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TO THE WORKING CLASSES

My Friends,

Do you ever bestow a thought upon the present state of affairs, and do you refer to the past as an omen of the future? Do you recollect that in 1839, the very faction that is now struggling to preserve a profitable existence by the toleration conceded to the dire necessity of the times, was strong enough, bold enough, and insolent enough, to incarcerate and torture 500 working-men, for acts which they are now obliged to look upon as significant of forbearance, and for having predicted the very evils which were sure to result from the system of which they were the upholders? Do you recollect the great power of the bad old man who now shams illness lest he might not be held responsible for ministerial turpitude, which he has been bribed to acquiesce in, and how he tendered the services of 500,000 fighting men to put down the English Chartists? and how he hounded a blood-thirsty Attorney-General on to persecute us? and how he hallooed his blood-hounds on the Chartist missionaries? and how he insulted and sold the trades, and all who confided in him? Yes—you have reason to remember the acts of this assassin of liberty, and you have reason to rejoice that liberty has outlived his power. He never respected the feelings of the living nor the memory of the dead; and, as his name is associated with the darkest acts of the darkest reign of tyranny, I don't see any reason why we should respect his infirmity. Believe me, my friends, that nothing can be more necessary than the constant recital of the deeds of bad men, it teaches others that calamity does not entitle them to forbearance. Well; we have outlived this man's power, and we have survived the treachery of the Whigs—and must not a party be strong and resolute to have overcome two such enemies? I write thus to you, to show you that our power is incipient; that, although not confessed, it is active; and, though not acknowledged, it controls. Behold what a wreck one year's famine has made of an ancient aristocracy and old opinions. See how the young mind of every country in the world is waging incessant war against the prejudices of ages! How young America contends against the scions from the root of corruption, which the revolution did not eradicate! See how the young mind of Prussia has undermined the irresponsible despotism, and how the northern tyrant has been compelled to purchase the co-operation of France, *as a means of resisting the marching conqueror*—DEMOCRACY! And from whence comes the watchword? Why from England and CHARTISM! On my return from the Continent last year, I told you that the despot of Prussia would be the first to bend to the march of mind; and his constitution, meagre though it be, gives ample proof of his inability longer to resist. Monarchs never grant what they need not concede, as each concession is a *stepping-stone* to pass the ford of KING-CRAFT, and therefore *a timely yielding* of a little by them is *earnest of the demands* they anticipate, and indicative of their knowledge or apprehension of coming events. I have often directed your minds to the fact, that no country has a constitution now, and that the present struggle going on all over the world is for the continuance of those means by which the few may yet lord it over the many, but, thanks to the tyranny of the governments, the rule of the few is drawing to a close. Our government, for ages, has been as a young married spendthrift, who was satisfied so long as he could secure enough from dissipation whereon to live, but who, upon the increase of family, finds himself gradually restricted in means, and gradually reconciles himself to comparative degrees of profligacy for their support; this is called patronage; until at length his necessities compel him to look upon robbery as *a right*, and murder to uphold it as a virtue, as patriotism, as loyalty. These are the necessities which govern the conduct of reckless and desperate men, until at length they constitute the basis of the constitution. What a poor man would, not long since, have been hanged for, a needy tool has often been honoured, distinguished, and rewarded for doing, as is well illustrated by the Clown at Batty's Theatre. He says, "If the Queen gets drunk she is animated; if the Duke of Wellington gets drunk he is exhilarated; if Sir Robert Peel gets drunk he is inebriated; if Mr Batty gets drunk he is intoxicated; but if I get tipsy I am drunk or a beast."

Now there could not be a more happy or apt illustration of the degrees of guilt attached to the sins of the wealthy and powerful and to those of the poor and defenceless.

The time rolls on when factions, now curbed by the dread of famine, will throw off a temporary restraint, to insure party ascendancy. When a general election takes place, Peel will forget his allegiance to Russell, and Stanley will avow his opposition to Peel, his former leader. So, in fact, there never was a period when the dissensions of faction offered a fairer prospect of reward to an united party. Out of the seed of party dissension Chartist strength should grow. Aforetime we were told, that the advocates of mere Chartism would have no chance in the House of Commons, because they had no practical ground to work upon. That charge has faded, however, before the Land and Trades' question, each of which are important branches of Chartism, while the success of one or both would materially advance the cause of Democracy. Now observe those results which would be sure to spring from your union, and be prepared to bear your chains tamely and to bend your necks lowly and submissively, if you are not willing to struggle for them. I receive many letters which move me to melancholy laughter. They say, "COME AND ROUSE US." Why, what a reflection! I sorrow over your wrongs, but do not participate in your sufferings: and if those who think they suffer unjustly, and have the power of redress in their own hands, continue to suffer, the act is their own and not their rulers. I tell you, candidly, that I look upon the haughty Whigs as the very fitting rulers for so satisfied a people. There is something very degrading in the fact of SIX MILLION MALE ADULTS eternally reminding a handful of old women, that they are oppressed, and PRAYING their consideration. During the nights of this week, I have written a treatise upon the Land Plan, which will occupy every page of the next number of the "Labourer," and if you do not there see the miniature of the full-length picture which Chartism would present, you have no brains. I have laid down principles which should be advocated in Parliament, and their advocacy would be the advocacy of the PEOPLE'S CHARTER, as you cannot possibly separate social from political rights, and I defy you ever to redeem your political rights until PRICKED ON BY THE SOCIAL SPUR. Men don't want the vote to distinguish a member of one faction from another. Men want the vote to help themselves; and I defy you, by any possible means, to help yourselves otherwise than by the possession of so much raw material as you can manufacture with your own labour; and I defy you to point out any other raw material than the LAND, out of which you can manufacture that which will exchange for every article of production in the known world. Now, if I wrote a volume, I could not give you a better definition of the Land Plan and Chartism, and yet it will go into one ear and out at the other; and you will go on "humbly praying" to others to do for you what, in twelve months, you could do for yourselves. Here would be my petition:—

"*The humble Petition of Feargus O'Connor Esq., to the Industrious Classes.*

"Sheweth,

"That your honourable and useful order have it in your power, within any one year, to redress all the grievances under which poor men suffer, as well as to reform all the abuses under which rich men thrive.

"That by union you may become too politically powerful for any combination of factions; and by prudence you may ensure your own social redemption without the interference of those who have a fixed interest in perpetuating your inferiority.

"That by abstaining from all sorts of dissipation for one year you might become possessors of a sufficiency of land to insure your political equality and social happiness, while your abstinence would compel your rulers to substitute a moral instead of a vicious system of government.

"That your petitioner has just reason to complain of your cruelty and injustice, as he has suffered more than any one of his class from your want of prudence and self-respect.

"That your petitioner requests your honourable order to seek such employment as will remunerate you from the free exercise of free labour, and enable you to educate your family, instead of allowing a system of slave-labour to cast many of your order upon the taxes wrung from the industrious, and submitting to that degradation which is justly attachable to a parent who neglects the education of his family.

"Your petitioner humbly submits to your honourable order, that a very, very slight exertion upon your part would enable you to secure the return of twenty members to the Commons' House of Parliament, who would so advocate your rights as to ensure your social happiness and political equality.

"Your petitioner, therefore, prays your honourable order to pray to be relieved from your own apathy and want of self-confidence, instead of praying to men who wouldn't listen to an angel from heaven, unless he was prepared to sell his labour cheap, and buy their goods dear.

"And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

"FEARGUS O'CONNOR."

Chartist Intelligence.

METROPOLITAN.

BERMONDSEY.—At the weekly meeting of members in this locality it was resolved that a subscription be opened for the veteran Chartist, Richards, to be continued weekly.

CAMBERWELL. — Messrs O'Connor, M'Grath, Clark, Doyle, and T. M. Wheeler, have received the highest number of votes for the executive.

SOMERS TOWN.—On Sunday evening last, Mr Philip M'Grath delivered a lecture on "Public Fasts and Royal Proclamations," at the Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, New Road. The lecture was eloquent, spirited, and instructive, and elicited the applause of a crowded and attentive audience.

SOHO.—The Registration Committee met at 83, Dean-street, on Tuesday evening, March 23, Mr J. Simpson in the chair, when the secretary brought up the report of the sub-committee. The chairman reported that the Camberwell and Walworth friends, as a portion of the borough of Lambeth, had resolved to hold a public meeting in support of Mr Duncombe's motion for a repeal of the rate-paying clauses in the Reform Act. It was resolved that Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., Charles Cochrane, Esq., Col. Thompson, Wm. Simpson, Esq., and Charles Lushington, Esq., be invited to attend the public meeting at the Crown and Anchor Tavern on the 14th day of April next; and that Thos. Wakley, M.P., be invited to resume the chair on the occasion; the committee then adjourned until Tuesday evening next, March the 30th.

WESTMINSTER. — The Chartist and Temperance Debating Society held their usual weekly meeting in the Temperance Hall, Broadway, on Saturday evening last. The large room of the Hall was crowded to excess. Mr Hughes was elected chairman, and opened the business of the evening by reading the subject for discussion, viz:—"The Influence of Machinery." Mr Cathie introduced the subject, and endeavoured to show that to the influence of machinery we owe nearly all the comforts we now enjoy; that so far from throwing men out of employ it had created a demand for labour of all kinds; and that the condition of the working classes generally had been much better since its introduction. Mr Walford next spoke, and in a neat speech contended, that machinery had been exceedingly detrimental to society. Mr Ashe denied that the working manufacturers were benefited either in circumstances or morals by the application of machinery. He did not find fault with the power itself, but with the manner in which it was applied. Mr Irving said that, in Preston, Manchester, Bolton, and other manufacturing towns in the north of England, the upholders of machinery might find sufficient proofs of the direful effects of that inhuman destroyer of infancy and female chastity. He had seen the town of Preston in a flourishing condition; he had known the time when men working in some branches of the cotton manufacture could earn their £2 and £3 per week; when every house in the town was inhabited, and when every inmate was happy—but what was the case now? What had machinery done for them? Why, this. The man who previously earned £3 or £3 per week could not now earn more than 6s. or 7s. in the same time, and had to do twice the amount of work for this miserable pittance. Mr Trumble replied, and contended that anything which produced more wealth by lessening physical labour was a blessing, and if it became a curse it was the result of other causes. It was the duty of the people to make machinery their servant, and not their tyrant, and he thought the best way to do so was to get it into their own hands by means of co-operation. Mr Bowler denounced machinery as a decided opponent to the best interests of the people. Mr Bater next addressed the meeting in a brief speech, after which Mr Cathie rose to wind up the debate, and in a clear and masterly speech refuted many of the arguments advanced by his opponents. Mr C. sat down amid much applause. The chairman then announced the subject for discussion next Saturday evening, viz,—"The best means of appropriating the Land for the benefit of the People." At the close of the meeting several new members were enrolled.

WESTMINSTER.—At a meeting of the members of this locality on Sunday evening, March 21, the following persons were placed in nomination for the *executive for the ensuing year*:—Feargus O'Connor, P. M'Grath, T. M. Wheeler, E. Jones, S. Kidd, T. Clark, and C. Doyle.

PROVINCIAL.

BILSTON.—At a meeting of members on Sunday last, the case of Mr Richards was brought before the meeting, when it was resolved, that he be invited to spend a few weeks in the neighbourhood, several friends having volunteered his maintenance. Eight shillings were collected towards his expenses. Mr Linney has kindly consented to visit any place within twenty miles of Bilston, on receiving three days' notice, to get up a good benefit for Mr Richards.

CROYDON.—*At a meeting held at Mr Loveday's Temperance Hotel, Surrey-street, on Monday evening, a number of persons resolved to join the National Charter Association* Mr T. Frost was elected subtreasurer, and Mr Wm. Hodges, sub-secretary.

MANCHESTER.—People's Institute, March 21.—Mr Grocott opened the meeting by reading Mr O'Connor's letter. Mr Marsden, from Preston, then commenced his lecture, by observing that society in all ages had been based upon an irrational foundation. The selfish ignorance of mankind added to endless infractions of Nature's laws; these infractions had caused the downfal of nations. Rulers and capitalists had invariably combined against liberty, and when the people were wanting in virtue and intelligence, they became serfs and slaves. The lecturer, after describing the abominations of Feudalism, and the evils of the present system of Mammonism, concluded an argumentative and eloquent discourse, by showing that Co-operation, was the grand lever for the elevation of the people. Mr Rankine and Mr Cooper followed with a few remarks. The proceedings were altogether instructive and interesting.

SHEFFIELD.—The West Testimonial Committee met on Saturday evening, in the Democratic Temperance Room, Mr Thomas Peacock in the chair, when, on the motion of Mr Royston, seconded by Mr Holmes, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"It is with feelings of deepest regret, that this committee view the present apathy of the people, as shown towards one of their able, if not the very ablest advocates, viz., Mr John West, a man who has been persecuted and prosecuted, both by his employers and the government, and has made sacrifices that have come to the knowledge of this committee, which, in their estimation, justify them in making an appeal on the behalf of Mr West; and to endeavour, by subscription, to present him with a testimonial of their respect and gratitude." After the issuing of collecting books, the meeting adjourned to Saturday, March the 27th, at 8 o'clock.

TAVISTOCK. — The Chartists, and shareholders of the Land Company held, last week, their annual Tea-party in the Temperance Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The temperance band was in attendance and discoursed excellent music during the tea, as also during the public meeting. After the tea party, which was most numerously attended, and gave general satisfaction, the public were admitted to the Hall, and Dr Smealy, being called to the chair, opened the proceedings by ably illustrating the six points of the Charter. Mr R. Hole and others having addressed the meeting, in eloquent and forcible speeches, the chairman introduced Mr Ernest Jones, who (the audience containing a large number of the middle classes) entered into a full and able exposition of the injustice they (the middle classes) were, conjointly with the upper classes, inflicting on the poor, and the remedy for the latter, contained in the Charter and the Land. The address was hailed with frequent bursts of applause, and, after the usual votes of thanks, the meeting separated with three cheers for the Charter and the Land, highly delighted with the evening's proceedings.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

BRADFORD.—Members will meet to-morrow, Sunday afternoon, at the large room, Butterworth-buildings, at 2 o'clock.

CAMBERWELL.—A public meeting will be held at the Hall, 9, East-street, Walworth, in favour of a repeal of the ratepaying clauses in the Reform Act, on Wednesday April 7, 1847. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock.

COVENTRY DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held on *Tuesday evening, March 30th*, at half-past 7, at the infant school, Greyfriars-lane, to adopt the National Petition.

HULL.—The Chartists will meet at the Ship-inn, Church-lane, to-morrow evening, at 6 o'clock.

MANCHESTER.—Mr J. G. Clark will lecture in the People's Institute, Heyrod-street, Ancoats, on Sunday March 28th, Mr C. Doyle is invited to lecture in the Peoples's Institute, on Good Friday, April 2nd, at 10 A.M.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr J. F. Linden will lecture at the Coach Painters' Arms, Circus-street, on Sunday *evening next, March 28th*. Subject:—"Natural and Political Economy." To commence at half-past seven precisely.

NORTON FALGATE.—Mr Gathard will lecture at the Pewter Platter, White-Lion-street, on Tuesday next at 8 o'clock. The committee for getting up Mitchell's late benefit, are requested to attend.

ROCHDALE.—The Chartist Council will meet next Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, in their room in Mill-street. A Tea Party and Ball will take place on Easter Tuesday, in the Socialist Room, Yorkshire-street.

SHEFFIELD.—An address will be delivered on Sunday evening next, in the Democratic Temperance room. Subject: "The Government Plan of Education." Chair taken at 7 o'clock.

SPITALFIELDS.—A Concert will be held at the Weavers'-arms, Pelham-street, on Easter Wednesday, at 8 o'clock, in aid of the funds of the Eastern Philanthropic Society. The "Sons of Freedom" will meet on Easter Monday, at 8 o'clock, at the above house. The Silk Weavers' branch of the United Trades' Association will meet on Saturday, the 27th instant, at 9 o'clock, at the White-hart, Hare-street.

SOHO.—Mr John Skelton will lecture at 83, Dean-street, on Sunday evening next, March 28th, at half-past seven o'clock. Subject: "Progressive Civilization."

SOUTH LONDON HALL.—Mr Ernest Jones will lecture as above on Sunday evening (to-morrow), at 8 o'clock precisely. Subject: "Chartism."

THE LATE PUBLIC FARCE.—The committee appointed to get up the tea party at the White Conduit House Tavern on the 24th inst. will meet at the office, 83, Dean-street Soho, on Wednesday evening next, at 8 o'clock, when all who have tickets or money relative thereto, are especially requested to attend.

National Land Company.

METROPOLITAN.

CAMBERWELL AND WALWORTH.—A numerous meeting of this district of the Land Company was held at Harrison's Assembly Rooms, East-lane, Walworth, on Monday evening, March 22. Mr C. Wild was called to the chair, when a discussion arose on the merits of two, three, and four acres of land, during which Mr O'Connor's letter to a Plymouth correspondent was read amid much applause. During the debate a Mrs Barton took out two shares (two acres), declaring that from her knowledge, derived from following agricultural pursuits, that a man, his wife and family, could obtain an excellent living from two acres of land. The discussion on these points gave the greatest satisfaction. This was followed by a discussion on the merits of the National Co-operative Benefit Society, as an auxiliary to the National Land Company. The society was greatly approved, and several persons immediately enrolled. This thriving district holds its meetings every Monday evening, at the above rooms.

FINSBURY.—On Sunday last a locality was formed, which will meet every Monday night at Mr Granger's, No. 1, Prospect-place, Upper Barnsbury-street, Liverpool-road. Mr Gilbert was elected sub-secretary, and Mr Mumford, sub-treasurer.

LAMBETH DISTRICT.—The following resolution has been passed:—"Resolved, that as a subscription of 3d. per week from the 12,000 members comprising the Land Company, would in one year amount to nearly £8,000, we hereby call upon the directors to suggest to the members immediately to commence paying into the Bank any sum, even a penny a week, and as much more as possible; but that interest shall not begin until the sum amount to 20s. paid by any person, and that the Company have the benefit of the money so paid until that time, and then interest, at three and a half per cent., be paid upon as many pounds as any person may have paid in, and, in the event of any member of the Land Company not being able to pay up his share, and who shall have paid twenty shillings, the sum at which interest is proposed to be paid, shall have the option either of taking the interest proposed, or in payment of his unpaid share."

PROVINCIAL.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—At the last meeting of shareholders the following resolutions were passed:—"That the offer made to persons not shareholders in the company, with small capitals, will open a wide field for persons who have taken no interest in the welfare of the company, and draw very largely on Mr O'Connor's time and energy, to the detriment of the working classes."—"That we consider the Land Purchase Department of the Bank should be confined to those already shareholders, and who can find the money to purchase 20, or any number of allotments, and thereby draw off the competition at the Ballot."

BIRMINGHAM.—At a meeting of No. 3 Branch, Birmingham district, Mr Greaves in the chair, a resolution was passed repudiating and denouncing the article in Chambers' Journal, against the Land movement, which resolution was ordered to be forwarded to the Messrs Chambers. A resolution was also passed approving of the publication of a cheap periodical in connexion with the Land Company. Mr John Pare has been appointed agent for the National Co-operative Benefit Society.

DEVONPORT.—Messrs Doyle and Clark lectured in the Dockyard school room, on Thursday evening, on the Land and the Charter. A resolution was carried, approving of the Land Society, and expressing confidence in the directors.

DORKING.—On Monday evening, a public meeting was held in the Lecture Room, for the purpose of considering the subject of the Land and its capabilities. Mr Russell was elected to the chair, who in a neat speech, fixed the attention of the meeting on the subject for consideration. The assembly was subsequently addressed by Messrs M'Grath and G. Wheeler, who ably dilated on the objects, principles, and progress of the National Land Company. Many copies of the rules were taken, and upon the whole it may be safely presumed that much good will be done by the meeting.

MANCHESTER.—A correspondent says—"The land movement is going a-head here; the general question is, 'What do you think of Mr O'Connor's land scheme?' If a stranger was to visit our Land-office, and see the numbers that come to take up shares and seek information upon the subject, he would be astonished. For notwithstanding the present depressed state of trade in this town and neighbourhood, the third section bids fair to far outnumber the two preceding sections. It now numbers something like 100 shareholders, who hold amongst them 150 shares. Even this last week there have been upwards of 30 shares taken up. This, taken in connection with the fact that we have 28 of our large cotton mills standing, and many of them have been so for thirteen weeks, and upwards of seventy working from 2 to 4 days a-week, it is, indeed, truly surprising, and is but another proof that the people are in advance of their rulers."

ROCHDALE.—Messrs Donovan and Dickenson lectured here last Sunday.

SHOTLEY-BRIDGE.—Dr M'Donall has lectured here to a large audience, who were much gratified by his able discourse. [We cannot print reports written with black-lead pencil.—ED. N. S.]

TILLICOULTRY.—A branch of the Land Company has been formed here with every prospect of success; twenty-two shares were taken at the first meeting. The following officers were elected. G. Glasgow, secretary; A. Robertson, scrutineer; W. McBeath, treasurer; and five of a committee.

TOWER HAMLETS.—The shareholders have passed a resolution approving of the next Conference being held at Lowbands, on July 1st.

WELTON, NORTHAMPTON.—A public meeting was held at this place on Monday, the 22nd inst., for the purpose of forming a branch of the National Land Company. The announcement put the quiet little village in some commotion, the squires and farmers not much relishing their new visitors. By 7 o'clock, the place of meeting, a large barn, was filled to overflowing, as the labourers came thronging from the surrounding villages. The men of Daventry and Norton came in a body with music, and Mr Smith, of Welton, having been called to the chair, opened the meeting by reading the bill, which stated, that the meeting was called "for the Purpose of the Trial of TIMOTHY GRAB-ALL, *the Land-robber*, on the capital Charge of Robbery and Murder. The witness will be the Labouring man working on the Parish Road,—from the Workhouse—from the Transport under the Game Laws, &c., &c. Should the Jury (the People,) find him guilty, he will be called upon to show cause why *sentence* should not be passed against him; or, if he has any friends to speak on his behalf, let them then speak, or henceforth hold their Peace! God save the people!" The reading of the bill was hailed with shouts of applause, and the chairman then introduced Mr Ernest Jones, who, at considerable length, exposed the causes and effects of Landlordism, the sufferings of the Poor and their Remedy,—and entered into a complete and able exposition of the plan and working of the National Land Company. When the applause with which his address was hailed had subsided, the chairman announced Mr Wm. Munday, of Northampton, whose eloquent and forcible illustrations of the murders and robberies perpetrated by the Grab-alls, were received with loud cheers. Mr Parkes, of Buckley, then appeared for the defence, but admitted that his client's case was a very bad one, and his humorous and powerful arguments having been replied to by Mr Jones, and those seemingly in favour of Grab-all refuted to the satisfaction of all, the meeting separated after the usual votes of thanks, with three hearty cheers, and one cheer more for the National Land Company. A branch was formed, eight members joined, and ten more signified their intention of joining forthwith.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

BERMONDSEY.—A public meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, March 30th, in the Dockhead Chapel, at half-past seven o'clock, for the purpose of spreading the principles of Chartism, and the means of carrying out the same, viz.—"by the working class becoming landholders." Some of the directors will address the meeting.

BLACKBURN.—Mr W. Beesley will lecture in the Temperance-hotel, Whalley Bank, on Monday next, at 8 o'clock. Subject: "The Land and Banking Company."

BRADFORD.—Shareholders will, in future, meet in the Large Room, Butterworth-buildings.

BURY.—To-morrow evening, at six o'clock, Mr. S. Clark, of Manchester, will lecture in the room over the Waterworks' old office, in Clerk-street; subject, —"The Charter and the Land."

CHORLEY.—A meeting of shareholders will be held at the house of Mr W. Wilkinson, 9, Princes-street, on the 28th inst., at six o'clock.

COMMERCIAL ROAD.—Mr G. Harrisson will lecture on Sunday evening, April 4th, at 7 o'clock, at the Globe and Friends, Morgan-street. Subject: "Evils of a State Church."

HAMMERSMITH.—The members who do not pay in accordance with the instructions of the directors, on or before the first day of April next, will be struck off the list of shareholders. District-office, 2, Little Vale-place.

HEXHAM.—A branch of the National Land Company has been formed here, and the following officers elected:—John Gibson, secretary; George Nidley, treasurer; Robert Renwick, scrutineer; John Hedley and John Nidley, auditors.

LITTLE TOWN.—A general meeting of members of the Land Company and Charter Association will be held in the Chartist room, on Sunday, March 28th, at ten o'clock.

LAMBETH.—A general meeting will take place on Sunday evening, April 4th.

MANCHESTER.—Shareholders will meet in the Hall of the People's Institute, to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.—Members will meet at the New-inn, Carrington, to-morrow evening, at 5 to 6 o'clock. Subject: "Budding, Grafting, and other management of Fruit Trees."

OSWALDTWISTLE.—The shareholders have engaged a room in Duncan-square, Foxhill Bank. They will meet fortnightly, on Friday evenings.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Shareholders meet every Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Blacksmiths' Arms, St Mary's-street.

SHOREDITCH.—Mr G. W. Wheeler will lecture at Mr Taylor's, Railway Engine Coffee-house, 122, Brick-lane, on Wednesday next, at eight o'clock, P.M., Subject:—"Spade Husbandry." Mr T. M. Wheeler will lecture on Wednesday evening, April 7.

The National Fast.

OBSERVANCES OF THE FAST DAY.

The general fast and humiliation, appointed for Wednesday last, was very variously observed in and around the metropolis. Divine service was performed at all the churches and chapels both morning and evening—and more numerous congregations were present than is usual even on Sundays. The Lord Mayor and other civic functionaries attended the service in St. Paul's Cathedral in the afternoon. A good sprinkling of the aristocracy attended the Chapel Royal in the morning. The shops were closed, and business of every sort suspended;—the day being considered a complete holiday by the industrious classes. Greenwich had quite an Easter Sunday look. The steamers poured out their hundreds, and the railways its thousands, to increase the holiday throng. The park was thickly dotted over with gaily-dressed people. Blackheath, with its donkeys were all alive; the tea-shops were crowded, and, of course, the public-houses were not empty. The hospital too, had hosts of admirers. The visitors were all from London, the good and loyal folks of Greenwich, &c., most religiously observing the proclamation. The Chelsea and Putney steamers were crowded, and the boats for Gravesend and Richmond had a great many passengers on board. The streets of the metropolis were thronged throughout the day, the parks and other places of public resort receiving their full quota of visitors. We do not remember a more general cessation from business.

GREAT METROPOLITAN MEETINGS ON THE FAST DAY.

WHITE CONDUIT HOUSE.

On Wednesday evening last a Tea Party and Public Meeting was held at White Conduit House, Pentonville, for the purpose of protesting against the misgovernment of Ireland, and (according to the placard calling the meeting) of expressing the opinion that "national calamities are not to be prevented by public fasts, but by a system of government based upon justice and truth." By eight o'clock, the large room being filled with a numerous and influential audience, Mr Savage was called to the chair, in the absence of T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., who was to have presided, but was prevented by indisposition from being present.

Mr GOODWYN BARMBY moved the first resolution, which was to the effect, that the Proclamation for a general fast, issued in the Queen's name, was a disgrace to its authors, an insult to the common sense of the nation, and a proceeding which, while it was a direct injury to the working classes, could not in the least benefit the starving population of Ireland. He believed that the suffering now endured in Ireland was not so much to be attributed to either a visitation of Providence or the want of food, but to misgovernment and the want of good institutions. The government had made a mistake—they had left out an "e;" we should have had a feast instead of a fast. He had great pleasure in proposing the resolution.

Mr ERNEST JONES rose loudly applauded to second the resolution, and said the preceding speaker had justly described the Proclamation of a General Fast as blasphemy to God. At that moment the churches were lighted up, and the parsons were praying—but what text did they preach from? It was said the devil could quote scripture to suit his purpose;—so do the parsons—and so might a Chartist, for he believed there was more of the devil in a parson than in a Chartist. (Loud cheers and laughter.) He would then quote from Isaiah c. 58, where such a fast as this government fast was denounced, and it was said to the rich:—"Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loosen the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke." He would venture to say few parsons had preached from that text. (Loud cheers.) He had just come from Welton, in Northamptonshire, where he had left a rising branch of the Land Company, (cheers.) The parsons talked of the Holy Trinity, but in our country villages he generally found nothing but a Devil's Trinity—viz. the lawyer, the parson, and the squire, (much applause:) well, this trinity generally gave their labourers six shillings per week. No need for appointing a fast-day for the poor after that. Mr Jones then described some cases of death by starvation, that had come under his knowledge in England, the recital of which excited a great sensation. The verdicts were, "death by starvation;" they should have been, "murdered by their masters," (continued cheers.) Mr Jones then adverted to the causes of the famine, and the remedy in the hands of the people, (amid great applause,) and said, he was glad to see meetings like the present—they were rallying points—but more was wanted than drinking tea and making speeches. He did not advocate violence, far from it—but if we showed we had the organized power as well as the will to enforce our claims, we should get them—not else, (hear, hear.) Two hundred thousand human beings had perished from starvation in Ireland. The people in that country were known to be buying arms, (hear, hear,) and the consequences was, that the rich grew frightened, and began to subscribe. Had the Irish never murmured they might have died by millions, (hear.) The aristocracy encouraged emigration—that was what the government wanted; to thin the people by starvation, and decimate the remainder by emigration. They would, then, be strong enough to have it all their own way, (hear, hear.) *It is true, they had cautioned* the people against emigration to Texas, they said there were wild beasts there, and an unwholesome climate, Ay! Ay! Texas was a portion of a great republic and though America possessed only a shadow of liberty, even a shadow was dangerous to monopoly and monarchy, (loud cheers.) There were wild beasts at home, and a very unwholesome political atmosphere; and, therefore, if we were to fight "wild beasts," we might as well fight against the wild beasts at home, (great applause;) and as to the bad atmosphere, a few peals of moral thunder, and we should soon clear it of the obnoxious elements of monopoly, (continued cheering.)

Mr LLOYD JONES supported the resolution. He came to that meeting to protest against the mockery of a fast, which was put up as a substitute for just institutions and permanent arrangements for the benefit of the people. It was well known that at this very moment the starving and wretchedly distressed people of Ireland were sending wheat, barley, oats, sheep, bullocks, pigs, and every kind of farm produce, from all their ports—sending this food—far better than they ever lived upon at any time—at the very time that they were called upon to avow themselves sinners, and blame Providence, instead of bad government, for their misery. This could be only justly described by the term blasphemy. If the government had called upon the rich to give up one day's income, and the working classes one day's wages, the result would have done more good to Ireland, and been more in accordance with common sense and religion, than such a ridiculous mockery. As an Irishman, he expressed his thanks for the sympathy showed for his suffering countrymen; and begged to express his admiration of the honesty with which they had come forward, at once to testify that sympathy, and repudiate the hypocrisy of statesmen and bishops. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously, amid loud cheering.

