see old men and the joys thereof, return. Then we may and shall have "a merry Christmas and a happy new year." We have heard many wish each other the fruition of this blessing, but we tell them they must work as well as wish. The only avenue to a "merry Christmas and a happy new year" is the Charter—it is the sword, the only sword, the six pointed sword, whereby the fell monster tyranny can be slain. Up, then. On to the conquest, and our wishes will be realized to all—a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE LAW VERSUS THE POOR.

We have frequently had occasion to direct the attention of our readers to the mass of corruption with which the administration of justice in this country is fraught. Scarcely a day passes without furnishing facts proving the declension which has crept into courts of law, and calling aloud for a reform of the manifold abuses which obtain therein. The bench is now converted into a market stand—the whim and caprice of an ignorant class of individuals, misnamed "Justices," is laid down as law; the grossest partiality is exhibited; the rich delinquent generally escaping with little or no punishment, while the whole weight of a petty tyrant's wrath is poured out upon the poor offender. It appears to be a settled opinion among our modern Dracoes, that wealth and virtue are inseparably connected, and that poverty and crime are indivisible. But this position—however much cherished and acted upon by officials of various grades, from my Lord Abinger down to that fag-end of the system dubbed a policeman—is untenable, we having continually before our eyes virtue clothed in rags, and vice arrayed in purple and fine linen.

But as our object is not to dilate upon the virtues of the poor or the vices of the rich, we shall at once call the attention of the public to the gross injustice and tyranny inflicted, a few days ago, on a poor fatherless boy, by one of the Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrates, named GREENWOOD, who carries on business in the police court, Clerkenwell, and who

is also one of the "great jumpd" of the West Riding of the County of York. The boy, whose name is WILLIAMS, was brought before the magistrate for committing a lady coming out of her box in Euston-square to purchase prints. He said his mother, a widow, had given him five shillings, with which he had purchased seven of them; and that the offer of sale was not a pretext for begging was admitted by the magistrate himself, who was astonished they could be sold so cheap. "The prisoner" begged of his worship not to punish him, as he sold the prints for the support of a widowed mother. He had done no harm, and hoped his worship would not punish him. His worship, however, did punish him, by sending him to the House of Correction for fourteen days!

Who the "lady" in question may be we know not; did we, her name should not be kept from the public, however much it might offend her superlatively delicate feelings. This woman, or "lady," as she is termed, cannot be the mother of children—she must be devoid of every acintilla of those graces which ought ever to adorn "God's first best gift to man," otherwise her whole soul would have revolted at the idea of a child—a widow's son of eleven years of age, being taken before a magistrate and consigned to "durance vile," merely for soliciting her to purchase a few prints. Such a woman—the walking scandal of her sex—ought to be hoisted through the streets on her every appearance in public, and her company ought to be shunned by all having respect for their character. It might be of service to this "lady" were she to have a little instruction in the school of adversity; then she might learn how to conduct herself towards those who seek an honest livelihood, and who would scorn, like her, to live in splendour and idleness, without returning to society an equivalent for that which they received.

The conduct of GREENWOOD, the magistrate, is also reprehensible in the highest degree. He admits the offer of sale of the prints was "not a pretext for begging," yet he sentences the poor boy to fourteen days' imprisonment in the House of Correction. The widow who gives her son her mite—perhaps her last farthing, for the purpose of laying out in the purchase of a few prints, in order thereby to obtain a morsel of bread, is doomed to see that son, the comfort of her age, torn from her and immured in a prison, not for the commission of any crime, but because it offended the dignity of the spawn of some aristocrat whose ancestors probably figured behind the counter, or perhaps vended matches; if the latter, it might have reminded her *ladyship* of her origin, when the boy solicited her to purchase one of his prints, which *insult* the pride of her *ladyship* could not allow to pass with impunity.

Had GREENWOOD done his duty he would have severely reprimanded the woman, and given her to understand that the time of the Court must be better employed than in attending to such nonsense as that; and that hers would be better employed in learning how to behave herself towards her fellow-creatures. He would also have instructed the policeman to employ his time to better advantage than in obeying the wishes and pandering to the pride of such an execrable wretch as her *ladyship*; and instead of the boy being torn from his widowed mother and committed to prison, he would have commended him for his honest endeavour to obtain a morsel of food for himself and his bereaved parent. But such was not the case. The boy was treated as a felon—he was sent to hard among felons; and should that boy, upon whose character no stain appears, contract vicious habits by being compelled to mingle with the worst of characters, all the consequences thereof may be laid at the door of the despicable woman who was instrumental in his arrest, and that of the magistrate who so unjustly sentenced him to imprisonment, and who ought to be immediately removed from the bench.

