

My dear Friends, A per A person who signs himself a "Well-wisher and a...

The subject is neither beneath my consideration nor is it too complicated for dissection, and the...

Table with 2 columns: Disposition of three acres, and items like Potatoes, Wheat, etc.

Produce of acre of potatoes, 15 tons. Wheat, 200 stones.

For Cows—from November to March, 2 tons of potatoes, or nearly one and a half stone each, per day.

For Family—and a half ton of potatoes, or about 9 lbs. per day.

For sale—31 tons of potatoes. Do. Milk of two cows.

Table with 2 columns: Milk of 2 cows, 4 quarts a day each, 16 quarts, at 1/3d. per quart.

Produce reserved for family's consumption: 2 Bacon Pigs, 3 cwt. each, 6 cwt.

Annual allowance reduced to weekly consumption: 14 stone of Bacon.

Table with 2 columns: Annual expenditure, Rent, Rates, and Taxes, £13 10 0.

From price of produce, 95 10 0. Deduct expenditure, 51 10 0.

And there remains, after consumption, £44 per annum, after the best of living. I will now estimate lowly the value of the allowances for living weekly—

Table with 2 columns: 14 lb. of bacon, the best at 6d. per lb., 7 0.

This does not include rent, fuel, soap, candles, and clothing.

Table with 2 columns: Employment of time, Planting acre of potatoes, 24 days.

Total amount received in living, clothing, fuel, candles and hay, and not including rent of house, for 157 days work, £75 12s., or nearly 30s. per day, and not allowing for each year's improvement in the land.

Now, I have laid down the meaneast and rudest system of cultivation. I have allowed eight tons of potatoes, worth £32, only to produce £24 when given to pigs.

I have allowed £8 worth of hay, and £8 worth of potatoes, for two cows, besides the produce of nearly an acre, cropped and recropped in spring and summer, for, observe, the flax is sown in Feb. and pulled in June, and clover is sown with it and is fit to cut in a month after the flax is drawn.

You have two tons of hay, two tons of potatoes, and the produce of nearly an acre, to feed two cows, while Collett has proved, that a quarter of an acre will feed a cow the whole year round.

I have had fifteen tons of potatoes, but it is no crop. Mr. Baines, of the "Leeds Mercury" states, I think, over fifty tons as a fair crop, but he exaggerates, twenty tons is no great crop.

I have had twenty stones of wheat, on a middling land, and, without care, I have had 240 stones; you will have 300 stones and more, when you watch every plant and never allow a weed to grow in it.

You must buy six young pigs in May when milk, cabbage, tares, and refuse is plenty, and feed them that way, and from the offal of the house till November, when you shut them up. You will give £1 each in May and get £5 each in March, when fat. You will make more than £12 of your fat.

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besides the seed, which is the finest thing you could have for your new calved cows.

I allow your hives of honey to weigh 52 pounds each, and your ducks to lay 3 days in the week, SUNDAYS INCLUDED, as my ducks never made any difference, and my cows gave milk, but my horses DIDN'T WORK AND ATE.

Now, I have shown you 17 shillings worth of food at wholesale price and good, and for which you would pay 22 shillings and more, and not so good, in the retail market, besides going for it; and I have shown you a profit of £44 after THAT LIVING and house rent, for 157 days work.

And now I will show you how much I am under the mark, even according to the old system. For instance, a farmer rents, say 100 acres, and employs three men, and more in harvest. Well, all the riches he has in the world, and payment of interest for his capital, and losses, and risk, and amusement, and support, and education of family, all comes out of these three workmen's labour—nothing else.

I had not been asked to deal rudely with the subject, I should have shown the facility with which more, much more, than twice as much, may be made of 3 acres. With the means I propose of making manure, together with parings of walks and a trench, here and there burned for ashes, your 3 acres would be like a dung-hill. Now to make all simple, I will deduct £14 from the £44 profit, and leave it at £30 a year after living, and we come to the conclusion that in seven years, a man from 157 days' work a year, would realize £210; and we presume his rent of 3 acres and a house to be £10 a year, and that the company is bound to sell at 20 years' purchase; and thus I show that, without stint, the occupant can purchase his allotment for ever, and £10 over in seven years. Now until he purchases his allotment, he will not expend £31 a year on clothes, hay, and fuel; nor will he consume what I have allowed; so that I now repeat what I have many times stated, that in four years from the day of taking possession—allowing the first year for thought and shaking down—that the merest fool will pay for 2, 3, or 4 acres of ground on the company's terms, but NOT IF DEALING IN THE RETAIL MARKET, NOR YET IN 10 YEARS.