Mr M'GRATH rose amid great applause to move the next resolution, which stated that the famine in Ireland was not the visitation of God, but the direct consequence of man's misconduct—the misconduct of their governments, which, while they made laws for the benefit of the Irish landlords, at the same time reduced the people to the lowest possible diet. The speaker said, that in meeting there, they met for the purpose of protesting against a long continuance of systematic misgovernment. They had met here this evening to vindicate Almighty God from the calumnies and blasphemies heaped upon him. (Immense cheering.) What religious man was there present who would assert that it was the wish and will of God to delight in the misery and wretchedness of Ireland? He could not reconcile any such atrocious thought with his religious notions. We are told that Ireland existed under a Christian and good government, and yet there was no people on the face of the earth so wretched, so miserable, so down-trodden. (Loud cheers.) God is made the scapegoat of man's delinquencies. Ask why is Ireland so wretched—ask the landlords the reason; they will tell you the fault rests not with them. Go to the traders, submit the same question, and the response will be, "It is no fault of ours" Interrogate the clergy of all denominations, and they roar out with one accord, "We have nothing to do with it; it is a visitation of the wrath of Divine Providence for the manifold sins and wickednesses of the people." Friends, depend on it if you supinely allow God to be the scapegoat, that misery, wretchedness, and destitution, will ever continue. (Loud cheers.) The injustice of men marred the blessings bestowed by Providence. The speaker then severely criticised the government measures for Ireland, which he contended were exclusively meant to benefit the landlords, and would inevitably leave the people in the same wretched, dependent, and starving condition in which they now are. There were 5,000,000 acres of waste lands reclaimable in Ireland. Let the government make these millions national property, divide them into one million of five-acre farms, and they would at once place a million families, or five millions of persons, in a situation by which they would be enabled to support themselves in comfort by honest industry. Surely the country which raised, a few years ago, the sum of £20,000,000 to send to the West Indian slave holders, in lieu of their black bondsmen, could raise £20,000,000 for such a purpose as this. And the lands so reclaimed would yield a rent to the State, thus converting those whom an ignorant, short-sighted system made a burden, into a source of strength and revenue to the State. (Much cheering.)

Mr MOORE seconded the resolution, and advocated a poor-law for Ireland, as a means of elevating the physical and social condition of the people of Ireland.

CHARLES COCHRANE, Esq., supported the resolution. He cordially sympathised with the objects of the meeting, and he entirely concurred in the sentiments expressed in the resolution, by which all the evils of Ireland were attributed to misgovernment.—(Hear.) The greatest sinners in this matter in the country were the authorities in Church and State—(laughter)—who, in a country abounding with raw material, and skill and industry necessary to produce abundance for all, had suffered so much misery to be generated by bad institutions.—(Cheers.)

Mr W. J. LINTON moved the last resolution, which declared that "the Irish people are justified in their endeavours to obtain such alterations in their laws and institutions as seem expedient to them, and that the evils under which both Great Britain and Ireland have so long suffered, can never be remedied until a Government exists chosen by the people, possessing the confidence of the people, and acting in accordance with their wishes." Mr Linton spoke in support of the resolution at some length.

Mr WHEELER seconded it, and having been put to the meeting, it was, like the preceding resolutions, carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was then given, and acknowledged; after which, the meeting (a numerous one) broke up at a late hour.

FINSBURY.

A meeting was held on Wednesday evening at the City Lecture Theatre, Milton-street, for the purpose of raising subscriptions for the relief of of the destitute in Ireland. T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., being prevented by illness from attending the meeting, the chair was taken by the Rev Mr Jauch.

The CHAIRMAN said he had to apologise for occupying the chair on that occasion. He was a German, but was not wanting in sympathy for the misfortunes of Ireland. He had been in Ireland twice, and, from what he had seen of that country and its people, he would even now be proud to be a citizen of starving Ireland.

Mr O'CAVANAGH, on proposing the first resolution, said that it was no more than a debt due to the Irish to assist them in their present distress. It was not the fault of that people that they were now depressed. It was the result of English mismanagement. A great number of aristocratic names was announced to be present at this meeting, but when he looked round he found they were absent. (Cheers.)

He then proposed the following resolution:—

"That the unparalleled misery, pestilence, and torturous death, now enduring by our brethren in Ireland, having enlisted our deepest sympathy and heartfelt regret, and having raised up in our pained hearts a warm desire to render them all the aid we can, we now pledge ourselves to subscribe to the utmost extent of our means for the purpose of ameliorating the fearful position of that unhappy people, and thus by our influence and example induce others to do the same."

Mr CLANCY seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr DWANE said when the English people complained of the number of paupers who came over to Liverpool, and talked of sending them back, they ought at the same time to send over the rich absentees to that country, and compel them to spend their property there.

He then moved the following resolution:—

"That feeling deeply grateful to the generous and high-minded philanthropists of this country, who have already contributed to render relief to those in need, without reference to creed or country, and who, by their presence here this evening, give evidence of their determination still to support the holy cause in which they have embarked, we hereby tender to them, our fellow citizens, our warmest thanks, and the lasting gratitude of those who are anxiously looking across the water for assistance."

Which being seconded by Mr CALLINAN, was agreed to.

The Rev. Mr VIDLER said he regretted that a greater number of Christian ministers were not present on such an occasion. He, however, hoped all those who were present would do their duty, and would prove their sympathy *for Ireland by subscribing liberally to alleviate the distress in that country.*

He then moved the third resolution:—

"That the Committee of this Society shall not even, *after this demonstration, dissolve*; but, on the contrary, *having this evening explained its object*, and placed before the public its reasons for appealing to them, still continue its periodical sittings and meetings, endeavouring, to the best of its power and resources, to collect moneys, and transmit them to Ireland, at least until some plan of permanent and efficient relief shall be adopted and acted upon by the Legislature."

Which, being seconded by Mr JAY, was agreed to.

Mr ERNEST JONES *then came forward*, loudly cheered, to propose the next resolution:—

"That overpowered with heartfelt gratitude at the prompt, decisive, and energetic benevolence of the people of the United States of America, in their spontaneous and unsolicited aid to the poor peasantry of Ireland, we feel language inadequate to give names to sensations of gratitude to this noble and independent people; betokening, as it does, to the nations of the earth, whether afflicted with distress caused by providential calamities or internal impolicy, that there is a great and magnanimous people on our globe, ever-ready with hope, succour, and consolation in the hour of need, calling forth the overjoyed thanks of this meeting, the lasting gratitude of Ireland, and the admiration of the world."

Mr E. JONES hoped the objects of the present meeting would be realised—but he begged to point their attention to the fact, that a *republic* had done more than any monarchies to aid the Irish. (Cheers.) He disagreed with those who called the English contributions "charity." It was not charity—it was restitution. (Loud cheers.) Ireland had suffered grievously at the hands of England—not of the English people—but at the hands of that accursed class-legislation, from which the English suffered as well.—(Great cheering.) Therefore, although he was glad to see money contributed, as it was necessary to buy food for the starving—something more was wanted besides money. (Hear, hear.) They must recollect who the food was bought from. For every bit of food that was put into *the mouths of the starving*, masses of money went into the pockets of the villanous monopolists, who had calculated on this crisis, and created the famine by hoarding the very corn these contributions bought. (Loud cheers.) He therefore hoped the working men of Ireland would see that the best way of obtaining their rights was to join with the working men of England to subvert their common tyrants. (Great cheering.) If the Irish cry "Ireland for the Irish," we too cry "England for the English"—for the poor working men of this country are as much alien on their own soil as you are on yours. (Loud applause.) Let the Irish working men be owners of the fertile soil of their emerald Isle, and they will need no help from England. Let us be freed from the landrobbers who oppress us, and you will have to complain no more of England's tyranny. (Immense cheering.)

The resolution was seconded by Mr Harral, and unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the *Northern Star*, and liberal press, which Mr E. Jones acknowledged, and the same compliment having been paid to the chairman, and to the proprietor of the establishment for the gratuitous use of the theatre, and a very considerable collection having been made, the meeting separated.

NATIONAL HALL, HOLBORN.

On Wednesday last, a public meeting was held, "to take into consideration the present unfortunate condition of Ireland, the causes which have led thereto, and to protest against the compulsory observance of a general fast." Soon after the hour appointed for the meeting (2 o'clock), Mr T. Cooper was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN addressed the meeting at considerable length on the subject which had led to their assembling there that day.

Mr HYDE then came forward, and concluded an *address of some length, by moving a resolution to the* following effect:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the present lamentable condition of the Irish people was to be attributed to the political and social misrule and injustice to which for many years they had been subjected, and which in their operations have caused the mass of the people to be dependent on the lowest description of human subsistence, the failure of which for the last two seasons has produced misery and wretchedness unparalleled in the history of that country."

Mr MOORE, at some length, seconded the resolution.

Mr L. JONES coincided in statements put forth in the resolution which had just been proposed to them, and contended that they were now witnessing the results which centuries of injustice had produced in Ireland, and that England was herself paying the penalty of giving her sanction to many of those iniquitous proceedings.—(Hear, hear.) As to what had been said of the bad conduct of the Irish landlords, he, for his part, did not think that they had been sufficiently blamed.—(Hear, hear.) He would remind them that it was only now, when the Government had to come forward with money, in consequence of the misconduct of the landlords, that the latter had been subjected to blame.—(Hear, hear.) To the English people the people of Ireland owed a *deep debt of gratitude*.

The resolution was then put and agreed to.

Mr LINTON, in moving the second resolution, said that food was not so cheap, nor was work so easily obtained, that the labourers of England and of Ireland should be called upon at so calamitous a period to deprive their families of the benefits of a whole day's earnings. (Hear, hear.) He could have understood the common sense of the thing if they had called upon them to work harder, and to hand over their surplus earnings for the benefit of the starving people. That was a thing he could have understood, but to deprive the working man from earning food for himself and his family for a whole day, and upon such a pretence as was put forth, was, in his opinion, not only foolish, but was mischievous. (Cheers.) He concluded by moving the second resolution, to the effect—"That it was delusive to attribute the present distress of Ireland to the failure of the potato crop as a retribution of Divine Providence."

Mr BAINBRIDGE seconded the resolution, which was then put and agreed to.

Mr ADDISCOMBE moved the last resolution, and in doing so, said that occasion would arise when it was necessary for the people to stand forward in opposition to the government. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by a resolution to the effect that the government ought to be called upon to render effectual justice to the people of England and Ireland, and not by suspension of labour to add to the general misery of the country.

Mr MITCHAM seconded the resolution, in a short address.

Mr R. TAYLOR (Common Councilman,) who spoke from the body of the meeting, said that he begged to express his perfect concurrence in the sentiments which had been expressed, and he had the pleasure of telling them that he, for one, had set the proclamation at defiance, and none of his men had, at all events, *been cheated of one day's work*. (Loud cheering for several minutes.)

Mr WATSON next addressed the meeting, referring to the opinion which the late Mr Cobbett had many years ago expressed, of the mischief which would eventually result from a perseverance in the use of potatoes for human food, and said that dreadful as was the misery which at present afflicted Ireland, if the result of it could be to put a better kind of food in the plates of the Irish people, it would at least be some benefit resulting out of their sad suffering.

The resolution was then put, and like the two preceding ones, was unanimously agreed to.

The thanks of the meeting were then given to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

THE FAST DAY AT SWINDON.

ROASTING A SHEEP.—The people of Swindon, Wiltshire, effected a very benevolent object, on Wednesday last, by giving the poor of Wroughton—a village two miles from Swindon—the benefits of pure, practical, philanthropy. It appears that a sum of money was subscribed to purchase a sheep, which was roasted whole, in a field granted for the purpose, where hundreds assembled to witness the operation. It was put to the fire at ten a.m. At five o'clock the dissection commenced, when it was distributed to the recipients above alluded to. Ample quantities of bread and beer were duly served; not a single subscriber participated in the good cheer, but rendered every assistance to contribute to the comfort of their humble friends. Upwards of 1,500 persons assembled to view the proceedings, and amused themselves with several old English sports. The greatest order prevailed throughout the day; and much praise is due to the committee for their admirable arrangements. In the evening, a few speakers addressed the meeting on the "propriety" of the fast! ("feast")—and the assembly then, after giving three hearty cheers, quietly separated.

ETHER AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—A surgical operation, the patient being under the influence of ether, was performed at Constantinople on the 5th instant. A sailor of a merchant ship had his hip dislocated and his hip bone fractured, and had received some intestine injuries by the fall of a heavy bale of merchandise, from a crane in which it was suspended, upon him. Dr Glascott, of the British hospital at Pera, performed the operation with great skill. The man was utterly insensible during the very difficult, and but for the ether, most painful setting of the joint.

Mr O'CONNELL, accompanied by one of his sons, has arrived in Paris, *en route* for Italy.

Mr Disraeli, M.P., has purchased, for £36,000, an estate at Hugendon, Buckinghamshire.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"We regard the work before us, the "Silent Friend," as a work embracing most clear and practical views of a series of complaints hitherto little understood, and passed over by the majority of the medical profession, for what reason we are at a loss to know. We must, however, confess that a perusal of this work has left such a favorable impression on our minds, that we *not only* recommend, but cordially wish every one who is the victim of past folly, or suffering from indiscretion, to profit by the advice contained in its pages."—*Age and Argus*

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Venereal contamination, if not at first eradicated, will then remain secretly lurking in the system for years, and although for a while undiscovered, at length break out upon the unhappy individual in its most dreadful forms or else, unseen, internally endanger the very vital organs in existence. To those suffering from the consequences which this disease may have left behind in the form of secondary symptoms, eruptions of the skin, blotches on the head and face, ulceration and enlargement of the throat, tonsils, and threatened destruction of the nose, palate, &c., nodes on the shin bones, or any of those painful affections arising from the dangerous effects of the indiscriminate use of mercury, or the evils of an imperfect cure, the Concentrated Detersive Essence will be found to be attended with the most astonishing effects, in checking the ravages of the disorder, removing all scorbutic complaints, and effectually re-establishing the health and constitution. To persons entering upon the responsibilities of matrimony, and who ever had the misfortune during their more youthful days to be affected with any form of these diseases, a previous course of this medicine is highly essential, and of the greatest importance, as more serious affections are visited upon an innocent wife and offspring, from a want of these simple remedies than perhaps half the world is aware of; for, it must be remembered, where the fountain is polluted, the stream that flows from it cannot be pure.

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"I respectfully assure you that I shall recommend this valuable medicine to the fullest extent in my power, and never while travelling shall I in future be without it. During my illness my residence was at Mrs. Slocombe's, Greyhound Inn, Broadmead, Bristol, whose family, if requisite, will confirm the facts I have stated.

"I forward any case to you for publication, that the afflicted may be assured of and obtain relief.

"I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
"THOMAS YATES,
"Traveller to Messrs. Day and Martin,
97, High Holborn, London."

To Mr. Prout, 229, Strand, London.

The efficacy of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills is now universally acknowledged, and for the class of disease known as Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Tic Doleroux, and all analogous, complaints, comment is unnecessary. The continued series of testimonials, of such indisputable authority as the above, renders this one the *most popular* medicine of the present age.

Sold by all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom. *Price* 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government Stamp affixed to each box of the Genuine Medicine.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by

Heaton, Hay, Allen, Land, Haigh, Smith, Bell, Townsend, Baines and Newsome, Smeeton, Reinhardt, Tarbottom, and Horner, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Dennis and Son, Burdekin, Moxon, Little, Hardman, Linney, and Hargrove, York; Brooke and Co., Walker and Co., Stafford, Faulkner, Doncaster; Judson, Harrison, Linney, Ripon; Foggitt, Coates, Thompson, Thirsk; Wiley, Easingwold; England, Fell, Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward Richmond; Sweeting, Knaresborough; Pease, Oliver Darlington, Dixon, Metcalfe, Langdale, Northallerton Rhodes, Snaith; Goldthorpe, Tadcaster; Rogerson Cooper, Newby, Kay, Bradford; Brice, Priestley, Pontefract; Cordwell Gill, Lawton, Dawson, Smith, Wakefield; Berry, Kenton; Sutter, Leyland, Hartley, Parker, Dunn, Halifax; Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge; Dalby, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate; Wall, Barnsley;

IMPORTANT TO FAMILIES.

THE POPULAR REMEDY.

PARR'S LIFE PILLS

A mild, safe, and most effectual cure of Indigestion Bilious, Liver, and Stomach Complaints, Sick Head-ache Costiveness, &c., &c. Their composition is truly excellent; they are compounded entirely of vegetable products, freed from all irritating and deleterious matters, which render their operation mild and agreeable; they do not require the least confinement or alteration of diet; and may be taken by the invalid with perfect safety; as an occasional dose in all nervous and debilitated cases, recoveries from protracted diseases, &c., they will be found highly valuable, imparting vigour and tone to the system when emaciated by disease.

Their value as a general tonic and restorative of the impaired stomach and biliary system, is daily manifested to the proprietors by their increasing rapid sale, and the numerous testimonials forwarded by those who have proved their efficacy.

The following, with many others, has been recently received:—

Communicated by Mr. G. BATTERS, Chapel-bar, Nottingham.

November 27th, 1846.

Sirs.—The many thousand boxes I sell in the course of a year fully testify the superiority of Parr's Life Pills over every other patent medicine. Old and young, rich and poor, all acknowledge the great benefit they derive from taking them. Many ladies and gentlemen of high standing in society, and numerous respectable families have adopted Parr's Life Pills as a family medicine; and thousands have given me full proof, verbally, of the cures which Parr's Life Pills have effected.

I remain, gentlemen, yours, obediently,
GEORGE BATTERS.

Communicated by Mr. GAMIS, Yeovil.
Yeovil, July 13th, 1846.

Sirs.—Having, during the last two years, witnessed the remarkable efficacy of Parr's Life Pills, I feel much pleasure in stating the following cases for the encouragement of others. I am, truly yours,

Medicine Warehouse, Yeovil. J. GAMIS.

E. A.—*An elderly gentleman*, came for a second box of Parr's Pills, and with pleasing astonishment said, "These are the best pills I have ever had, and I intend always to keep them by me; they are the best remedy for the Piles I have ever tried."

P. G.—Another person, aged 76, affirmed, that, after trying almost every medicine for Indigestion and Bilious Complaint, Parr's Life Pills stand unequalled, and emphatically said it was the best aperient medicine extant.

W. E.—A young man, who had for a long time been rendered incapable from following his usual employment, being painfully afflicted with a most obstinate complaint in his stomach, is now able to follow his usual employment, by persevering in the use of Parr's Pills.

E. H.—Who declares he has spent pounds in endeavouring to cure a complaint which he terms the Blind Piles, has, by taking three 2s. 9d. boxes, received a perfect cure.

B. M.—Who has been sadly afflicted with Rheumatism for two years, has found these pills a perfect antidote, by having recourse to them especially in the spring and fall of the year.

These are but few amongst the many testimonials that I have received of the good effects of Parr's Life Pills for all disorders in the Head and Stomach, and particularly for all Rheumatic Complaints.

P.S.—You will forward me, as usual, one gross of Parr's, and also a case of Spencer's Pulmonic Elixir. This medicine the more it is tried, the more it is approved of, for Affections of the Lungs, Coughs, Tightness of Breathing, &c., &c.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

None are genuine unless the words "Parr's Life Pills," are in White Letters on a Red Ground, on the Government Stamp, pasted round each box; also the *fac simile* of the signature of the Proprietors, "T. Roberts and Co., Crane court, Fleet street, London," on the Directions.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets at 11s. each, by all respectable medicine vendors throughout the world.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE MILLION!!

IN all cases where practical experience and economy with secrecy is required, consult with J. MORRIS and Co., Surgeons, No. 31, Newington-causeway, Southwark, London, who, during an extensive practice of twenty-two years, in which time they have been successful without a single failure, in 40,000 cases which lengthened and extensive practice enabled them to effect a complete cure of every stage and symptom of all disorders arising from Indiscretion excess, solitary habits, &c., including Impotence, Seminal Weakness, &c.

The cures performed in less time and on such economical terms as were never before practised, no restraint of diet or hinderance from business at all necessary, or fear of discovery or exposure.

J. M., and Co., may be consulted by letter, patients stating the full particulars of their case, when an equally perfect cure will be effected as by a personal visit.

Advice and a Prescription will be forwarded in reply by return of Post to any part of the Country, and correspondence continued until a perfect cure is accomplished on receipt of Half-a-Sovereign.

J. MORRIS and Co's, "Batameal Purifying Pills" may also be had as above, price 2s. 9d. per box, with directions or free, on receipt of Postage Stamps to the amount of Three Shillings.—These far-famed renovating Pills have for many years, been celebrated for their wonderful powers and purifying qualities in all complaints, arising from Indiscretion, &c., the effect produced after a few doses is truly astonishing, not only in purifying the blood, but also establishing a complete renovation of the constitution, and being prepared solely from vegetable substances will keep in every climate. To captains of ships and others taking long voyages they are invaluable.

Medical Vapour Bath Establishment, 31, Newington-Causeway, London.

EXTRAORDINARY CURES BY HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Wonderful Cure of dreadful Ulcerous Sores in the Face and Leg, in Prince Edward Island.

The Truth of this statement was duly attested before a Magistrate.

I, HUGH MACDONALD, of Lot 55, in King's County, do hereby declare, that a most wonderful preservation of my life has been effected by the use of Holloway's Pills and Ointment; and I furthermore declare, that I was very much afflicted with Ulcerous Sores in my Face and Leg; so severe was my complaint, that the greater part of my nose and roof of my mouth was eaten away, and my leg had three large ulcers on it, and that I applied to several Medical gentlemen who prescribed for me, but I found no relief. My strength was rapidly failing every day and the malady on the increase; when I was induced to try Holloway's Medicines, After taking two or three boxes, I experienced so much relief, and found the progress of the disease was so much arrested that I was enabled to resume my ordinary labours in the field. The sores which were so disagreeable and repulsive to behold are now nearly all healed. Having received such truly beneficial aid, I feel myself bound to express my gratitude to the person by whose means I have thus been restored from the pitiable and miserable state I was in; and for the sake of humanity make known my case, that others simmilarly situated might be relieved.

(Signed) HUGH MACDONALD.

This declaration made before me, at Bay Fortune, the 3rd day of September, 1845.

JOSEPH COFFIN, Justice of the Peace.

The above case of Hugh Macdonald, of Lot 55, came *personally under my observation; and when he first ap*plied to me to get some of the medicines, I thought his case utterly hopeless, and told him that his malady had got such hold that it was only throwing his money away to use them. He, however, persisted in trying them, and to my astonishment, I find what he has aforesaid stated to be perfectly correct, and consider the case to be a most wonderful cure.

(Signed) WILLIAM UNDERHAY, Bay Fortune.

A Cure of Ringworm of Four Years Standing.

Copy of a Letter from Mrs Grace Moro, 6, Hemlock Court, Carey Street, London, 6th November, 1845.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—About four years ago my little girl caught the Ringworm, and although I have ever since had advice from many doctors, and tried every means to get rid of it, yet I was unable to do so. About three weeks ago I was induced to try some of your Pills and Ointment, and I am most happy to say the result has been a perfect cure.

(Signed) GRACE MORO.

*** Skin Diseases, peculiar to any part of the Globe may be effectually Cured by the use of these celebrated Medicines.

Cure of a Desperate Case of Erysipelas.

Copy of a Letter from Mr Joseph Gildon, Jun., a Farmer, East Keal, near Spilsby, Lincolnshire, 8th April, 1846.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—I have the gratification to announce to you a most wonderful cure wrought upon myself, by the use of your Ointment and Pills. I had a severe attack of Erysipelas in my right foot, which extended along my ankle, and was attended with swelling and inflammation to an alarming degree, insomuch that I was unable to move without the aid of crutches. I consulted a very eminent Physician, besides other medical men, but to no purpose. At last I tried your Ointment and Pills, when, strange to say, in less than two weeks the swelling and inflammation gradually subsided to such a degree that I was enabled to pursue my daily avocation, to the utter surprise and amazement of those who were acquainted with my case, seeing that I was cured so quickly. I and my family are well known here, as my father holds his farm under the Rev. J. Spence, Rector of our parish.

(Signed) JOSEPH GILDON.

The Testimony of Dr Bright, of Ely-place, Holborn, as to the extraordinary power of Holloway's Ointment in the cure of ulcerated sores.

Extract of a Letter from the above celebrated Physician.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—I think it but an act of justice to inform you that I have tried your Ointment in several old cases of Ulcerated Sore Legs, which for a considerable time had resisted every kind of treatment, but which were afterwards effectually cured by its use. In the treatment of Bad Breasts I have also found your Ointment of the greatest service. Indeed, from my practical knowledge, I conceive it to be a most invaluable remedy.

(Signed) RICHARD BRIGHT, M.D.

Holloway's Ointment will cure any cases of Bad Legs, Ulcerous Sores, Bad Breasts, Sore Nipples, Cancers, Tumours, Swellings, Contracted or Stiff Joints, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Burns, Scalds, Chilblains, Chapped Hands and lips, Bunions, Soft Corns, Piles, the Bite of Moschettoes, Sand-flies, Chiego foot, Yaws, Cocoa-bay, and all Skin Diseases common to Europe, or to the East and West Indies, or other tropical climes.

Holloway's Pills should be taken in most instances when using the Ointment, in order to purify the blood and invigorate the system.

Sold at the establishment of Professor Holloway, 244, Strand, near Temple Bar, London, and by most all Respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the civilized world, at the following prices:—1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., and 33s. each box. There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

THE NEW ACT FOR THE RECOVERY OF SMALL DEBTS.

The above important act is now in full operation; and as its provisions ought to be extensively known,—especially amongst the industrial classes of the community, for whom it has been especially enacted. We have pleasure in quoting the following able summary from the last number of *The Labourer*:—

The objects of the Act may be briefly stated to be these:—the establishment of courts throughout different districts of the country, in which an uniform practice will be adopted for the adjudication of claims relating to small sums of money (not exceeding £20); the lessening of expense in relation to the enforcement or resistance of such claims; and greater convenience to the parties who may be called upon to attend such courts. We will consider—

I. *The Judges and Officers of the Court.*

The judge of each court is to be appointed by the Lord Chancellor, and to be a barrister of seven years' standing; he will not be allowed to practise as a barrister within the district of which he is a judge; his salary will depend on his fees, but may be reduced when it exceeds £1,200 a year; he is removeable by the Lord Chancellor for disability or misbehaviour. An attorney is to be appointed as clerk of the court, who is to issue the writs and other documents of the court, and to keep accounts of the proceedings and fees. He is not, nor is any other officer of the court, by himself or his partner, to be engaged as an attorney in the said court, under a penalty of £50. A treasurer and a high bailiff are also to be appointed; the former by commissioners of the Treasury, the latter by the judge of the court. The high bailiff may appoint assistant bailiffs, to serve and execute writs, and they are removeable at his pleasure or that of the judge; the high bailiff himself may be removed by the judge, and is to be responsible for the acts of his assistants in the same manner as the sheriff of a county. The salaries of all these officers are paid by fees; the salary of the clerk is not to exceed £600 a year. The clerk of the court is to provide servants and make contracts relating to the court and offices, but neither he nor the treasurer is to be interested in the contract.

II. *The Court and its Process.—Its Mode of Proceeding, and Jurisdiction.*

This court, which may be called the County Court, is to be holden at such times as the judge may appoint, so that it be once at least in every calendar month. Every court is to have a seal, under which all its process is to issue; and any person forging the said seal or process shall be guilty of felony.

1.—The court may entertain claims, where the debt or damage does not exceed £20. Such actions are to be heard and determined in a summary way. But the court is not to have cognizance of (*i. e.* entertain the hearing of), any action of ejectment, or of any action in which the title to corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments, or to any toll, fair, market or franchise, shall be in question; *or in which the validity of any devise,* bequest, or limitation under *any will or settlement* may be disputed, or of any action for malicious prosecution, libel, or slander, criminal conversation, seduction, or breach of promise of marriage. Actions of replevin (that is, for wrongfully taking goods,) in cases of distress for rent, or for animals causing damage, may be brought in this court, provided it be brought in the court for the district wherein the distress was taken. Houses and tenements where the value or rent does not exceed £50 a year, and where no fine has been paid, may, when the term has ended, be recovered in this court. (Ss. 122—127 give the practical proceedings in this case, *which it is not necessary here to detail.*) The balance of a partnership account, or the amount of a distributive share under an intestacy, or of a legacy under a will, may here be recovered, provided the sum claimed does not exceed £20. A plaintiff may *not divide a cause of action for the purpose of bringing* two or more suits; but if he has a cause of action for more than £20, he may abandon the excess and recover the £20, but the judgment for such sum will be in full discharge of all demands respecting such cause of action.

2.—No privilege shall exempt any person from the jurisdiction of these courts. Persons under twenty-one years of age may sue for wages. Executors and administrators may sue and be sued, as if they were parties in their own right, and judgment and execution shall be such, as in like cases, in a superior court.

3.—Where several parties are liable, any one may be sued to judgment and execution, and, after satisfaction of the judgment, may recover in this court contribution from any other person jointly liable.

4.—A person desirous of suing under this act, should apply to the clerk of the court, who will enter the complaint in a book, and thereupon a summons stating the substance of the action will issue, and be served on the defendant. No mistake in the name or description of person or place, if so described as to be commonly known, is to vitiate or injure the plaint or summons. It may be served out of the district of the court from which it issued.

5.—On the day named in the summons the plaintiff and defendant are to appear; the judge shall then proceed summarily to try the cause and give judgment, without any formal pleadings being required. The plaintiff is to be restricted to the cause of action or demand stated in the summons; the defendant may avail himself of the defence of set-off (that is, saying that the plaintiff owes him, the defendant, money, and that a balance ought to be struck); or infancy (that is, that he was under twenty-one years of age when the debt was contracted, and that the debt was not for necessaries); coverture, (that is, that defendant was a married woman when the debt was contracted); or of the statute of limitations (*i. e.* that six years have elapsed since the debt was due, and that since then defendant has not paid any part of it, or acknowledged it to be due in writing); or discharge under the bankrupt and insolvent acts; but such defences will not be allowed without the plaintiff's consent, unless notice has first been given to the clerk, who is to communicate it to the plaintiff. Money may be paid into court, where the defendant admits something to be due; and if the plaintiff still goes on, but does not establish a claim to more than the money paid in, he shall pay costs to defendant.

6.—No person, unless he be a barrister or attorney, shall appear for a party without leave of the judge; but by leave of the judge any other person may appear for the party. No person, however, not being a barrister or attorney, shall be entitled to any fee for so attending. No attorney shall be entitled to any sum, unless the claim exceed 40s.; or to more than 10s. for his fees and costs, unless the claim exceed £5, or to more than 15s. in any case. In no case shall any fee beyond £1 3s. 6d. be allowed for employing a barrister. The plaintiff will have to pay the fee of his attorney or barrister, unless he recover to the amount of £5, and the defendant will have to pay for his attorney or barrister where the sum claimed does not amount to £5; but this fee will not be paid by the unsuccessful party in any case, unless the judge orders it.

7.—The judge alone is to determine all questions of fact and law, except where a jury is summoned.

8.—In actions for sums exceeding £5, the plaintiff or defendant may have a jury; in actions not exceeding £5, the judge in his discretion may order a trial by jury on the application of either party, who, if he desire this mode of trial, should give notice thereof to the clerk, and pay to him 5s. for the payment of the jury, which sum, if he succeed, will be repaid to him by the opposite party, unless the judge otherwise order. The jurors are to be five in number; their verdict must be unanimous, and they may be challenged (objected to) as in the superior courts.—(See ss. 72, 73)

9.—The judge may, with the consent of both parties, refer the matter to arbitration, which will be binding upon them.

10.—The rules of practice and forms are to be issued by five of the judges of the superior courts; and, as soon as they appear, we should advise our friends to obtain a copy of them.

11.—If, at the time appointed for the hearing, the plaintiff does not appear, the cause shall be struck out; and if he appear and fail in his proof, the judge may non-suit him, or give judgment for the defendant. If the defendant do not appear or excuse his absence, or if he neglect to answer when called, *the judge, on proof of* service of the summons, may hear the cause on the part of the plaintiff, and the judgment thereon will be valid, as if both parties had attended. On sufficient cause, however, being shown, the judge may set aside such judgment and the execution thereon.

12.—The judge may grant time to either party, and may adjourn any court, or the hearing of any cause.

