

The Northern Star, AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

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NATIONAL ANTI-POOR-LAW PROVIDENT AND BENEVOLENT UNION.

My Beloved Countrymen, As I long since predicted the time has arrived, when slander and unblushing falsehood would be stripped of its offensive and destructive power...

Yes, my countrymen, you will have to repent for your unjust course of war and many others whose struggle for their country's liberty has been set down to hostility by your religion, your principles, and your cause...

In 1841 you would have assassinated me for proclaiming opinions, the truth of which you have now learned, and for the right of expressing which you are now stoutly contending.

It is nationhood to extract a large revenue from a starving people upon the pretext of its necessity to acquire power as the means of achieving their rights, and then to sell that power to their enemies?

It is nationhood to teach the people that their fifty years' tuition was but to serve the purposes of one family and its dependents?

It is nationhood to acknowledge one temporal supremacy and sway of a nation professing a totally different faith?

It is nationhood to denounce castle subservency as the basest and most servile slavery, and then to become a portion of the vice-regal kitchen; panders at the Vice-King's table, and toadies at his miniature court and mimic pageant?

It is nationhood to beg for what your teacher told you three years ago you were prepared to take?

It is nationhood to lie, to slander, revile and denounce those who follow the precepts they have been taught during the whole of life?

It is nationhood to promise a brave people liberty as their reward for tranquility and obedience, and then to disband the national force when the spoils of victory was within their reach?

It is nationhood to make a people's blood boil with recitals of the butchery of their ancestors, to ascribe their degradation to the force and fraud of their enemies and oppressors, to boast of physical force enough to re-conquer their lost rights and liberties, and then preach passive obedience and non-resistance as the national creed?

It is nationhood to forge, rivet, and hug the chains of slavery? Or, is it nationhood to proclaim weakness, ask for co-operation and then renounce assistance?

It is nationhood to foster anti-English prejudices with the view of perpetuating a profitable traffic in Irish grievances?

It is nationhood to appeal to cold old blood, when every vein and artery should be fired with hot and young enthusiasm?

It is nationhood to brave, bluster, bully and defy in the hour of security, and to be found skulking at the Castle gates when hunger, pestilence, famine and danger threaten?

weakness which you have been taught to look upon as your opportunity?

Is it nationhood to promise your country as a reward of your long and patient suffering, and then to carry the begging plate humbly to the Castle-gate or Stranger's Lodge for alms to purchase your forbearance?

Is it nationhood to shut the young blood from Ireland's heart, that her betrayer may plead its coldness in justification of his own treason?

Is it a nationhood to build a temple of liberty with your money and exclude all expression of your sentiments from it?

Nationhood means a wall of mind, of blood, bone and sinew around national institutions accepted by the whole people, and for their safeguard you have been taught to substitute the dictates of an autocrat.

Is it nationhood to throw the apple of discord into your own camp, when the very contingency you were told to pant for had arrived?

Is it nationhood to fritter down a representation of the national mind in the House of Commons from 43 to nothing, when you were taught to rely upon moral force only?

Is there no fine feeling, no manly sentiment, involved in a great national struggle for liberty, and is it nationhood to drink your greatest oppressor and tyrant's health, his glorious, pious, and immortal memory, in the waters of that river upon whose banks your chains were riveted?

Is it nationhood to extract a large revenue from a starving people upon the pretext of its necessity to acquire power as the means of achieving their rights, and then to sell that power to their enemies?

Is it nationhood to teach the people that their fifty years' tuition was but to serve the purposes of one family and its dependents?

Is it nationhood to acknowledge one temporal supremacy and sway of a nation professing a totally different faith?

Is it nationhood to denounce castle subservency as the basest and most servile slavery, and then to become a portion of the vice-regal kitchen; panders at the Vice-King's table, and toadies at his miniature court and mimic pageant?

Is it nationhood to beg for what your teacher told you three years ago you were prepared to take?

Is it nationhood, or even manhood, to become a national juggler, twisting grievances into profitable excitement, and dashing from you the means of redress when it was within your reach?

Is it nationhood to lie, to slander, revile and denounce those who follow the precepts they have been taught during the whole of life?

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Is it nationhood to bear oppression one moment beyond the power of the oppressed to shake it off by the same means by which it was imposed?

If such has been the definition of nationhood that you have learned from your Repeal Dictionary, all I can say is, from such nationhood Good Lord deliver me and my country.

Belgium, with less than one-half of Ireland's population, is an independent nation; and Belgium is only separated from Holland by a stream, and from Prussia by a tollbar.