It would be well if both magistrates and policemen would give themselves a little more trouble than they generally do, and not, as is frequently the case, seek to manufacture crime and punish the innocent to suit the whim of every fool who may think his or her pride offended by being accosted in like manner as the Euston-square "lady."

The duty of magistrates is to make themselves acquainted with the law, as far as practicable, and administer it with impartiality; and not, as they often do, to substitute their own caprice for the law, and punish the unoffending for merely being poor and defenceless.

With regard to the police—we tell them, in the words of a contemporary, when advertising to the subject which has called forth these remarks, that "The police will not tolerate this eternal interference of the police with every thing that is going on. Their object is to prevent and discover crime, and to preserve order by day and night. Whether these proper duties are adequately discharged we will not now inquire; but of one thing there can be no doubt, and that is, their constant interference with matters that do not come within their line of duty. It is much easier, no doubt, to watch little boys selling prints, than to make themselves acquainted with the duties for which they are especially appointed."

If the law be enveloped in so much ambiguity that the magistrates, &c., are left to do as they list in all cases brought before them, then it shows the absolute necessity of a thorough change of system, without which the poor will ever be the victims of the middle and upper classes, who have just about the same amount of sympathy for the labouring portion of the community, as the wolf has for the lamb, or the cat for the mouse.

That something is radically wrong in the system, under which such injustice as that we allude to can be perpetrated with impunity, is beyond all dispute, and that the administration of the law is vested in persons altogether unfit to discharge the duties of their office is equally evident; and we may rest assured, that until the axe be laid to the root of the tree, and class legislation completely annihilated, such cases of monstrous cruelty as that inflicted upon the boy Williams, may be repeated, as the GREENWOODS are not only numerous, but are located in the provinces as well as in the metropolis, as will be seen from an article in another column, where a young man of the name of Wm. CLEMENT, residing near Bolton-le-Moors, was dragged from his bed at two o'clock in the morning, and taken to the police office, on the groundless charge of "assisting in the engraving of a plate to counterfeit the Halifax and Huddersfield Bank." From Bolton he was removed to the lock-up in Manchester, where he remained until the 14th instant, being arrested on the morning of the 11th; he was then removed to Halifax, where he was confined until the 19th, on which day he was brought before the Magistrates, on an enquirying his name immediately liberated him. Now, had the proper inquiry been made by the authorities, as was their duty, previous to the arrest of this young man, they would have found that it was an absolute impossibility for him to have committed the offence alleged against him, as he is scarcely qualified even to write his own name. But to make such necessary enquiry would be a duty too onerous for the well-paid officials; they find it much easier to lay hold of the first that comes within their reach, regardless of their innocence or guilt; and for such negligence and uncalled-for interference on the part of the authorities, the innocent are doomed to unjust incarceration and have disgrace imprinted upon their characters.

What remuneration will this young man obtain for this injustice—for this loss of time and character? None whatever. The shield of protection will be held over his persecutors, and the youth must pocket all the loss and odium, because he is poor. But we trust that the people will persevere in their efforts to destroy the parrot evil—class legislation—that such acts of injustice may no longer disgrace a country said to be "THE PRIDE OF SURROUNDING NATIONS, AND THE ADMIRATION OF THE WORLD"!!!

To Readers and Correspondents.

A. B., AN OPERATIVE.—We have said scores of times that we cannot answer legal questions: he writes to us, however, and asks us to do so. We decline, in justice to a numerous party, to insert the remarks contained in his letter. He will perceive that we have noticed the delivery of the lecture: that is all we can do.

S. G. G. NOWWICH.—The list sent by Mr. Clewett went through the whole impression on the 11th, consequently the £2 sent by the Norwich Chartists would be here noticed.

A POLITICAL MARTYR.—His communication was received but it must stand over for further perusal.