13.—Parties to the action, their wives, and all other persons, may be examined at the trial on oath or affirmation. Persons giving false evidence shall be deemed guilty of perjury. Parties to the suit may obtain, at the clerk's office, summonses to witnesses, to be served by one of the bailiffs of the court, with or without a clause requiring production of books and documents. In such summons any number of names may be inserted. A fine not exceeding £10 may be imposed by the judge on a witness neglecting to appear on this summons, (proper expenses having been paid or tendered,) and also on persons in court refusing to give evidence. The party injured by the neglect or refusal is to be indemnified out of the fine.

14.—Judgments are to be final, except that the judge may non-suit the plaintiff, (which allows him to bring a second action for the same cause,) or grant a new trial. The debt or damages may be ordered to be paid by instalments.

15.—In case of cross judgments (that is, of each party having a judgment against the other,) execution is to be taken out by the party, who has obtained judgment for the larger sum, only for the excess. Costs not specially provided for by the Act are to be apportioned between the parties, as the judge shall think fit, and in the case of no special direction, are to abide the event of the action. Execution may issue for such costs, as for the debt. On non-payment execution may issue against the goods of the party by a writ of *fieri facias* issued by the clerk to the high bailiff. Under the execution, goods and chattels, money and bank notes, cheques, bills of exchange, and promissory notes and bonds, may be taken. The wearing apparel and bedding of the party or his family, and the tools and implements of his trade to the value of £5, are to be exempt from seizure. A person who has obtained judgment may summon the other party before the judge, by whom he may be examined upon oath touching his estate and effects, and the manner and circumstances of his incurring the debt, and the means and expectations he had or still has of discharging it, and as to the disposal he may have made of any property. If the party summoned do not attend or allege a sufficient excuse, or refuse to be sworn, or to answer to the judge's satisfaction, or if it appear to the judge that such party, if a defendant, in incurring the debt, has

1. Obtained credit by false pretences, fraud, or breach of trust; or has
2. Wilfully contracted the debt without having a reasonable expectation of being able to pay; or has
3. Given or transferred, charged, removed, or concealed any of his property, with intent to defraud his creditors; or
4. If it appear to the judge that he then has, or, since the judgment, has had means to pay, and has not done so;

The judge may order the defendant to be committed to prison for a period not exceeding forty days. The judge on summons may alter his former order as to the payment. At the *original* hearing the judge may examine and commit the defendant, as upon a summons obtained after judgment. No protection, order, or certificate from any court of insolvency or bankruptcy shall be available to discharge the defendant. Imprisonment shall not extinguish the debt, or prevent defendant from being again committed for any new fraud or default, or deprive the plaintiff of execution against the goods. The judge may suspend execution, in case of defendant's inability to pay from sickness or other sufficient cause. Goods seized are not to be sold until three days have elapsed from the taking, unless of a perishable nature, or at the written request of the owner. They are to be sold by brokers or appraisers, who are to have sixpence in the pound on the value of the goods for the appraisement, and one shilling in the pound on the net produce of the sale for commission, sale, &c. No judgment or execution is to be stayed or reversed by writ of error; execution against the goods is to be superseded on payment or tender before sale to the clerk or bailiff of debt and costs. The debtor is to be discharged from imprisonment by leave of judge, on payment of debt and costs being certified by the clerk. The judge has power to fine and imprison for a contempt of court, for an assault on a bailiff, or a rescue of goods taken in execution. Bailiffs may be fined by him for extortion or other misconduct. Claims by landlords or others to the goods seized, are to be decided by this court, and any action brought in a superior court for this cause may be stayed. The landlord of the premises where the goods are taken, may deliver to the bailiff a writing stating the terms of holding and the rent, and claiming any rent in arrear, not exceeding four weeks' rent in case of a weekly tenancy, or the rent for two terms of payment in any other tenancy for less than a year, and not exceeding in any case the rent due in one year. In such case bailiff is to distrain for the sum so claimed, as well as amount for judgment, and not to sell for five days. The tenant may replevy such goods, if no rent be due.

III. *Removal of Actions.*

The action of replevin may be removed from this to a superior court on security being given, where the title to corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments, or to a toll-market, fair, or franchise, comes in question, or where the rent or damage in respect of which the distress is taken exceeds £20. In other *cases no action is to be removed, unless the claim* exceeds £5, and then only by leave of a judge of the superior court.

IV. *Suing in Superior Courts for Sums within Jurisdiction of this inferior Court.*

Where the plaintiff dwells more than twenty miles from defendant, or where the cause of action does not arise within the jurisdiction of the court of the district wherein defendant dwells, or where any officer of the court is a party, (except in respect of goods taken in execution,) he may still sue in a superior court. In other cases, however, if a party sues in a superior court, where he might sue in this court, the plaintiff, if he obtained a verdict for less than £20 in an action on a contract, or less than £5 in an action on tort (that is, for an injury unconnected with a contract, as false imprisonment, &c.), shall have no costs; and if a verdict be found for defendant, he the defendant shall be paid all his costs which he may have to pay to his own attorney, unless in either case the judge certify that the action was fit to be brought in a superior court.

V. *Proceedings against officers of the Court.*

These must be commenced within three calendar months after the offence; a month's notice of action must be given, and defendant may tender amends, and if they afterwards are held to be sufficient, the *plaintiff shall fail.* If a suit be brought against any officer of this court or officer in one of the superior courts, and the jury do not find greater damages than £20, the plaintiff shall have no costs, unless the judge certify.

There is a table of fees at the end of the Act, which will be made public in the different courts. They are very low, such as threepence for a summons for a claim not exceeding £20.

SLAVERY IN DELAWARE.—The assembly of the State of Delaware has passed an act for the gradual abolition of slavery in that State by a vote of twelve to eight.

DEATH OF A FRENCH ACTRESS.—Madamoiselle Mars, the celebrated actress, died after a painful illness at 10 o'clock on Saturday night. She was born in 1778, and her age was therefore 69.

A NOBLE DUKE AND HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Professor Holloway has lately been honoured by the personal thanks of one of the most renowned Dukes of the realm, who, like the Earl of Aldborough, has been cured of a Liver and Stomach complaint of some years' standing, attendant with great weakness and debility, by the means of Holloway's celebrated pills, and this after physicians' skill was tried in vain. Dropsy, Paralysis, Asthma, and diseases of the Lungs, have nearly all their origin in disordered Livers and Stomachs, which a few timely doses of Holloway's Pills will cure.

BLAIR'S PILLS.—The mortality of London, and indeed, of England generally, shows a gradual annual decrease, whilst it is well known the population increases considerably. The rates of premium for Life Insurance have been greatly reduced during the last few years, yet the offices continue as prosperous as formerly. These facts clearly demonstrate that some cause, either unknown or unheeded, must have produced such favourable results. Amongst causes, the increased knowledge of anatomy and the many very valuable discoveries in medicine will stand most prominent. The small-pox, that annually carried off thousands, has been successfully combatted by vaccination; and Gout, that used to claim its numerous victims, has been thoroughly vanquished by Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills.

Law and Assize Intelligence.

STEALING TURNIPS.—At the Exeter assizes, J. Shute (37), a labouring man, of very decent appearance, was indicted for stealing *seven* turnips, the property of his master, at Northam, on the 23rd of February. Mr. Whyte prosecuted. The prisoner was a labourer in the employ of Capt. Keats, at Northam, and on the day mentioned he went into the cow-house, for the purpose of feeding the cows, when his master's coachman (who was watching his movements) saw him put some turnips into his pocket. Immediately afterwards, the coachman said to him, "John, why are you carrying away these turnips?" and the prisoner denied the charge. Whereupon the coachman told him that he had seen him take them away, and the prisoner then begged to be forgiven. A confession made by the prisoner before the committing magistrate was put in, and it stated that he had taken the turnips, but that he had never done anything of the kind before. "He thought there was no harm in it, as food was so dear." It appeared, in answer to a question from the learned judge, that the prisoner was a married man with two children, and that his wages were only 9s. a week. His lordship then inquired who laid the information in this case, and one of the witnesses stated that it was Capt. Keats, the prisoner's master. The learned judge, in summing up, remarked that that case was one of a very trifling nature, but, nevertheless, it was the duty of the jury to find the prisoner guilty, if they thought the charge had been proved against him. Verdict—Guilty. His lordship said it was very melancholy to see a respectable-looking man charged with such an offence as the present, but the law would not allow him to take from his master even a few turnips without permission. As he had already been in gaol three weeks, he should now only sentence him to two days' imprisonment. This prosecution excited great disgust in court, and when his lordship was informed that similar "depredations" had been committed on former occasions upon Capt. Keats's property, he replied that it was a hard case that a man, whose wages were not more than 9s. a week, should be sent to prison amongst the "scum of the earth" for taking seven turnips from his master.

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.—At the Oxford assizes, Ellen Hall (43) who had a child in her arms, was indicted for cutting and wounding Mary Hall, at Rugby, on the 27th of January, with intent to murder, to maim, and disfigure, or do her some grievous bodily harm. The unfortunate little girl has since died. She was 12 years of age, and lived with her father and the prisoner, who was her stepmother. About seven o'clock in the morning the child entered Lord Talbot's colliery at Rugeley, having on only a petticoat and chimese. There was a cut on her face. The manager, Mr Thompson, asked her how she got the wound, as she was crying. They told her that her mother was coming, and she appeared very much frightened. Her mother asked if she had said she turned her out of doors? The little girl said nothing. The prisoner then took hold of the child, and struck her against the door frame; if she had not caught against the door, she would have gone against the engine. The little girl then ran away, and the prisoner looked about the engine-house for her, but could not find her, and nothing more was heard of the poor child until some hours afterwards, when she was found dead in the bottom of a well near, with twenty wounds upon her body. Suspicion naturally *attached to the prisoner.* An inquest was held, and great excitement prevailed; but there was no legal evidence to fix the prisoner with the horrid crime of murdering her husband's child. The little child being dead, there was no available evidence, and after the trial had proceeded some way, his lordship directed an acquittal on that ground. The prisoner was then tried on an indictment, charging her with three assaults on the deceased. The jury found her Guilty. Mr Sergeant Gazelee said there was no doubt but the prisoner had greatly accelerated, if she had not actually caused the death of the poor child by her inhuman conduct. He then sentenced her to six months' imprisonment.

GENERAL MISCONDUCT.—At the Insolvent Debtors' Court, Wm. Wainwright was opposed by two learned counsel for Messrs Thomas, attorneys, and for Mr Black. The insolvent had been a billiard-table-keeper, a tobacconist, and a bill-broker, and had also been connected with various loan societies. The complaint of the opposing creditors was for general misconduct. He had carried on business for the last twenty years in Fore-street, City, where he had kept a billiard-table—that business was now carried on by the insolvent's son, who was underage, and from whose examination it appeared he had paid his father £90 for the property in Fore-street, which money he had won at billiards. He also informed the court that he had within the last two years won, at least, 300*l*., also at billiards. The case occupied the court the whole of the day *in an inquiry* as to the disposition of the property, and at length was adjourned for complete evidence.

POACHING AND MANSLAUGHTER.—At Exeter, on Monday, Henry Warren, aged 26, was indicted for the wilful murder of Wm. Setter, at Crombeinteignhead on the 5th Sept. last. Mr Rowe and Mr Cox for the prosecution; Mr Stone for the defence. The deceased was employed as a watchman against poachers. On Saturday night, the 5th Sept., between eleven and twelve o'clock, the deceased, with a man named Norman, gardener to Sir W. Carew, heard the report of a gun. They proceeded to call Harris, the gamekeeper, and whilst he was preparing to leave the house two other shots were fired. Harris came out, and further assistance having been procured, the party went into the fields whence the reports appeared to issue. They also came to an understanding, that should one of them see any one going towards Newton, he was to call out "Gate;" and, if in the opposite direction, the word "Field" was to be the signal. Wm. Setter and Robert Rendell were of the party *who went towards Blindwell Field,* and Harris, the gamekeeper, with three others, proceeded to a field called "Stoodley Break." In the course of a few minutes the word "Gate" was called by those whom the deceased had joined, and immediately afterwards *a shot was fired.* This shot was thus explained: Harris and his party, on hearing the cry of "Gate." ran towards the spot, and when they arrived at Kiln-field Break they saw the prisoner with the deceased and Robert Rendell. Rendell had seized the prisoner, and desired Harris to assist him. W. Setter, the deceased, had his hand upon the prisoner's head, and appeared to be in pain. Harris asked him, what was the matter; and he answered "I am shot," or, "that fellow has shot me." Harris, the keeper, asked the prisoner why he had shot the man; and he replied, "I have done it and I am very sorry for it; I wish the gun had broken in pieces when first I took it up." This account of the transaction was carried somewhat further by the evidence of Robert Rendell, who stated that when he and Setter arrived at Kiln-field gate, they heard somebody coming through the hedge. Immediately afterwards the prisoner approached them, carrying a double-barrelled gun, and when he was within four paces of the deceased he lifted his gun to his shoulder. *Seeing he was about to fire,* Rendell called out, "You had better not fire;" but before he could repeat the words, the prisoner discharged one barrel of his gun at the deceased, and then fired the other at Rendell. Rendell was not struck, and he immediately seized the prisoner with his left hand, whilst he held the gun in his right. A scuffle ensued, and Rendell having placed his gun on the ground, it went off, and the contents tore up the ground for some distance. The other men had by this time come to Rendell's assistance, and the prisoner having been secured, attention was paid to the deceased, who was then groaning from pain. It was found that he had received a wound in the upper part of the stomach. On the following afternoon, at two o'clock, he died, and a *post mortem* examination took place, when several shots, a link of a watch-chain, and a piece of wadding, was found in his stomach. Mr Stone addressed the jury for the prisoner, and contended that there was not sufficient evidence to prove that the death of the deceased was caused by the violence of the prisoner. It was very possible *that the deceased had received the wound from the* shot which was fired at Robert Rendell, or from the gun which went off accidentally. Assuming, however, that the prisoner did fire at Setter, and that Setter's death was the consequence, there was no evidence of any malice on the prisoner's part. If the keepers had not been armed with guns, doubtless the man's death would not have ensued. He contended that the case was not free from doubt, and that, therefore, the prisoner was entitled to an acquittal. After Mr Justice Williams had summed up, the jury retired, and after an absence of about half an hour returned into court with a verdict of Guilty of Manslaughter. Sentence deferred.

ARSON.—LISTENING POLICEMEN.—At Cambridge on Tuesday, William Francis was indicted for having set fire to two stacks of wheat, of the value of £400. The evidence was, for the most part, of the circumstantial kind usual on such occasions, being a history of the prisoner's proceedings on the day of the fire, and thenceforward to his being taken into custody. It presented also the customary account of threaten*ing language used by the prisoner,* and of a comparison of impressions made by the shoes of the prisoner with certain footmarks in the neighbourhood of the stack. The only novelty was, that when an inspector of police was called to speak about statements said to have been made by the prisoner whilst in his cell, it turned out that the inspector had overheard them by listening at the door of the cell. Mr Justice Coleridge thereupon interposed, and said that in this case, at all events, such evidence might be rejected, because the person to whom the statements had been made could be called. In any case, however, he should receive with the greatest reluctance, if, indeed he should not reject, evidence so obtained, for it was impossible that a jury should not suspect, and perhaps disbelieve, all the evidence of a person who had descended to such unworthy means of gaining information. The inspector then urged that he had often been blamed for not having on similar occasions, listened to what had been said. Mr Justice Coleridge said that if such a course of proceeding was suggested to policemen it could no longer be a matter of wonder that an ill opinion of them was entertained, and that their testimony was received with distrust. It must, however, be obvious to every person of good sense and good feeling, who might be discharging the duties of a policeman, that such a mode of obtaining evidence against a man accused of crime was most improper. Mr Naylor, who conducted the prosecution, deferred to this opinion of the learned judge. Mr Metcalfe addressed the jury for the defence. Mr Justice Coleridge having summed up with great minuteness, the jury returned a verdict of Guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to be transported for ten years.

BIGAMY.—At the Norfolk Assizes, Jane Baker, aged 26, was indicted for bigamy. It appeared that, in October, 1836, the prisoner was married to George Baker, who worked in a cotton-mill. She lived with him but a short time, but two years afterwards they came together again for a time, and then again parted, having had one child. In January last year the prisoner agron married Henry Hyde, her former husband being then and still alive. She said she was not lawfully married to Baker, because she had married him in a wrong name, and that she had married him in a wrong name in order that she might leave him when she liked. Mr Baron Alderson told the jury they had nothing to do with the question as to the name of the prisoner. The only question for them was, whether the prisoner was the person who was married to Baker, there being no *doubt it was she who married Hyde.* The jury having found her guilty, his lordship told her that the law would not permit her to take advantage of her own fraud in marrying in a false name, had she indeed done so. As against her, at all events, the first marriage was valid. As, however, so much injury was not inflicted by the commission of this offence by a woman as by a man, he should only sentence her to be imprisoned, and kept to hard labour, for three calendar months.

FALSE IMPRISONMENT.—TYLER AND WIFE V. REV. J. DUDLEY AND ANOTHER.—This was an action to recover damages for false imprisonment. The defendants are two of the magistrates of the Loughborough district; M. A. Tyler is the wife of the other plaintiff, a labourer, living at Wymeswold, Leicestershire: This woman had a difference with another of her own sex, and epithets were exchanged, the result of which was an application to the magistrates against the female prisoner. She acknowledged she had made use of the offensive epithet imputed to her, and expressed regret at having done so. The magistrates (the present defendants) said they had no jurisdiction in a case of bad language, and cautioned her to be careful for the future, dismissing the complaint, and ordering Mrs Tyler to pay the costs to the amount of £1 18s. The poor woman said she could not pay—she was told she must pay in a week, or go to prison. At the next weekly meeting plaintiff attended and stated she had a family of small children, she was poor, and could not pay the costs imposed, and that, if it was insisted, she must go to prison. To prison she accordingly went, for costs, in a case in which the magistrates said they had no jurisdiction! It seems that one of the visiting magistrates (Hodgson) seeing this person in the gaol, and being struck with her cleanly appearance, inquired the reason of her being there, and upon being informed, he made it his business to see the commitment, and feeling it was bad, he communicated with the clerk of the peace, who confirmed Mr Hodgson in his previously-formed opinion. It appeared from the commitment, that the magistrates in this very case, in which they dismissed the complaint for the want of jurisdiction, had actually sentenced this woman, whose character was without spot or blemish (save in this instance), to fourteen days' imprisonment and hard labour, merely for default of payment of fees which they had no right to impose. Upon application to the Secretary of State she was released. Actions were then brought by the plaintiff for the loss of his wife's service, and a second action in their joint names. In both, five pounds had been paid into court, and a plea entered of no further damage. In the action by the husband alone, the five pounds had been taken out in satisfaction, but the joint action was proceeded with. This case would have been tried at the last assizes, but for the application of the defendants to postpone it, on the ground of the absence of a material witness. Since that time they had made the case a special jury. The learned judge told the jury the magistrates had clearly mistaken the law. They had no jurisdiction in the case brought before them, and the only question for the jury was, whether the five pounds paid into court were a sufficient compensation for the damage sustained. The jury gave for the plaintiff, fifteen pounds over and above the sum paid into court.

Public Meetings.

IRISH CONFEDERATION.—On Sunday evening a very respectable meeting of "Confederates," took place at Cartwright's Coffee-house, Red-cross-street, City. Mr Dwaine was called to the chair, and explained the objects of the body. They wished every man to enjoy full freedom of speech, and to do away with that anti-christian feeling that kept alive petty jealousies and unmeaning prejudices between man and man. (Cheers.) They also had in view to inlist the aid of the public press, in furtherance of persuading the people to abandon the public-houses. He often wondered that O'Connell had not strove to effect so desirable a change. He did not reject the drunkards, but he refused the aid of the Chartists. (Hear, hear.) Mr D. concluded a very effective speech, by expressing his readiness to hear any man fully and fairly, whether English, Irish, or Scotch; Ireland was his country, but the world was his republic. (Cheers.) Mr Clancy rose, in accordance with the notice which he had given of bringing the rules of the Confederation before the meeting. He denied the assertion of Mr M'Gee, "That the volunteers of Dungannon did not strike for liberty of conscience; when they struck for freedom of trade they unshack'ed the limbs, but they did not unbind the souls of Irishmen." He (Mr C.) had a great veneration for the volunteers of '82. On the first of July, 1783, a meeting of delegates from 45 companies of volunteers of the province of Ulster,—"resolved unanimously that a general meeting of the volunteer army of the province of Ulster, on the subject of a more equal representation of the people in Parliament, is hereby earnestly entreated to be held at Dungannon, on Monday, the fifth day of September next." Again, the committee in their report,—"trust that the spirit of firmness and integrity, which has already restored this ancient kingdom to her rank in the nations, will crown the 8th of September, 1783, as a day which is to form the groundwork of internal emancipation." Again resolved unanimously:—"That a committee of five persons from each county be now chosen by ballot, to represent this province in a grand National Convention, to be held at noon, in the Royal Exchange, Dublin, on the 10th day of November, to digest and publish a plan of Parliamentary reform, and to pursue such measures as may appear to them most likely to render it effectual, to adjourn from time to time and convene provincial meetings if necessary." They closed their proceedings with an address to the volunteer armies of the other provinces, of which the following is a passage:—"Through her four provincial assemblies let Ireland's temperate declarations flow to one common centre, and there, matured into an extensive plan of reform, be produced as the solemn act of the volunteer army of Ireland, as a demand of rights robbed of which the unanimated form of a free government would be a curse, and existence itself cease to be a blessing." The reading of these soul-stirring resolutions seemed to rivet the attention of all present. Mr C. concluded by moving for a committee to prepare an address to the council of the Confederation. Mr Sullivan seconded the motion. Mr Archdeacon rose and very eloquently complimented the members on the exertions they were making, in furtherance of the glorious work they had in hand. He would move that the question be adjourned till that day month. Mr Manly briefly seconded the motion. After some discussion, Mr Clancy said he would consent to the postponement till that day four weeks. The usual vote of thanks was given to the talented chairman, and the meeting separated at twelve o'clock.

RAGGED SCHOOLS.—KING'S-CROSS.—On Tuesday the second annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the King's-cross Ragged Schools took place at the Music Hall, Store-street. Lord Ashley presided, and, in opening the business, observed that they had met on a most appropriate occasion, being on the evening preceding the day appointed for the general fast; and he thought, amongst all our national sins, none were greater than that of the long neglect we had exhibited towards such poor children as those who attended their Ragged Schools. The report congratulated the meeting at the successful results of their labours; the boys attending now amounted to 35, and the girls to 65, most of whom had made considerable progress, the girls particularly. There was, however, at present a great want of teachers, and it was desirable that they should have some paid teachers. The receipts of the past year had been £73 4s. 4½d.; and, after defraying the necessary expenses, a balance of £7 2s. 2½d. remained in the hands of the treasurer.

VERDICT:—"SARVED 'EM RIGHT."—Beneath the tropical sun of Mexico, amidst the acid sands of the Rio del Norte, and its sweeping floods of waters, their chivalrous spirits withered away and died ere they could encounter the foe. An enemy far more powerful than the Mexican arms met them as they landed upon its shore, and struck them down in hundreds before their armour was on them for the fight. And all who were spared from the ravages of disease, amongst the thousands who came so full of ardour to the field, how few are now left to do their country service! Not one half. Nor will these be tempted to remain after their term of service is up. Nothing can persuade them to do so. With them every consideration of patriotism is gone, and not the highest prospect of military renown, or the certainty of a brilliant campaign to the "Halls of Montezuma!" will induce them to renew their obligations to their country. They are sick and tired of the war—and bitterly disgusted with campaigning!—*Letter in the New York Express*

Poetry.

COMING SPRING.

(From *Howitt's Journal.*)

In all the years which have been
The spring hath greened the bough—
The gladsome, hopeful spring-time!—
Keep heart! it comes even now.

The winter time departeth;
The early flowers expand;
The blackbird and the turtle-dove
Are heard throughout the land.

The sadness of the winter,
Which gloomed our hearts, is gone;
A thousand signs betoken
That spring-time comes anon!

'Tis spring time in our bosoms;
All strife aside we cast;
The storms were for the winter-days,
But they are gone and past.

Before us lies the spring time—
Thank God! the time of mirth—
When birds are singing in the trees,
And flowers gem all the earth;

When a thousand busy hands upturn
The bounteous, fruitful mould,
And the heart of every poet feels
More love than it can hold.

In all the years which have been,
The spring time greened the bough—
The gentle, gracious spring time!—
Rejoice!—it comes even now!

Mary Howitt.

Reviews.

A CATHOLIC HISTORY OF ENGLAND. By William Bernard Mac Cabe. Vol. 1. London: T. E. Newby, 72, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.

We had hoped, from the title of this work, to have found it, in the best sense of the word, a *Catholic* history of England; *i.e.* that the author had produced a work, which, founded on authorities of all sects, parties, and nations, would present a complete history of this nation, divested of prejudice and sectarianism. We are disappointed. This work is a *Roman* Catholic History of England; one of the evidences of the restless activity of those, who follow the ancient faith, to make their church once more popular and dominant in this country.

The author or compiler of this History deserves great credit for the laborious zeal he has brought to the working out of his self-allotted task. His labour must have, even thus far, been enormous. His aim has been to give to the English public a history of their country as written by its *ancient historians*, the monastic writers, who, for several successive centuries, from the time of Gildas and Beda ("Venerable Bede") supplied the records of their times for the use of coming generations. These writers the compiler appears to have diligently studied, and from their own words, produced this connected narrative. Thus says Mr Mac Cabe in his "Introduction:" "This work will not be the history of the individual whose name appears on the title page, but the history of England as written by the Annalists, Chroniclers, Biographers, and Historians of England, witnesses as they were, for the most part, of the scenes and transactions they describe."

Again—"This is an attempt to make the reader acquainted with the writings of Gildas, Nennius, Bede, Asser, Ethelwerd, Florence of Worcester, Eadmer, Simeon of Durham, William of Malmsbury, Eddius, Henry of Huntingdon, Roger de Hovenden, John Bromton, William of Newbury, Roger de Wendover, Matthew Paris, Nicholas Trivet, Ralph Higden, Goscelin, Sprott, Walsingham, Knighton, Capgrave, &c."

This sufficiently explains the object of the compiler, and at the first view the object seems to be a laudable one. In his "Introduction" Mr Mac Cabe quotes from Hume, the following meagre notice of events during a portion of the histories of Mercia and Wessex:—

"Mercia.—The place of Ceolred was supplied by Ethelbald, great grandnephew to Perdal by Alwy his brother; and this prince being slain in a mutiny, was succeeded by Offa, who was a degree more remote from Penda, by Eawa, another brother.—*Hume's History of England*, Vol. 1., chap. i., pp. 48, 49. Lond. 1790.

Wessex.—In the year 741, he (Oswald) was succeeded by his cousin Cudred. The reign of this prince was distinguished by a great victory, which he obtained by means of Edelhun, his general, over Ethelbald, King of Mercia. His death made way for Sigebert."—*Ibid* p. 55.

Mr Mac Cabe contrasts this with the following "life-like and Homeric" description of the same events as recorded by Henry of Huntingdon:—

Cuthred, finding the exactions of Ethelbald intolerable, and his oppression increasing, determined to muster an army, and meet the tyrant in the field, resolved to die a free and independent sovereign, rather than live as it he were the bondman of another. How like England's hatred of oppression and love of fair play.

He had in this battle the support of his Ealdorman Ethelhun, who, from his foe had became his steadfast and trusty friend. Cuthred confided to the valour of Ethelhun's arm in the conflict, and was guided by his counsel in the disposition of his army. He relied upon both, as capacitating him to withstand the worst efforts of Ethelbald. The latter, as the monarch over tributary Kings, marched to the field of battle with an immense body of forces. He brought against the West Saxons the warriors, not only of Mercia, but also of Kent, of the East Saxons, and of the Angles.

The hostile armies met at Burford. As soon as they were arrayed in lines against each other, both at the same time advanced to the attack, preceded by the standard bearers of their respective sovereigns. Ethelhun, who carried the golden dragon, the ensign of the King of Wessex, rushed forward and transfixed the enemies' standard-bearer. A loud and joyous cry burst from the ranks of Cuthred, as they crossed their weapons with their foes. An awful clash then followed, and then came the roar, the tumult, and the thunder; sounds of battle, the clatter of swords, the heavy fall of the instruments of death, the piercing shrieks, and sobbing groans of the wounded, and of men in their last agonies. Havoc spread like fire, and consumed in its rage the compact masses, as they hurried into the thickest of the horrid strife. The Mercians and West Saxons seemed to feel that this was a battle, the result of which was to decide the fate of their posterity for ever. At one moment might be seen troops of soldiers with glittering armour, with crested helmets, with bristling spears, and with banners gay with gold, and radiant brilliant colours; and in a moment after, the same soldiers might be beheld, covered with blood, their helmets broken, their armour crushed, their spears in splinters, their banners torn, dabbled with blood, or clotted even with the brains of those who had fought in their defence. It was, however, around the regal standards in both armies, that the bravest and boldest were to be found; rank following rank, and doing the work of destruction with the sword of Amazonian battle-axe. In neither was there entertained a thought of flight; but fought with the certain expectation of victory; the Mercians, inflated with the pride of many former conquests—the West Saxons incited by an utter detestation of slavery. In all parts of the terrible field of battle, the Earldorman Ethelhun was to be seen cuting his way through entire ranks of his foes, and laying a heap of dead or dying in his track; for his awful battle-axe fell like the thunderbolt upon men and armour, striking them dead, and riving the latter to pieces in the instant. On the other hand, the valiant King Ethelbald rushed amongst the enemy, and slaughtered all who chanced to encounter him: for to his sword the breastplate of his foes were but as a thin garment, and their bones but as yielding flesh. Ethelhun and Ethelbald were as two dreadful fires, which, beginning from opposite quarters, at length in their progress of destruction come to unite their raging flames with each other. Ethelbald and Ethelhun stood face to face! Both were brave men,—each felt, in regarding the warlike champion who stood before him, that he had a terrible opponent. They gnashed their teeth with rage—exchanged blows—then collected all their strength, and prepared for a mutual conflict, in which at last, each was to be fairly matched with his only fitting combatant. It was at that very moment, that God, who resists the proud, and from whom all strength, courage, and magnanimity come, withdrew his grace from Ethelbald. Ethelbald's spirit was abated. He felt on the instant, that he had neither his wonted courage, nor his accustomed strength; he fled the very first from the battle, and abandoned his soldiers to the wrath of the mighty champion he had been himself afraid to encounter. And from that day forth God never permitted anything to prosper with him.—(Huntingdon lib. iv., p 341.)

The above is a favourable specimen of Mr Mac Cabe's compilation, but the writings of his authorities are so full of silly stories of miracles and other monkish mummeries as to considerably detract from their value. There is no doubt that the miracles of the "Saints" are as worthy of belief as of many other things yet believed by many people; but that circumstance does not make us the more inclined to applaud this history. St Alban drying up and changing the course of streams; St Lawrence getting his back flogged, and laying the scourging to the account of St Peter; St Birinus walking on the sea; the chains that would not bind St Wilfrid; the death and restoration to life of the wonderful monk, the friend of St Boniface, and a hundred other equally veracious stories, may be found in this volume. Then there is no lack of historical *facts* equally trustworthy, such as King Arthur killing with his own hand, in one battle, *nine hundred and sixty* of his enemies (!); and fiery serpents and fiery dragons seen in the air! These aerial visitors appear to have been quite common in the days of our Saxon forefathers!

This compilation, thus far, throws less light than we had hoped to have found upon the condition of the people, it being, for the most part, a record of the quarrels of petty and semi-barbarous kings and tribes, and the advances to supreme dominion of the priesthood. To this latter circumstance it is easy to see—although apparently Mr Mac Cabe does not see it—that the degeneracy of the Saxons may be traced. As they became "priest-led slaves" they lost the original vigour of their race, and became first the prey of the murderous Danes, and then of the not less savage and more powerful Normans.