Switzerland, with not a third of Ireland's population, is a nation; and only separated from France by a landmark, and from Italy by an arch; while Ireland rocks as a cradle in the midst of ocean, which her usurpers have, from time to time, been compelled to fence, not for native protection, but to maintain a sep-mother's sway over her reluctantly-adopted child.

I tell you more, that every sincere Irishman in the world means separation, with the Charter to ensure and perpetuate.

Talk not to me of unity of interest, and identity of justice, between a conquering and a conquered people living under the same government.

Canada has its parliament, Botany Bay has its parliament; but the King, Lords, and Commons of England, and their representatives for the time being, have the power of controlling or annulling the Acts of their Parliament; and, I would ask, can Ireland boast of nationhood upon the grounds that her people are represented at home by usurpers, and abroad by overseers? I say No, a thousand times—No.

My countrymen, the first step in the road to liberty is, the schooling of the national mind in the value of the jewel; the mode of acquiring it, and the means by which it may be preserved.

And, now, if you are in truth prepared for sober discussion, let us begin with a consideration of your progress from infancy to old age; in fact, for the whole of a long life of learning, as your Liberator boasts of a fifty years' tuition, the promised result of which was to be

It is nationhood to shout, throw your hats, and applaud, when you are offered as hired murderers; to shed the blood of your fathers, brothers, friends, and relatives, in a struggle of King, Lords, and Commons, against American republicanism, to maintain and preserve the very ascendancy that you have been taught to hate, detest, and abhor?

It is nationhood to pin you to a declaration of moral force only as a means of achieving your liberty, while those means have been annually weakened and frittered away, by the sale of counties, cities, and boroughs, of the national representation of which you were taught to expect redemption?

seen the worse than folly of political excitement without a tangible, cheering, and universal, social prospect being appended to it?

My countrymen, all parties are now talking and writing about the value of your land, if your labour was applied to it for their benefit.

You are well aware that Mr. Hume professes to be a very eminent calculator; and you know that Mr. O'Connell is no fool.

He who, a day or two before this magic deputation visited him, said "That these very men TRAFFICKED in the BLOOD OF CHILDREN, that they shed the BLOOD OF BRITISH INFANTS FOR MONEY."

This is what the juggler would call "mending the old shoe"—putting "ruffles to the shirt"; this is putting a leg of mutton upon the spit.

Heaven! what a sight it would be to see the first hundred Irish freemen going to take possession of the land, from which their ancestors were ejected by physical force.

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LETTER VIII. TO THE IRISH RESIDING IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Fellow Countrymen, In order that you should understand this question rightly, it is necessary that I should enter upon it fully.

There is a great deal of misapprehension about the Factory Question as well as the Factory Bribe. Some people are, and, indeed, may still are, under the impression that Mr. O'Connell's vote against the factory children, for which he got the £1000 Bribe, was given on the occasion of "Mr. Fielden's Ten Hours' Bill," but Mr. Fielden had not brought in any bill on the subject.

Mr. O'Connell's vote against the factory children was given on Tuesday the 10th of May, 1836, on the second reading of Mr. POULETT THOMPSON'S FACTORY ACT AMENDMENT BILL; the object of which was to repeal the main part of the Government Act, passed in 1833.

This Act (the 3. and 4. William 4. cap. 103) was passed in August, 1833, to prevent the horrible torture which children were proved to have suffered in manufactories for a very long time.

It was proved that, prior to the passing of this Act, children of ten years of age worked THIRTEEN HOURS A DAY in the factories. The surgeons and physicians of England denounced this system, and declared that the factory Masters who forced children of such tender years to work even ten hours a day were infamously wicked.

Mr. O'Connell, with that eloquence for which he is so pre-eminently distinguished, roused the indignation of the citizens of London against the Factory System.

He said, that shedding the blood of the holy innocents was not half so inhuman as the cruelties practised upon little children in the manufacturing districts of England.

King Herod did not, like the manufacturers of England, the proud cotton lords, shed the blood of children for money? Bear this honest language in mind, my countrymen, and contrast it with what O'Connell said after he got the £1000 from those who had previously denuded as more cruel and inhuman than Herod, "men, who for money, shed the blood of infants?"

No one can forget that Mr. O'Connell was in 1836 what is called a "thick and thin" supporter of the Whig administration. He entered into a compact with that faction. It was called the "Lichfield House Compact"; the conditions of which were, that Mr. O'Connell should give his cordial support to the Whig Ministry; the Ministry in return giving to him the whole Irish patronage.