The poet says— "Fools till they grow sager, Back their opinions with a wager." However, I now offer to bet John Bright, the Whistler, or any man living, £500, and to stake the CASH, that in the next four years I will do what I have here written, with three acres of this land or of Herringgate, at the Company's rent, and the same with any estate I purchase. That is, I will stake, at a week's notice, £500, with any man or men, that, in four years from taking possession of three acres of the Land Company's land, I will support five people, or give to a family precisely the weekly allowance I have stated, and will, from the profits on labour, after such deductions for living, clothing, fuel, soap, candles, and other things, pay in four years the whole purchase money of the said three acres; and I will take £1000 to £500, that I do it in three years, and even less. But, to put all beyond dispute, I will try, and all who are neighbours shall bear witness of the fair mode of dealing; and, as I mean to purchase an allotment, I will keep a critical and exact account, and will purchase it out in less than three years, and what I can do in three, others may do in seven. However, it is worth Bright's consideration to win £500 these bad times, and if that is not enough, I will get a few friends to back me for as many thousands. But how ridiculous to think of fellows talking about the land that know no more about it than the crow that flies over it. Your answer to them must always be—WELL, WHO MAKES FORTUNES FOR FARMERS, AND PAYS ALL THEIR RENTS, AND ALL THE REST OF IT. I NEVER EXPECTED THE BLOOD-SUCKERS WOULD LIKE THE NATURAL STATE OF MAN.

Your faithful friend and bailiff, FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

IRELAND. NARRATIVE OF MALCOLM M'GREGOR. No. XI.

About dusk we arrived at the door of a miserable cottage, standing alone in the midst of steep and inaccessible hills; a spot that appeared to have been selected for deeds of darkness. My guide unlocked the door, observing the women have been sent to the neighbours, and now, pointing to a heap of flax on a hurdle, over a dark room, you must hide there, behind the flax, and for your life and soul don't sneeze, or stir, or it would be as much as our lives would be worth, if they found you out.

The reader will easily find this injunction, added to the appearance of the place, had considerably allayed my curiosity; however, there was no retreat, and my guide having lighted a splinter, as he termed it—a piece of thin dried bog wood—he showed a very fragile step ladder, by which I mounted to my "cock-loft," and underwent the ceremony of being covered up, all but a small aperture for my mouth, with the bundles of flax. I was not long in my new situation, when, to the horror and consternation of my guide, who was busily engaged in preparing for the jury, I gave a loud sneeze, at which he bounded, and exclaimed—"My God, but we're gone men, if you don't keep quiet."

"The flax," I replied, "tickles my nose." "Wish," he returned, "for God's sake stop it, as you can't get out now, as they'll be here in a minute; but if you can't hold, but must sneeze, see if you can't sneeze like a cat. This way," say he, sneezing precisely like a cat, and which, to my great satisfaction, I imitated most critically.

In a very few minutes the jury began to arrive when candles, bought for the occasion, and stuck in balls of clay, were placed upon the table in the middle of the room, the parties seating themselves round, some on kishes (high baskets), and others on stools.

My guide, from being next of kin, was appointed judge, and his first business was that of calling out the names of those summoned for the occasion, when, all having answered, he addressed them as follows:—"Are yees all blood relations to Phelim O'Donnell, God rest his soul?" to which all responded—

"Amen, and yes." "Are yees, any of you, married, or is father or mother depending on your labour?"

"No." "Are yees all willing to be drawn, to see who shall shoot the murderer; and in case he should be doomed to die?"

"Yes, yes, yes." "Are you willing to pay the lawful debts and just demands of any that may suffer for the deed?"

"Yes." "Have you all made your sowls and made open confession of all your sins?"

"Yes." "Do you all pledge yourselves never to split or inform?"

"YES, YES, YES." "Are you prepared now, to hear the evidence of the uncle of the deceased, that see the act, and can tell whether the witness swore true before the crowner, and whether Phelimveen owed the money that he was shot for, and whether he was likely to kill them that took his life, or if they did kill him, and whether the law would take his life if he was tried for what he done?"

"Yes, we're ready." "Do yees swear, before your God that hears you to do justice between man and man, according to what yees hear?"

"Yes." The uncle of the deceased was then called, and, having blessed himself, and declared that he would tell but the honest truth, he proceeded to narrate the circumstances connected with the transaction, precisely as detailed to Mr. O'Farrell and me, and of the merits of which the reader is already in possession.

He was then asked, if, on his oath, Phelimveen threatened to take away any man's life, or attempted to harm or hurt any one? and to all of which interrogatories he answered, "No."

He was then asked if he knew whether deceased had paid the money he was sued for, and to which he replied, that he was present on one occasion, when Catchpole acknowledged to the whole being paid up.

Having heard the whole of the evidence, the judge spoke as follows. "Brothers, you have now heard how our dear departed kinsman, Phelimveen O'Donnell, came by his death, and what he done to cause them to shoot him; and yees will consider that yees must answer in the last day to your God, when all is called upon for an account of his actions, to answer for the verdict yees come to tonight, and if yees think that deceased would have killed them that took his life, if they didn't kill him, yees will say no; but if yees believe that he was killed from a wish to get his holding, and because them that killed him knew the law wouldn't touch them, then yees will say so, and yees are not to suffer yourselves to be led astray because our kinsman died with his sins upon him, (the Lord have mercy upon his soul), but yees will do justice between man and man, as yees hope one day to expect justice to be done to yourselves." An awful pause, of at least five minutes, followed this injunction; and in the midst of which, to the great horror of my guide and host, I sneezed, but so like a cat, that he was able to lay it on pass.

The judge now proceeded to ask them if they had agreed to their verdict? commencing on his left and going through, and upon being answered in the affirmative he then proceeded to put the question in the same form, "Is any one guilty of the murder of the deceased, if so, who? or did he come by his death lawfully?" And to which all answered, "Yes, Captain Squeezetant is guilty of the murder, and deceased did not come by his death lawfully."