This volume, though containing seven hundred and fifty pages, only brings English history to the death of Egbert, the first sole king of England. The next volume will open with the ravages of the Danes, and probably extend to the time of the "Conquest."

The work, therefore, promises to be very voluminous. If ever completed it will be a monument of the industry, zeal, and patience of its compiler, which the student of history will not peruse in vain; although, we fancy, the results will be exactly opposite to those intended by Mr Mac Cabe.

The Black Prophet; A Tale of Irish Famine. By W. Carleton. London: Simms and M'Intyre, 13, Paternoster-row.

This is the first volume of "The Parlour Library," a series of works intended to be published at the price of *one shilling a volume*, each volume to contain about 320 pages, and, with few exceptions, to include an entire work. Amongst the authors whose works will be embraced in this series we observe the names of Mary Howitt, Mrs Hall, Miss Mitford, Grattan, Banim, J. B. Frazer, A. Dumas, &c.

This is the most adventurous project yet started and we earnestly hope that Messrs Simms and M'Intyre will find their reward in the universal patronage of the public. In every respect, save one, the volume before us is admirably got up, the sole exception being the quality of the paper, but for *that* we may blame the gentry of the Westminster tax-trap. In spite, however, of this one drawback, the volume is a novel of cheapness, and even that is not its only or its best future.

The best recommendation of this work is that it faithfully pictures the scenes of misery that have been in Ireland—and, alas! are renewed at this very time; and, further, it traces Ireland's wrongs to their source: unjust social arrangements and wicked class legislation. The volume is so cheap that it would be unfair to enter into its story at length, or largely encroach upon its contents; we confine ourselves to the following extracts:—

FORESTALLERS.

"As it is at present, provision-dealers of all kinds, mealmongers, forestallers, butchers, bakers, and huxters, combine together, and sustain such a general monopoly in food, as is at variance with the spirit of all law and humanity, and constitutes a kind of artificial famine in the country; and surely these circumstances ought not to be permitted, so long as we have a deliberative legislature, whose duty it is to watch and guard the health and morals of the people."

LOVE WINS THE RACE.

It was with considerable agitation and a palpitating heart, that, on the day following that of Donnel's visit to her father's, she approached the Grey Stone, where, in the words of the prophet, she should meet "the young man who was to bring her love, wealth, and happiness, and all that a woman can wish to have with a man." The agitation she felt, however, was the result of a depression that almost amounted to despair. Her faithful heart was fixed but upon one alone, and she knew that her meeting with any other could not, as far as she was concerned, realize the golden visions of Donnel Dhu. The words, however, could not be misunderstood; the first person she met, on the right hand side of the way, after passing the Grey Stone, was to be the individual; and when we consider her implicit belief in Donnel's prophecy, contrasted with her own impressions, and the state of mind in which she approached the place, we may form a tolerably accurate notion of what she must have experienced. On arriving within two hundred yards or so of the spot mentioned, she observed in the distance, about half-a-mile before her, a gentleman on horseback, approaching her at a rapid speed. Her heart, on perceiving him, literally sank within her, and she felt so weak as to be scarcely able to proceed.

"Oh! what," she at length asked herself, "would I not give but for one glance of young Condy Dalton! But it is not to be. The unfortunate murdher of my uncle has prevented that for ever; although I can't get myself to b'lieve that any of the Daltons ever did it; but maybe that's because I wish they didn't. The general opinion is, that his father is the man that did it. May the Lord forgive them, whoever they are, that took his life—for it was a black act, to me at any rate!"

Across the road before her, ran one of those little deep valleys, or large ravines, and into this had the horseman disappeared as she closed the soliloquy. He had not, however, at all slackened his pace, but, on the contrary, evidently increased it, as she could hear by the noise of his horse's feet.

At this moment she reached the brow of the ravine, and our readers may form some conception of what she felt when, on looking down it, she saw her lover, young Dalton, toiling up towards her with feeble and failing steps, whilst pressing after him, from the bottom, came young Henderson, urging his horse with whip and spur. Her heart, which had that moment bounded with delight, now utterly failed her, on perceiving the little chance which the poor young man had of being the first to meet her, and thus fulfil the prophecy. Henderson was gaining on him at a rapid rate, and must in a few minutes have passed him, had not woman's wit and presence of mind come to her assistance. "If he cannot run to me up the hill," she said to herself, "I can run to him down it,"—and as the thought occured to her, she started towards him at her greatest speed, which, indeed, was considerable, as her form was of that light and elastic description which betokens great powers of activity and exertion. The struggle, indeed, was close; Henderson now plied whip and spur with redoubled energy, and the animal was approaching at full speed. Mave, on the other hand, urged by a thousand motives, forgot everything but the necessity for exertion. Dalton was incapable of running a step, and appeared not to know the cause of the contest between the parties. At length Mave, by her singular activity and speed, reached her lover, into whose arms she actually ran, just as Henderson had come within about-half-a-dozen yards of the spot where she met him. This effort, on the part of Mave, was in perfect accordance with the simple earnestness of her character; her youthful figure, her innocence of manner, the glow of beauty, and the crowd of blushing graces which the act developed, together with the joyous exultation of her triumph on reaching her lover's arms, and thus securing to herself and him the completion of so delightful a prediction—all, when taken in at one view, rendered her a being so irresistibly fascinating, that her lover could scarcely look upon the incident as a real one, but for a moment almost persuaded himself that his beloved Mave had undergone some delightful and glorious *transformation*—such as he had seen her assume in the dreams of his late illness.

THE LAST OF TOM DALTON.

One after one they all kissed him; and as each knew that this tender and sorrowful embrace must be the last that should ever pass between them, it is impossible adequately to describe the scene which then took place.

"I have a request to make," he said, feebly; "an' it is, that I may sleep with Peggy an' our baby, Maybe I'm not worthy of that: but still I'd like it, an' my heart's upon it; an' I think she would like it, too."

"It can be done, an' we'll do it," replied his mother; "we'll do it, my darlin' boy—my son, my son, we'll do it."

"Don't you all forgive me—forgive me everything?"

They could only, for some time, reply by their tears; but at length they did reply, and he seemed satisfied.

"Now," said he, "there was an ould Irish air that Peggy used to sing for me—I thought I heard her often singin' it of late—did I?"

"I suppose so, darlin'," replied his mother; "I suppose you did."

"Mary, here," he proceeded, "sings it; I would like to hear it *before I go*; it's the air of *Gra Gal Machree*."

"Before you go, *alanna!*" exclaimed his father, pressing him tenderly to his breast. "Oh! but they're bitther words to us, my darlin' an' my lovin' boy. But the air, Mary, darlin', strive an' sing it for him as well as you can."

It was a trying task for the affectionate girl, who, however, so far overcame her grief, as to be able to sing it with the very pathos of nature itself.

"Ay," said he, as she proceeded, "that's it—that's what Peggy used to sing for me, bekase she knew I liked it."

Tender and full of sorrow were the notes as they came from the innocent lips of that affectionate sister. Her task, however, was soon over; for scarcely had she concluded the air, when her poor brother's ears and heart were closed to the melody and affection it breathed for ever.

We have only to add that this volume is Mr Carleton's contribution to "the Great Fund of Benevolence which the destitution of his country has called into existence:" an additional reason for our hearty wish that "*The Black Prophet*" may be purchased and read by tens of thousands.

Address to the Working Classes of the Tower Hamlets.

This is a tract printed by the members of the National Charter Association, at the East end of London, intended for circulation amongst the working classes, with the object of making more widely known the constitution and objects of the Charter Association and Land Company, and the principles set forth in the National Petition. If properly circulated this tract is calculated to do great good. The Chartists of the Tower Hamlets have set an excellent example to their brethren throughout the country, which we hope will be imitated.

A New Sect in Denmark.—A new sect of Baptists are very active in proselytism in Seeland and Copenhagen. The members of the sect describe themselves as "made perfect"—they enjoy visions and miraculous interpositions. They denounce all the established churches as false and corrupt, and consider all measures of popular education irreligious. The regular Baptists have protested against the doctrines of this new division, and assert, for the credit of Denmark, that they never could have originated among the Danish people, but that they were imported from Sweden, and ought to be carried back to their native country.

Public Amusements.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE.

We have no hesitation in affirming this theatre to be, deservedly, one of the most popular places of amusement in London. Not only have we good average performances by bipeds; but the extraordinary feats of the quadrupeds stand unrivalled; and triumphantly prove—if, indeed, proof be wanted—that man is the true lord of creation, commanding the beasts of the field to be subservient to his will, and obedient to his command. The unrivalled display of equestrianism exhibited by Madame Dumos, and her truly beautiful horse, Partizan, delights the whole audience. The animal performs, gracefully, all the popular dances, keeping time to the music with the accuracy of an adept. The programme is replete with a host of varied and astonishing talent. Gymnasia, juggling, the funniments of the ever-juvenescent Widdicomb and the really clever clowns, Messrs Rochez and Twist, gratify and amaze the most fastidious; and we must emphatically remark, that Mr Batty not merely deserves praise for catering so magnificently for the public, but should reap "golden opinions" from peer to peasant. Splendid and effective novelties are in preparation for Easter, and Mr Batty intimates that the forthcoming spectacle will outvie its predecessors, and, it is presumed, equally command the extensive share of public patronage this establishment so liberally enjoys. If energy and enterprise secure success, assuredly the management of "Old Astley's" must, and ought to command it.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Shakespeare's tragedy of "Othello" was performed at this popular theatre on Monday evening, for the first time this season, and attracted a numerously attended house. Mr Phelps made an admirable Othello, pourtraying the passions of the jealous, sensitive, brave, yet vindictive, and easily-moved Moor, with a propriety and effect deserving of marked commendation. Iago found an able *representative in Mr H. Marston*, who developed the subtle designs of the character and hatred of the Moor in a manner which showed how well he understood the great author's conception of them. Cassio was well represented by Mr Hoskins in the drunken scene, and Roderigo, in the foppishness and impatience of his character, was respectably represented by Mr Scharf. Brabantio was ably represented by Mr G. Bennett. Miss Addison (whose personal attractions are highly in her favour as a representative of "the gentle Desdemona") played the part with considerable dignity. In her affirmations and the death scene, she acquitted herself admirably. Miss Cooper made a good deal of the difficult and important character of Emilia. *The other parts were* creditably sustained.

HAYMARKET.

A new comic drama has been produced at this house, entitled "The Light Troop of St James's." The plot is not of the simplest or most easily comprehended kind; but the performance was throughout admirable, all the actors exerting themselves, and successfully, therein. The piece owes any merit it possesses to its smart dialogue, and the spirit with which Buckstone and the ladies played. There was a pleasing song, composed by Mr T. G. Reid, sung by Miss Reynolds with great effect, which was encored. At the fall of the curtain, Mr Buckstone having come forward, announced the piece for representation every evening.

PORTRAITS OF STATESMEN.—BRITISH AND AMERICAN.

The editor of the *Wakefield Journal*, being in London on the occasion of one of the recent discussions on the Ten Hours' Bill, in the House of Commons, has given his readers notes of what he saw and heard in the Westminster tax-trap. We omit his account of the speeches, and merely give his "portraits" of certain members of the "collective wisdom." Mr Beckett, M.P. for Leeds, (who spoke in favour of "eleven hours,") is "a good looking man, stands six feet high, and possesses apparently all the physical requisites for a good and powerful speaker; but on this occasion his voice was remarkably low, and his utterance far from free." Mr Ward, M.P. for Sheffield, (who fiercely opposed the bill,) stands "almost as high as Mr Beckett, and is also a strong muscular man; but unlike the M.P. for Leeds, the 'Shevelder' spoke with great fluency, and was often very eloquent." Mr Brotherton, M.P. for Salford, (an ardent supporter of the bill,) is described as "a staid-looking, dark-complexioned, middle-aged man," who "at once entered upon the question at issue, and made a telling and effective speech, which in some parts met with rapturous applause from all parts of the house." After describing the sufferings of factory workers, particularly females, Mr B. very feelingly said, "When, sir, I was a boy, I experienced the wearisome toil of the factory, and I then made a resolve, when, with these hands, I had to labour in a mill for my bread, that if ever the day should arrive when I could be instrumental in alleviating such a state of things, I would use my utmost endeavours to accomplish that end, and I am thankful that I have been placed in this situation, where I am proud to confess that the feelings of my boyhood having been retained in my mature years, I can, I hope, be of some little service in alleviating those sufferings." Loud and long continued cheering followed this noble sentiment. Sir James Graham is not personally described, but of his speech-making we have the following account:—"Sir James spoke nearly an hour, and his speech was the very speech his most inveterate enemy would have most desired him to make. A speech containing less humanity, and more atrocious principles, was never uttered in the House of Commons." Of Sir George Grey we are told, "He is not so good a speaker as Sir James Graham. He speaks much more rapid, something like a schoolboy hurrying over a task when desirous of getting to his marbles; but the matter made up for any little defect." Lord George Bentinck "is a tall, slender, gentlemanly man, with moderately large whiskers, and rather a pleasing countenance. His voice appears at first, as does his manner, somewhat affected—occasionally there is a painful hesitancy in his speech, his elocution is very defective. At one moment he leans upon the table with his legs stretched out towards the frontbench looking at the speaker, the next he has turned his back upon the speaker, and exactly in the same posture addressing his observations to the lower part of the house—suddenly he will spring from the table, stretch himself up, and walk backwards and forwards from his seat to the table." Mr Escott (a bitter opponent of the bill,) "is a pale, sallow-looking, cadaverous sort of an animal." Mr Milner Gibson, M.P. for Manchester, ("dead against the bill,") is of the middle height, rather dark complexioned, quite juvenile and boyish in appearance, and the very contrary of the sort of man one would imagine the representative of Manchester to be."

The Washington correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* sketches the following portraits of Senators Benton and Calhoun, the two southern candidates for the presidency. "A greater contrast than exists between the two, both in personal appearance and qualities of mind, could hardly be found at the same elevation. Benton is a caricature likeness of Louis Philippe: the same rotundity, the same pear-shaped head, and about the same stature. The physical expression of his face predominates. His lower features are drilled into imperturbable suavity, while the eye, that un-drillable tale-teller, twinkles of inward slyness as a burning lamp-wick does of oil. He is a laborious builder-up of himself; acting by syllogistic forecast, never by impulses. He is pompously polite, and never abroad with his 'executive' manners. He has made up his mind that oratory, if not a national weakness, is an un-Presidential accomplishment, and he delivers himself in the Senate with a subdued voice, like a judge deciding upon a cause which the other senators had only argued. He wears an ample blue cloak, and a broad-brimmed hat with a high crown, and lives, moves, and has his being in a faith in himself which will remove mountains of credulity. Though representing a state two thousand miles off, he resides regularly at Washington, drawing a handsome income from his allowance of mileage, and paying rare and brief visits to his constituency, whose votes he has retained for more than twenty years—an unaccountable exception to the anti-Conservative rotation of the country's gifts of office. Mr Calhoun lives in his mind, and puts a sort of bathing-dress value on his body. There is a temporary looking tuck-away of his beard and hair, as if they would presently be better combed in another place; mouth and eyes kept clear only for a brief life-swim in the ocean of politics. He is tall, hollow-chested, and emaciated, and both face and figure are concave, with a student's bend forward. He smiles easily when spoken to, indeed with rather a simple facility, though in longer conversation he gives his eye to the speaker barely in recognition of an idea, and with a most '*verbum sap.*' Withdrawal from talkativeness. When speaking in the Senate, he is a very startling looking man. His skin lies sallow and loose on the bold frame of his face; his stiff gray hair spreads off from rather a low forehead, with the semi-circular radiation of the smoke from a wheel of fireworks just come to a standstill; the profuse masses of white beard in his throat catch the eye like the smoulder of a fire under his chin, and his eyes, bright as coals, move with jumps, as if he thought in electric leaps from one idea to another. He dresses carelessly, walks the street absent-mindedly, and is treated with the most marked personal respect and involuntary deference by his brother senators and the diplomatists at Washington.

A Literary Curiosity.—At a sale of rare books which commenced in London, last week, to continue through eleven days, a very beautiful copy of the Mazarin Bible, attributed to the press of Guttemberg, at Mentz, of which only fourteen are known to be in existence, was sold to Messrs Willey and Putnam, the American booksellers, for £500. The British Museum, possesses two copies, and this will be sent to the American Museum, at Washington.

THESE ARE THE CHAMBERS'S OF 1845!

[We have already shown to our readers the Chambers's of 1847; we now refer to the previous opinions of these changeable economists. Whence this wonderful change?]

IMPROVEMENT OF WASTE LANDS—SPADE HUSBANDRY.

(From the Information for the People, No. 72.)

[*Continued from our last.*]

To quote the words of Mr Carstairs himself upon the state of this moss when he got possession of it—It was mostly composed of white foggy stuff, standing from two to twelve inches deep in water, and not worth sixpence an acre of rent, as it would carry neither man nor beast. In 1836, he commenced cutting sheep drains twelve inches wide and twelve inches deep across the whole moss, dividing it into regular riggs of from twelve to fourteen feet broad each, which has had the desired effect of drying the moss completely, the hollows being filled up with the sods taken from the drains. This drainage cost him £43 11s. In the summer of 1836 and 1837, a great extent of it was top-dressed with earth and lime; and now it bears the horses and carts over its surface freely, although the moss is from ten to forty feet in depth.

The application of gravel and sand effects perhaps more improvement, in consolidating and decomposing the moss, than either lime or dung. This is shown to be the case from the circumstance that moss-land, when overflowed, is rendered fertile by the deposit of earthy matter from the water. In imitation of this operation, Mr Carstairs is in the habit, at every breaking up of the reclaimed moss land from pasturage, of giving a liberal application of clay, gravel, or sand. This he effects in an easy manner, by means of a portable railroad. The application of the gravel, and the committing of the land to pasturage, or irrigated meadow, for a given number of years, have the effect of consolidating it so much, as in most cases to render it capable of being ploughed by horses; but when rather soft, pattens are put upon their feet to prevent them from sinking.

By the means detailed, some very large fields of the moss ground have been so reduced in depth as to allow the subsoil, formed from the application of clay, gravel, &c., to be brought up by the plough and incorporated with the moss. Complete furrow-drainage keeps the soil and subsoil always dry; and now this ground presents fields of as fine and as fertile vegetable loam as can be seen in the whole county, which nothing but their great elevation prevents from being equally valuable. The chick, the sorrel, the nettle, and other weeds, which usually infest moss land when first brought into cultivation, have entirely disappeared—a sure indication that a complete melioration of the land has been effected.

When the depth of the moss is considerable, the under stratum, from being more decomposed and consolidated, is uniformly of a much better quality for agricultural purposes than that on or immediately below the surface. To get rid of this inferior soil Mr Carstairs has frequently resorted to burning; and even in this operation the effects of lime and other earthy applications, some years previously put on, is singularly valuable. They not only make the moss burn more freely, and at a more uniform degree of depth, but the ashes are rendered highly valuable as a manure to the succeeding crops, by being mixed with the lime. Thus, by frequent applications of any earth or lime, but particularly clay, and occasional burning, the worthless moss soil becomes progressively reduced in depth, and fertilised."

The expense of draining and preparing moss land depends on many local circumstances. The usual cost is from £12 to £15 per acre; but much has been done at £7 or £8 per acre. The expense, in either case, is for the most part repaid in a very few years; and then good land, which may be let for £2 or £3 an acre per annum, may be said to have been absolutely conquered from the wilderness, and added to the productive soil of the country.

DRAINING.

In some countries the ground is naturally so dry, and the climate possesses so little moisture, that instead of drainage, the land may require to be irrigated profusely with water at certain seasons of the year. The lands, generally speaking, of England, Scotland, and Ireland, are of a very different character. There are few parts of the country where drainage, from superabundant moisture, is not requisite; and, therefore, the operation of draining should be thoroughly comprehended by every practical agriculturist.

The necessity for draining arises either from the water rising to the surface from springs beneath, or from the subsoil being of a retentive quality, by which water lying upon the surface, or absorbed in the upper stratum, cannot escape. According as either of these causes predominate, or are associated with each other, so must the process of drainage be regulated and conducted. All soils, those of a very sandy or gravelly nature, in some situations, excepted, are more or less liable to over-wetness, either from their own nature or the nature of the subsoil on which they rest. Clay, whether on the surface or beneath, is, from its adhesive nature, very retentive of moisture. A mixture of clay, sand, and sometimes iron, is also found very impervious; and even loams, although they absorb water freely, generally retain too much. Rich black loams usually lie on a clay subsoil, of different colours and textures, according to which the land will be in various degrees wet. The wetness in these loams is not so apparent as on other soils, but it is in every case as injurious, and as great a necessity exists for its removal. Land subject to springs is usually very varied in its surface, and may require a number of drains before water is effectually removed.

Draining is the operation of drawing off the water from the over-moist land, and of reducing the soil to that proper degree of dryness which renders it available for productive tillage. Many moist lands, though undrained, will produce crops of grain, and the crops will be the heavier the drier and finer the season; but, taking these lands on a common average of seasons, it will be found that they often greatly fail in yielding even moderate crops, and that, at the very best, their crops are inferior in bulk and weight to those of grounds which have been subjected to a thorough process of drainage, and the kind of tillage consequent upon such an improvement. The outward mark of all undrained arable land is, that little or no grain grows in the furrows. The crop is seen to run along the centre of the ridges, dwarfing gradually off to the sides, where it disappears, thus leaving a large portion of every field with no crop. Wherever land is observed in this condition—and apparently the greater part of that in England is so—there is a want of drainage. The practice of making narrow heaped-up ridges, and deep furrows at their sides, is a proof of the land being badly drained. With a right method of drainage beneath, no portion of the surface is lost for cropping; the crop is at liberty to grow all over the field, and the furrow is only a slight indentation to mark off the divisions for the reapers in harvest.

Drains are of several kinds, according to the nature and situation of the land. Some drains are conduits built with stone, others are conduits filled entirely with loose stones, between which the water percolates and escapes, and others are constructed with tiles of a particular form. Of whatever description, main and tributary drains are required. We shall describe a main and an inferior drain, in the language of one of the most experienced writers on the subject, Mr Smith, of Deanston:—

"The main drain should be directed along the bottom of the chief hollow or valley of the grounds, where the whole or greater portion of the drains can be led into it. If any lesser hollows occur in the field, they must also have their proportional mains or leaders. The bottom of the main drain should be at least three feet, and, if possible, three and a half or four feet under the surface where it passes along; and it should have throughout as uniform a fall as the nature of the ground will admit.

It should be flagged in the bottom, or, where flagstones are expensive, built as an inverted arch, to prevent the possibility of washing away under the side building. The dimensions necessary will depend on the fall or declivity, and the area or land from which it has to receive water. With a fall in no place less than one foot in 100 yards, a drain ten inches wide and eighteen inches deep will void the rain water from 100 acres. It is of great importance to make the open area of such drains narrow and high, as smaller bottoms and covers will suit, and be less liable to give way; and the current of water being more confined, mud and sand will be less apt to settle in the bottom. Let the sides be smoothly and securely built with flat stones, either with or without mortar; and let strong flat covers be placed over, or, where such are not to be found, rough simple arches may be built with thin stones and mortar, for the bottom and cover, packing the haunches of the arch well up to the sides of the cut. Where lesser hollows occur crossing the fields, it is necessary to cut sub-mains along their bottoms, about three or three and a half feet deep, and having openings of suitable dimensions formed by inverted stone couples, or with drain tiles, or, where a very large flow of water has to be provided for, with an inverted tile, and a covering tile placed above the bottom one, or with larger tiles made on purpose.

There should be a cross submain at the bottom of every field or stretch of drains, to receive the water from all the parallel drains; and such drain should always be cut six inches deeper than the drains running into it, that the water may have a free drop, which will prevent the lodgment of mud or sand at their junctions or mouths. Open cuts or ditches, either as mains or submains, should never, except from necessity, be adopted, being apt to get filled with mud and grass, by which water is thrown back into the drains, which often chokes them; besides, the loss of land, annoyance in ploughing, constant expense of cleaning, and the unsightly appearance of the thing, are serious objections.

(To be continued.)

A vessel arrived at Liverpool from Matanzas, in Cuba, has brought an entire cargo of molasses.

Varieties.

A youth was prosecuted and fined the other day, at Aberdeen, for having posted a newspaper, with a written paper therein.

Paley says,—"No one is able to produce a character from heaven, or has any better title to a particular possession than his neighbour."

Some of the Irish papers, after regretting that their space is inadequate to individualize the deaths by destitution, chronicle the meets of the fox hounds.

Captain Sir S. Brown, of the navy, has offered, at his own expense, to construct and maintain a suspension bridge across the Thames, from Westminster to Lambeth, if he can obtain the authority of parliament, and permission to establish a toll.

The cost of a soldier's ration in Ireland is increased 3d., and in England 1½d. from the scarcity of provisions.

The personal property left by Mr T. Ward, the extensive shipowner, has been valued for duty at £250,000.

There are upwards of 70 John-streets in London, 47 James-streets, 52 King-streets, 44 New-streets, 46 Queen-streets, 30, York-streets, 15 Wellington-streets, 12 Grove-streets, and the like number of many others.

Postage Stamps are in preparation for the colonies, by which pre-payment may be effected on letters for any place now covered by the shilling stamp.

A party in Portsoy has realised upwards of £50 for turnip seeds, the produce of an acre.

The Queen's residence in the Isle of Wight, hitherto called Osborne House, is henceforth to be called Osborne; and Barton Manor Farm is in future to be termed Barton House.

Such fears of tumult are felt by the authorities at Brussels, that the bakers have been advised by the police to withdraw their loaves from their shop windows, and to leave as few articles as possible exposed to the eye of the people.

The valuation of the personal property of the great valuer of estates, the lamented George Henry Robins, Esq., has been taken at £140,000 exclusive of landed property.

A girl named M'Lean, who received a bayonet wound at Invergordon, during the late disturbances, has since died.

"*The Ram's Horn*" is the somewhat singular title of a new paper published in New York. It is decidedly a clever performance, and well deserves the patronage of the community. The paper is both edited and published by coloured men.

A correspondent of the *Sheffield Iris* recommends an adherence to the workhouse diet of that town as a preventive of gout!

If mystery, remarks the *Times*, be indeed a source of the sublime, there must be something exceedingly lofty in the style of our acts of parliament.

In the metropolis there are about 200 deaths a week, nearly thirty deaths a day, or more than one death an hour beyond what ought to happen in the common course of nature. [This fact speaks loudly for prompt sanatory measures.]

There were 18,502,240 pounds of green and black teas exported from China to the United States during the year ending 1st July, 1846.

From the evidence of Mr J. Little, an extensive builder of third and fourth-rate houses in the metropolis, it appears that "the average losses on the rent of such houses is one-fifth, and that three out of five of these losses are from the sickness of the tenants, who are working men."

In the state of Maryland, the law forbids any man, under five dollars penalty, from buying of a free negro any bacon, pork, beef, mutton, corn, wheat, tobacco, rye, or oats.

The Lords of the Admiralty have directed the extension of the South-Western Railway subterranean electric telegraph, which communicates with Portsmouth, to the offices of the Admiralty at Whitehall.

When Mr Layard, in the course of his excavations in the ruins of Nineveh, brought to light a colossal lion-body, with a human head, his superstitious labourers fled precipitately, crying "Nimrod, Nimrod." The mighty hunter, however, did not give chase, and after a while the men were induced to return.

A bill has been introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature exempting the property of the wife from being seized by the creditors of the husband. Several States are about to adopt that just principle.

All sects call themselves "miserable sinners," but are very much affronted if another sect call them so.

In 1846, of 4,568 prisoners confined in Edinburgh prison, 2,400 were confined drunkards!

The Blackwall Railway Company have determined to reduce the width of the rails from five feet, to the national gauge of four feet eight inches and a-half; also to discard the rope and supply its place by locomotive powers.

In a village of Suffolk is the following epitaph on a tombstone. It has no name, no date, and no one knows over whose remains it was placed:—

Reader, pass on, nor idly waste your time,
On bad biography or bitter rhyme;
For what I am, this cumb'rous clay insures;
And what I was—is no affair of yours!

An improvement is said to have been effected by an American, in the generation of heat, by which an immense saving will be effected in the consumption of fuel. The secret of the discovery is not yet fully revealed, but the whole heat is completely confined to the boilers, by the substitution of an artificial for a natural draft.

The improvements going on at the Carlton Club-house are on a magnificent scale. On the completion the whole will present a front larger than that of the Reform Club.

The Portuguese government has dismissed five professors of the University of Coimbra, one of whom had headed a guerilla, while the others had encouraged their pupils to join the insurgents.

A canary died recently, at Dundee, at the age of twenty-seven years!

The personal property of the late Lord Mount Sandford has been estimated for duty at £100,000. The title is extinct.

At the last return under the income-tax act, no fewer than thirty surgeons practising in London, admitted that their professional earnings amounted to £10,000 per annum each; and of these, three were upwards of £20,000 each.

The men of Monkwearmouth Colliery are now off work, on account of a dispute relative to the adjustment of the weight of coals.

Some of the advertisements for curates, &c., in the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, are very business-like. The following, for instance:—"A title for orders wanted, immediately, in the diocese of Worcester. Principles, evangelical."

Elihu Burritt, the "learned blacksmith," recently delivered a lecture to 3,000 persons, in the City-hall, Glasgow, on the organic sinfulness of war. He was most cordially received.

Opinions vary a good deal as to the appearance of the crops: it is rather too soon to form any.

The English Mint has eight presses, which strike sixty blows in a minute, and produce 3,600 coins in an hour.

It is more than probable that Mrs Butler (late Miss F. Kemble) will, ere long, become lessee of one of the metropolitan theatres.

Vulcanised India-rubber is now made use of to supersede steel in the buffer springs of railway and other carriages.

An impression being prevalent that the warm bath makes those who use it liable to take cold, the committee for promoting the establishment of baths and wash-houses have published a certificate to the contrary, signed by 144 eminent physicians and surgeons.

The Old Bridge of Dumfries, after standing six hundred years, has begun to give way.

Bands of half-famished peasants, from Rhenish Prussia and Bavaria, have recently attempted to enter France for the purpose of begging, but have been stopped at the frontier.

A handsome servant girl in New York, very lately committed suicide by swallowing laudanum because she had received a cruel valentine from one whom she regarded as a fond lover.

The total military force of the United States, either raised or now raising, is upwards of 70,000 men; that of the navy 10,000. The sums voted for the war expenses are upwards of thirty-four millions of dollars.

A vein of gold, yielding 50 dollars worth of pure metal to the bushel, has been discovered in the vicinity of Asheborough, N. C. It is the richest vein yet found in the United States.

The general assembly of Wallachia has passed a law for the emancipation of such gipsies as are serfs of the government or the clergy; but those belonging to private persons still remain in bondage.

An electrical clock is to be erected in the tower of Wenham church, near Ipswich, and the motive power is to be incessantly maintained by a perpetual electric current derived from the earth.

An old woman of eighty-seven, residing near Dudley, was married a few days ago for the fourth time, each of her husbands being pensioners. Her last husband died about six weeks ago, and the present one was at the funeral, immediately after which the match was made.

An Irish provincial paper, the *Downpatrick Recorder*, states the astounding fact, that, by means of the inhalation of ether, Professor Sewell had effected the amputation of the limb of a deceased sheep with perfect success, and without any apparent pain.—*Punch.*

A few days since a fox was killed by a train on the Oxford branch of the Great Western Railway, while stealing towards some sheep and lambs, which were folded near the line.