S. J., BRISTOL.—The subject on which he writes is done so far as we are concerned.

J. B. THOMPSON, SUNDERLAND.—We cannot insert his letter: he gives us no name, and we cannot be obliged if his constituents will communicate their addresses to him as soon as possible.

HENRY HODGSON.—We do not think gratuitous vilipendation and assumption any answer to alleged facts.

JOSEPH RAYNE, HOLLIWOOD.—Yes.

JAMES SINCLAIR, GATESHEAD.—Yes, December 31st, per Pickford's.

A. H., DUNFERMLINE.—As soon as the account is settled, the Plates will be sent.

IF THE PERSON who has called upon Mr. Clewett for a list of names, and who will oblige, as the money cannot be credited till we know who sends it. The Plate has most likely been sent to London since he called. He can have another for the spoiled one. We can speak more positively on matters of names.

W. D., KEOWORTH.—Portrait of Hunt 4d., and postage; of Frost 7d. and postage. The postage of the two will be 4d., making 11s. 3d. in the whole.

J. M., KILMARNOCK.—Is the evil remedied this week?

JABEA BURNS, DUNDEE, had better, in future, send his cash for *Evening Stars* direct to Mr. Hobson: it cannot in future be received as it has been hitherto.

MURDOCK, DUBLIN.—Apply to A. Heywood.

J. Goody.—Three months.

FOR THE NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND.

From Tewksbury, per W. Haynes ... 1 0 0
- John Wratshall ... 0 0 2
- A few Chartists at Edinburgh ... 0 6 8
- C. Carrington, near Nottingham, per ... 0 0 6
- Richard Hankin ... 0 0 0

FOR THE EXECUTIVE.

From two whole-hog Chartists, Melkham Forest ... 0 5 0
- For MR. ELLIS.

FOR THE CHARTIST DELEGATES TO THE BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE.

From an Old Radical ... 0 0 6

BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE.

(Continued from our first page.)

ference. We were received with loud and prolonged cheering. Mr. O'Connor introduced Mr. Patrick O'Connell, from Dublin, who was received with a similar mark of feeling.

THE CHAIRMAN opened the business by calling upon the secretary to read two letters—one from Mr. Sharman Crawford, Esq., M.P., and the other from Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P. The letter from the former gentleman was as follows:—

"Crawford, Dec. 24th, 1842.

"DEAR FRIEND,—I send by my son, who is the bearer of this, a parcel containing 200 copies of my 'Defence of the rights of the working classes,' which I have endeavoured to take a fair review of the principles on which the claims of the working classes are founded, and of the objections with which their claims are met, and to impress the principle that all political institutions (as well as all human institutions) should be viewed—not as being divested of all possibility of evil—but as respects the balance of probable good and evil, which may be reasonably expected to result from their adoption. I have endeavoured to take a fair review of the principles on which the claims of the working classes are founded, and of the objections with which their claims are met, and to impress the principle that all political institutions (as well as all human institutions) should be viewed—not as being divested of all possibility of evil—but as respects the balance of probable good and evil, which may be reasonably expected to result from their adoption. I have endeavoured to take a fair review of the principles on which the claims of the working classes are founded, and of the objections with which their claims are met, and to impress the principle that all political institutions (as well as all human institutions) should be viewed—not as being divested of all possibility of evil—but as respects the balance of probable good and evil, which may be reasonably expected to result from their adoption."

"As I have already said, I make my son the bearer of this communication. I do this as a mark of my respect to you, and your conduct, and of my anxious wish for the success of the important meeting, which is to take place at your call. He is fully acquainted with my views, and will be capable of giving you any information you might wish for, with reference to the particular points of our Irish declaration of principles, which, in many respects, differ from the institutions of England and Scotland. The Council of the Complete Suffrage Union of Edinburgh were so kind as to depute to put my name in nomination as one of the delegates to the meeting, and I am anxious to be present to obtain from their kind intentions, because it was of opinion it would be more eligible to select persons as delegates who were not members of Parliament, for the reasons contained in the extract, which I enclose you, for my reply to this body."

"I trust for me to add, that as a Member of the House of Commons, I shall feel it both my duty and my inclination to co-operate in whatever means shall be deemed most eligible for bringing before that House those measures which are required for carrying out the principles of your association.