The judge then asked, "Do you all say that Captain Squeezetant unlawfully took away the life of Phelimveen O'Donnell?" "Yes." "And do you doom him to die?" "Yes, he the laws of God and man."

The judge then proceeded to break some straws into pieces of unequal length as lots, and having arranged them in his hand, he walked round the table, each drawing a straw and laying it before him, until all were drawn, when the judge proceeded to inspect them, and declared that the lot had fallen upon Tim O'Donnell, a first cousin and bosom friend of Phelimveen, he having drawn the Captain, or longest straw. As soon as the announcement was made, Tim jumped on his legs, and said, "Blessed be God it has fallen to my lot to avenge the blood of my friend and cousin, and but I'll be no ways feared to meet my Maker when I die, for Phelimveen was an honest boy as ever lived, and done his duty to the old people, and never wronged or injured man or beast."

"Tim," said a person on the other side of the table, "but I'll give you a two-year old heifer and a collop of sheep—(six sheep)—at you'll only give me the privilege of shooting the villain, that turned my poor old father out of his house and home and then transported him."

"No," responded Tim, "it never shall be thrown in the teeth of an O'Donnell, that an O'Donnell should an O'Donnell's blood for all the heifers and sheep in the parish."

The ceremony now being over, all took leave of Tim O'Donnell, kissing and shaking hands with him, and reminding him that the Olympus sailed for America that day fortnight, and that he should have plenty of means to clear him out of the country, when there came a sudden knocking at the door, followed by the most piteous howling.

"Whose there," asked the man of the house? "Ogh, for the love of God, open the door," responded the howl.

"What's the matter," continued my host? "Ogh, wisha, come down, there's murder at the cross below."

"What!" ejaculated the voices inside. "Ogh," rejoined those outside, "come, run, come down to the cross—sure the polis has took out O'Donnell. The Lord be merciful to us—sure he lay in wait behind a ditch, just opposite the polis barracks, and but he shot the Captain as he was going home from the sessions of Skipberren, and sure the old man was n't able to run, and but, instead of trying to make off, it was he came and stood over the body, calling and howling out 'Phelimveen, it was your father that revenged your blood on the murderer, and but he'll soon be with you in heaven,' and but sure, a mob collected when the polis came up, and when they were for rescuing O'Donnell, but they fired, and the Lord save us, but they says they made a riddle of his body, and there's all the Crier boys and the polis fighting at the cross, and but if you don't run, but they'll get the better of them."

The last announcement had the effect of clearing the house as if by magic, when I descended from my hiding place, and escaping from the novel, I followed the howl of the women, with many others who rushed down the mountain side, until we reached the cross where the mangled body of 'The

O'Donnell" lay, surrounded by screaming women and children, with scarcely a tatter of clothes upon them. In the ditch hard by lay the dead body of Captain Squeezetant, while shots, responded to by terrific cheers and yells, were heard from the adjoining hills where the police barrack was situated, and whether the men had repaired in pursuit of the police,—shot followed shot, and cheer succeeded cheer, until at length the work of demolition being completed, the edifice fell with a terrific crash, burying the inmates and many of the infuriated actors beneath the ruins; a momentary silence followed the crash, when, as if by magic, a blaze of brilliant light burst around the dismal scene and presented the most appalling spectacle of myriads of half-naked people dragging the wounded from under the ruins, and, as a friend or relative was discovered, the yell was horrifying and heart-rending. As I approached the ruins, my former guide, the brother of Mrs. Mahoney, recognized me, and clapping me on the shoulder, said, "Come, follow me, this is no place for you; the soldiers will be here in a bit, come, come with me, as, maybe, if you are found here, Mr. O'Farrell might be brought to trouble." I thought the advice seasonable and discreet, and followed my guide, who led me in safety to the house of my host, who had not yet returned from his day's labour. I communicated all that I had seen and heard to Mrs. Mahoney, who begged of me not to say a word about it to the priest, or to pretend to know any thing of the matter. I promised secrecy, and lest my manner should evince a suspicious excitement, I retired to rest before the worthy pastor's return.

(To be continued.)

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, FRIDAY, 22nd JAN. LORD LANSDOWNE laid on the table copies of the correspondence relative to the Spanish marriage. Their Lordships met to-day (Saturday) for the purpose of receiving Lord John Russell's Bills from the Commons.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, FRIDAY, 22nd JAN. The Hon. Cecil LAWLESS took his seat for Clonmel, in the room of the Right Hon. David PIGOT, appointed one of the Barons of Her Majesty's Exchequer in Ireland.

A new writ was ordered for the city of Chester, vacant by Lord Robert Grosvenor's acceptance of the Office of Lord Chancellor.

THE CORN IMPORTATION BILL went through its various stages. The last clause was struck out without a committee.

THE NAVIGATION BILL Mr. MURRAY proposed a motion of suspension of the House beyond the 1st September. Lord JOHN RUSSELL considered the proposal inexpedient.