The Lord Chancellor has, for the first time, exercised the power conferred upon him by the new Lunacy Act; and has, from and after the 13th April next, withdrawn the license of a lunatic asylum, in the parish of Gate Helmsley, Yorkshire.

The Norwegian herring fishery for this year is ended; and on the whole 250,000 tons have been put into salt.

A fatal murrain is very prevalent among the sheep and lambs in some parts of Lincolnshire.

Miscellanies.

Forgery.—At Guildhall on Saturday Samuel King, stated to be an attorney struck off the rolls, was committed for trial, charged with uttering two forged bills of exchange for £250 each. The case was one of a very distressing nature, the forgery being the name of the brother of the prisoner as the acceptor.

Harbour of Refuge.—The formation of this great national undertaking, a harbour of refuge at Dover, is finally decided upon. The present year will see the works commenced.

The Persian Adventurers.—The two Persians, who were placed in a temporary refuge at the east end of the town until an opportunity occurred of passing them to their own country, have left the Refuge, and it is not known where they have gone; though it is conjectured that they will shortly make their appearance in public as solicitors for subscriptions to the alleged fund for the redemption of a relative who has been fined for killing a Turk.

Shipwreck.—On Tuesday night, about half-past ten o'clock, the *Defiance, of Goole, 324 tons register*, R. Spence, master, from London to Galway, with a general cargo, struck on the Rundle Stone. The master and crew, fourteen in number, left her in the jolly boat, at midnight, with nine feet of water in the hold, and the next morning she was seen off the Brisons, near Cape Cornwall. Part of the cargo, which was flour, meal, &c., has been washed on shore. The crew landed on Wednesday, at St Ives.

New Library.—A library, to consist of not fewer than 1,000 volumes, is now in the course of formation, for the use of the West London Central Anti-Enclosure Association, likewise a collection of ancient and modern maps, to facilitate inquiries respecting disputed footways.

Polish Prisoners in Prussia.—The number of Poles in prison, on a charge of having taken part in the late revolution, is 203, some of whom are in the fortress of Sonnenburg, others in the prisons of Berlin, and a few at Posen.

Death of Mddlle Mars.—Mddlle Mars, the most celebrated actress which the French stage ever possessed, died in Paris on Saturday night, at ten o'clock. She was born on the 19th December, 1778, and was the daughter of the celebrated actor, Monvel.

Port of Birkenhead.—The opening of the port here, on Easter Monday next, will be a grand day—Birkenhead commencing its existence as a port. The occasion will be observed as a gala.

Irish Distress.—New York has sent 40,000 dollars to relieve the distress in Ireland. In Cincinnati, 3,000 dollars were subscribed in one evening. The Catholics of Boston have subscribed 5,387 dollars.

A Good Example.—The directors of the Preston and Wyre Railway have liberally granted a free passage along their line to all persons going to Fleetwood to lecture at the Fleetwood Mechanics' Institution.

American Cider.—A vessel from New York has brought, in addition to 412 bags of oats, 1,420 barrels of flour, 100 barrels of soda biscuits, and a variety of other articles, 20 casks of cider, the manufacture of the United States, which is an unusual importation, and at the present time of the year especially remarkable.

Early Brood.—A few days ago a pair of canary birds belonging to a gentleman in New-street, Kilmarnock, brought out a brood of young canaries. The little captives, never destined to soar in the blue sky, or warble their songs in leafy groves, but cabined and confined to the contracted dimensions of a cage in hopeless slavery, are thriving well.

Lambing Season.—We (*Hereford Journal*) are sorry to hear continued accounts of the mortality among ewes and lambs. The sheep are, in many instances, affected in a manner different to that which we briefly described last week, and the offspring perish in consequence of the acidity imparted by the epidemic to the sustenance derived from the mother.

A New Public Officer.—The *New York Sun* enumerates among the train who did honour to the dwarf Stratton (otherwise General Tom Thumb) on his departure from Liverpool for New York, the name of a gentleman who is described as "Chief Superintendent of the principal Public Exhibitions and Amusements in Great Britain."

An Eligible Site for the Wellington Statue.—A correspondent signing "J. H.," proposes the grounds of the Duke of York's school, in the King's-road, Chelsea, as a refuge for the destitute Wellington statue.

Secret for a Farmer's Wife.—While the milking of your cows is going on let your pans be placed in boiling water. Strain the milk into one of the pans taken hot from the hot water, and cover it with another of the hot pans, and proceed in like manner with the whole mass of milk, and you will have double the quantity of good rich cream and sweet delicious butter.

Irish Paupers (Liverpool).—From correspondence just laid before Parliament relative to the immigration of Irish paupers into Liverpool, it appears that on the 4th of January last there were relieved in Liverpool 3,189 Irish pauper immigrants (2,132 of them children). On the 12th the number had increased to 10,074 (of whom 6,491 were children); and on the 18th to 18,053 (of whom no fewer than 12,363 were children). On the 26th—25,529 Irish paupers were relieved in Liverpool. There arrived in that town from Ireland, 50,039 men, women, and children, during the time from the 13th of January to the 16th of February, little more than one month.

Athenæum at Bolton.—An Athenæum is about to be erected at Bolton, towards which the sum of £5 000 has been subscribed. Let no one after this sneer at Bolton.

Paddle-box Boats.—Owing to the great success attending the use of the paddle-box boats, in the recovery of stores, &c., at the wreck of the Sphynx, the Admiralty are about to direct that they be fitted to all steam-vessels.

Extensive Forgeries at Leeds.—No new facts have transpired in reference to the forgeries of the three Glovers. The greatest possible vigilance is being used to discover their retreat, and not without some hopes of success.

English and Irish Benevolence.—A Preston cotton-spinner, with not a fraction of pecuniary interest in Ireland, has subscribed £100 to the Irish relief fund. The Earl of Mountcashel, towards relieving the poor on *his own estates*, in *eight* townships, gives £10; and this is about a fair average of the manner in which the Irish landlords, while getting all they can from England in the way of loans, deal with their own countrymen and dependants.

Naples.—Ancient Amphitheatre.—The ancient amphitheatre of Pouzzoles has been freed from the earth that surrounded it, and may now be examined in all its parts. The dens of the animals, which are situated under the arena, are of extremely solid masonry, and in a state of excellent preservation. Lamps, parts of columns, and remains of architectural ornaments, have been found in them.

New Mutiny Bill.—A bill "for punishing mutiny and desertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters," has been introduced by Mr Greene, the Secretary at War, the Paymaster General, and the Judge Advocate. It contains 103 clauses.

A Jew Pig-Dealer.—In Shaftesbury Market, the other week, one Marcus Lewis, a Jew, sold four pigs; whereat the local papers wonder. Wherefore? Marcus broke no law. The pork passed not through his stomach, only through his hands. Besides, when a white Yankee sells a black man—why not a white Jew, it may be, a black pig? In one case the merchant trades upon what his religion tells him he ought to love; in the other, the Jew turns the market penny on what he is told to hate.—*Punch.*

The Fast Day.—We have been given to understand that among the consequences of the Fast day, was the acceleration of the maturity of Bills of Exchange, which were to a certain extent made fast in their progress by becoming payable one day earlier than otherwise. We have heard of persons and things being knocked into next week, but is it only bills and promissory notes that are liable to be knocked into yesterday.—*Ibid.*

Rich Bequests.—The late J. Cripps, Esq., banker, Gloucester, has bequeathed to his twelve children specific pecuniary legacies to the amount of upwards of £80,000, and the residue amongst five of them. The late S. Mills, Esq., of Russell-square, has left £500,000 in personalty alone, which is quite independent of his extensive freeholds. The late J. E. Tabor, Esq., of Fenns Bocking, Essex, was possessed of considerable freehold, leasehold, and landed estates in the counties of Essex and Suffolk, and has left personal property estimated at £90,000.

Advance in the Price of Whiskey.—Several licensed victuallers have, during the last few days, raised the price of whiskey three-pence a bottle.

Heroic Conduct.—On Saturday last a girl, aged 13 years, daughter of Mr Tait, engineer to Mr C. Seely, having had a few words with her step-mother, left home and went to the Witham, where she leaped in, with intent to drown herself. The Rev. Mr Bradford, vicar of St. Mary's, happened to be passing at the time, when he plunged in after the girl, and in a short time succeeded in rescuing her from a watery grave. Mr Bradford is a highly-esteemed clergyman, and this act of bravery deserves to be remembered by all humane persons.

Shocking Death.—A few days since, at Wateringbury, a child named Page, about three years of age, drank some nearly boiling water out of a kettle. The poor sufferer endured the greatest torment till the following day, when, although everything was done to alleviate the same, death ensued.

Railways and Fish.—On Tuesday, upwards of 200 pads of mackerel, containing 20,000 fish, caught at Plymouth, 219 miles from the metropolis, were brought into Billingsgate Market through the medium of the Great Western Railway, the sudden glut so reducing the price of these fish that the retail dealers were able to sell them at six and eight for a shilling.

East Sussex.—Although not alluded to by name in the retiring address of the junior representative, of East Sussex, the Protectionist journals announce Mr. Lucas Shadwell as the gentleman about to come forward as Mr Frewen's nominee.

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No. 3, (price 6d.) of

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Monthly Magazine of Politics, Literature, Poetry, &c

Edited by

Feargus O'Connor, Esq., and Ernest Jones, Esq., (Barristers-at-Law.)

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ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

Mr James Russell, (late of Covent Garden and Drury-lane Theatres,) gave the first of a series of "Readings from Shakspeare" at this popular establishment on Thursday last, in which he was eminently successful. The subject chosen was the "*Merchant of Venice.*" Three scenes were given. The first, where Bassanio applies to Antonio for his assistance, to enable him to try his fortune with Portia; secondly, that with Shylock when applying to him to grant the loan on Antonio's security; and thirdly, the trial scene. Mr Russell accomplished his task with much ability and judgment. He kept the characters perfectly distinct, and varied the *intonations of his voice to suit the different speakers.*

The readings were listened to with much attention by the audience, and there were repeated bursts of applause, which were unanimously given at the conclusion.

We can strongly recommend our readers to avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded by the enterprising directors of this most truly national establishment.

THE COLOSSEUM.

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Extensive Robbery by a Solicitor's Clerk.—On Thursday information was received by the police that Robert Shephard, a young man in the employ of Messrs Hodson, Concanew, and Noyes, solicitors, Lincoln's-inn, had absconded, taking with him 424*l.* in gold, and two 30*l.* Bank of England notes, which he was entrusted with to take to a banker's in the City. He is described as being five feet ten inches in height, thin, and pale complexion, and a reward of 50*l.* is offered for his apprehension.

THE LAND AND ITS CAPABILITIES.

No. 3 of

THE LABOURER,

Just published, contains a Reprint of Mr. F. O'Connor's Letter, in the "Northern Star" of January 30th, demonstrating the certainty with which an allottee may support himself and family, and accumulate money, on a "Two Acre" allotment.

The very general demand that was made for the paper containing the above letter has induced the Editors to *reprint it, after careful revision, in the March Number* of the Labourer.

NUMBER IV. of "THE LABOURER" (Price 6d.), Which will be published on April 1st, will contain an elaborate Treatise on the

NATIONAL LAND AND LABOUR BANK,

IN ITS RELATION WITH

THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

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☞ All reports of meetings holden in any part of England on the Sunday, must be at this office by Tuesday; reports of meetings held on the Monday must be at the office by Wednesday. This rule is for "Trades," as well as "Chartist" and "Land Company" meetings. Notices of "Forthcoming Meetings," and correspondence requiring answers, must be at the office by Wednesday, at the latest. "Letters" commenting on public questions, intended for insertion in full, must be at the office by Tuesday. The communications of correspondents not attending to the above regulations will stand over.

THE WARRINGTON "CONSPIRACY" CASE.

Northern Star Office, Friday.

We have received a communication from Liverpool announcing that the trial of the Newton mechanics on the charges *contained in the monster indictment,* would come on this afternoon, or to-morrow (Saturday). A full report of the trial will appear in our next number.

THE NORTHERN STAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1847.

THE PRESENT CRISIS.

Now that the great Humbug of the week has passed by—now that the working classes have lost a day's employment by way of a boon from the "Church and State"—it behoves us to revert to the opinion of the country as to the gross act of blasphemous superstition of which our Legislature has been guilty. Our denunciations of that act have been fully verified by the unanimously expressed opinion of the working classes; who here, again, have proved themselves vastly ahead of their rulers in enlightenment and common sense. Government must be two centuries behindhand in intelligence, if they think that they can blind the people by such tricks as this mockery of a Fast. It would have done in the dark ages, when the faults of the legislators were fathered upon God; or in remoter times, when every illgotten bantling was ascribed to a Pagan deity. But men have learned to reason from cause to effect—and Famine, the bastard child of evil laws, bears plainly on its face the stamp of its ignoble origin—a cross-breed between the Tory and the Whig. The homœopathic plan of curing *famine* by *fast* not having succeeded by a miracle, since manna is not dropping from the skies to-day in consequence, naturally leads us to consider what will be the future growth of the hydra-headed monster. Little, indeed, can be the confidence, either in the good intention or in the wisdom of a ministry, that resorts to similar expedients; and were it not that we have faith in the sense and determination of the people, we should be compelled to consider the prospect before us as dark indeed. It must be evident to all, that nothing can be expected from any party now holding the balance of governmental power. There was a time in which the masses might gain advantage out of the discord of party and the weakness of some individual faction: this is the case no longer. Landed and monied interests see the necessity of coalescing against the people; and thus, while, on the one hand, the array of opposition is increased, on the other hand, the question of the ultimate solution of the difficulty becomes less complicated. There is *nothing* like a good opposition. Men then know what they are about. While they are yet doubtful as to who is a *friend,* and who is a foe, they will be paralysed in their actions, from the fear of wholly estranging a half-friend, or turning a supporter into an enemy. We are relieved from this difficulty—we know who are our friends, and who are our enemies—and, what is better still, we have learned at last, that *all who are not for us are against us.* This is an important lesson, since it precludes the possibility of that temporising and time-serving which has ruined so many a public movement. We have learned that it has come to a struggle between the rich and poor, and a struggle, not for imaginary rights, but for the RIGHT TO LIVE. This, indeed, simplifies the question, and those who once called Chartism a "*hungry howl,*" knew not the fearful prophecy contained in their words. It was at first the indignant cry of an oppressed people for their rights;—woe to *those who are turning it into a "hungry howl!"* They tell us hunger will break through stone walls, and yet they forcibly take the food from the mouths of the famishing, and sleep amid dreams of security in palace, barrack, and store. Meanwhile they are feeding the public with something more than M. Soyer's soup—they are feeding the public mind with a fresh catalogue of wrong and insult, under which patience would be as much a mockery as violence would be unwise and to be deplored. But there is a medium course—there is such a thing as an organisation of national power, combined with an expression of public mind. Governments have used such *means* to *frighten* oppositions, and enforce a political delusion—*they can be more efficacious in the* hands of the people when *enforcing* a political truth. And be it remembered, that every year, nay, every month, weakens the popular strength. Slavery is a dangerous thing, inasmuch as its habitude enervates, and makes a man feel, think, and act like a slave. At first a man will struggle indignantly, but after a time he grows desponding—at last indifferent, and he will say to himself, "It is all very bad, but what can be done?" May the people of this country never be reduced to such a state! What is to be done? To act like men! To pour petition after petition into the House, with constantly increasing signatures; to hold such demonstrations as shall baffle factious opposition, and to take our stand at every hustings in the empire. Let us do this, and without violence, peaceably, quietly, and in the utmost order, that great revolution may be effected, which shall replace the worn-out constitution of faction, by the great principle of the Charter. Meanwhile, let us not forget that the enemy is constantly undermining our camp. Famine is slaughtering the people by hundreds of thousands, and the ceaseless and fatal sapping of emigration is going on in the dark. In opposition to this, the Land Company is progressing, it is true, with unexampled success; but in times like the present, every man is wanted at his post; every hand should be ready for the helm and the sail, to steer the vessel of the State through the shoals of onopoly and past the rocks of Prejudice. Once more, then, we exhort the toiling millions not to lull themselves into apathy, under the idea that things can "right themselves." Things did not make *themselves wrong,* but were made so by the men whose interest it is to keep them so. It is the interest of the landlord and the farmer to keep their labourers at 6s. or 8s. a-week wages, and to keep down the country population. It is the interest of the factory-lord to grind his slave even stil lower, and to overcrowd the factory labour-market! it is the interest of the State Church to keep the people blinded and ignorant, in order that they may submit to the three class-harpies. These three causes have been long at work—the effect we see to-day in famine and misery; they cannot stay the downward tendency of their government, if they would, for that would produce a reaction, and upset all. They are, therefore, *compelled* to go on as they begun—to nail the colours of Finality to the mast, and to fight their vessel to the last. Now, then, the question is reduced to this—are the people to proceed from bad to worse, and miserably *perish—or are they to subvert a social organization,* pregnant with such terrible results? The answer is obvious—how? we have already shown—the when? is equally plain. Next year the People will be less able to produce an impression than this one,—if they let the present time pass by in inactivity. If, on the contrary, they now prove themselves equal to the crisis, next year will see them on the way to victory. In a public movement much depends on knowing when to wait, and when to act; for, as the poet says,

> There is a tide in the affairs of men,
> Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune.

That the people are prepared, that the public mind is alive to its true interests, is proved by its manifestation at every fresh act of legal injustice, or *government absurdity.* Such has been the case at the solemn mockery of "the Fast;" on which occasion four overflowing public meetings were held in one day, in London alone. Nor has the country been more backward in denouncing this insult to common sense. Such being the public mind towards a religious mockery like the one alluded to, we are encouraged to believe they will no less protest against the sad reality of that legislation, which has given rise to misery it thus insults; and that its authors will have to answer for their HIGH TREASON—not to the Sovereign, but to the PEOPLE.

SCOTCH JUSTICE!

At the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, on Tuesday last, James Falconer, Angus Davidson, Daniel Sutherland, John Young and John Main, were charged with "mobbing and rioting to prevent the shipment of grain" at Burghead Harbour, county of Moray; and also with having assaulted the procurator-fiscal and a superintendent of police. The prisoners, no doubt advised thereto by their lawyers with the view of mitigating punishment *pleaded guilty, with the exception of Falconer,* who did not plead guilty to the charge of assault. The prisoners' legal advocates showed that they had previously borne unblemished characters, were peaceable and hardworking fishermen; that some of them had families depending upon their industry, and that even that test (in Scotland) of a poor man's "respectability"—regular attendance at public worship—was not wanting, as certificates from ministers residing in their locality testified. Everybody in court supposed that a short imprisonment would be the utmost punishment inflicted on the prisoners, when lo! the judges having retired to consider their sentence returned into court, and sentencing Falconer to *eighteen months' imprisonment,* sentenced the other four to be each transported for seven years!

This infernal mockery of justice is enough to drive peaceable men mad. The "Edinburgh Weekly Register" states that "everybody in court heard the severe sentence with amazement; and many persons shed tears." For our part we are not at all inclined to the melting mood, by reading the account of this judicial outrage. This atrocious judgment, this base, bloody, and brutal sentence, should rouse other feelings than those of mere pity for the victims. These ruffianly judges should be held up to public execration, and the whole strength of Scottish opinion be exerted to compel a reversal of the sentence, and the consequent degradation of these pitiless executioners.

When the canting scoundrel of a planter was flogging his slave, and at the same time lecturing the poor nigger on the heinousness of *his* offences, poor Sambo, unable to stand the double infliction, burst out with "Oh! Massa, Massa, when you floggee floggee; when you preachee, preachee; but no preachee and floggee too." The poor Burghead fishermen had not merely to stand the flogging, sentence of seven years' transportation, but also the preaching of their precious judges. Lord Mackenzie declared—"He never read an indictment which made him more ashamed of his country." His *countrymen may retort,* that they never heard a sentence which made them more ashamed of their country's laws. This "lord" added that "if the military had been present at the riots, it would have been the duty of the authorities to have ordered the soldiers to fire upon the rioters!" Lord Medwyn concurred; and the Lord Justice Clerk added that "sentence was inflicted 'that others might hear and tremble.' He was determined to uphold the authority and the dignity of the law." Of course, uphold the dignity of the law, though that law be Draco's, and written in blood. Crush, oppress, beat down the starving poor, break human hearts, but uphold the authority of the law! Plunder and starve the multitude, deprive them of the corn they have sowed and reaped, and if with famine before their eyes they attempt to resist your robberies, why then uphold the dignity of the law! If your soldiers are at hand, shoot the "rebels" as you would rabid dogs; if they are not at hand, give them the "law," doom them to worse than death, consign them to herd with felons, to drag out years of misery, to be torn from all the endearments of home, to the agony of knowing that their families have become outcasts with almost a certainty of becoming criminals, and so make more work for the law! *Do* this, just judges; do this, *worthy executioners of* the pitiless will of the property-holders. Why should you not? you are strong, and might makes right. You are strong, for the millions you outrage are ignorant or apathetic, bearing with your usurpation, your tyranny and cruelty, and, therefore, deserving the stripes with which you scourge them.

There has been no case of judicial wrong perpetrated in Scotland since the trial of the Glasgow Cotton Spinners equal to this villanous sentence of the poor Burghead fishermen. The tone assumed by Mackenzie and Co., in passing sentence, may be fairly placed by the side of the bloodthirsty speeches of the rascally judges who doomed Muir and his companions to banishment and death; or by the side of the brutal jibes of the atrocious Abinger. We trust that, even before this number of the *Star* is published, some member of Parliament will demand inquiry into these proceedings, with a view of procuring the nullification of the sentence; if not—and we have no faith in Scottish Parliamentary patriotism—we trust that Mr Duncombe will take up the matter and bring this case fully before the British public.

"Stand's Scotland where she did?" In days gone by we have witnessed no mean exhibition of public spirit in that country, and we trust that a revival of that spirit will now be shown. We appeal to you, working men of Scotland, to rise from your slumbers, and come forward to the rescue of your brethren. We know you, and knowing, honour you for your many virtues; but there is one serious fault chargeable to your account, you too tamely bear with ills you might relieve yourselves of, and too quietly submit to oppression which you might cast off. Now, if you are men worthy of the proud name you bear, resist this cruel injustice perpetrated by your *tyrants in the name of "law."* Meet and petition for instant redress, demand the exercise of the royal *prerogative for the free pardon of the sentenced fishermen. That no time may be lost,* let the Scottish Democrats take the initiative in rousing public attention. Our columns are at their service, and if necessary, we doubt not that other English aid will be forthcoming. Let there be no delay—

> "*Now's* the day, and *now's* the hour."

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

In spite of the anxiety and earnestness with which Ministers press their various Irish measures, progress is extremely slow. Legislation, even of the stop-gap kind we have, by no means keeps pace with the progress of misery and abuses in Ireland. It is quite clear that the opposition *offered* by the landlords to almost every clause of *the Poor Law* which threatens, however remotely, to compel them to support the destitute will prevent it from being discussed in the *House of Lords till after* Easter. The Waste Lands Reclamation *Bill, the only* other really valuable measure *of the* lot, small as that *value may be, has not yet been* introduced into the *House of Commons.* Up to the present time all that the Government and Legislature have done is to pass a few temporary measures, imperatively *called* for by their own previous blundering, intended to correct, as far as *possible, the effects* of their own ignorance and incompetency, and to forward nearly to their last stages, those portions of the ministerial programme which go to benefit the landlords, and to pour into their coffers the money wrung from the industry of Great Britain. The position which these landlords have assumed in these circumstances is by no means an enviable one. Their selfishness has been quite as obvious as their rapacity. They have striven with a courage and perseverance worthy of a better cause to defeat every clause which had a tendency of a permanent character in the Poor Law; to prevent the enactment of out-door relief, even under the exceedingly limited and modified regulations proposed *by the* ministry; and, lastly, so to levy the rates as to secure, as far as they can, their own immunity from payment. The true object of their opposition to the plan of rating proposed by the Government is to enable them to drive the poor into the towns, *and leave them ultimately dependent* on the national treasury, as they are at present. The effect of past ejectments, and the present refusal of relief in the purely rural divisions of the country have produced, even under the existing Poor Law in Ireland, a most unequal pressure, being in some places only 6d. in the pound on some rentals, and 6s. on others. In fact, the landlords expel the hunger and fever-stricken people from their estates, and throw them in masses upon the struggling tradesmen and middle classes of the towns. The object of the Ministerial mode of rating, is to prevent such gross injustice as this, by introducing into their new bill a well-known principle of the old English Poor Law, and carried out by what were called "rates in aid." When a parish became overburdened with paupers beyond its just share and capacity, it was entitled to demand a rate in aid from the neighbouring parishes. It is provided in the present Irish Bill, that as soon as the home rate exceeds a certain amount in the pound, rateable assistance may be demanded from the whole of the union. The landlords may, under such a regulation, continue their ejectments, but the "*rate in aid*" will reach them. Looking at the gross *inequalities which are likely to* arise even under the proposed system, some members have suggested a national rate. The same opinion is held by many parties with respect to the support of the poor in this country; but unless such a system was accompanied by many restrictions and regulations, it would inevitably tend to the complete destruction of the principle of local self-government, which has been so valuable and important an element in the history and progress of this country, and which has been already too much infringed upon by the Whig English Poor Law.

Limited and inadequate as the Ministerial measures may be, it must be confessed that they are better than any of the suggestions hitherto made by the Irish members for the benefit of their fellow-countrymen. Had Ireland possessed ten men with courage and intellect sufficient to have brought forward and urged an effectual, comprehensive, and practical scheme of reform, such is the present state of parties, such the awful and appalling nature of the calamity, and so great the pecuniary sacrifices demanded from England, that they might have reckoned with tolerable certainty upon success. But they have done nothing of the kind. Ministers are strong in consequence of their weakness. Incongruous, defective, and petty as the plans of the Government are, they are positive masterpieces of wisdom and *benevolence,* when compared with every project originated by the Irish members, who assume to be best acquainted with the popular mind, and the honour of specially representing that mind in the Imperial Legislature. What have the O'Connells proposed worthy of a moment's consideration? Surely for the hundreds of thousands poured into the treasury of Conciliation Hall, some pains might have been taken by the loud-tongued patriots who there assembled to have prepared and urged earnestly and consistently, a systematic series of measures for the improvement of Ireland! Instead of that, the "Liberator" has fled to the Continent, and, according to some accounts, from public life for ever; and his successor, Mr John, either appears in the House as the humble and obsequious slave of the Treasury Bench, or the *proposer* of crude, jejune, and impracticable nostrums, which are scouted as soon as uttered. Nor can the "Young Ireland" party boast much more of their recognised Parliamentary leader. Mr Smith O'Brien ought to have been better prepared for the crisis than he is. The proposal for an Absentee Tax might, in connection with other measures, have been adopted; but as a naked proposal, its rejection was certain; and had it been carried, would have produced very little, if any, benefit to Ireland. We are not now speaking of the justice of such a tax but simply of the practical effects of its imposition. The landlords would have discovered a hundred methods to evade it if imposed; and after all, ten per cent., or 400,000*l.* annually, from the estates of absentees is a mere trifle, when dealing with a state of things which will take ten millions sterling from England this year, independently of the enormous voluntary contributions from all parts of the empire and the generous munificence which sends its large subscriptions across the Atlantic. Next year, we have every reason to believe, the same assistance will be required; and such very paltry proposals as those now noticed, only show, so far as they manifest anything, that poor Ireland has as little to hope at present from her own chosen leaders, as she has from Russell and the Whigs, in the way of *general,* permanent, and radical reforms.

The only novelty in the legislation of this week at the time of writing, is the introduction of a bill by the Government, for limiting the period of enlistment in the army. Mr Fox Maule explained the general principle of this bill to be, that the period of enlistment ought not to be so long as to deter men from entering, or to make them discontented

then they have entered the army. The plan of the bill is to reduce the present enlistment to ten years in the infantry, and twelve in the cavalry; the longer period in the latter case being grounded on the fact, that it takes longer to make a cavalry than a foot soldier. At the expiration of these periods, parties will be permited to re-enlist for a specified period, with the privilege of receiving a pension at the end of the second terms, under regulations which, in effect, aim at granting no pensions to persons under fifty years of age. The Government hope that this alteration will tend to improve the composition of the army, and ameliorate the condition of the private soldier. The length of service under the existing system has been agreed upon by all parties conversant with the subject to be a peculiar grievance, which produces and aggravates others. It exercises a most depressing influence on the soldier's mind, and is one prolific cause of dissensions and suicides. Apart altogether from the main question (the morality and consequences of a standing army, into which we cannot enter in this place) it is gratifying to witness an enlightened and humane public interest in the welfare of the soldier reacting upon the Government, and producing measures which recognise him as a human being, capable of being operated on by other motives than the dread of the lash.

To Readers & Correspondents.

LEGAL.

P.P., Silsden.—The sum you paid, being a *bona fide* debt due from your brother, you can recover it from him in an action for money laid out and expended for his use; but under the circumstances you state, I am of opinion you could not recover from the other party, as he does not appear to have committed any forgery.

A. B. C., Barnsley.—She can compel him to support her, and if he deserts her he is liable to be punished.

C. CRAWFORD.—1st: Being a weekly tenant, the notice is good, and you must give up the possession. 2nd He cannot make you repair, unless there was an agreement to that effect. The other two questions are answered in the above.

L. H. L.—He can, unless he agreed to accept the debts owing to you, in payment of what you owed him.

A. WATT, Walsingham.—All contracted more than six years ago cannot be recovered, unles there has been acknowledgment in writing by the debtor within that period. Anything contracted or acknowledged within six years, can be recovered under the Small Debts Act.

H., Lancaster.—If the deceased died intestate and his property was fee-simple property, (descendable at *common law*,) his eldest brother is the person entitled to it, unless there was an older, who is dead, and left children.

W. T., Merthyr.—They must pay you your expenses and a reasonable compensation for your loss of time.

D. M., Deptford.—As the parents had only life estates, the sale which they have made will not affect the rights of the three children. On the death of the survivor of the father and mother the three children may recover possession of the property.

THOS. BLUNT.—Whether the tenancy be for a longer or shorter period, the landlord can seize for all the rent that has become actually due.

J. B. S.—I suppose you are tenant of the field from year to year, and if so, you can only be turned off at the end of your current year, that is, at the same period of the year at which your tenancy commenced; and in order to turn you off at that time, your landlord must give you at least six months previous notice in writing.

A CONSTANT READER, Coventry.—Assuming that the debts are not barred by the statute, (and by your statement it would appear that they are not,) you can be sued for them under the Small Debts Act.

X.Y.Z., Walsingham.—It would appear from your statement that you only took the house till the 13th of next May, therefore the landlord can turn you out of possession at that time.

E.E.S. Stroud.—You appear to have been a tenant from year to year, and as your tenancy commenced on a 25th of March, you can only determine it on another 25th of March. Your notice to quit was therefore irregular, and you are liable to the rent up to the 25th of this present March: though as your landlord lately took possession of the house, he will probably only require the rent up to the day on which he took possession.

A CONSTANT READER, Edward street, Ardwick Green.—The widow is entitled to one half of her late husband's personal estate, and his next of kin to the other half. All debts, however, must be first paid. The brothers of the deceased most likely constitute either all, or some, of his next of kin. The next of kin are the persons entitled to administration, but should they decline the grant of administration, the court, on the application of the widow, would make the grant to her.

T. R. COLLINSON, Atwick, near Hull.—Give me the name of the solicitor alluded to in your letter. I think we may be able to save your father from the threatened act of oppression.

ELY STOTT, Stainland, Halifax.—Your letter did not arrive until the 19th instant, consequently too late for last week's *Star*. As an occupier of land you are eligible to serve the office of Surveyor of Highways.

C. M., Bookham.—As the deed of gift appears to have been a purely *voluntary deed*, should you *sell or mortgage* the property the deed of gift would be bad, as against the purchaser or mortgagee; but you cannot defeat the deed of gift by your *will*.