Now the Right Honourable Poulett Thompson was M.P. for Manchester and President of the Board of Trade, and consequently one of the Ministry which Mr. O'Connell was bound to support. The Act which Mr. Thompson attempted to Repeal, though passed in August, 1833, had not come fully into operation till the first of March, 1836.

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The only excuse I ever heard him make for having given this vote against the Factory children—children who, he had often and often said, were sacrificed on the altar of the Factory Moloch, was that the deputation from Manchester had convinced him, that unless Mr. Thompson's Amendment Act were passed, upwards of thirty-five thousand children would be thrown out of employment.

Now, my friends, bear in mind, and keep steadily in view, that at this period a subscription was going on in England, Ireland, and Scotland, for the purpose of indemnifying Mr. O'Connell for the costs incurred by the City of Dublin Election; that Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., was Treasurer for Great Britain; that the Duke of Bedford subscribed £100, and that there was a general and a particular or special subscription in Manchester; the general subscription being for the purpose of screening the special or manufacturers' subscription.

Just think of this deputation of manufacturers convincing Mr. O'Connell, and Mr. Hume his Treasurer, that if the HOURS OF LABOUR were shortened one-third a day that the Factory children would be thrown out of employment; convincing Mr. O'Connell so thoroughly, that, on the very day of the interview with those bearers of the £1000, he in his place in Parliament, designated that as a mongrel species of humanity which, while it professed to shorten the hours of Labour, would throw those children out of employment; altogether; "this," said he, "is SPURIOUS HUMANITY!"

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NATIONAL ANTI-POOR-LAW PROVIDENT AND BENEVOLENT UNION.

At a public meeting convened to promote the objects of this institution, was held on Thursday afternoon, in the large room of the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor in the chair.

Mr. B. B. CARROLL, M.P., one of the chief founders of the Institution, detailed the proposed plan to alleviate if not remove the distress and sufferings of the poor.

It prevailed amongst the working classes of the country. In the early part of the last session it was admitted by many public men, nay, even by the Queen herself in the speech from the throne, that the new poor law had been found to be not only defective, but in some respects cruel and oppressive, and yet the session closed without any decisive steps being taken to remedy the evil.

It was mainly owing to this fact that they were indebted for the formation of a society whose chief object was to devise means for bettering the condition of the working classes of the country, and he was happy to inform the meeting, that since its foundation at St. Albans only a month ago, communications had been made to the office of the church and leaders of the clergy, the majority of whom approved of the objects of the society, and promised to use their influence in its attainment.

It was not then intended to seek to abolish the Poor Law, but to induce the rich to come forward and assist the poor, who were anxious to do the best to relieve themselves, to steer clear of the Poor-law. He might mention that seventy-five young ladies, who had been brought up in the lap of luxury, and who had till the evening of their lives filled the offices of governesses in the highest families of the kingdom, had applied to the society for relief.

They could only afford to live on three; and what, let him ask, was to become of the other seventy-two? They could not go to one of the almshouses, for they were too young to be received there; and he hoped the City of London would not be backward in supporting it.

A resolution approving of the principle was, on the motion of Mr. L. Hensard seconded by Mr. Wire, unanimously agreed to, and the meeting was subsequently addressed by several gentlemen who have frequently distinguished themselves in advocating the cause of the poor.

A vote of thanks was afterwards carried by acclamation to the chairman, and the meeting which was numerously attended, broke up.

Central Criminal Court.

On Monday, William Vine was sentenced to transportation for seven years, for attempting to extort money from William Stoddart, a companion named Webb was tried last session for the same offence, and transported.

The prosecutor was walking across Hyde Park in the evening, when he was assailed by the accused parties, who threatened to accuse him of an atrocious offence, unless he complied with their demand for £500 Guineys.

John Brown, who was accused by John Cook of indecent assault, surrendered to his bail. The prosecutor prevailed grossly, and gave a very unsatisfactory account of himself, and the jury without hearing the counsel for the defendant, returned a verdict of Guilty.

On Monday, the first day of Michaelmas term, Sir F. Theagar, on behalf of Mr. G. C. Lewis, one of the Poor Law Commissioners, moved for a rule to show cause why Lewis should not be granted to Mr. Lewis to file a criminal information against Mr. W. B. Ferrand, M.P., for two letters published by Mr. Ferrand in the Times newspaper of the 8th and 10th of August last.