An animated debate, in which Lord George Bentinck, Dr. Bowring, and Mr. Duncombe took part, ensued. Mr. Mitchell replied. The Committee then divided, when the numbers were—

For the amendment..... 58 Against it..... 153 Majority for Ministers..... 138

The House having resolved into Committee on THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE ACT, THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER entered into a general statement of the application of the duties which the Government contemplated regarding the duties at present leviable on the three articles of sugar, molasses, and rum. He proposed that sugar be admitted free of duty into breweries and distilleries, but a similar permission is not to be extended to molasses, for various reasons, founded chiefly upon the evidence given before a Committee of the House.

In the employment of sugar in distilleries, which would be purchased by the distiller to take it out of bond in the usual manner, and to receive an allowance or drawback when the produce becomes chargeable with duty. The principle upon which this is to proceed was laid down as follows:—"An equal quantity of spirit produced from sugar ought to pay the same spirit duty as that produced from malt, together with a sum equal to the amount of duty payable on the quantity of malt required to produce the same amount and strength of spirit." The drawback amounts to 12s. 10d. on every eleven gallons and a half of spirit. With regard to rum, the differential duty of 1s. 6d. in favour of English spirit as against colonial, is to be reduced to 1s.; so that the duty on English spirit is to be 7s. 10d., while that on colonial will be changed from 8s. 4d. to 8s. 10d.

Lord G. BENTINCK hoped that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not mean to make this law a permanent one, for, in such event, he would meet considerable opposition.

Mr. S. O'BRIEN said that the condition of Ireland demanded that the grain requisite for their support, should not be used, if possible, in distilleries or breweries.

Mr. GOSWOLD said he entirely approved of the measure brought forward by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his clear and able statement, the more particularly as it only redeemed the pledge which he gave last session, to consider the case of the West Indian colonies.

Mr. D. BAXWELL said the colonies had a right to claim a measure as an act of simple justice.

Mr. G. BENTINCK expressed his intention to support the measure as one of the remedies proposed by Government, but it would be the duty of the agricultural interest to inquire whether it ought to be of a temporary or a permanent nature.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said the sense of the House could be taken on this subject at a future stage.

After some remarks from Mr. D. Baxwell, Mr. BENTINCK and Mr. O'BRIEN were agreed to, and a Bill ordered to be brought in accordingly.

The Corn Importation Bill, and the Navigation Bill were then read a third time and passed.

THE LAW OF SETTLEMENT. Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Poor Removal Bill and the Law of Settlement, with an instruction to inquire first, and report specially, upon the Poor Removal Bill. The Noble Lord took that opportunity to announce the intentions of the Government with respect to the Andover inquiry, and to state that the intention of the Government was their intention to take any steps in reference to the Andover resolutions, unless some private Member of Parliament should think fit to introduce the question. But, having considered the constitution of the Poor Law Commission, they had come to the resolution of remodelling it entirely. They believed that it was absolutely necessary to have a central body, charged with the means of local inspection. It was their belief that the present commission had exercised their authority to the best of their judgment, and with an earnest desire to assist the poor, and that the principles upon which they acted were sound. But it was apparent that in some cases brought before Parliament they did not appear to have exercised their discretion wisely; and it was concluded, therefore, that some one connected with the board should have been appointed to be a permanent member, and to constitute a superior board, with a president and two secretaries; the president and one of the secretaries to be eligible to sit in the House of Commons. The "general rules" to be revised and confirmed or abrogated by the new board, and finally sanctioned by the Queen herself. The government likewise proposed to separate entirely the administration of the Poor Law in Ireland from that in England; the Irish board to have a president and two secretaries, and to be empowered to effect these changes, Lord John Russell promised to bring forward at an early period of the session.

After a lengthened conversation, in which several members took part, the select committee, with the instruction, was agreed to.

The House adjourned at half-past twelve.

HOUSE OF LORDS, SATURDAY, JAN. 23rd. Lord SHAFFESBURY took his seat on the woolsack shortly before five.

CORN AND NAVIGATION LAWS SUSPENSION BILLS. Mr. GREENE and other Members of the House of Commons, brought up the Corn Duties (Temporary Suspension) Bill, and the Navigation Laws (Temporary Suspension) Bill, which were read a second time, and were severally read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

Lord STANLEY inquired whether it was the determination of the Government to introduce another measure, the Bill for repealing certain penalties in the use of sugar and molasses in brewing and distilling, and also whether that Bill was to be passed as the other two Bills. He suggested that the proposed measure be referred to a select committee.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE in answer, stated that it was thought more advisable to make the proposed Bill of a permanent nature at once, than leave it for discussion later in a session. With regard to the suggestion thrown out by Lord Stanley, it would depend upon the support the Bill might find in the other House, and the form in which it was sent up, whether it should be referred to a select committee.

Some conversation then ensued on the proposed alterations in the poor law, which Lord Brougham denounced as the fruit of personal spleen and political animosity, and as inconsistent with the spirit of the original law, an opinion in which Earl FITZWILLIAM concurred, and gave it as his opinion that the appointment of a Poor Law Minister would be desirable.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS, MONDAY, JAN. 25. On the motion of the Earl of CLARENDON the Corn Duties and the Navigation Laws Suspension Bills passed through all their stages without opposition.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved for the production of papers relative to the condition of Ireland and entered into a lengthened statement descriptive of the famine, and its attending circumstances, of the measures of relief taken by the Government during the recess of Parliament, and of the Bills which it was the intention of Government to propose as well for the resuscitation as for the permanent improvement of Ireland. The substance of the Noble Marquis's speech was identical with that delivered by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons.