JOSEPH WOOTON, Congleton.—As you ordered the book, and it has been delivered to you, you must pay for it; but, by giving a trifle to the seller, you might perhaps get him to take it back.

C. R. H.—You had better give notice in writing to the person who carted his wood through your land, not to do so again, and, if he does, then proceed against him under the *Wilful Trespass Act* before a magistrate.

MARY LANE, Manchester.—You may accomplish your object in the name of a confidential friend, but who should give you an acknowledgment, *in writing*, that his name is used as a trustee for you and for your sole benefit.

JOHN DODD, Edward St., Dorset-square—1st. Mr Tidd Pratt having refused to sanction the alterations, the Society, I conceive, continues to exist on its former footing, and, consequently, the weekly contribution of each member continues at its former amount, namely sevenpence. 2nd. You are liable to the sevenpence a week and the other levies, according to the old rules of the society. 3rd. In case of illness you would be entitled to medical advice, and all the other benefits which the old rules entitle you to.

J. G., Coventry.—As Thomas Kidney, in his will, calls George Turner "*his cousin*," it is certainly possible that George Turner's only children (Maria Sadler and Ann Burgess,) may be the coheirs-at-law of Thomas Kidney, and entitled to the property in question. The pedigree, however, affords no evidence of such being the fact. Can it be shown how the consanguinity between Thomas Kidney and George Turner arose; who are the parties in possession of the property, and under what right or title do they hold the possession?

"ALPHA," Wellington, Salop.—Yes, perfectly good; but before either party could enforce it in a court of law or Equity, it would be necessary to stamp it; but very probably there will never be any occasion to bring it forward in a court of law or equity.

JOHN BUTTERFIELD, Keighley.—His former master.

ROYLANCE HAMLET, Welch Hill.—If your neighbour's pigs, or other animals, stray into your garden by reason of the broken fence, you can impound them till he pays you reasonable damage.

A. B. C., Trowbridge.—1st: The marriage would be legal. 2nd: If you are able to support your wife, you must do so.

W. J. YOUNG, Parthenium.—There appears to be an inconsistency in your letter. You first say Mr. Sneezum *paid* the money and expenses,—and afterwards you state, that when the plaintiff "went for his money" he received two shillings less than the sum he had expended and the amount sued for. If this latter statement is the correct one, Mr Sneezum may be compelled to pay the two *shillings*, unless the plaintiff gave him a receipt in full.

A. Y. Z., Isham.—I cannot understand the particulars of your case, without a copy of the agreement with the Hon. Mr Perry.

THOMAS MATTHEWS, Cheltenham.—Your best way would be to write civilly to Mr. Gardner, expressing your hope that he will make a reasonable compensation for the outrage committed. If he refuses to do so an action will lie against him for false imprisonment.

JOHN DAWSON, Stockport.—To enable me to answer your questions, it will be necessary that I should see a copy of the will and of the deed.—About what year did your mother's grandfather die? If you can inform me, I will take steps to see about a copy of it.

JAMES COUPE, Littleborough.—The Clergyman is *ex officio* Chairman at all vestry meetings, and if the meeting in the Townships-room is a vestry meeting (though not held in a room called the *vestry-room*) the clergyman will have a right to take and keep the chair. But if the meeting is not a vestry-meeting, in that case the chairman must be named by a majority of the persons present.

WM. LEE, Leeds.—You had best send me the order.

R. BROOK, Todmorden.—If the secretary is the person liable to the payment of your sister's money, and refuses to pay, she must sue him in the New Small Debts Courts. Did your sister receive no acknowledgment for the money when she paid it?

R. RADFORD, Hulme.—There is no objection to the will, because made by a schoolmaster; and the probability is, that it *was* proved in Doctors' Commons. You should get some friend in London to search for you, and if he finds it, they will let him have a copy of it on paying for it. Perhaps your case might only require an *extract*, which would probably only cost a trifle.

X. Y., Leicester.—Yes. Immediately.

WM. BERRY—JAMES ASHWORTH.—Your questions concerning the land should have been addressed to Mr O'Connor, to whom they will be referred.—The *Labourer* (price 6d) to be ordered, as per advertisement in *Northern Star*.

JOHN MATSON, Hulme.—Your contribution of 1s. for Mr Richards has been handed to Mr Wheeler.

CHARTIST POEMS.—All parties holding copies of the above, yet unpaid for, are requested to forward the amount in postage stamps, or in Post-office orders, payable to Mr E. Jones, at the Old Cavendish-street Branch, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

L. T. C.—Go on and prosper.

"ANNUAL PARLIAMENTS."—Received.

Y. Z.—We cannot supply the date. A personal application at the stage door of the Lyceum Theatre will, in all likelihood, settle your doubts.

W. B. (Bedworth.)—The *Labourer* can be obtained of all the agents for the *Northern Star*. We respect the sentiments of "W. B." as contained in the poetry he has sent us; but they need considerable correction ere fitted for publication. We do not wish to discourage our humble friend; but he should bear in mind that poets are not made—"*poeta non fit*," as we are told.

G. C.—We do not know the name of the secretary of the Shaker Community, U.S.

THE GENERAL FAST.—Copies of the following excellent letter were some days ago addressed to the whole of the parsonocracy of Bradford, Wiltshire. One of the slugs—a Methodist preacher—came out alarmingly on Sunday evening last against the writer of the letter. Its effect upon the rest of the tribe we have yet to learn:—"Rev. Sir.—Pursuant to a proclamation issued by our sovereign lady the Queen, *who can do no wrong*, a general fast is to be observed on Wednesday next, in order to humiliate ourselves before Almighty God, and to beseech him to remove his afflicting hand from our nation. Sir, can you conceive hypocrisy more consummate, or presumption more daring, than is obvious in that *cant*, which those who roll in luxury and fare sumptuously every day manifest in sympathising for those whom they rob, and in the presumption of attributing to a beneficent Creator the infliction of that famine which is the consequence of avarice and misrule? and this is well known to working men who are the real philosophers of England. That the present *famine is not sent by God* but is the result of avarice is apparent *from the fact* that there was never more grain in the kingdom than there is at the present time; but it is the infernal maxim of political economy—buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest—which prevents the mass from securing food. And what more easy of legislative enforcement than to prevent the greedy jaws of mammon from devouring that food for which thousands, ay, millions of our fellow-creatures, all creatures of God, are perishing, famishing! nay, running mad with hungry rage. And, Sir, I hope to God their fury may alight on the right heads. Our clergy are acting with benevolence worthy our admiration, but it is not the cold hand of Charity that can at its mere stretch calm the over-swollen tide of misery; it cannot say "peace be still," with a power that can still. No, it is justice, the stern hand of justice, that must wield the sceptre of *right*, and strike the possessors of *might* with dismay. Sir, instead of using the form of prayer prepared for the occasion, I beseech you to pray that the rich be made disgorge their ill-gotten wealth, that the gifts of *nature be distributed with nature's law, equality*,—that no person be allowed to consume unless he also produces,—that the land of England maintain the people of England, the land of Ireland maintain the people of Ireland,—that the estates of every Irish absentee be confiscated and the poor located thereon,—that the revenue of the Church be diminished nine-tenths, and the Exchequer in similar ratio,—that tax-eaters be annihilated,—that the parks and pleasure grounds of England be made into corn fields,—that cottages be substituted for mansions,—that there be colleges and universities for the poor as well as the rich, and, finally, that the day may speedily arrive when all men may salute each other in St. Paul's words, "We are brethren;" and if our prayers are realised, as they may be by our acting in conformity with them, even poverty would be a stranger, and famine unknown, except in reality it was the dispensation of God, and then the monster would not stalk among the poor alone, making them descend to the grave with the howl of Pestilence for their burial service, but would treat all alike, rich as well as poor. In conclusion, Sir, do not excite the ire of that Deity whose mercy is unto all, and whose anger is only to those who oppress the poor and rob the hireling of his wages. Pray that the hearts of oppressors may be softened, and their harsh rule frustrated, that mankind may live in love, none daring to make them afraid.—I am, Sir, your's, &c., Φιλαληθης.

P.S.—I have similarly addressed all the clergy and dissenting ministers of the town. I hope, therefore, none of you will bring the providence of God into disrepute on that day.

J. MATHIAS.—We comply with your request; the resolution will be found in its proper place. Whether it will be understood remains to be seen; we confess we cannot understand it, and hence the abridged version given in our last.

P. DENT.—Address care of The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, H.M. Secretary of State for the Home Department, Home Office, Downing-street.

WINGATE GRANGE COLLIERY.—This communication is an advertisement.

T. E., Lynn.—We have not got a copy of the date mentioned.

A SUBSCRIBER, Burnley.—No room.

MESSRS CLARK AND DOYLE will oblige the Chartists of Bristol, by informing them what time they will be in Bristol, on their return from Devonshire, and if they could attend a public meeting in Bristol? An answer forwarded immediately to Mr Simeon, 10, Temple-street, Bristol, will greatly oblige.

J. SWEET begs to acknowledge the receipt of nearly 300 signatures, and the sum of 1s. from Mr Bradford, of Melbourne. All persons holding petition-sheets are requested to get them signed, and forwarded to Mr J. Sweet, the delegate for the Nottingham district, immediately. He also acknowledges the receipt of 2s. 6d. and a sheet of signatures from Bingham.

MR C. VERO, Atherstone.—Must get the *Labourer* through some bookseller. We can send the *Star* direct from the office on the terms mentioned.

H. L. Chapel-street.—Your notice is an advertisement. The price will be 5s.

CROYDON.—The "Fast" meetings leave us no room for the insertion of the "Report." We will make some use of it next week.

W. J. HODGSON.—Next week.

MIDDLETON.—The first copy of the "Song" did come to hand.

W. MAXEWALL, S. GOULD, and "HANNIBAL."—Too late.

R. RADFORD.—We have sent your letter to Mr O'Connor.

J. H., Manchester.—The sum remitted on account of the National Labour Bank should have been "R. H." instead of J. H.

TO THE OPERATIVE PLASTERERS OF LONDON.—The time has arrived when the trades generally are becoming convinced of the necessity of being united in one common bond of union for the protection of labour, and for emancipating themselves from their present thraldom. We feel certain there is not one among you but feels disgusted to see that, as a trade, we are the entire slaves of capital, of which we are creators. When it is convenient and advantageous to the capitalist to employ us, we are afforded a temporary means of obtaining a subsistence; when he has no further need of our services, we are deprived of these means; consequently, we are mere automaton workers—our very lives are dependent on the whims and caprices of those who traffic in our labour. "We beg for leave to toil;" and, when employed, we are in a whirlpool of competition. This is an unnatural state of things—the effects of avarice, which we and those trades united in what is termed the National Trades Association, believe to be capable of being removed; and all that is required is union. The National Association for the Protection of Industry consider that the labouring population can help themselves. The object of the Association is not only to protect labour, by preventing any inroad being made on the present rate of wages, but also to employ the unemployed in agriculture and manufactures, thereby causing machinery to become the blessing of our order. We, therefore, sincerely hope that all our fellow-tradesmen who are in societies will see the propriety of joining the National Association of the United Trades, and we also hope that those who do not belong to any society will see that it is their interest to do so without delay. Let us all take a part in this great work, and assist by contributing our mites, and by a long pull—a strong pull—and a pull altogether, we shall hurl Injustice to the dust, and on its ruins plant the standard of Liberty. Our society meets on Monday evenings, at eight o'clock, at the Rock Tavern, Lisson Grove, at which time the objects and rules of the society, with those of the National Association, are explained. Signed, on behalf of the committee, Richard Snelus, secretary.

THE MASONS' STRIKE AT SUNDERLAND.—This strike has terminated in consequence of the whole of the masters having acceded to the full demands of the journeymen, viz. twenty-seven shillings per week wages, and to be allowed to leave work at four o'clock on Saturday afternoons, instead of five o'clock.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held at 7 o'clock in the evening to induce the working classes to become members of the National Associated Trades. The following resolutions which were proposed by Mr Barber of Nottingham, and seconded by Mr Buckly of Leicester, and supported by Messrs Ross and Winters, were unanimously carried:—

"That this meeting is of opinion, that, the United Trades Association for the Protection of Industry and the Employment of Labour are the only associations at present in existence which offer the working classes anything like redemption from the thraldom and tyranny of united capital; this meeting, therefore, agrees one and all to join the said associations, and immediately commence payments to the funds." Our old and true friend, Mr Skevington acted as chairman.

LANCASHIRE MINERS.—The next general delegate meeting will be held on Monday, April 5th, at Mr J. Croston's, Hay-street, Bolton, at 11 o'clock Mr W. P. Roberts's, and others will address the meeting.

NOTICE.

A delay having been occasioned in the engraving of the plate for the new and improved certificate books, all sub-secretaries are requested to write immediately to the office of the company for the certificates that may be due to their respective branches.

Care must be taken to state whether the certificate required be the first or second; and in all cases where one has been previously had, its value must be given.

Members subscribing for three or four shares will not in future receive their certificates until the sum of £3 18s. or £5 4s., as the case may be, is paid. The observance of these directions are indispensable to prevent mistakes. (By order of the Directors.)

N.B.—The National Co-operative Benefit Society, being totally distinct and separate from the National Land Company, it is requested that all communications connected therewith, be addressed to the Secretary, Mr Stallwood, 2, Little Vale Place, Hammersmith.

RECEIPTS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND COMPANY.

PER MR. O'CONNOR.

SECTION No. 1.

SHARES.

Truro	£1 18 5	Nottingham, Sweet	£0 12 6
Exeter	2 2 4	Merthyr	1 14 0
Hull	0 3 6	Bacup	2 10 0
S. L. B.	0 6 0	Leicester, Freeman	0 8 0
West Linton	2 12 0	Scarborough	2 0 0
Lambley	1 15 3	Bermondsey	0 1 0
New Milns	0 11 4	Leamington	0 5 0
Westminster	0 11 6	Rochdale	0 5 0
Somers Town	1 11 0	Norwich	2 0 0
Shoreditch	0 1 0	Clitheroe	3 0 0
T. Moore	0 2 0	Addingham	1 0 0
James Moore	0 2 0	Arbroath	0 9 9
J. Watts, Trowbridge	0 3 6	Leeds	4 0 0
Moses Stokes	0 2 0	Bury	1 1 0
Sutton in Ashfield	0 17 2	Manchester	5 16 6
Cheltenham	0 12 6	Glasgow	0 12 6
Croydon	1 18 6	Bradford	1 0 0
W. Cuin	0 3 0	Sunderland	1 11 0
York	1 5 6	J. Warnes	0 5 0
			£45 9 9

SECTION No. 2.

SHARES.

Henry Meredith	0 10 0	Rochdale	1 1 4
Hull	0 8 6	Norwich	1 17 0
Charles Pattison	0 4 0	Belper	1 4 8
George Bishop	0 1 0	Chorley	0 2 0
Rochester	9 7 0	Addington	1 0 0
Lambley	0 3 6	Arbroath	1 9 0
New Milns	1 3 4	Barrhead	0 12 0
G. Marton	0 1 0	Lambeth	1 17 6
Westminster	0 7 0	Bury	1 8 6
Somers Town	0 4 6	Easington-lane	0 5 0
Shoreditch	1 1 0	Leeds	3 0 0
Sutton in Ashfield	0 10 6	Marylebone	1 0 0
Aynhoe	0 10 0	Manchester	3 16 6
Bilston	2 0 0	Glasgow	1 15 6
Newport, Monmouth	0 14 0	Teignmouth	5 0 0
Cheltenham	2 8 0	Bradford	2 0 0
Winchester	1 9 4	Maidstone	0 7 6
William Johnston	0 10 0	Sunderland	3 0 6
Croydon	0 10 9	Birmingham, Pare	0 5 0
Nottingham, Sweet	1 19 0	Northwich	0 14 6
Thrapstone	1 0 0	Oldham	1 0 0
Leicester, Freeman	1 13 6	Ledbury	0 6 6
Stockton-on-Tees	3 0 0	Edinburgh	1 10 0
Leamington	5 14 0	Birmingham, Goodwin	0 17 6
		Leicester, Astill	5 0 0
		Hammersmith	0 5 0
		York	1 15 0
			£78 0 5

SECTION No. 3.

SHARES.

T. H. Sparrow	0 2 6	Newport, Monmouth	3 16 6
A. Z. Belper	1 10 0	Cheltenham	1 3 10
Stoke, Rochford	5 4 4	Croydon	0 11 0
Exeter	2 6 4	Nottingham, Sweet	17 8 9
G. M.	5 4 4	Bacup	2 10 0
S. Rossiter	0 10 4	Bermondsey	0 3 0
George Greenwood	4 19 2	Buckfastleigh	0 9 0
Hull	7 3 0	Leamington	1 1 6
Jas. Stephens	0 10 4	Rochdale	5 5 4
Wm. Wilson	0 2 0	Norwich	1 15 6
John Richards	0 2 4	Tillicoultry	1 18 6
Joseph Moss	0 5 0	Clitheroe	7 0 0
Robert Hamer	0 5 4	Doncaster	4 3 6
John Williamson	0 1 4	Chorley	2 19 6
Lambley	0 1 0	Bromham	0 5 0
Allen Sharper	0 5 0	Arbroath	2 15 2
New Milns	0 2 0	Hexham	0 10 0
R. Patterson	0 3 4	Leeds	5 0 0
Westminster	1 8 6	Manchester	15 7 0
Thomas Saunders	0 2 0	Glasgow	0 13 0
Isabella Hood	0 10 4	Bradford	1 10 0
Edmund Austin	0 10 0	Maidstone	14 8 6
Somers Town	0 2 4	Sunderland	1 14 8
Shoreditch	0 13 11	Stockport	2 0 0
B. Briggs	0 5 0	Northwich	0 5 6
Thomas Lawrence	0 3 4	Lewes	0 7 4
W. Tipper	0 2 6	James Greenwood	5 4 4
John Packer	0 2 4	Oldham	1 0 0
William Beck	0 4 0	Ledbury	0 15 4
Joseph Bishop	0 2 4	Loughborough	3 18 4
John Boyall	0 2 6	Colne, Tomlinson	0 18 0
George Cooper	0 2 6	Birmingham, Goodwin	8 2 6
Jonathan Jaques	5 4 0	Wm. Hodge	0 4 0
Bilston	8 0 0	Hammersmith	0 3 4
Mansfield	2 0 0	York	6 2 0
Burnley	10 0 0		
Haworth	2 0 8		
			£182 3 10

EXPENSE FUND.

StokeRochford	0 2 0	Thomas Harris	0 1 0
Exeter	0 2 6	Bolton	0 1 0
James Powell	0 2 0	Leamington	0 1 0
G. M.	0 2 0	Small, junr.	0 1 0
Hull	0 2 6	Norwich	0 3 2
Mr Chatwin	0 2 0	Newport	0 2 0
West Linton	0 2 0	Bury	0 1 0
Lambley	0 1 6	Glasgow	0 5 6
Jas. Watts	0 0 6	Maidstone	" 4 0
Cheltenham	0 10 0	Sunderland	0 0 6
Westminster	0 2 0	J. Greenwood	0 2 0
Manchester	5 0 0	Loughborough	0 1 6
Merthyr	0 2 0		
			£7 14 8

TOTAL LAND FUND.

Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 1	45 9 9
Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 2	78 0 5
Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 3	182 3 10
Expense Fund	7 14 8
	£313 8 8

FOR THE BANK.

Sums previously acknowledged	856 16 8
For the Week ending the 25th March	274 8 6
	£1131 5 2

T. M. WHEELER, PHILIP M'GRATH, } Secretaries.

RECEIPTS OF THE VICTIMS' COMMITTEE.

A Friend, City	0 1 6	C. Arnold, Leicester	0 0 6
Mr Whitfield	0 0 6	R. Arnold, do.	0 0 6
Mr Fletcher	0 0 6	Mr Holmes, Sheffield	0 2 8
Mr Howard	0 0 3	Mr Small	0 1 0
Mr Booth	0 0 6	A Friend	0 0 2
Westminster Locality collection	0 2 10½	Female Chartists of Rochdale	0 10 0
Stockport	0 16 4		
FOR MR RICHARDS.			
Bermondsey	0 2 2	Mr Matson, Hulme	0 1 0
Mr Small	0 1 0		

ERRATUM.—3s. acknowledged last week as from Newcastle-upon-Tyne was received from Oxford.

CHRISTOPHER DOYLE, Secretary.

CHERBOURG, March 18.—A correspondent writes:—Yesterday, at half-past ten, P.M., our town was alarmed by the report of three guns from the dock-yard. On going out, I heard there was a fire. I proceeded there immediately, and found the new building, called, "La Garniture," a blaze of fire; all the engines of the town, arsenal, and ships in the roads were soon on the spot, and after two hours' hard work the fire was mastered. It broke out in one of the upper rooms, and was caused, it is supposed, by a workman who had been smoking. Luckily there was no wind, or the ships in the basin and the whole building must have been destroyed, inasmuch as it was full of timber to finish the interior; as it was, only one-third of the building was damaged—the walls only now remain. The admiral, Jules Deloffre, and Mr Reibell, the *Ingénieur en chef*, together with all the officers belonging to the port, were on the spot, and every thing was over at one, A.M. I am happy to say we lost no lives, and had but three or four men wounded. The loss is estimated from 75,000f. to 80,000f. A court of inquiry took place this morning, but nothing has yet transpired. There were nearly 7,000 people in the yard, who were obliged to remain there till thirty minutes past three, A.M., every gate being shut for fear the fire should break out again.

OMNIBUS ACCIDENT.—On Thursday evening, about eight o'clock, a young man, named John Wilson, residing at No. 27, Fuller's-rents, Holborn, was crossing Oxford-street, near the Princess's Theatre, which he had just left to obtain some refreshment, when he was knocked down by an omnibus, both near-side wheels passing over him. His right leg was fractured, and the spine seriously injured.

The French Royal Academy of Medicine has appointed a committee to inquire into the particulars of alimentation in France, and the circumstances attending the high price and scarcity of grain.

TODMORDEN.—There will be a tea party and ball in the Oddfellows' Hall on Saturday, April 3. Tea on table at 5 o'clock.

NATIONAL TRADES ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRY.

"*Union for the Million*."

The important discussion on the benefit of trades unions at the village of Wishaw, in Scotland, which was reported in our last week's publication, will doubtless have been read with a considerable degree of interest, by all who duly consider the importance, and appreciate the opportunities afforded for improving the condition of our own order—the working classes, by the present movement for the emancipation of industry. Such discussions tend to promote inquiry, by means of which narrow minds become expanded. Many persons are thereby led to reflect, who probably never before gave any such matter a moment's consideration. Those, also, who have partially considered the subject, but who, from want of scrupulous investigation, and requisite information, entertain erroneous notions, are led to exercise their reflective powers more logically, and receive information from the arguments advanced, which (if they are really in search of truth, and are *free from prejudice*, and open to conviction,) cannot fail to contribute much to their true object. The most intelligent persons are frequently benefited; by such means they ascertain more extensively the peculiar prejudices and erroneous notions which exist in the minds of persons less informed than themselves; and it must be to them a source of gratification to be instrumental in diffusing useful knowledge to their fellow-men. With these considerations in view we would encourage, as far as our influence extends, temperate, dispassionate, but searching discussions amongst working men, on the all-important subject of union amongst their own order; to promote their own improvement, physically, morally, and intellectually. No question whatever could possibly be more interesting to the men of our order than, what is the most effectual practicable means of promoting our general improvement? This question directly leads to the consideration of, whether that great object would be most advanced by the simultaneous efforts of multitudes acting in conjunction, or by each individual acting separately from all the rest? Few, indeed, we believe, would be found to advocate the latter course. Generally speaking, all advocate the superiority of union over individual exertion. Union, in some form or other, is what every one proposes who takes the slightest degree of interest in the matter. But the specific form of organization of unions, together with their modes of operation, and the objects pursued, are matters of essential difference. The great question, therefore, appears to be, "whether the condition of the working classes is a subject most befitting for a general national consideration, or for detached sectional and local consideration." Every working man, who considers that the state of our order in society is capable of improvement, ought to satisfy himself on the above question, by a scrupulous investigation of the matter, in all its bearings; in doing which, let it be borne in mind, that the question comprehends what limits, or whether any, ought to exist as to the bounds of society, beyond which they shall not go in their efforts to aid, assist, or sympathise with each other in the attainment of any common object, in the possession and preservation of which all are equally interested. If it shall appear to any, after due investigation, that one class of operatives ought not to take any interest in the condition of another class, but that each should be allowed to struggle amongst themselves, and that when any have occasion to complain of inefficient compensation for their labour, and shall suspend their work by a strike until the grievance is redressed by an advance of wages, that every other class should look on unconcerned, consoling themselves with the consideration, that they are not immediately and directly interested as sufferers, and therefore it is no business of theirs; then we would say to the person who arrives at this conclusion, act consistently, and carry out the principle you support. If you think it commendable to remain isolated and detached from all others but those of your own trade, in the matter of making a common cause of the expediency of an equitable compensation for labour, and object to reciprocate in the attainment of this right, and in securing this benefit to each and all, then seek not the aid of any other but your own class, in matters pertaining to other benefits. Should the premises in which you reside take fire, seek not the aid of any but your neighbours who occupy the same premises, to extinguish the flames. Should your life be endangered by attack or misfortune, seek none to rescue who are not directly interested in your preservation. Should you be unjustly deprived of any part of your property, seek not the aid of any but those who are directly interested to cause it to be restored; or, if your character is calumniated, appeal to none but your own family to bear testimony to your innocence. In order to carry out this principle, the whole framework of society would require to be destroyed. It would be useless to pursue this part of the argument any further. If the principles be sound upon which society is based and reared, viz. a reciprocity of action for mutual and general benefit, why should the operation of those principles be limited to localities and sections of the community, in the protection of industry, more than on any other matter of extensive interest? Important subjects command general attention accordingly, as they are extensively agitated; so long as any subject whatever is confined to sectional or local influence, it will be regarded as a matter of minor importance, and few will be found who will interest themselves therein, except those who are directly concerned. However enormous the injury or obvious the injustice that is inflicted under such circumstances, there is little or no chance of any redress to the sufferers. Public attention not being excited, they groan in vain beneath their galling yoke, and their utmost efforts are fruitless. The perpetrators proceed in their practices with impunity, and with unblushing effrontery they glory in their shame, and mock the supplications of their oppressed victims; and should the oppressors be partially arrested in their career by the efforts of sectional or local union and agitation, their defeat is generally of short duration; like the skirmishes of contending armies, the vanquished of yesterday become the victors to-day, neither party being effectually conquered. This is the state of affairs with workingmen and their employers under the influence of local trades unions. But let the subject of the grievances for which no permanent redress could be obtained by local and sectional efforts be made generally interesting by enlisting the influence of all workpeople who are subject to similar grievances, and thereby are concerned as in one common object, and at once the subject excites public attention, the cause of the oppressed commands public sympathy; what was lately regarded as an impertinent obtrusion on the attention of a neighbourhood assumes the character of a generally interesting public subject, the right contended for is acknowledged, and the oppressor is effectually conquered by the all-powerful weapon of public opinion.

What great measure was ever obtained unaided by public opinion?

What carried catholic emancipation — public opinion!

What carried the reform bill—public opinion!

What carried the abolition of colonial slavery—public opinion!

What carried the discontinuance of the impressment of seamen for the navy—public opinion!

What reduced the torture of the lash in the army to fifty stripes—public opinion!

What carried the ten hours' clause—public opinion!

We might add numerous instances of the influence of public opinion, but the above may suffice to show its all-powerful efficacy. Let the reader now inquire what prospect there is of that monster evil, the misery consequent on low wages, being destroyed, by any means short of public opinion? Will avaricious employers ever be brought to a sense of shame, and made to acknowledge that to take the advantage of the working man's necessity, by giving wages below what he can support his family upon, and which keeps him in poverty, and produces intemperance, disease, crime, &c., is the very worst species of robbery that can be committed; but let public opinion pronounce that verdict effectually, and the bravado of avarice and oppression is laid prostrate, and the cause of the working class is pronounced to be the cause of justice. The subject of unity amongst the working classes, and the superiority of a national union over local and trades' unions, requires only to be efficiently inquired into and discussed, free from prejudice, and with a mind open to conviction, and a disposition to receive the impressions of truth, and the conviction is sure to follow. We invite, therefore, all working men of every trade and calling, and in every part of the country, to give the subject their most serious attention, and we recommend them to discuss the subject under the influence of the feelings above described.

The central committee of the above progressively improving Association held their usual weekly meeting on Monday and Tuesday last, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M P., in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, the financial report read and received, the correspondence from all parts of the country disposed of. Mr Green reported that himself and Mr Robson had attended three sections of the London West End Tailors Society, were well received, all the parties expressing themselves favourable to its objects. The delegates suggested the propriety of holding an aggregate meeting of their whole body at one of the large public buildings, to decide upon joining the Association; they have seven sections, and upwards of 3,000 members. Mr Williamson reported he had visited the block printers of Mitcham. We found that the employer had offered a reduction to his hands which they were unwilling to receive, after making himself fully acquainted with the facts of the case, he sought an interview with the employer, when after about three hours' discussion between him, the employer, and the deputation that accompanied him, a mutual arrangement was come to, perfectly satisfactory to all parties, a list of prices drawn up and duly signed, when the deputation withdrew highly delighted with the result of their interview. The trades are respectfully informed that cards of membership are now ready: the central committee suggest the propriety of all trades that have been six months members, sending for their cards as early as convenient; they will be signed by the local secretaries of the different lodges, and delivered to those members only clear upon the books.

GLASGOW.—On Monday evening, attended a meeting of the Upholderers Society, at White's Coffee-house, Trongate-street. He was informed they had been organizing to become a branch of the *National Association*, but it was contended by some of their members, they should get all their trade in that city united and then join the National Association. Mr J. drew their attention to the fact that scarcely any one trade had ever been able to get all the workmen to join them, hence if they waited for all to join the Upholderers society, they would gain nothing but disappointment, it was like the advice of the slaveholders, "stay till the slaves are educated then give them their freedom," a contingency never likely to occur in slavery; so, with the trades in organization, they are not at all likely to get their trade wholly organized with the small inducements they have of themselves to offer. He therefore urged on them to join the National Association immediately, and enable themselves to offer the extra benefits of that great association, to induce all in the trade to join them. It was agreed the question of joining should be discussed at the next meeting.

EDINBURGH.—On Tuesday evening, met the body of *Plasterers at the Roman Eagle Hall, when, after some* discussion, it was agreed that a public meeting should be convened next week to hear a lecture from the missionary, to showing the trade generally how far they would be benefited by joining the association.

KILMARNOCK.—A public meeting of the trades was held on Wednesday evening, in the Croft Hall, Mr Todd in the chair, when he lectured on the advantage and necessity of a National Association, the faults and failures of former unions. The lecturer enlisted the entire attention of his auditory, and elicited general approbation. At the close a resolution approving of the principles and plan of the National Association of Trades, was carried unanimously.

On Thursday a meeting of Block Printers was held in the same place, when he lectured on the principle of unions, the association's means of elevating "their trade" and all others. The lecturer thoroughly convinced the meeting of the efficiency of the new mode of operation, and a resolution approving of the plan and progress of the association, was carried unanimously. The block printers and tailors' societies are members of the association. The above meeting was called by the block printers. An increase of members here is the result.

GLASGOW.—On Friday evening attended a public meeting of Cotton Spinners, which was held in the Suffolk-street Chapel, when Mr Jacobs lectured on the advantages of national association to their trade and all others, the benefits conferred on their trade by former union, the cause of failures, &c. The chapel was well filled, and the whole meeting approved of the facts, arguments, and illustrations advanced, expressing the same by their applause:—The following resolution was carried unanimously, "That we, the central branch of the cotton spinners' union of Scotland, deem the formation of the National Association of Trades the sure means by which the cotton spinners may be enabled to elevate themselves as a class, to that proud position they formerly occupied." It was also agreed Mr J. should visit the other branch of their trade.