"Believe me, dear friend,

"Yours sincerely,

"WM. SHARMAN CRAWFORD.

"To Joseph Sturge, President of the Birmingham 'Complete Suffrage Association.'"

The following is the extract of a letter addressed by Mr. Crawford, to Mr. Robert Noel, secretary to the Complete Suffrage Association, of Edinburgh, and alluded to in the above:—

"I feel that it would be my duty to comply with any wish expressed by those who have already shown me such marks of kindness, but I am inclined to think it would not be eligible to elect Members of Parliament as delegates, especially those members who you will look to as the chief supporters of your cause in the House of Commons. I think it would not be prudent for them to act in both capacities. Your delegates are to declare the opinions of the people to the members of that house, and I conceive it would be more proper for them to learn the opinions of the people from other persons appointed for that purpose, than to be made themselves the instruments in the connection of such communication. I conceive they would have a greater moral power to the advancement of the cause, in the course they should adopt, by not having been only the framers of the measures which the Convention shall recommend. I am of opinion that it is more desirable that a Member of Parliament should not commit himself on any of the points of detail (meaning thereby the election regulations) till he has time fully to be aware of the arguments and determinations of the meeting of delegates, because it would be very unfavourable to the impression he might wish to make in Parliament, if it could be alleged that he was acting in obedience to the will of the Convention, contrary to any opinion previously expressed as a member of that body. * * * My object is to stand in the possible position to be of use in giving my views to the Convention, and I conceive it would be more proper for me to be actually engaged in it, and I think my efforts might be impeded were I to be previously committed in the capacity of a delegate."

"Dartmouth Abbey, Dec. 22, 1842.

"MY RESPECTED FRIEND,—Your letter, requiring to know whether I could attend in Birmingham, after the meeting of the delegates for carrying out the principles of the Complete Suffrage Association, has been followed by the draught of a bill for that purpose, which draught reached me only this morning.

"With respect to the first point—namely, my attendance at the Conference, I have on the fullest consideration determined not to do so. Do not imagine, however, that this refusal results from any want of zeal in the cause of Universal Suffrage. No such thing. I am thoroughly convinced that every man of legal age and of sound mind, who is not a slave, has a right to the principle of the British Constitution, a distinct, inextinguishable right to vote for a representative in the Commons House of Parliament. I am convinced in that such a right on the part of every male adult is as complete as the right of any member of the House of Peers to the privilege of the peerage, or as the right of our glorious Queen to the throne. The only difference is in practice. The two latter are in the vigour, and perhaps somewhat superfluously so; whilst the former—the suffrage right—is curtailed, and restricted, and mutilated; thus creating, where all should be freedom, a distinct and separate slave class, who, by ignominious laws, and more ignominious restrictions, have been robbed of their natural birthright, and are essentially slaves.

"I am the friend of the slave class in every clime and country, but more especially in the British dominions.

"I am also the most decided advocate for the voting by ballot,—the best, if not the only mode, of preventing corrupt and criminal practices at elections.

"I also countenance other points proclaimed by the Complete Suffrage Association; and that association, however, is created by my sacrificing my own opinion of a preference of triennial to annual Parliaments to my sincere desire of producing unanimity of exertion amongst all the friends of a real, substantial, and radical reform of the British Constitution.

"The reason why I am thus distinct in answer now stating my political creed, is because I can answer for it that the overwhelming majority of the people of Ireland go with me upon these points, and that they will co-operate with their English brethren in reforming all legal and peaceable means—but in no other,—for obtaining a fair, free, and complete representation of the people in Parliament.

"The great reason why I do not consent to attend the meeting at Birmingham, is because I have convinced myself that I ought rather to be a spectator of, than an actor in, your approaching exertions. I have been personally so hostile to that class called 'physical force Chartists'—I have been so unjustly, and indeed so absurdly calumniated—(loud laughter) by their writers, that I have been obliged to publish a long and elaborate, without sufficient foundation, that any efforts I could make for conciliation, and to produce harmony, might be defeated, and that my presence might tend to diminish the prospect of concord and co-operation, which are so necessary for the success of the cause. Besides, it is to be apprehended that there are many other causes of strife and contention between the more ardent and violent of the Chartist party and the more placid and mild portion of the Complete Suffrage Association. If I could throw light upon the latter, so as to show that they are not the enemies, but the friends, in tranquillity grandeur on the political way, I should at once, and at any sacrifice. And if, after the meeting has been organized, you should be of opinion that my attendance could be of any possible use to the great cause, I will, with the rapidity of steam, place myself amongst you.