Lord STANLEY freely admitted that the measures which had been shadowed forth by the Government appeared to be both fair and judicious; but he was of opinion that to attempt to discuss them in detail, without the opportunity of fully considering their bearings in reference to the state of society existing in Ireland, would be worse than useless. He would not, however, hesitate to recommend to the Government to throw aside some of their principles of political economy, and he would suggest to them the propriety of encouraging the introduction of capital into Ireland by affording advances to railway construction, and the promotion of other constructive public works, upon safe and proper security. The construction of such works would give very extensive employment to the labourers under the best possible supervision, that of the parties themselves interested in the projects.

Lord BROUGHAM inquired if an estimate had been made of the sum that would be required to answer the loans proposed by the Government in carrying out their measures.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE could not give an estimate of the probable amount that would be required.

Lord BROUGHAM said he had heard it would require fifteen millions sterling; and if so, he felt convinced that the property tax must be immediately increased. But if the property tax must be increased, then he saw no reason why it should not be extended to Ireland, nor could he imagine why a man with £140 a year could not pay for the protection of the life afforded him as well as the man with £100 a year. From the number of paupers passing from Ireland to Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, it became absolutely necessary to adopt some mode of assisting the pauper population of the poor of Ireland upon the resources of Ireland.

The Earl of Devon spoke in defence of the Labour Rate Act, which, though he admitted it had failed in many instances, he thought had failed only because it had not been efficiently carried out.

After a few observations from Lord ROXBOROUGH in disapprobation of the Labour Rate Act, Earl FITZWILLIAM defended the Irish landlords, and argued for the furnished population of the Poor Law to Ireland without proper limitations.

Lord MOUNTCASTLE made a statement showing that the Irish landlords had a total of £3,000,000 out of 13,000,000 per annum, to live on.

Earl GREY defended the Labour Rate Act as being the best measure that could have been adopted at the time it was passed, though unforeseen circumstances altered the position of the country. He considered the condemnation of that measure implied a grave censure on the present Government.

After remarks from Lord MONTAGUE and the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, The papers were ordered to be produced, and their Lordships adjourned at one o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MONDAY, JAN. 25. The speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

TEN HOURS' BILL. Sir G. STROUDLAND presented a petition from cotton spinners and others, in Lancashire in favour of a Ten Hours' Bill for young persons and children.

USE OF MOLASSES IN DISTILLERIES. Mr. HUME gave notice that upon the same day he would move the copies of any reports showing the reason why molasses should not be introduced into the country and used in distilleries upon the same footing as sugar.

ANNEXATION OF CRACOW. Mr. HUME said that he would postpone the motion of which he had given notice upon this subject to a future day, in consequence of the papers promised by the Government not having been laid upon the table of the House.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the reason the papers were not yet laid on the table was, that it was only since Parliament met that a paper had been presented to Her Majesty, embodying the defence of the Three Powers for the measure adopted with respect to Cracow.

Mr. HAWES said last session his hon. friend drew his attention to the case of the Chinese on whom it was proposed to impose a punishment of 100 lashes, and he had told him in reply that all the circumstances connected with that case would be inquired into. An explanation had been received from the authorities of the island, which was to the following effect:—"The Chinese in question had been guilty of felony, and had been arrested. A rescue was attempted by a large number of the Chinese, which was not successful; whether a system of lawless persons, and it was found very difficult to devise any punishment at all commensurate with their offences. (Hear, hear.)"

Mr. FERRAND gave notice that on an early day he would move "That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the mode adopted by the Poor Law Commissioners and their Assistant Commissioners, in drawing up reports, and their treatment of boards of guardians; and what controul the right hon. Sir James Graham, Bart., exercised over the Poor Law Commissioners and their Assistant Commissioners during the time he held the office of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department. Also, whether, under the enforcement of the new Poor Law, wages have not been reduced; whether crime has not increased; whether a system of lawless persons, instead of a system of kindness, has not been adopted towards the poor; whether the favourable anticipations expressed in Parliament by the promoters of the new Poor Law have not entirely failed; and, whether the principle upon which the new Poor Law is founded is not a direct violation of the constitution of England."

SERIOUS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST SIR J. GRAHAM. Mr. FERRAND gave notice that on Thursday next he would bring forward some charges against Sir J. Graham, seriously affecting his character and conduct as a Minister of the Crown and also a Member of Parliament.

THE STATE OF IRELAND. Lord JOHN RUSSELL then rose to bring under the attention of the House the state of Ireland, and said that he had never felt the necessity so strongly of calling for the independence of the House as on the present occasion; but he felt assured of obtaining it in an ample degree, after the sympathy manifested by the House on this subject a few nights ago, and the forcible manner in which it had shown to the Government, the weight of their opinion on the subject, and that would first state the order which he should follow in his statement. In the first place, he proposed to show what was the actual state of that part of the United Kingdom in which the great calamity of Ireland had arisen. Secondly, he should make a general statement as to what had occurred during the recess of Parliament, and as to what had been done in pursuance of the acts of Parliament of last year, and how far these measures had been successful, and how far they had been unsuccessful, and how far they should then proceed to state what were the recommendations of the Government on the present emergency. After this he should call the attention of the house to other measures, which, in the opinion of her Majesty's ministers, would tend to improve the state of Ireland, and to lay the foundation for permanent improvement. He should also mention some of the measures which, although they had been under consideration, had not been so fully considered that measures could be so introduced with respect to them. He should now ask leave of the House to introduce two Bills, one to read valid certain acts which had been done under the order of the Lord-Lieutenant, and the second a Bill for the improvement of private estates in Ireland, in conformity with the provisions laid down in the Treasury Minute of the 1st of December last.