MANCHESTER.—He, (Mr Peel), accompanied by Mr Parker, attended a meeting of the operatives of Droylsden on the 16th instant, adjourned from the previous Thursday. This meeting was held in the large room or chapel used as a temperance hall. This room was densely crowded. The chair having been taken, and the business of the meeting stated in a short appropriate speech, the chairman introduced Mr Peel, who went through the usual explanatory statements, which having been so often reported, it is not necessary to enlarge on; he was ably followed by Mr Parker in an admirable address, which drew down the repeated approbation of the meeting. Mr Parker laid open the abominable cruelties of the sweating system as practised by the Jew slop-sellers. He exposed the screwing system adopted by these parties towards the unfortunate beings who are driven by starvation, to apply at these dens for employment, showed in vivid language the danger to the public health by the present practice of giving out work to be executed in the pestilential atmosphere of the cellars and garrets now the domicile of the poor tailor; and then showed how easily this frightful and really deadly system will soon be destroyed by the National Trades Association. Mr Parker concluded a most eloquent address amidst the warm and hearty applause of the meeting.

Mr Taylor, cotton spinner, then came forward, and in a short speech moved the following resolution:—"That we, the operatives of Droylsden, Openshaw, and other surrounding neighbourhoods, are of opinion that nothing short of a National Trades Union is sufficient to protect labour."

This resolution having been seconded; the chairman rose to put it to the meeting, when the delegate of the powerloom weavers' central committee rose to caution his constituents, who were present, to pause before they committed themselves by adopting this resolution. He admitted that a resolution had been passed by their central committee, that the National Trades should not be even mentioned in that committee for six months. After some discussion, the resolution was carried unanimously. A powerloom weaver then proposed that the feelings of the powerloom weavers should be tested in relation to the National Trades. A show of hands were then taken of powerloom weavers only favourable to the National Trades, when about two thirds of the whole meeting held up hands, and in the negative, not one. The delegate of that body at once came forward, and frankly admitted that after so unmistakeable a proof of the feelings of his constituents, it would be his duty to use all his efforts to obtain the rescinding of the central committee's resolution above mentioned. It was then understood that the powerloom weavers would wait until after the next meeting of their central committee, to give them an opportunity of rescinding the one-sided resolution they had adopted; in the event of that not being done, the weavers of this populous and important district will pursue their own course irrespective of the central committee of the Friendly Society of Powerloom Weavers. This resolution was then passed unanimously.—"That, in order to carry out the principles of the National Association, we call upon the individual trades to send a delegate to the house of Mr John Hammond, on Monday night, for the purpose of forming a committee for this district."

Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs Peel and Parker, and this very important and excellent meeting terminated.

PRESTON.—On Wednesday, Mr Peel made his first appearance before the operatives of Preston, and has great reason to feel proud at the reception given to him, but still more, at the extraordinary interest manifested (it may be fairly said) by the whole working population of that important town in the Monster Association. He begs to draw attention to this remarkable circumstance, which he recommends to the serious reflection of his brother operatives, as strongly indicative of the improving "signs of the times." This meeting was held in a large amphitheatre, formerly celebrated as the Derby Cockpit; where, in the good old times, the noble chief of the house of Derby, the lineal descendant of the high-soul'd "Lady of Lotheim," indulged his aristocratic taste in the refined and humanising pastime of cock-fighting. It was here the noble earl took his *siesta* from the fatigues of legislatorial duties; and now, that classic sport, alas! how changed; no more the small shrill voice of chanticleer crows forth in triumph, drowning the groans of the dying, with a full sonorous chorus from a delighted audience, led by the noblest blood of England's aristocracy. Alas! this far-famed spot knows no victories in these degenerate days, save those of temperance over drunkenness, and Labour struggling to free itself from the goadings of rampant Capital. And thus passeth away the glories of the world. Think on this, fellow-slaves, and take heart.

Mr Peel, on Thursday, attended a meeting of weavers and spinners of Torrington, Leyland, and was received with great kindness. In consequence of the complete power exercised by the cotton masters in this district over even the publicans, a room of sufficient capacity could not be obtained, but a very good meeting was held at the Bridge Inn, and arrangements made for a future meeting in the large room at Leyland.

On Friday he was in Blackburn, but was, from the peculiar state of affairs in that town, prevented from obtaining a meeting.

On Saturday, he attended a meeting of the power-loom weavers' committee of Clithero, when it was arranged to convene a meeting of the cotton trades for Monday week.

He attended a meeting of block printers of Sabden, on Monday night, when about 150 unanimously agreed to join forthwith, and appointed a committee of five to carry out the resolve of the meeting.

A vote of thanks was carried with acclamation to Mr Duncombe, for his untiring services in behalf of the enslaved operatives. Also a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and to the highly talented and promising chairman, Mr Francis Briggs. The meeting adjourned.

Mr Peel announces that on Monday, the 29th, he will meet the cotton trades of Clithero; Tuesday, the 30th, the same of Paddiam; Wednesday, the 31st, the same of Burnley, Friday, at one o'clock in the afternoon, he will attend by appointment, a general meeting of the whole trade of shuttle-makers of Lancashire, in Manchester.

Mr P begs to state, that in consequence of secretaries not forwarding their addresses, he is unable to make satisfactory arrangements for his progress. He is desirous of giving ample notice of his visits, and is anxious to meet the hands of every mill in Lancashire.

MANCHESTER.—Mr J. W. Parker reported that he attended a general meeting of trades with Mr Peel at Droylsden, near Manchester. The meeting was a crowded and enthusiastic one, and an animated discussion took place, relative to the objects of the National Association, and resolutions in approbation thereof carried unanimously, likewise votes of thanks to Messrs Parker and Peel.

He also attended the district committe of Manchester, who passed a resolution, that he, (Mr P.) do wait upon Messrs Kelly and Gilmour in reference to the dispute with their hands. On his proceeding there, the next morning, he found the mill closed, and upwards of 700 hands thrown out of employment, and the mill guarded by the police. It was under these circumstances I considered it not advisable to seek an interview.

On Thursday evening a general meeting of the Oldham district of the journeymen hatters' society of Great Britain and Ireland, was held at the Odd House, to hear an explanation of the objects of the association. Many questions were asked and satisfactorily answered. A resolution approving of the principles of the United Trades Association was carried,—and that they join in the ensuing month. Messrs Parker and Peel had an interview with Mr Makin, silk manufacturer of Manchester, relative to the list of prices presented by his hands, the particulars of which have been forwarded to the Central Committee.

Mr P. also attended an adjourned meeting of the Manchester committee on Friday evening on business of the utmost importance.

On Saturday evening he attended the Silk Pickers' committee, respecting the condition of that body generally. And on Sunday in conjunction with Mr Robson of London, went into the cases of of the silk pickers—and Kelly and Gilmour. An application for particulars in reference to the association for the employment of Labour, was made by the tailors of Norwich to Mr Parker, they being desirous of investing fifty pounds in the hands of the directors to carry out its objects.

He again attended at Stockport on Monday in reference to the case of Stocks and Taits. On Tuesday he succeeded in obtaining an interview with Mr Stocks in order to induce that gentleman to re-consider the reduction of twelve and a half per cent made on the wages of his hand. After a very lengthened interview, failed in succeeding in the objects of his mission.

In the evening of the same day he proceeded to Macclesfield to attend a meeting of operative tailors.

SUNDERLAND COLLIERIES.—On Wednesday, the 19th inst., our agent at Sunderland, Mr James Dunn, was unexpectedly called upon by a deputation of the workmen of Monkwearmouth colliery, to attend a meeting of their body that evening, to explain the objects and form of organisation, and proceedings of the National Association of United Trades. In conversation with the deputation, he learned that the men were then upon strike, arising from a dispute with their employers relative to the quantity of coals which should constitute the standard weight of their work, together with a small difference in price. It appeared that until lately the coals were sent to bank mixed round and small together. 7 cwt. was the standard weight of each tub, and the wages were 5s per score of tubs. Mr Elliott, the manager of the colliery, had thought proper to change the system of working, by requiring that the round and small coals should be separated, and that 7½ cwt. should be the standard weight per tub, of round coals, and the wages 7s per score of tubs, and that 5s per score should be given for small if any were required. The men required that the standard weight should remain at 7 cwt. what they were most accustomed to, and that 7s 6d per score should be the wages for round coals. The difference therefore between the masters and men were ½ cwt. in the standard weight, and 6d per score on the wages. In accordance with the request of the deputation Mr D. attended the general meeting of the workmen, and addressed them at some length, and explained the objects of organisation, proceedings &c., of the National Association, after which he retired, in order that the meeting should decide as they thought the subject best merited. On being called to the meeting, he was informed that in his absence, resolutions had been passed to the effect, that the meeting regretted the want of unity among the workmen, and that they should take into their serious consideration the expediency of entering into the National Association of United Trades, as the only means calculated to effect the emancipation of industry. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr D. agent, and to Mr Duncombe, the editor of the *Star*, &c., after which the meeting separated.

Several meeting of the above workmen have since been held, some of which have been attended by Messrs Scott and Holgate, missionaries of the Miners' Association, which the men have resolved to join. They have also wrote to engage the professional advice of Mr Roberts, and to secure his services if required. One of the meetings was addressed by Mr Kelk, clerk to Mr Roberts, who gave such professional advice as they required.

TRADES' MOVEMENTS.

CORDWAINERS' STRIKE AT WIGAN.—Some time ago the shoemakers of Wigan formed themselves into a union—or rather a branch of the general Mutual Assistant Association of Great Britain and Ireland, and for some time were harmoniously working for the general good. The expense of forming it, and the calls made upon us by those who were on strike in other towns, induced a number who would receive assistance at all times with willingness, and extend it only with reluctance, to separate from us, and form "a body of their own," yclept "The Old Trade." A person of the name of Lawrence Bradley, employing a number of hands, made application for some union men agreeing to abide by the conditions, and pay the scale of wages adopted by the union. His proposals were, of course, agreed to, when nearly the whole of the masters met, and, envious of Mr Bradley's prosperity, jealous of the unionists' independence, and mindful of the split brought about by the "old trade," decided upon ceasing to employ any of the unionists. The consequence was, that some were forced to leave the town, and the remainder have unflinchingly stood by the union. Our case would have been worse had we not received assistance from those to whom we appealed. As from the fact of the employers striking against the unionists, the unionists were on principle forced to strike against the "old trade" men, but for whom their masters dared not have attempted such a tyrannical act of despotism. We have to thank various lodges of miners, mechanics, and others, for their timely assistance, and we may venture to say that should our case call for assistance a little time longer, union will develope its strength, and the rights of labour be more rightly appreciated. Ours is not a strike for wages, but one of principle!! Are the unionists to wait the approval of employers whom they are to labour for? No! Last week two of the more discriminating masters agreed to employ union men, and expressed their regret that they had been misled. By the help of our friends we hope to be speedily able to announce our complete success." On behalf of the union cordwainers of Wigan, William Reilly, secretary.—N.B. Reference may be made, if required, to Mr Wm. Clark, general secretary, 27, Rupert-street, Haymarket, London, and to J. M'Lane, district secretary, 23, Pump-street, Preston.

FRAMEWORK-KNITTERS.—On Monday a meeting of delegates representing the various branches of the Framework-Knitting trade of the three counties of Nottingham, Derbyshire and Leicestershire, was held at the Royal George, Loughborough, to take into consideration Sir H. Halford's bill lately introduced to the House of Commons for abolishing frame-charges and other imposts. Mr Winters presided, and Mr Barber acted as secretary. The bill was then discussed and approved of, with the following suggested alterations:—Clause 9, that the words, "all seasonable hours" mean from nine o'clock in the morning till one, and from two o'clock in the afternoon till five.—Clause 14, that the penalty be not more than £50, and not less than £20. It was also recommended that one-half the penalties be given to the informer, and one-half to the crown. A petition to both houses of Parliament was then read and adopted. A motion was put and carried that the M. P's for the three counties be solicited to support the bill. A vote of thanks was then given to Sir Henry Halford, Mr Pack, and Colonel Rollesten.

KIDDERMINSTER.—DELEGATE MEETING.—At a meeting of delegates, representing carpenters, stonemasons, bricklayers, carpet-weavers, labourers, paper-makers, moulders, tailors, and cordwainers, 2l. was voted to assist the Warrington men at their approaching trial. Resolutions were passed, pledging the delegates to increased exertions, and thanking W. P. Roberts, Esq., and the chairman of the meeting, for their valuable services.

KILMARNOCK BLOCK PRINTERS.—The staple branches of trade in this town have been, for a considerable time past, in a very depressed state. In the printworks, little has been doing either by blockcutters or printers; indeed, of late, some of the works may be said to have been literally shut up.

LEICESTER.—COACH BUILDERS.—The railway coach and waggon builders and fitters, in the employ of Hamer and Son, turned out last week for an advance of 2s. per week. The fitters are already obliged to give way on account of the base conduct of some frame smiths offering to take their work, and we are informed that Mr H. has sent to London, Derby, and other places, in search of carpenters and joiners to replace the coach and waggon hands. We trust this will be sufficient caution for men not to be led astray by Mr Hamer's agents.

STRIKE OF THE GUILDFORD CARPENTERS.—On Saturday night nearly the whole of the carpenters of Guildford and its vicinity intimated to their employers that they did not intend returning to their work on the ensuing Monday morning, unless they were promised an advance of wages. In one or two instances the request was complied with, but in far the majority of cases the masters refused the required addition, and the consequence is very few of the carpenters are at work.

Metropolitan Intelligence.

INQUESTS.

AWFUL VISITATION.—By Mr Baker, at the Cumberland Head, City-road, on Thomas Small, (67,) a miller, lately employed by Messrs De la Rue, of Bunhill-row. On Friday night last, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the night watchman, while patrolling the premises, discovered the deceased lying on his face in the colour-mill quite insensible. An alarm was raised, and a surgeon was called, who pronounced deceased to have been dead several hours. The widow stated that at five o'clock on Friday evening he came home to tea, and that when he left to return to his employment he appeared perfectly well. Verdict, "Found dead."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—By Mr. Baker, at the same place, on a man unknown, who was killed in the following shocking manner. On the evening of Tuesday deceased was crossing the City-road, near Castle-street, when he fell between the fore and hind wheels of a timber carriage passing along the road at the same instant. *Although the driver stopped* his horses as soon as possible, the wheels of the vehicle passed over the unfortunate man's body, killing him instantaneously. Every endeavour has been made to find out who the deceased was, but without success. His age was about thirty-five; he was five feet seven inches high, and was clad in moleskin, similar to what is worn by engineers. Verdict, "Accidental death."

THE MURDER IN SHOREDITCH.—By Mr Baker, at the Old King John, Holywell-lane, on William Gobart, who was shot on Wednesday week by Thomas Brooks, now in custody, in Hare-alley, Shoreditch. The evidence adduced was little more than a recapitulation of that given before the magistrate, and which has already appeared in the *Northern Star*. The jury ultimately returned a verdict of "wilful murder" against the prisoner. The prisoner was on Tuesday examined at Worship-street. No new facts were adduced; and Mr Broughton fully committed the prisoner to Newgate.

ACCIDENT ON THE EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—On Tuesday, by Mr Baker, at the London Hospital, on the body of William Prior, aged 35, a labourer on the Eastern Counties Railway. The deceased had entered one of the trucks of a coal train, which was strictly prohibited by the company. The trucks opened at the bottom to allow the coals to fall through, and were not considered safe for any one to ride in. William Perry said that the deceased and himself, on the evening in question, having missed a train that was to have conveyed them to London, got into one of the coal trucks. Shortly afterwards, witness fell asleep. When the train arrived at Ponders End, the flap at the bottom of the truck he was in must have given way, and the remainder of the trucks, 22 in number, have passed over deceased's leg. Mr Day, house-surgeon, said that when the deceased was admitted the left leg had a compound fracture; amputation was resorted to, but deceased expired on the 14th instant, from the effects of the injuries received.—Verdict, "Accidental death."

FATAL EFFECTS OF INTOXICATION.—By Mr Wakley, M.P., at the Bricklayers' Arms, Gresse-street, Oxford-street, on the illegitimate infant of Mrs Read, a dress maker, living with a man named Allen, at 32, Gresse-street. From the evidence it appeared that on last Monday and Tuesday week the *mother* was so drunk that a fellow lodger took the child away and fed it. Shortly after nine o'clock she gave the child to the mother, who was lying in bed insensibly drunk. Shortly afterwards Allen returned home quite drunk, and went to bed in the dark. Between ten and eleven o'clock the wretched mother awoke, and found her infant dead at the foot of the bed. Mr Peplow, surgeon, who performed a *post mortem* examination, could not find the cause of death, as all the organs presented a healthy appearance, but from the evidence he was induced to think that the child had been overlaid and smothered. The jury retired, and after some deliberation returned the verdict, "That the deceased died while its parents were in a state of intoxication, but there was no evidence to prove whether its death was natural or otherwise."

FATAL EFFECTS OF PLAYING AT "CAT."—By Mr. Baker on James Bonny, son of a pastrycook, living at 39, Princes-street, Mile-end. The deceased, on Wednesday last, was playing at "cat," when in stooping down to strike the plaything, a piece of wood pointed at each end, his head came in contact with the wheel of a cart, and he was knocked down, when the vehicle passed over his back, killing him almost instantaneously. Verdict "Accidental death."

FATAL CAB ACCIDENT.—By Mr Bedford, on Jeremiah Cunningham, a pauper in the Strand Union. On Wednesday last deceased was crossing Long-acre at the moment when one of Hansom's cabs drove past turning down James-street. The deceased was called to, but instead of running back, he ran directly against the wheel, which knocked him down. Four of his ribs were broken, and he died of the injuries in King's College Hospital. Verdict—"Accidental death."

SUICIDE BY A COMMERCIAL CLERK.—By Mr W. Carter at the George Tavern, Lambeth-walk, on Mr G. Megevan, lately residing at 10, Bolwell-terrace, Princes-road. The deceased had formerly been in the service of Mr Mortimer, a solicitor, who had latterly discharged him, which circumstance preyed heavily on his mind. On Sunday afternoon, during the absence of his wife, he inflicted a severe wound on the side of his neck with a small clasp knife, whilst in the bedroom, where he was subsequently found lying on the floor in a pool of blood. A surgeon was called in, but the deceased died at ten o'clock the same night from the effects of the injuries, which separated the carotid artery and other branches of the neck. Before he expired he became conscious, and exclaimed, "Let me die in the arms of my wife," and repeatedly said, "Why did you not watch me?" The deceased was a very sober man, and had been in a deranged state for a considerable period, arising from the loss of his situation. Verdict "Temporary insanity."

DEATH FROM OVERJOY AT SEEING A LOVER.—SINGULAR CASE.—W. Payne, Esq., at the King of Denmark, Old Bailey, on Jane Nicholson, aged 23, whose death took place under the following singular circumstances:—It appeared from the evidence, that the deceased had been staying with Mr Piper, baker, of No. 19, in the Old Bailey, and was in the enjoyment of the best of health and spirits. On Sunday evening last, between five and six o'clock, a young man, named Alfred Britton, called for the purpose of escorting her home to her mother's residence, in Augustus-street, Regent's Park. Mrs. Piper told her she need not stop and wash up the teathings, but might go upstairs and put on her bonnet. The deceased ran up stairs to do so, and almost immediately after a heavy fall was heard, and on Mrs Piper going up stairs, the deceased was found lying upon the staircase lifeless. Medical assistance was promptly obtained, but the poor girl had ceased to exist. Mr Watkins, the surgeon, who was called in, said he could not give the slightest opinion as to the cause of death without a *post mortem* examination. The countenance of the deceased was remarkably placid when he saw her; indeed, she seemed more like a person asleep. She might have taken prussic acid. The coroner—If she had, you would have been able to have detected it by the smell. Mr Watkins—Oh dear, no; the smell would have gone off in a short time after it was taken. The coroner—That is very different to what I have always understood. I have had many cases where the taking of prussic acid has been proved solely by the smell in the mouth. Mr. Piper said the deceased was of too happy a disposition to think of destroying herself. The coroner left it to the jury to say whether they thought there was any suspicion in the case, or any necessity for a *post mortem* examination. The jury thought there was none, and returned a verdict of—"Natural death."

A FEMALE BURNT TO DEATH.—By Mr W. Payne, the City Coroner, in the Board-room of Guy's Hospital, on the body of Mary Rutland, aged 44 years, lately residing at No. 6, Grove-street, Deptford, who lost her life under the subjoined circumstances:—The deceased was a lodging-house-keeper, and was much subject to fits of epilepsy, for which she had been under the care of a neighbouring surgeon. On Wednesday night, the 17th inst., she was sitting in front of the fire reading, when she was suddenly seized with an attack of that fearful malady, and in the absence of her daughter the deceased fell on the fire, which instantly ignited her wearing apparel. She remained in that awful position for several seconds, when she rolled to the floor, when the whole of her dress was consumed, and her person literally roasted and blackened from the action of the fire. She subsequently recovered from the fit, when her screams brought several persons to her aid. Mr Wood, a surgeon, was called in, who advised her removal to the above hospital, when she died on Monday from the injuries she had sustained. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—Mr Carter on Tuesday held an inquest in the Union Workhouse at Wandsworth, as to the death of Joseph Adams, aged 43. *The deceased was in the service of Mr Chapman, at* Rickmansworth. On Thursday he drove to Streatham, and whilst he was getting hold of the reins, he fell from the cart, and the wheel passing over his head smashed it to pieces. "Accidental death."

DEATH BY A FALL FROM A CART.—Mr Carter held an inquest on Tuesday at the King's Head, Long-lane, Bermondsey, on the body of Philip Day, aged 36. The deceased was driving a cart up by the Great Western Railway, and in going to the back part, the tail board came off, and he fell with great violence to the ground. He was so seriously injured that he died from the effects of the fall. "Accidental death."

DEATH IN BRIXTON GAOL.—On Tuesday an inquest was held before Mr Carter in the Brixton House of Correction. The deceased was John Foster, aged 34. He had been sentenced to six months' imprisonment at the Sessions for felony, but he was attacked with dropsy of the skin, of which he died on Sunday. He appeared to have had every attention in medical skill, and the luxuries a sinking frame required. Verdict, "Natural death."

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SEA.—Mr Baker held an inquest on Tuesday, at the London Hospital, on the body of John Gilbert Middleton, aged 37, a cuddyman of a ship at present in the East India Dock. About six weeks since, whilst the vessel was about five degrees north of the line, the deceased fell with his arm against the boof of the ship, which strained it very much, and caused it to become swollen. When the vessel arrived in London he was removed to the above hospital, where he died from the injury he had received. Verdict "Accidental death."

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

BURGLARY.—Between three and four o'clock on Sunday morning a daring burglary was committed at the house of Mrs Owers, Rose and Crown Tavern, Kew-green. The premises were entered at the rear, which abuts on the towing path, along the Surrey side of the River Thames; the thieves left the same way, taking with them a dozen silver tea-spoons, six silver table-spoons, two silver salt-spoons, all marked "R. H. O.," a large plain gold ring, with an emerald stone, a flat gold ring with hair round it, a gold guard-chain, link pattern, five shillings in farthings, and three shillings in halfpence. The thieves left behind them two hats and a new centre-bit.

DETERMINED SUICIDE.—On Sunday about one o'clock, a gentleman of the name of Macrean, residing at No. 10, Bolwell-terrace Lambeth-walk, committed suicide, by running a knife several times into his throat. It appears that the deceased had for some time been suffering from illness, and was in a very dejected state. Mr Thompson, a surgeon, of Lambeth-walk, was called in, who attended deceased, but without avail. He lingered until ten o'clock that night when he expired.

THE SMITHFIELD NUISANCE.—A very distressing circumstance, arising from the driving of cattle to and from Smithfield through the crowded streets, adds another fatal case to the numbers which have occurred from this long existing nuisance. A young woman, named Lott, residing in Tudor-street, Blackfriars, and who was about seven months advanced in pregnancy, went out in good health and spirits to Fleet-street on an errand. She there became so alarmed by an ox from a drove, approaching the pavement, that it was with difficulty she retraced her steps home, when she was prematurely delivered, and notwithstanding the utmost of medical skill, she could not rally from the shock, but expired. The infant is likely to do well.

ROBBERIES.—On Tuesday information was received by the police, that the kitchen of the house of W. Baith, Esq., 12, Chester-place, Kennington, had been entered, and robbed of two half-sovereigns, earrings, broach, some silver, and memorandums. On the 21st, from the shop of Mr Pawson Covery, New Bond-street, an extensive quantity of cloth; and from the shop of Mr Buckingham, hosier, of 14, Baker-street, Portman-square, under the pretence that the articles were to be sent to a respectable house referred to, six coloured shirts, six white ditto, six pair of gloves, and some silk handkerchiefs.

SUDDEN DEATH IN A BAKEHOUSE.—Shortly before 12 o'clock on Tuesday night a man of the name of George Parsloe, a foreman in the employ of Mr Creak, of 28, King's-row, Walworth, baker, expired suddenly under the following circumstances:—The deceased, according to custom, arrived from his home in Portland-street, Walworth, and entered the bakehouse to attend to his usual avocations about twenty minutes before 12 (Mr Creak being there.) On entering, the deceased proceeded to the trough, and remarked that the sponge was not ready. Mr Creak left the bakehouse, but had not been absent more than a minute when he heard a strange gurgling sound proceeding from the bakehouse, and becoming alarmed he returned, and there saw the deceased standing near the trough evidently in a state of suffocation, blood issuing from his mouth. He immediately caught the deceased in his arms, and awoke his brother, who was lying asleep on the board, and sent for Mr Adey, surgeon, residing next door, who promptly attended, but his services were of no avail, as the deceased expired within three minutes of the attack from suffocation, produced from the bursting of an internal blood vessel. The deceased was about 45, and has left a wife and two children wholly unprovided for.

LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE.—On Wednesday morning, about ten o'clock, a shocking and fatal accident occurred to a child named Robert Quin, aged six years, whose parents reside at Lovington Cottage, Waterloo-street, Camberwell. It appears that the deceased was left by his mother in a room by himself, and during her temporary absence the child (as usual) commenced playing with a piece of lighted paper, which set his pinafore on fire. He ran down stairs enveloped in a body of flame to the yard, where one of the lodgers rolled him into a tub of water, by which means the flames were extinguished, but not before the poor child was most frightfully burned over the whole of his body. He was placed in a blanket and taken with all care to Guy's Hospital, where he expired in a few hours after his admission.

MELANCHOLY ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.—On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Benjamin Handley, a watch and clock manufacturer, residing at Victoria Cottage, Oxford-street, St. Pancras, attempted self destruction under the following melancholy circumstances. For a long time past the unfortunate man has laboured under a most painful disorder, which at times produced the most excruciating agony. During one of the paroxysms on Tuesday, the poor fellow procured a razor and cut his throat, dividing the windpipe and all the principal arteries. He was removed to the University College Hospital, and attended by Mr Williams and Dr Liston, but the injury to his throat is of such a nature that he lies in the most precarious state.

GIG ACCIDENTS.—On Wednesday evening, a horse and gig, driven by a gentleman in a state of intoxication, knocked a poor woman down in Holborn, near the end of Gray's-Inn-Lane, who, upon being picked up, was found to be in an insensible state, and so seriously injured that it was found necessary to carry her to the hospital. The gig proceeded at a rapid rate towards Oxford-street, knocking down a man near the end of Bloomsbury-street with a basket of oranges, who was also seriously injured. At the corner of Crown-street, the police succeeded in stopping the gig, and the driver, who was much inebriated, refused to give name or address. He was conveyed to Bow-street police station, and the horse and gig taken to the green yard.

CHILD DROPPING.—On Wednesday morning, between six and seven o'clock, a female infant, apparently about twenty-one days old, was found abandoned by the policeman on duty in the Cambridge Heath-road, near the Red Deer public-house. A female, supposed to be the mother, was noticed watching the result; but directly she saw that she was observed made off, and effected her escape. The child, which was comfortably clad, is now in the Bethnal-green workhouse.

DEATH FROM FEAR OF CONTAGION.—Last week Mr Watson, organist of the Philanthropic Chapel, St. George's fields, went to Brighton to see a friend who was labouring under a severe attack of small-pox, which had such an effect upon him that on his return home he was attacked with delirium, and expired about ten o'clock on Tuesday morning last.

DISCOVERY OF HUMAN BONES.—On Monday considerable excitement prevailed in the immediate neighbourhood of the Queen's Bench Prison, in consequence of the greater portion of a human skeleton being found in a garden in front of one of the houses in Belvidere-place. From inquiries made on the spot, it appeared that Mr Bayliss, a cabinet-maker residing in Belvidere Cottage, nearly opposite the Queen's Prison, was digging up the ground in front of his residence, about eight o'clock that morning, when in turning up the earth he discovered a human skull, which appeared to have been that of a female, but without any portion of the jaws or lower part of the skull. Feeling surprised at finding that portion *of the human form,* he made a further search, and, in digging a little deeper, he discovered two thigh-bones, arm-bones, and several ribs, which, from their appearance, seemed to have been buried many years. The cottage in question has not been occupied by Mr Bayliss more than three months; but, prior to that, had been tenanted by a person, named Lindon, nearly fifteen years. The person residing at the next house informed the reporter that, about six months ago, the greater portion of a human skeleton was found near the same spot, and it was their belief that they had been brought from some of the over crowded grave-yards in the Borough.

MODEL LODGING HOUSE.—The new model lodging house, in George-street, St. Giles, of the Society for the Improvement of the Labouring Classes, is nearly completed, and will shortly be opened. It will accommodate one hundred labouring men, each of whom will have a separate sleeping place, with the use of a large living room, a kitchen, store room, washing room, and every necessary convenience. The sum to be charged will be 4d. per night, less in some instances; the rate now charged in common lodging houses in St. Giles, and other low localities, for beds crowded together in miserable and unventilated rooms. The cost of the building will (independent of the site of ground which was purchased for £1,270), *amount to about £5,500, of which little more than* £3,000 has as yet been raised by subscription. Amongst the principal subscribers are Prince Albert, £100, and the Corporation of London, £300.

NEW CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—The long-pending negociation for the purchase of a piece of ground in King Edward's-road, Mare-street, Hackney, for the erection of a building for Catholic worship, has been effected, and the foundation stone laid a few days ago. A supper to the workmen engaged was given at the Dolphin Tavern, on Monday night.

SHOCKING SUICIDE.—Between two and three o'clock on Thursday morning, Mr Sparks, of Dudley, near Birmingham, committed suicide by cutting his throat, at the beer-shop, 3, Bridge street, Blackfriars, kept by Mr Merryweather; surgical aid was called, but life was pronounced extinct.

SHERIFFS OF LONDON FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.—At a recent civic dinner, the Lord Mayor drank to Mr William Cubitt, the eminent builder of Gray's-inn-road, being the ancient mode of putting in nomination for the high and distinguished office of one of the sheriffs of London, and joint sheriff of Middlesex.

Home News.

