

The following interesting document has been placed in our hands, written by one of the inhabitants of Greenhill's Rents, near Smithfield; and as it throws some light upon the state of the slaughterhouse.

the neighbourhood of Smithfield, and their awful filthy condition, it shall be given *verbatim* in literature :—

‘ TO THE GENTLEMEN COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

‘ We, the respectful Inhabitants of Greenbills Road, Smithfield Bars, have taken the liberty of applying to You, and humbly beg for your kind Assistance in

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siveness that arises from those Scurvy
 houses, Together from the Noise from the Cattle
 Cannot keep our Apartments so long Together,
 Our Lodgers Complain and tell us that they can
 Sleep for the Noise Of the Beasts. And likewise
 Scurvy Stench that Arises from those sheds and P
 mises, the Doctor Says it is Enough to Cause a
 Gentleman, in the next place, there is at the E
 part of the Third House from the Corner of Greenhill
 Rents, A Very large Slaughter house, where they
 a great quantity Of Bullocks, And the quantity Of Bl
 and Filth that they Wash down the Drain it runs
 the Water Closets belonging to the Inhabitants of
 Adjoining Houses of Greenhill's Rents, and cau

This paper has fourteen signatures attached to it, 'Well may the poor complete, and gladly avail themselves of an opportunity of making their sorrows known.' 'This artless, but faithful picture of the horrors would fain see banished from our city, tells, with painful truth, what a more classic compensation would adequately to describe. The bullocks on a level with and within six inches of the kitchens; the parlours wasted by the calves and pigs; and the bed-rooms

ade by sheep, and all this piled upon a filthy underground pig slaughter-house. No wonder the poor lodgers should refuse to live in such a pest-house, or that filth and stench should be deemed by the medical men as likely to produce fever.'—(From John Bull's Pamphlet on the Horrors of Smithfield.)

THE TEN HOURS ACT.

MANCHESTER, MONDAY.—The recent adverse decision of the magistrates of this district, in reference to the working of relays, and the general adoption

that system the masters, has caused the factious hands of this city to take measures to protect Factory Acts. On Saturday night a meeting of wards of seventy delegates from the several mills was held at the Woodman's Hut Tavern, Great Coats. Mr Charles Hindley, M.P. for Ashton, attended the meeting.

The chair was occupied by Mr DALY, an operative, who briefly stated the objects of the meeting, & then called upon Mr Hindley to address the delegates.

Mr CHARLES HINDLEY, M.P., then came forward and observed that it was exceedingly desirable that they should have a distinct notion of what they were about. The history of the Factory Act, was known to them all. They should not disguise from themselves that they had a strong conviction that the Government of the United Kingdom was doing all in its power to prevent the unwholesome toil of a great many adults. At the same time he was not prepared to predict it would have been possible to secure such

amount of adult male labour as to work more than ten hours per day. But what was the result? There had a great many adult males employed four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen and sixteen hours per day. (Hear, hear.) Against this the Act afforded no protection; and candidly admitted that, if either Lord Ashley, Fielding, or himself were to go to the House of Commons and propose a Bill to protect adult males in factories, he would be laughed at. He said, "I told it was an invasion of the right of an employer to prevent a man from working as long as he pleased." Under the prosperous circumstances in which they were likely to be, this practice would very probably extend to a greater degree than at present. (Hear, hear.) He told them, with pain and anxiety,

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suppose that that was the intention of the master to employ relays of adult males. (Hear, hear.) But it was not at all necessary for their purposes; but what they intended was to get the adult males to work the whole of the time, and to make their labourers give up the machine, joining it to the relay system. (Hear.) The question divided itself into two parts: the first was, the observation itself, which was in many instances most flagrantly falsified; secondly, the question was, whether the relays should not take a position for themselves, and ascertain whether by common consent they could not form a union which should determine that the adult males of Manchester and its vicinity would not work more than ten hours a day. (Applause.) He (Mr H. H. Hey) felt that the great majority of the masters of the relays they might be anxious to make the masters of their capital, were not unwilling to work ten hours a day; and he thought they knew that their competitors in business were compelled to do the same—(Hear, hear)—but let him put it to them, as Englishmen, whether it was right to force on them

hours a day, and to leave another master to work fifteen hours a day? (Cries of 'No, no.')

If master was not upon the same footing with another it was impossible for him to maintain his ground. (Hear, hear.)

Of the two masters which would he wish to see maintain his ground—the humane master, willing to work ten hours a day, or the other?

who, trampling on all the rights and feelings of humanity, was determined to screw out of flesh and blood the last penny? (Cries of 'The ten hour master.') He (Mr Hindley) wanted them to suppose those masters, to say to the world that whatever done for one should be done for all. (Hear, hear.) Why not be just to Mr A. as well as to Mr B. ?—if Mr B. was to work fifteen hours, at

master in Manchester should work fifteen hours or more (Hear, hear.) Let them say this under the direction of men with authority and influence, and they will not say it in vain. (Hear, hear.) As far as we (Hindley) could ascertain, there was a universal feeling in favour of the Ten Hours system. (Hear, hear.) We were to have the assurance of those who were present that the operatives of Manchester and vicinity were in favour of the Ten Hours system.

Mr JOHNSON then read the subjoined resolution agreed to at a meeting of delegates from the various mills in Manchester and Salford :—' That we, operative cotton spinners of Manchester, Salford, &c., do hereby declare our approval of the principles of the Ten Hours Act, and our unanimous determination never to remain satisfied until such made effect' by the Legislature.'

Mr HINDLEY.—If this was the feeling of the body of the people of Manchester, it was right that feeling should be carried into effect; and I was convinced that the great mass of the people were in favour of the Ten Hours Bill. He would not say that every man he would not say that every man should button that at the end of his coat, and walk about in the streets, and take up by the middle classes, for the same reason being altered they were compelled to make laws which would render unable

pur themselves, (Hear.) At present he did not think it was desirable they should petition Parliament to alter their act and he had not the slightest doubt that the interpretation given to the act by the two recent decisions was erroneous. (Hear, hear.) Several delegates addressed the meeting, assuming Mr Hindley that all the hands in the mills in which they worked were in favour of ten hours a day. The SECRETARY to the Short Time Committee

pressed the pleasure which he felt at seeing the
tory workers of Manchester assume their proper
position, and evince their determination to hold
they had got, and improve what was improvable
the Ten Hours Act.

At the suggestion of the SECRETARY, a resolution
was passed, asserting the desirability of forming
an association of factory workers for the protection
the Ten Hours Act. A resolution was also passed
authorising the committee for the protection of
Ten Hours Act to call a public meeting of the fac-
tory workers of Manchester, Salford, and their vicin-
ity for the purpose of forming such an association, and
alluded to in the former resolution.