He would then read extracts from the Report of the Commissioners as to the state of distress in Ireland. The calamity which had fallen on Ireland was almost without a parallel in modern times, operating as it did on a population of nearly eight millions, and which was like a famine of the thirteenth century falling upon a population of the fourteenth century. But last year the quantity of food in Ireland was not so much deficient, yet notwithstanding this Parliament determined to yet notwithstanding by affording the means of labour on roads and public works, by means of loans. Several sums of money had been advanced for that purpose, and towards the end of the session, Parliament passed an act for the improvement of private estates in Ireland, and for the co-operation of the landed gentry of Ireland, and of the Government, with the assent of the Cabinet, made further arrangements for public works. Shortly afterwards the Lord-Lieutenant was called upon to allow presentments to be made for townships. There were strong objections to this, as many of those townships were very small, and the average of them was not above 200 acres; the consequence of townland would be only liable for the amount required, and there would be no general sympathy; therefore that could not be beneficially adopted. He admitted that there was no danger in the present state of employing labour in Ireland, and if care was not taken, permanent injury might be inflicted on the unfortunate class to which the labourers belonged. As the destitution increased, the difficulty of finding means of employing labour increased. Great difficulties were found to exist in getting more persons to superintend the labourers, and in some districts, in consequence of the adoption of task work, the labourers had refused to perform the work allotted to them. It was also found that one public board could not effectually superintend such an extensive scheme of labour. It appeared that the number of persons now employed by the Board of Works in Ireland and as officers for the superintendance of labour was 287. The number of persons employed as labourers and advances up to the present time, was £2,410,216. The number of labourers employed on the Public Works in September last was 20,130, while last month the number had increased to 480,000, and at the present time the number was no doubt upwards of half a million. It was calculated that five persons were dependent on each acre of land, and that employing that there were only four persons in each case; the number dependent on such employment would be two millions. The expenditure had been enormous. He had before him the returns of the weekly expenditure since the commencement of December. In the month of December the expenditure was £505,000, and for the first three weeks of January it amounted to £430,000. The amount of the weekly expenditure for the month would be about £700,000, or £28,000,000. It was impossible to view this state of things without being aware that it must be accompanied with many evils. In many places where task work had been adopted, it appeared that wages had risen to 1s. 10d. a day, and the farmer could not get labourers to till the soil. Great abuses had also grown up by farmers occupying twenty, thirty, forty, and fifty acres of land, placing the labourers on these public works, while the really destitute could not get employment. The Lord-Lieutenant had taken steps to lessen this evil. On deliberation it was determined to form in the various districts relief committees which would receive subscriptions and levy rates, and obtain grants from the Government. These committees would have to purchase fuel, to establish soup kitchens, and to employ the labourers on their own grounds or for the farmers, so that there might be due preparation for the next harvest. It was happy to state that that distinguished officer, Sir John Burgoyne, had undertaken the task of superintending the plan which would be adopted with regard to the relief committees. He would therefore propose an amendment with regard to the relief committees, and would ask the Lord-Lieutenant, and would ask either with or without a board, and would co-operate with the Board of Works, with the commissariat department, and with the officers of the poor-law unions and the constabulary. Care would be taken that in the proposed change the transition from public works to other employment should be as gradual as possible, so that no undue dismissal of labourers should take place at any time. With respect to the money which had already been expended in public works, the question had been asked whether the whole burden should fall upon Ireland. The extent of misfortune had been so great that he thought that the whole of the burden should not fall upon the Irish people. He therefore should propose on a future day, that a new arrangement should be made, so that each year an instalment of the advances coming due, that only one-half should be paid, and the other half should be remitted. With regard to the money hitherto issued, it had been advanced from the consolidated fund, and there had been no issue of new Exchequer Bills. He did not consider that it would be proper to impose the whole burden on the finances of the country. He did not think that any step of that kind should be adopted by the government or Parliament without the most serious consideration, or that such large amounts should be taken from the laborious people of this country, on this point his lordship said in like manner such a proposition as that which has now been laid before the House, it is one which places a very considerable burden upon the finances of this country (hear, hear); and that the Government should be very anxious to take any step of that kind should be adopted by the government or Parliament without the most serious consideration,



Poetry.

TO THE QUEEN.

Your palaces are prancing, your people are pining. The Palace and Baitle in rivalry tower...

And yet, by this instrument we are informed, that there are stars and systems so distant, that the ray of light which impinges on the eye of the observer...

UP FOR FREE LAND.

Oh! God's earth is fair! and a glimpse you may catch, As you peer o'er the wall of some neighbouring Park...

THE PLANET MARS. Baer and Maedler, two Prussian astronomers, have devoted many years' labour to the examination of Mars...