These letters Mr. Ferrand had admitted to be his. They referred to the celebrated Motz enquiry into the alleged irregularities at the Bridgwater Union, and charged Sir J. Graham with having instigated a false report to be used to the damage of Mr. Ferrand in Parliament, and also Mr. Lewis with having been guilty of wilful falsehood and perjury in the evidence he gave before the Anderson Union Committee.

Sir F. Theagar stated he had affidavits from Sir James and Mr. Lewis, denying the truth of the allegations against them. The Court granted the rule.

A BASE SHILLING.—Margaret Murphy, an Irish girl, was placed at the bar before the Recorder, to receive the sentence of the Court upon an indictment charging her with unlawfully uttering a counterfeit shilling, to which she pleaded guilty at the last session of the Court.

There is a very amusing correspondence, upon the subject of this bribe, between Mr. O'Connell, Mr. George Condy, Mr. J. Bell, and Mr. Oastler, arising out of the publication of the following paragraph in Blackwood's Magazine for July, 1836, page 126.

The second reading of Mr. P. Thompson's Factory Amendment Bill was ably contested on the 10th of May 1836, at the hour of eleven, and the speaker, Mr. Ashley, the Right Hon. H. Goulburn, Messrs. P. Alden, Brotherton, and other friends of the factory children, who we can do no more than refer, was carried by a majority of two, the members being 178 for, and 176 against the bill.

Mr. O'Connell has been speaking against him and against the friends of the bill, to the indignation and scorn of all men, he has been voting against him and against the friends of the bill, to the indignation and scorn of all men, he has been voting against him and against the friends of the bill, to the indignation and scorn of all men.

It was this mistake about the mere handling over of the money, and the error of £200 in the amount, that led to the correspondence above alluded to, the publication of which, one day or other, will not be uninteresting, especially as, under the hand and seal of the "August Moral Force Regenerator, there are strong symptoms of fighting, in which Mr. P. Costello, of Kilkenny, Mr. George Condy, of Manchester, the Liberator himself, and a Captain Bell, have cut a conspicuous, if not ludicrous figure.

Having now, fellow countrymen, fulfilled my promise, I trust to the entire satisfaction of every honest and sound thinking man, I shall for the present take my leave of you, with the assurance that I have been influenced in this correspondence by no other motive than an ardent desire to prove to you the folly of relying upon any man instead of principles of which your conscience approves, and your judgment and understanding sanction.

DUBLIN, 23rd October, 1846. PATRICK O'HIGGINS.

MR. FEARGUS O'CONNOR AND HIS COUNTRYMEN. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN



Poetry.

"THROUGH." A song for the brave working men of Geneva, which may be sung by any people who find the words suit their condition.

Have returned to attempt new aggressions upon human rights, and perpetrate new audacities against the liberties of the people.

BEAUTIES OF BYRON.

THE VISION OF JUDGMENT. We have not room to notice many more of Southey's "blasphemies;" the following is said of George III.

Varieties.

FRY-SOVEREIGN PIRCES.—Some five-voiced pieces have lately been struck at the Royal Mint by Mr. Fry.

General Intelligence.

A WALK AT HULL.—A whale measuring 51 feet has been captured in the Humber by the crew of a small boat.

THE SONS OF ISRAHIM PACHA are now under the care of Dr. Heldenbrand, president of the Pestalozzian school, at Woking, in Nottinghamshire.

Reviews.

TAIT'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE. NOVEMBER. Edinburgh: W. Tait, Prince's Street. London: Simpkin and Marshall.

THE article headed "Passages in the Life of a Literary Blackguard" will disappoint those who may expect to find in its columns revelations of any present or recent celebrities.

SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE. No. 10. London: Simpkin and Marshall, Barge Yard, Bucklersbury.

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THE TEN HOURS' BILL. THE FACTORY KING'S TOUR.

We understand that preparations are being made throughout Yorkshire to re-commence the Short Time agitation on a most extensive scale. The following is Mr. OSTLER'S intended route, commencing next week:—

Mr. OSTLER will also visit Huddersfield and Knaresborough, but the arrangements as regards those places are not yet completed.

WEEKLY REVIEW.

The Irish news this week presents one or two new features. The intimation a week or two since that the potato crop had fallen, after being generally given up, seems now to be confirmed from various quarters, and the statement that they have fallen considerably in the Dublin market appears to be an additional corroboration of the fact.

Trade does not mend in the manufacturing districts, the voice of triumph over the Great Free Trade victory has scarcely subsided into silence; the banners which fluttered over triumphal processions are barely folded, when short time and low wages in the midst of scarcity and high prices, is announced as an indispensable and unavoidable course of action.