"I do most anxiously desire that the spirit of peace, harmony, conciliation, and concord may reign in the Convention; that you may thus have the means and opportunity of coming to a decision upon the great question of insuring success. My entire conviction is, that without co-operation between the middle and what is called the lower, that is, the poorer, or working class, you cannot possibly succeed, and perhaps you will not succeed. Without the co-operation of the middle and lower classes, the middle class is, in my judgment, most essentially necessary towards obtaining the right of suffrage for the operative classes. Recent events have proved to demonstration the essential importance of the middle classes, and of the co-operation of the middle class of political institutions. I know it was the co-operation of the middle classes that enabled the people of Ireland to achieve Catholic Emancipation. I know that it was the co-operation of the middle classes that enabled the people of England to obtain the first step in the march of Reform, and to copy the progress of my eyes at the present moment the irresistible progress of the middle class towards the total abolition of all taxes upon human food. How anxiously, therefore, do I desire to see a combination between the middle and operative classes, and to see the middle class, as it were, the arm and hand of the operative class. If that combination takes place, the aristocratic classes, who have hitherto trampled upon the people, will be scattered like chaff before the wind; and the honest and just principles of democratic liberty will prevail, and flourish, and enable all the institutions of the State.

"Let me, then, conjure all the friends of peaceable and rational liberty to use every possible exertion to conciliate, to combine, to co-operate, and to co-operate with the middle and operative classes. If that can be done, the materials of complete and unimmaculate success are in your hands—a success unobtainable by violence or crime—a success deserving the praise of good men—a success deserving, I hope, the approbation of all who are true to the principles of the Chartist cause. I am in glorious opportunity for working out these purposes. That opportunity may be thrown away. It may be sold, stained, and destroyed, but the spirit that will work among the best part of the members of the Convention will survive, and even at the worst, the Chartist cause will be separated from the chaff from the good seed. But let us not anticipate our evils, which may be merely imaginary; and let me trust and hope that any discordant elements may soon evaporate, leaving nothing but kindly feelings and cordial co-operation to unanimity in the service of our country.

"It may be said by way of discouragement that the present Administration, over which the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel preside, composed of men strongly inclined to reform, and who are, in fact, according to any measure approaching to Universal Suffrage. There are, however, two facts connected with the leaders of the Administration which show that they are inspired with a more pliable disposition.

"The first of these facts is, that the Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel were selected by George IV. as the leaders of an Administration framed for the express purpose of continuing the laws by which the aristocracy were excluded from the House of Commons; that very Administration, with those identical leaders, totally repealed those excluding laws.

"The second fact is, that the landed class in England have forced into power, in despite of the Queen, the same Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel, to express and proclaimed purpose of preserving in full vigour the Corn Laws; yet there are most unequivocal evidences already exhibited to the public that this same Duke of Wellington and this same Sir R. Peel will totally repeal those excluding laws.

"These are most encouraging facts. They demonstrate that unless some feud, some violence, some selfish dissensions ruin our present prospects, there exists every probability, at no remote period, of vindicating and establishing the rights of the people at large.

"With respect to the draught of the act of Privilege, I will return it, suggesting some alterations which I believe will be improvements. But in any event, it will be difficult to amend the act of Privilege with that of England and Scotland. There are two objections to the inclusion of Ireland in the same bill with that of Great Britain. There are not in Ireland, as in England, any parish overseers, nor any parish schoolmasters, or any other persons, who are not in almost every parish. The expression 'parish schoolmaster' would in Ireland be either too vague, or, as matter of law, a schoolmaster employed by the Protestant clergyman. Of these there are but a few, and still fewer to be met with in the Catholic parishes. Any political duty with reference to the elective franchise.