THE MOON.

It appeared like a globe of molten silver, and every object of the extent of 100 yards was quite visible...

THE TEN HOURS' BILL.

MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

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THE WESTMINSTER FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW.

THE WESTMINSTER FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW, JANUARY, 1847, London: G. Luxford, Whitefriars Street.

REVIEW.

THE WESTMINSTER FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW, is a most interesting and valuable work, which has been published by G. Luxford, Whitefriars Street, London.

ASTRONOMY.

Of all the physical sciences, that which investigates the laws of surrounding planets—that which extends the view of man to other spheres of existence...

ASTRONOMY.

THE REVIEWER traces the history of astronomy from the ancient Chaldeans, Chinese, Egyptians, and Indians, to the present time.

use himself so openly. His little grandson, designated in the official newspaper style, Prince de France, beat time to the music. The king encouraged them to do so; it gave them a ray, such, perhaps, as mortal appearance. It lasted much too long for a spontaneous impulse...

THE WAR IN MEXICO.

(Extract from Young America.)

LACKLANDERS WANTED—SECOND CALL. Another regiment is called for from Pennsylvania. The lacklanders of Pennsylvania want light.

REPRESENTATION OF LINCOLN.

REPRESENTATION OF LINCOLN.—Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton has intimated to his friends in Lincoln his intention of again presenting himself as a candidate for the representation of their city at the next general election.

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which formed part of the kingdom of Italy, and were taken from France by the king of Italy. Austria would have no other alternative but to give up Cremona...

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General Intelligence.

Good.—John Congreve, Esq., of Mount Congreve, has saved all the grain which was grown last season on his domain for the use of his tenants, and the labourers on his Kilkenny property are employed in raising bankments along the river Suir at his own expense.

INDIAN CORN.

INDIAN CORN.—The port of Cork is full of vessels with Indian corn. An old book which was sold to a druggist at Gainsborough as waste paper, and he subsequently sold it to a bookseller in the same town.

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and made ample provision for her favourite and spoiled parrot. Mr. Guller, late M.P. for Pontefract, is spoken of as the second candidate for Andrew...

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Full of wild dreams, strange fancies and graceful images, interspersed with many bright and beautiful thoughts, its chief defect is its levity.

By the same Author THE WOOD SPIRIT; An Historical Romance, in Two Vols. An unequivocally strange and eventful history—Ossianic in its quality—poetical in its style.

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TO THE INDUSTRIOUS MILLIONS. On Saturday Next, January 30th, will be Published, No. 1, Price One Penny, to be continued weekly, OF THE TRIBUNE; AND GUARDIAN OF INDUSTRY.

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MR. O'CONNOR'S WORK ON SMALL FARMS. To be had at the Northern Star Office, 16, Great Windmill Street; and of Alfred Heywood, Manchester.

IMPORTANT TO PHOTOGRAPHERS. An application was made on the 22nd of September, to the Vice-Chancellor of England, by Mr. Beard...

LITHOGRAPHIC ENGRAVINGS OF THE DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL. MAY still be had at the Office of Messrs. M'GOWAN and Co., 16, Great Windmill Street, Haymarket, London.

LIBERAL BOOKS ON POLITICS, THEOLOGY, AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. Published, and Sold, Wholesale and Retail, by JAMES WATSON.

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O'Connell and the Saxon Irish Landlords be productive of other than beneficial results to HIM, and injury to Ireland. Surely, the oft-devised, but still confiding, cannot for a moment suppose that the serpent is wont to civility and the temporary cessation of vulgar hostilities, by other than interested motives.

Has the reader seen the PENNY clap-trap by which the Chancellor of the Exchequer hopes to feed a famishing nation, and has he seen the sympathy expressed for the brewers and distillers by Mr. Callaghan, M.P. for the city of Cork, and that will be its limit.

As we before stated, the Irish landlords expect, and hope, and intend, to turn the DISPENSATION to a GODSEND, and instead of the minister using the GREAT DIFFICULTY as the great opportunity for whipping them to the performance of their duty, they will use it as a scourge to warn him of their political power.

Such, the reader may rest assured, is the plain English of Stanley's overture to the Irish landlords. Here, then, we find famine the question, and Ireland the difficulty, while Whigs and Tories are making the DISPENSATION the medium of canvass for the support of its very creators.

Next week, we shall write a sermon, to be preached on the mountain top, under the canopy of the broad blue sky, which God will not be offended in hearing.

THE MARCH OF DEMOCRACY. A stranger traveller, awakened one morning in a barge Inn by a noise from without, rose with the intention of opening a window to see whether it was daylight.

THE IRISH BANDITTI. If it required famine to arouse the Irish Landlords even to the painful recollection that the possession of property implies a consequent performance of duty, however trivial, and the non-observance of which weakens the possessor's title...

Despotism has ever governed the positively wretched through the pliant subservency of the comparatively satisfied. It is an insult to mind, understanding, and strength, to suppose that a majority of the sane and thoughtful are satisfied with the present system.

Greater changes will, however, result out of this movement of modern democracy than Lord John Russell "dreams of in his philosophy." A gradual, but entire alteration in our social system must be the necessary consequence; for, in the first place, the influence of the great landed proprietors must decrease in the same proportion, in which a self-relying, and co-operative agricultural population becomes independent of the aristocrat, by having a resource in the ownership of the soil.