We must return to a more natural and healthy system. Agriculture is the only true basis of national wealth and prosperity. It ought to be the primary occupation of the people. Manufactures, mines, fisheries, &c., are each and all essential elements, but they ought to be kept in due proportion.

The Municipal Elections took place on Monday, without producing any feature calling for extended notice. At Leeds, two Chartists Councillors were turned out, and the council is now composed of the usual mixture—Whigs and Tories.

Parliament was, on Wednesday, prorogued till the 12th of January, without any intimation that it was then to meet for the dispatch of business; so that a special session is now put out of the category of political speculation, and the lease of the Whig Cabinet lengthened, at all events to the end of January.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—The following extensive improvements in the vicinity of Leicester-square will commence, it is expected, early in the present month. The whole of Upper St. Martin's-lane is to be demolished, and a street 100 feet wide to be formed, to be ultimately carried through the heart of the Seven Dials to Tottenham-court-road.

TO MR. HOOK WHO RECENTLY WORKED ON HERRINGSGATE FARM.

Sir,—I have heard with great sorrow, for your own sake, of your having circulated a report that the work people at Herringsgate had been paid for more time than they had worked, and that some of the materials had been made away with; now, sir, as I am determined to make an example of every person who can be detected in an attempt to injure the Land movement by falsehood or slander, I hereby challenge you to meet me at the South, on Monday, 10th inst. at 9 o'clock, when I will prove to you or any man living to prove that any individual received a penny more than he earned, or that a penny's worth of materials, old or new, was made away with, or unprofitably used. You are a sneaking blackguard—your name is a begging for mercy. I gave you half-a-crown out of my own pocket, as I didn't think myself justified in employing you—you came a second time to London, and I could not get in my way, and you were gone. You were kept in preference to others as long as there was a stitch of work that you could do, and now your reward to the society is poor pettifogging falsehood. I not only invite you, but I invite all others, to prove that there has been the waste of a farthing, or that there has ever been so much work done in England for the money, or better done; and I feel sure you more; that I would not have paid half the attention to work of my own.

F. O'CONNOR.

RECEIPTS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND COMPANY.

Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for Sheffield, per G. Cavill, £1 2 0; Ely, per M. Augier, £1 3 6; Leigh, per J. Dickenson, £1 0 0; etc.

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Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for Soverly, Long-Cole, No. 1, £0 4 0; Soverly, Long-Cole, No. 2, £0 4 0; etc.

Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for City of London, £1 0 0; Kilkenny, £0 1 6; Kildare, £0 1 6; etc.

Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 1, £21 4 1; Mr. Wheeler, £21 9 5; etc.

Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for Crofton, per J. J., £0 1 6; Westminister, £0 2 0; etc.

Table with columns: NAME, SHARES, £, s., d. Includes entries for Soverly, Long-Cole, No. 3, £0 5 0; T. Salmon, £0 0 0; etc.

THE CHARTER AND SURRENDER! MESSRS. M'GRATH AND CLARKE'S TOUR. GREAT MEETING AT BRISTOL. On Wednesday evening, October 23rd, at the hour appointed for the meeting to take place, the Mechanics' Institute was crowded.

On the motion of Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Cooke, Robert Harris, Esq., was called to the chair. Mr. Harris, in a short and powerful address, addressed the meeting in nearly the following words:—My Friends,—If we are asked the cause which has led us to assemble here to-night, I would say it is a highly important one: we have come to discuss a question the most valuable in its relation to the interests of this country. It is the question of the Charter. (Cheers.) Our government—all governments—has been ever since the commencement of the world, and will ever be, until it is overthrown, a power of justice and virtue they may have originally possessed, they departed from, and wrested on the power of the sword for protection and support. (Cheers.)

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At half-past seven, the time for commencing business, Mr. Smith, grocer, was called to the chair, who, after making a few preliminary observations, introduced Mr. M'Grath to the meeting. Mr. M'Grath, in a short and powerful address, addressed the meeting in nearly the following words:—My Friends,—If we are asked the cause which has led us to assemble here to-night, I would say it is a highly important one: we have come to discuss a question the most valuable in its relation to the interests of this country. It is the question of the Charter. (Cheers.)

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RENEWED AGITATION FOR THE CHARTER IN SCOTLAND.

MR. DOYLE'S MISSION. MR. DOYLE DELIVERED A HIGHLY INTERESTING LECTURE HERE ON FRIDAY EVENING, THE 30TH ULT.

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