"The second objection arises from matter of substance. The millions in Ireland who are anxious for universal suffrage, and who are anxious for the restoration of the Irish Parliament. They are convinced that in the present state of the property and population of Ireland, a local Legislature is essentially necessary for the peace and prosperity of the country. In this opinion I am bound to say I most thoroughly concur. We Irish are not the least disposed to aid the British people in working out the right of suffrage for every male adult—complete suffrage being the only honest basis upon which either our Parliament or yours should be founded.

"I have the honour to be, &c.,

"With sincere regard and respect,

"Your faithful friend and servant,

"DANIEL O'CONNELL.

"To Joseph Sturge, Birmingham."

Mr. O'CONNOR moved that the minutes of the morning's meeting be read.

Mr. HOBSON seconded the motion, which was agreed to *pro forma*.

The Conference next proceeded to elect the Committee before alluded to. Twenty-six names were proposed. The following were selected:—James Sturge, Esq., and were unanimously declared duly elected.

Mr. Joshua Hobson, Mr. J. H. Parry, Rev. Wm. Hill, Mr. John Colquhoun, Mr. G. W. Pate, Rev. T. Swan, Mr. Roberts, Mr. James Vickers, and Mr. John Humphreys.

THE SECRETARY called upon Mr. W. Bagg, of Nottingham, to introduce the business of the Conference.

Previous to this being done,

Mr. PARRY moved the following business regulations:—

1. That the Conference meet twice every day, from nine o'clock to one, and from three o'clock till eight.

2. That the Chairman of the Conference shall also be Chairman of any Committee of the whole body.

3. That the Chairman shall be allowed to take part in the discussion as a member of the Conference, and shall have a casting vote in case of an equal division, in addition to his vote as a delegate.

4. That all documents relating from the Conference shall be signed by the Chairman.

5. That all documents, or letters, addressed to the Conference, or the Chairman, be referred to the Executive Committee.

6. That all amendments and propositions arising out of business under discussion be submitted to the Chairman, and in writing.

7. That no member be limited to fifteen minutes each, except when in committee, and then to five minutes each, unless in extraordinary cases, to be notified by the Chairman.

8. That no member shall speak twice on the same subject, unless, or matter immediately under discussion, either in the Committee, or in the Conference, or in explanation, or the opinion, by way of conclusion in reply.

On the motion of Mr. O'CONNOR, the time proposed for the meeting of the Conference was reduced to ten minutes, and it was agreed that the meeting of the Conference should be from nine to ten in the morning till two, and from four till seven. A protracted discussion ensued as to the time at which the Committee for deciding the disputed elections, should sit, but of course it could answer no useful purpose to enter upon that motion was subsequently made for an adjournment to

NOR.—The Secretary of the Chartist shoemakers, Golden-lane, London, has required from Mr. Cleave an account of the expenditure of the above. To this Mr. Cleave replies, that it is questionable whether under such a balance sheet could be published notwithstanding the trials traversed from the Special Commissioners; and besides, Mr. C. has not the slightest control over the fund, further than to pay, as he has from time to time, the subscriptions received by him to Mr. O'Connor, who has hitherto acted as treasurer, &c.: It may, however, be as well to intimate that several of the London delegates have been specially instructed to introduce the question of a "National Defence and Support Fund" to the attention of the Birmingham Conference. In the event of the Conference declining to accede to the motion for that purpose, the Committee nominated by the Great Metropolitan Meeting at the Crown and Anchor (of which Committee Mr. O'Connor, Cleave, Dr. Black, &c., are members) will doubtless suggest some effective Chartist plan for the raising of a general fund. It need not mean time, no true Chartist will, as the Golden Lane and Secretary asserts, withhold his support from the Fund. Mr. O'Connor's honourable conduct might be held a sufficient reason for the application of every Chartist to the cause. It should also be borne in mind that not only has been subscribed for the defence, but also the support of the families, of the victims of the 4th of June.

Richard Hiscox, weaver, Clay Pits.

William Stott, woolcomber, Park-lane.

med, have their goods and chattels seized for

NET SWEEPING MACHINE—We understand, Whitworth's "Patent Cleansing Machine."

from the London Gazette of Friday, Dec 23

and Co., Bedford-street, Covent-garden; and
Mr. Lackington, Coleman-street-buildings.

head, and Thomas Platt, of Manchester and Val-
commission merchants William Bird and

Mr. Wetherall, Temple, London; official
Mr. Fraser, Manchester.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