Among other matters of importance which have occurred since our last, are the short discussions on the re-constitution of the Poor Law Commission, and the first reading of the Ten Hours' Bill, on its introduction by Mr. Fielden.

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The educational reform that Lord John Russell will doubtless propound, according to his political creed, will be more advanced by a Ten Hours' Bill than by the mere establishment of schools, which, under the present system, the working man's child has not much leisure to attend—even though an educational grant should equal that for Her Majesty's stables.

Thus, in every branch of political economy, we find democracy marching in advance. It cries shame to the statesmen of the nineteenth century, who have confessedly left an Ireland of the seventeenth, and who very wisely caution the people not to expect too much at their hands!

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their tenants. Enviably landlords! How thoughtfully and tenderly does Lord John anticipate all your wishes, provide for your smallest wants; the "small proprietors" are not to participate in this £50,000 loan. That we presume would not be in accordance with "the doctrines of political economy."

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Foreign Movements.

"And I will war, at least in words, (And should my chance so happen—deeds,) With all who war with Thought!"

"I think I hear a little bird, who sings The people by and by will be the stronger."—BYRON.

ADDRESS OF THE POLISH DEMOCRATS TO EUROPE.

If, on the occasion of the late suppression of the Republic of Cracow, the Polish Democratic Society...

But in a well ordered civil society such a crime is foreseen and punished with all the rigour of the law. An international criminal law does not yet exist.

Poland—chivalrous, agricultural, and hospitable, was at that time in one of those critical moments, when nations, weakened by long and arduous struggles...

It is enough to pour any such a situation to show how seriously it threatens official Europe, the Europe of Governments and of Courts.

Let Europe reflect upon this state of things! As for ourselves, we are only anxious to prove, that this violent deed of the three Northern Powers...

Colonial and Foreign Intelligence.

INDIA. Indian papers and letters in anticipation of the arrival of the Indian news...

Some most extraordinary instances of gambling in opium have occurred in the course of the month. The Bombay bargains are usually made contingently on Calcutta quotations of the Government sales...

FRANCE.

The rise of prices at Nantes has caused much excitement, and the Prefect had despatched two companies of infantry to Juigne, where some disturbances had arisen.

The National de l'Ouest states, that the distress is so great in the neighbourhood of Roscoff, in consequence of the high price of provisions...

SPAIN.

The Madrid papers contain little news worth recording. It would appear, however, that the movements of the Carlists in the provinces, had begun to cause some uneasiness in the capital.

PORTUGAL.

Count das Antas, with the forces under his command, after the defeat of those under Count Bonfim at Torres Vedras, retired to Oporto...

POLAND.

POLISH FRONTIERS, JAN. 10.—The number of Russian troops in the Kingdom of Poland is increasing in a remarkable manner...

ITALY.

Letters from Rome of the 14th inst. state that the Pope regarded a sermon on the preceding day, in which he alluded to the Pope's death...

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

New York papers to the 4th, and Boston papers to the 5th have been received.

IMPORTANT VOTES.—WAR AND TAXES REPELLED.

The House having been appealed to to support the war, by supplying the Government with the means for carrying on the war...

LETTERS FROM LONDON.

The Zentzia arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday afternoon, bringing New York papers of the 6th inst.

SIGNIFICANT.

The special reporter of the Cork Examiner mentions the complete discontinuance of marriages in that county.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

On Monday afternoon as the express train from Exeter arrived at Paddington at half-past four, was passing the signal at Southall...

The twelve o'clock express train from Exeter arrived at Southall about a quarter-past four o'clock, and on Monday, in due course, it passed that station within a few moments of its proper time.

Metropolitan Intelligence.

PALEONTOLOGICAL OPERATIONS IN THE LONDON HOSPITALS. Mr. H. G. Johnson, of St. George's Hospital, has amputated the leg of a man while under the influence of ether...

WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—This institution was again on Wednesday the scene of some operations on patients while under the influence of etheric vapour.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF THE ION, CHARLES STUART.—On Monday evening, Mr. Bedford, the Coroner for Westminster, held an inquest at the Queen's Head Tavern, Queen-street, St. James's...

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN MOORFIELDS.—On Monday morning, at an early hour, a fire, nearly attended with loss of life, broke out at the Dyers Arms public-house, 58, Long-alley, Moorfields.

SUICIDIAL NIJANCE.—Between one and two o'clock on Monday, a lad named Thomas Radcliffe, aged sixteen, was knocked down opposite the Adelaide Hotel, London-bridge, and gored by an ox...

EXTRAORDINARY SUICIDE.—On Tuesday, an inquest was taken before Mr. B. Baker, at the Telegraph public-house, Hawkin's street, Mile-end, Old Town, on the body of a man named William Holdsworth...

SUICIDE BY OXALIC ACID.—On Tuesday, Mr. G. Mills, the Deputy Coroner, held an inquest at the Marlborough Arms, Francis-street, Tottenham-court-road, on the body of Sarah Brown, aged 27.

LIVERPOOL, WEDNESDAY.—A great gale has been exerted on our morning by the strong wind from the north-east, which has blown from the north-east...

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