England.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION AT BURRADON COLLIERY.—On Saturday morning a fatal accident occurred at the above colliery, by the bursting of one of the boilers used in working the engine of the pit, by which three persons were killed. The colliery is situated about six miles north of Newcastle, and belongs to Lord Ravensworth and partners. The engine attached to the pit is of 90-horse power, and three boilers of large dimensions and of an oval shape are used to work it; but on the morning of the accident only two were in operation. A few minutes previous to the occurrence, the engineman, on examining the float, found the water more than a *foot* above the working mark, but as the steam was low he gave directions to the stoker, Robert Thompson, to raise the fires; soon after which the boilers suddenly burst with a tremendous noise, carrying away part of the engine-house and chimney, killing three persons, and injuring, more or less, several of the workmen at the shaft. The boiler was torn into three pieces, and parts of it were blown a considerable distance into an adjoining field. On examining the place the stoker was found almost buried in the ruins, dreadfully scalded and bruised, and quite dead; a female named Proctor, wife of one of the miners, who was at the place getting water, was lying a few yards from him. The other sufferer was a boy, about eleven *years of age, named Gordon, employed* at the bank. The engineman escaped, though much scalded in the face, and injured in the head. Several of the workmen were also seriously injured by the flying bricks, but are all expected to recover. An inquest was held on the bodies. Verdict, "Accidental death."

LANCASHIRE.

LIVERPOOL.—MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST A POLICEMAN.—Lately, a lad, named Ryder, died at the Northern Hospital, Liverpool, from an injury on the head, received from a stone cast by Warbrick, a policeman, as the deceased and some other lads were sailing in the Clarence-dock basin. The circumstances were brought under the cognisance of the coroner, and a jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the constable, who was committed for trial.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.—So great is the mortality in the neighbourhood of St. James's-street, that one night last week no less than eighteen "wakes" of dead bodies took place between Crosbie-street and Lower Parliament-street. The medical officers of the North Dispensary apprehend that the past and present state of the poor population will result in producing a very severe epidemic of typhus fever, in the warm months of June, July, and August.

BOLTON.—CONDITION OF THE OPERATIVES.—The *Manchester Guardian* says: The meetings of the unemployed in Manchester, having, apparently, excited apprehensions throughout the county, we have been at some pains to ascertain the condition of the factory hands in the Bolton division. In the borough there are fifty-one cotton mills, of which number about fifteen are running full time, and the remainder four and five days per week; not one, we are happy to say, being standing idle. In the other portions of the division, comprising twenty-nine townships, there are fifty-five cotton mills. Of these twenty-six are in full work, nineteen running short time, and ten have stopped. In these twenty-nine townships *5,700 factory hands are computed to* be in full work; 1,300 are working short time; and *rather better than 700 are out of employment by the* mills that have stopped. There are, however, a considerable number of joiners, bricksetters, &c., out of work, which with the high price of provisions, causes a great amount of distress; but there being, happily, no political cause of discontent, the people bear their privations with admirable fortitude.

MILL ACCIDENT.—An adjourned inquest was held on Tuesday morning, before Mr Chapman, touching the death of Elizabeth Coupe, who was killed by the sudden fall of a part of a shed, erected about two years ago, as an addition to the mill of Messrs Gray, in Pollard-street, Manchester. At the first investigation all the facts relative to the accident had been taken, and the adjournment was for the purpose of allowing scientific men to inspect and report on the cause of the accident. The gentlemen employed were Mr Fairburn and Mr Hodgkinson. Both were of opinion that the accident was attributable to the giving away of the lower iron beam, and that it would have been much better if the beam had been supported by pillars. Mr Hodgkinson was of opinion, however, that the immediate cause of the accident was to be found in *the fact that the tie-rods or trusses* had been so fixed, at the time of erection, as to draw the beam a little to one side, and that the vibration caused by the working of the machinery, together with the pressure, had increased this original deflection or curvature, and gradually weakened the part, until fracture took place, and the consequent fall of that portion of the building incumbent upon the beam. A verdict to this effect was returned by the jury.

DERBYSHIRE.

A STEAM INCENDIARY.—An extraordinary conflagration was seen, on Saturday, in a field which adjoins the Midland railway, near Bank Close. The field had yielded a large crop of aftermath, which had never been eaten, and was consequently full of dried grass. A strong west wind was blowing when the express train swept by, and bore into the field some sparks from the engine; these ignited the grass immediately, and the fire spread with a swiftness which terrified the beholders. The hedges soon caught the flames, and burnt furiously, and the residence of W. Drabble, Esq., as well as a large haystack in the next field, were considered to be in danger. The fire destroyed all the verdure, and left the hedges in a blackened state. Great exertions were made before it was put out.

YORKSHIRE.

ANOTHER COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—A few days ago an accident occurred in the Broadgate coal mines, near Masborough, in consequence of an explosion of fire-damp. Seven men were badly burnt. Men, women, and children ran from all directions to ascertain who were the sufferers. The explosion was quite terrific. It occurred between six and seven o'clock. Medical assistance was promptly in attendance, and the surgeon said they were in a precarious state.

WARWICKSHIRE.

DISCOVERY OF A CAVE.—In making the necessary excavations for the construction of a sewer in Lease-lane, the workmen on Wednesday came upon the entrance to a subterranean passage, at the end near Bell-street. On procuring lights, some of the men entered, and a recess was discovered cut in the firmly embedded sand, about eight feet in length, six in width, and eight feet high, and having a shaft, now bricked over, communicating with the cellar of the house above. After a portion of the rubbish with which the excavation was nearly filled had been removed, Mr Pigott Smith, the town surveyor, proceeded to examine the passage, when it was found to be a long gallery, thirty feet below the level of Bell-street, extending, so far as could be measured, about forty-two feet towards Spiceal-street, and apparently still more extensive. The height of the passage is about seven feet, having on either side eight recesses, of various dimensions. Such is this singular subterranean gallery, but for what purpose formed remains a mystery. On the surface of the soil there was a thin layer of black powder, which proved to be decayed wood; hence it may be inferred that a considerable length of time must have been required to reduce the timber to that state, as the porous and dry character of the soil is not such as to promote rapid decomposition. The workmen have since been engaged removing the loose rubbish, and on Saturday they found a great number of beef, sheep, and fowl bones. An empty bottle was also discovered, which from its appearance would seem to have been made many years ago. The body of the bottle is five inches in height and fifteen in circumference, and the neck three inches in length. Upon examination it was found to correspond exactly with the make of some bottles discovered lying upon the skeletons dug up in Oxford-street a few months ago. Several pieces of fused metal and a large piece of chalk were also found. Up to a late hour on Saturday evening the men had not reached further than forty-*three feet*, and then they had arrived at a point where the cavern would seem to be increasing in size. This part of the passage, wherever it may lead to, is filled up with loose soil. Considerable curiosity having been excited by this discovery, we understand it is Mr Smith's intention to pursue the excavation further.

HORRIBLE CASE OF PARENTAL CRUELTY.—The inhabitants of Rugby were put into a state of considerable excitement a few days since by a report that a Captain ———, residing with his wife and family in a house on the Bilton-road, had thrust his son's hand into the fire, and held it there till the sinews were burnt. It appears that the little sufferer is between seven and eight years of age, and had incurred his father's displeasure by telling a falsehood. In order to punish the boy the unnatural parent tied a handkerchief over his mouth, and then, seizing his arms, thrust his hand between the bars of the grate into the fire, where he held it till the sinews were burnt to so serious an extent as to render it a matter of considerable doubt whether the poor little fellow will not be obliged to lose his hand. Having completed his barbarous purpose, the father removed the handkerchief from his child's mouth, when a shocking spectacle was presented, the tongue being completely bitten through in the agony the child suffered and its mouth filled with blood almost to suffocation. The only notice, however, that its parent took of this was to tell the child that "The pain it then suffered, was not a fiftieth portion compared to that which it would be subjected to in a future state." What adds to the enormity of the offence is that this said Captain professes to be a very religious character, and has for some time acted as home missionary for St. Matthew's district, Rugby, distributing tracts, visiting person's houses, and exhorting them to lead godly and spiritual lives.

OXFORDSHIRE.

THE GAME-LAWS.—The Secretary of State has released Baker and Hunt from Oxford gaol. They were committed from the petty sessions at Woodstock, on a game-law charge preferred by Elliott, head gamekeeper for the Duke of Marlborough. At the last petty sessions Elliott preferred a game-law charge against T. Herbert, of Handborough, labourer, but it could not be proceeded with, in consequence of one of the two magistrates present refusing to act. The magistrate, T. Thornhill, Esq., said, "I should be glad to see a discharge sent in every case of game-law conviction."

HEREFORDSHIRE.

ROBBERIES.—The house of Mrs Bently, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, has been broken into, and a quantity of valuable property stolen therefrom, amongst which were five sovereigns and three half ditto, two silver gravy spoons, eight table, and six dessert ditto, all marked B.; a silver cream jug, and a metal repeater watch, with tortoise-shell case with initials M.B. Also stolen from the person of Mrs B. Elliott, whilst at the Blackheath Institution, by three men, a purse containing six sovereigns and fifteen shillings in silver.

SUSSEX.

QUEENSHEAD.—CO-OPERATION.—The shopkeepers of this neighbourhood were alarmed on Thursday last by the announcement that a number of independent individuals had resolved to put their means together and supply the neighbourhood with the best flour and oatmeal at a nominal profit. And that, accordingly, they would commence retailing these articles at Mr Isaac Lilly's that night. This announcement threw the shopkeeping fraternity into the utmost consternation. Some of the larger craft met in secret confab to see what was to be done to avert this threatened invasion of their territories, when it was considered that the best plan would be to crush the new company at the outset by underselling them; accordingly the bellman was dispatched announcing the reduction. This announcement was met by a further reduction by the co-operators, who will not be so easy to conquer as their enemies hope for.

POVERTY OF ENGLISH LABOURERS.—The labouring poor in the Weald are suffering great privations. The whole of their wages is absorbed in the purchase of flour, and they have very little indeed of any other kind of food. Many of the men with families go to work in the morning without tasting even bread, and return at night to partake of a scanty meal. As the wages of the millions is now expended almost entirely for food,—for the barest necessaries of life,—trade is in a wretched state. The general dealers, who always know the state of their neighbourhood better than any one else, state that they never knew the time when the working-classes laboured under such privations as at present.

Scotland.

EDINBURGH.

TRIAL OF RIOTERS—INFAMOUS SENTENCE.—On Tuesday, at Edinburgh, before the High Court of Justiciary, James Falconer, Angus Davidson, Daniel Sutherland, John Young, and John Main, all inhabitants of the county of Elgin; and the indictment *set forth that they had been guilty of mobbing and* rioting, in having attempted, riotously and violently, to prevent the shipment of grain on board a vessel lying at Burghead harbour; and also of the crime of assault, in having attacked the sheriff-substitute of Morayshire, the procurator-fiscal of the shire, and a superintendent of police. The prisoners pleaded guilty, with the exception of James Falconer, who did not plead guilty to the crime of assault. The prisoners Davidson, Sutherland, Young and Main, were sentenced to be *transported for seven years each*; Falconer was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment.

SENTENCE OF DEATH.—A girl, named Elizabeth Yates, has been sentenced to death, by the High Court of Justiciary, for the murder of her illegitimate child, a male infant of some eleven months of age. The jury unanimously recommended her to mercy. Although pleading "Not guilty" at her trial, the prisoner made a contrary declaration on being first apprehended: The declaration stated that the devil was busy with her at the time, and from the father of the child denying her, and refusing to give anything in support of it, she thought it was well to put the child out of the world.

FEVER IN GLASGOW.—IRISH PAUPERISM.—Fever, which has raged in this city, during the whole winter with more than ordinary serverity, is not abating as the weather improves with the advance of spring, but is rather on the increase. All the increased accommodations for patients which public charity has been able to afford appears as yet to have been inadequate to the exigency. One melancholy consequence of this state of things has of late begun to show itself in the deaths of persons occupying respectable positions in life, whose official duties have placed them in the way of the contagion. Besides cases of this nature that might be referred to as having happened within the last two or three weeks, we understand that during the last few days the Lieutenants at the Central and Gorbals Police-offices have in several instances been attacked, and one of them (Mr M'Lean of the latter establishment, who was in perfect health a week ago), has died of fever in some one of its forms. It appears that hords of Irish paupers still find opportunities of locating themselves amongst us, notwithstanding all that has been said and done to prevent the evil; and there can be no doubt that, if the disease is not imported by these persons, it is at least fostered and propagated by them to a most alarming extent, and that the lodging-house system is the principal medium of its diffusion.

GLASGOW.—FRIGHTFUL COACH ACCIDENT.—TWO PERSONS SEVERELY INJURED.—On Friday night about 8 o'clock, as one of Mr Bain's carriages was standing at the Wellington Arcade, in Sauchiehall-street, and while the driver was off the box, some boys throwing stones startled the horse, a very spirited one, which started off at the gallop in the direction of the Clelland Testimonial. Arriving at which, it took the turn down Buchanan-street, and dashing forward, it knocked down and ran over a man named John M'Ilroy, who was so seriously injured that he had to be carried to the Royal Infimary, where it was found that his hurts were of a dangerous nature. The terrified animal continuing its career dashed down Buchanan-street, which is at present undergoing repair. The affrighted brute, however, perceiving the barrier placed across the street to prevent traffic, evaded the impediment by running on to the footpath, at that hour crowded with people, and sweeping along the western pavement, came in contact with the iron railing at the Monteith Rooms, which it instantly shivered. In his course down Buchanan-street, the vehicle knocked over a girl named Elizabeth Mackenzie, who happened to be passing; whereby she had both her legs very severely, but we are glad to learn not dangerously, bruised by the concussion. In such a thoroughfare, and at such an hour, it is a miracle that there was not a great many injured, if not killed. The police, we understand, are making inquiries, as to whether and how far the driver was to blame for allowing the horse to run off.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—TWO MEN KILLED.—On Saturday morning, as one of the colliers employed at Coltness Iron works, named Dougal, was getting into a cage to descend to his work, the engine is thought to have been unfortunately turned the wrong way, and took the cage up instead of letting it down, by which the poor man was precipitated a distance of seventy yards, and killed on the spot. Deceased has left a widow and three young children. Another accident occurred the same morning at Clelland Colliery, by Holytown, when a miner named Marrow was killed in descending the No. 4 pit, owing to a stone falling on him when going down. Deceased has left a widow and child.

APPALLING INCREASE OF FEVER AND DEATHS IN DUNDEE.—During the first two months of this year death and pestilence have been making fearful ravages in this town. In January and February last year the deaths were 137 and 135, while in the corresponding months of this year, the numbers are 250 and 232, and, in the first week of March, 63. The two extremes of old age and young children have been the principal victims cut off; and it is presumed, as reported by the physicians of the infirmary, at the quarterly meeting of the governors, held on Monday last, that numbers of these have perished from a want of proper nourishment.

CAITHNESS-SHIRE.

MURDER.—This district (Wick, Caithness) has this week been thrown into a state of great excitement, by the commission of one of those diabolical crimes which are fortunately of extremely rare occurrence in Scotland. Isabella Gunn, an old woman, apparently about sixty years of age, living in Achow of Swiny, in the parish of Latheran, has been made the victim of a most atrocious, yet evidently deliberate murder. Her residence is at the end of the Free school of Achow, situated about 200 yards from any other dwelling. On the mornings of Sabbath, a school is taught, and it is customary on that, as on other mornings, for some of the children to go to her room for fuel to kindle the school fire. Accordingly, on the morning of Sabbath last, one of the scholars went for that purpose, and was surprised to find no reply given to the customary salutation. Another of his school-mates speedily followed, and discovered the body of the unfortunate creature lying under a quantity of straw which had been spread over her. She was dead. The alarm was immediately raised, and forthwith a number of the neighbours assembled. They found that the crime of murder had been that morning committed upon the lonely woman, and judged that it could not have been of very late occurrence, as the body was yet warm. The foul deed had evidently been committed by means of strangling, as a piece of rope was found round the neck of the deceased. There were marks of violence on other parts of the face, one in particular on the chin, where, to all appearance, an iron instrument had been applied. On one of the hands there was also a blue mark. Several small sums of money, amounting, in all, to upwards of two pounds, were found on different parts of the deceased's person, and lying between the body and the chest. A considerable time ago a forcible attempt was made to break into the house of the unfortunate woman, who has of late been living very retired, having refused to domicile with any other individual. In the district she was reputed to have been worth a little money; but as she was of very penurious habits, and to all outward appearance in poverty, she was admitted lately on the poor's roll. It is said that since the attempt was made to rob her, she generally slept throughout the day, and sat up during the night. A young man had been apprehended and lodged in gaol, under suspicion of being connected with the murder.

Ireland.

DUBLIN, MARCH 20.—There is a vast increase of fever in Dungarvan and Waterford. In the fever hospital of the latter place, there are 210 ill of that disease; and so crowded is the hospital, that the convalescent patients sleep two in a bed. There are *500 paupers in the Waterford workhouse now beyond* the number at this time last year; and on Friday, *such was the number of applicants for admission to* the workhouse at Dungarvan, that two women enfeebled by destitution were crushed to death in the crowd—each applicant being eager to go before the guardians earlier than his neighbour. A gentleman named Boate writes respecting Abbeyside, Dungarvan, that that district will soon rival Skibbereen. There are, he says, from twenty to thirty deaths per day occurring there caused by starvation, and he adds that he has recently met "half-naked women traversing the mountain of Slieve Griene, the only commodities they brought from Dungarvan being coffins on their heads."

EMIGRATION.—The current of emigration continues to proceed with great activity from Dublin, and a number of the landlords, following the example of Lord De Vesci, are eagerly occupied in providing for the transit of such of their tenants as avail themselves of the liberal treatment offered in a free passage, and money in hand on their arrival in the United States. The ship *Atalanta* has sailed for New York with one hundred and fifty emigrants, all of whom defrayed the expenses of their voyage on their own account, and took with them, in the aggregate, a large sum of money in specie.

DISCHARGE OF LABOURERS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS.—According to letters received in Dublin on Tuesday morning from Limerick, Tipperary, Cavan, Queen's County, Meath, and Mayo—the discharge of the 140,000 labourers from the public works was going on peaceably.

STATE OF THE PROVINCES.

From the counties of Galway, Roscommon, Sligo, and Waterford, there are again afflicting accounts of the continuing effects of famine; and in Cork and Sligo, particularly, typhus fever is raging to a realy alarming extent. I should remark, that, taking the country generally, there appears to be a decided decrease in the number of deaths from starvation: and the vast importations of Indian corn appears to have produced a seasonable relief.

COUNTY OF GALWAY.—The Rev. T. Newell, C.C., in a letter to the *Galway Mercury*, dated "Oranmore, 17th March," says:—"About a fortnight ago, I furnished you with the total deaths, amounting to fifty-four, that occurred in this parish since December last, from the effects of starvation. That dismal catalogue has been augmented by thirty-three additional deaths! On this day, the Feast of the Apostle of Ireland, no less than eight individuals are stretched in the cold arms of death from famine, in this parish."

ROSCOMMON, MARCH 20.—The *Roscommon Journal* says:—"We are in an awful state here—few resident landlords—and the few, however well inclined, unable to meet the afflicting cry of hunger. Our soup establishment here must be closed in a few days unless aided by government."

COUNTY OF WATERFORD.—DUNGARVAN, MARCH 18.—On this day over two thousand of the poor labourers who have been dismissed from the public works, with their starving families, from the surrounding rural districts, came into the poorhouse, with a view of being admitted, or to get out-door relief. The guardians met, deliberated, and then went home, after announcing to the famishing multitude, who were waiting the "live long day" to get some relief, the cheerless intelligence, that they must return home again, as they were unable to give them either "in or out door relief." The Scots Greys were ordered out to the poorhouse to keep the people from the gates, and to make way for the guardians in their ingress and egress. As soon as the military arrived, the unfortunate people spoke to them, and said it would be an act of humanity for them to "commence and shoot them all." Some of the brave Scots actually shed tears at the awful and soul-harrowing scenes of human misery and suffering they beheld. After the guardians left the board-room, the people saw there was no hope of getting relief at the poorhouse, and they then came into town, and stopped opposite to Mr Fisher's bakery. The poor creatures said they had no intention of attacking Mr Fisher's, or any other person's house or property; they should do nothing but merely go round to the bakers' shops, and appeal to their charity for any relief they would be kind enough to give them. The "Waterford Freeman," from which this account is taken, then proceeds to describe the scenes which followed at the several bakers' shops, from the windows of which large quantities of bread were thrown to the starving multitude.

Typhus fever continues to spread in Cork, and to extend amongst the upper classes. The number of deaths in the workhouse, for the week ending on Monday, was 171, while the number of patients, in and out of the hospital, was 2 292. Exclusive of the union workhouse mortality, 101 paupers had been interred in the New Cemetery, between the 14th and 21st. There are very affecting accounts from parts of Roscommon. Fever is raging in the workhouse of Carrick-on-Shannon.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

RUSSELL SQUARE.—On Saturday morning, about 6 o'clock, the servant of a medical gentleman named Farrer, residing at 28, Guildford-street, discovered smoke issuing from the surgery. Having alarmed her master and family she opened the street door to call assistance, which caused the flames to spread to the drawing and other rooms. Two engines from Farringdon-street and Holborn, as well as others, were promptly on the spot; but before the firemen terminated their labours, property to the amount of £2 000 was destroyed.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BURN SOHAM.—No place in the kingdom has suffered so much from incendiarism as this unfortunate place. In the present instance, the old cry of "Fire" aroused the townspeople between three and four o'clock on Wednesday morning, when the premises of Mr Cooper, plumber, Pratt-street, were discovered to be in flames. The destructive element extended with formidable fury, and in a very brief period the entire of Mr Cooper's property was in one general blaze. Immediately at the rear, were a number of farming premises, comprising four large barns, stables, and other outbuildings. Unfortunately, owing to the trade stock of Mr Cooper's being of an inflammable description, the flames raged so violently, that before they could in the slightest degree be subdued, the barns and stables ignited, as also a range of dwellings which adjoined. Again, aided by the thatched roofs, the fire ran along with rapidity, and great were the fears lest it should prove of greater extent than others that had previously visited the town. The engines, however, were got to play in a very effectual manner, and by eight o'clock the conflagration was subdued. There are no less than seven families burnt out. Their loss is estimated at between £2,000 and £3 000. This is the third attempt that has been made to fire the same premises. A woman, named Sarah Munsen, has been apprehended on suspicion of having fired them. She is the mother of a prisoner in Cambridge gaol, who is charged with setting fire to Mr Owen's house, in the same town, in January last.

DESTRUCTION OF A COTTON MILL.—On Thursday morning, about three o'clock, a mill at Bacup was destroyed by fire, under very peculiar circumstances. It was known as Lee Mill, and stood a short distance from the town. It is calculated the loss will not be less than £1,000.

EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION AT HUNNINGBURY.—The village of Hunningbury, near Leamington, presented a scene of dreadful consternation on Saturday evening, in consequence of a fire breaking out on some premises occupied by a person who carried on business as a baker. The house where the fire originated, as well as a number of those adjoining, was built in the Elizabethan style, the wooden framework of which offered every facility for the flames to spread, and the result was, that although there was an abundant supply of water, and the engines from Leamington, &c., were speedily on the spot, nearly one half of the village was laid in ruins before the fire could be got under. Fifteen houses were totally destroyed, whilst several others sustained considerable damage. Fortunately no lives were lost, though several parties had narrow escapes. One aged female who had left her house at the first alarm, afterwards recollecting that she had left a box containing money behind her, returned to the cottages, notwithstanding the remonstrances of her friends, and succeeded in saving her treasure, but not without being severely burnt. We regret to state that the rapidity with which the flames spread, afforded very little opportunity to the occupants of the burning tenements to remove their furniture, and the consequence is, that in the great majority of instances, the sufferers have been reduced from a state of comparative comfort to utter destitution.

WESTMINSTER FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH.—On Wednesday forenoon, shortly after the commencement of divine service in the Westminster French Protestant Church, Bloomsbury-street, Holborn, the congregation were thrown into a state of alarm, by a report that the edifice had taken fire. For some few minutes a strong smell of burning wood was experienced, but nothing particular was thought of that circumstance, until a dense body of smoke commenced issuing from the flooring boards. It then became apparent that a fire was burning under the floor of the building. The service was immediately stopped, and several persons having procured buckets of water, they were discharged upon that portion of the church on fire. At the same time intelligence of the outbreak was sent to the engine stations. Numerous engines of the Brigade quickly attended, and the firemen, upon removing some of the flooring boards, found that the joistings, &c. had become ignited, owing to a defect in the hot-air flue, used for warming the building, and there is no doubt that had the outbreak taken place at night, after the church was closed, it would have been destroyed.

THE LATE CATASTROPHE AT CARLSRUHE.—A letter of the 15th inst. states,—All public and private balls and other amusements have been suspended—even the military band of the daily parade is discontinued. In order to provide employment for the numerous workmen and other persons engaged at the theatre as speedily as possible, the Grand Duke has offered the Orange House in the Royal Gardens as a temporary theatre, until a new one can be erected. The principal performers have consequently received three months' leave of absence only. Upon the unfortunate spot where the old theatre stood a church is to be erected. The new theatre will be built in the garden of the Hereditary Prince.

MURDER AND MUTILATION.

At the Derby assizes on Saturday, John Platts was indicted for the murder of George Collis, in the Butchers'-shambles, at Chesterfield, in December, 1845. The prisoner is not more than 20 years of age, and his youthful appearance, and the awful character of the crime imputed to him, produced a marked feeling in the court.

Early on the morning of the last Friday in August (1846,) some men were employed in emptying a remote cesspool attached to the premises of Mr Bunting, a flour-dealer, in Low-pavement, Chesterfield, when their attention was drawn to what seemed to be the remains of the carcass of a sheep; a further search showed the mass to consist of two leg and thigh bones, and a quantity of entrails. On the soil being removed to a field for which it was intended, part of a coat, trousers, hat, two silk handkerchiefs, and the remains of a brace and stockings were discovered. One of the handkerchiefs was marked "G.C." and, when found was tied as if for the neck, and on the leg-bones, were garters—apparently old ones—one red, and the other white. This led to a more minute inspection of the cesspool, and at the bottom was picked up a skull, *with a large fracture of the right* eye. The examination of the bones by a surgeon satisfying all doubts as to the remains, and the finding of male attire with them, soon gave strong grounds for supposing that a murder had been committed, and the body of the deceased cut up as found. The wearing apparel being publicly exhibited, the handkerchief bearing the initials of "G.C." was identified by a young female, named Ellen Beresford, as having belonged to George Collis. This party, in the course of the preceding year, (1815,) went into partnership with the prisoner, Platts, as butchers, and conducted their business in a miserable place called the "Shambles," adjacent to the market-place in Chesterfield. Since Sunday night, the 7th of December 1845 Collis had not been seen, and the belief gained ground that it was his remains that were discovered; suspicions at the same time being entertained that the prisoner was the party who had taken away his life, it being traced by the Chesterfield police that he had got a man named Knight to pledge a watch belonging to the deceased, at Mr Wilcockson's, a pawnbroker in Chesterfield, a few days after Collis's sudden disappearance. When interrogated as to how he got possession of it, he said he had won it at a raffle, while to others he said he had bought it of a man known in the neighbourhood as "Lankey." These statements being ascertained to be untrue, led to his apprehension. In addition to Ellen Beresford (who had been *enceinte* by the deceased) identifying the silk handkerchief found with the remains, she spoke to the watch produced being in deceased's possession on the 7th December, 1845. They had kept company together some time, and on his leaving her house on the evening of that day, at six o'clock, he told her he was obliged to leave, as he had promised to meet the prisoner, Platts, at half-past six o'clock. He told her Platts had several times promised to settle with him, for he was greatly in his debt, and he was determined to get the money coming to him. She never saw him after. When he left her saw the watch in his pocket. He was dressed in a black surtout coat, black cloth trousers, canary-coloured waistcoat, and black hat. The witness also identified the red garter found on the leg bone. Deceased took it from her in jest. She had the fellow one in her possession, which she produced. The mother of the deceased identified the clothes found in the cesspool as those her son wore on the night of his disappearance, adding, that the prisoner, when applied to if he had seen anything of Collis, said he believed he was at Manchester, as Collis had told him he intended to get out of the way of the female Beresford, who was in the family-way by him. J. Holbrook, an eating-house keeper, said he remembered Collis coming to his shop on the 7th of December. He came in about a quarter to seven o'clock, saying to witness he had to meet Platt at their place in the shambles, to get some money from him, and he would meet Holbrook at twelve. Holbrook saw the deceased go in the direction of the prisoner's place, but never saw him after. That he went direct to the prisoner, not a doubt was entertained. T. Harvey, a shoemaker, said, at about twenty minutes past seven o'clock on the night in question he was standing near Platts' shop, and heard two or three blows struck, as if by a cleaver on a piece of wood or block. The sound of the blows was rather jarred. After the first blow the witness distinctly heard groans ejaculated from a human being, and he made all haste to his friends at home, and told them he was sure some murder was going on in Platts' shop. His wife and sister returned with him to the "shambles," and finding the door secured, they knocked, and asked Platts what he was doing, and who had in the shop?—The prisoner immediately answered—"Nobody;" he had been taking some rum, which had made him exceedingly sick, and that he was going to lie down. He was asked to open the door, and they would give him some water, but he would not. The females then charged Platts with having a woman inside. He replied he had not, there was no one with him, and he would not open the door for any of them. They then left the shop. Shortly afterwards Platts came into a neighbouring public-house with one of his hands covered with blood; he said he wanted to wash his hands as he had cut his finger. Witness observed, as did the other witnesses, that Platts had been kneeling, one of his knees being covered with dirt. They again asked him who he had had with him in the shop, but he refused to answer. Other witnesses corroborated Harvey's evidence. Mary Radnell proved meeting the prisoner in January, 1845. He offered a watch (the deceased's watch, produced), saying he had won it at a raffle, and wanted £2 for it. She told him she was not in want of a watch. After the discovery of the mutilated remains she met the prisoner at Chesterfield, and asked him if he had heard of the rumours that Collis was supposed to have been murdered. He said he had, but he believed Collis had done it himself. He added that Collis had often told him that he would make away with himself.—George Knight spoke of having bought a pair of boots of the prisoner for 5s. [They were produced, and identified as belonging to deceased.] He also deposed to pawning a watch at the prisoner's direction. It was redeemed after the finding of the body by the prisoner's mother, at whose house it was found by the officers; the prisoner telling them where they would find it concealed. The statement the prisoner made when taken into custody was, that he did not owe the deceased any money, but that the deceased owed him some; for he lent him £2 on the last occasion of meeting with him. That was on Saturday, the 6th of December, 1845.—Mr H. E. Walker, surgeon, stated that the bones found in the soil, in the cesspool, were those of a male about 23 or 24 years of age. He was of opinion that the fractures of the skull had been inflicted before death. They were four in number, evidently inflicted by some heavy instrument, such as a butcher's cleaver.—Mr Macaulay addressed the court for the defence, and called a number of witnesses, from whose testimony it appeared that, up to the time of the commission of the offence, the prisoner had borne an excellent character for honesty. The jury almost immediately returned a verdict of Guilty; and the learned judge then passed upon the prisoner the last sentence of the law. It was impossible any one who had listened to the evidence could doubt the prisoner was concerned in the death of Collis, and that he struck the blow. The facts proved were remarkable. They were shown to have been together on the evening of the 7th of December from five to between seven and eight o'clock, they were traced to Morley's shop, words were heard; the prisoner was in possession of a deadly weapon. There was a scuffle and a fall. He had given false accounts, had refused to let people in, was subsequently seen assisting in carrying a heavy weight, and was afterwards proved to be in possession of the deceased's watch, boots, &c. His lordship then earnestly exhorted him to repentance, and concluded by sentencing him to be hung, holding out no hope of mercy.

The prisoner, who had been very composed up to the time of the verdict, turned very pale at that moment. He had regained his composure when removed from the dock.

CONFESSION OF THE MURDERER.—The prisoner, on Wednesday last, made a voluntary and rambling statement before several of the magistrates,—which left on their minds no doubt whatever of his guilt. We believe the execution is fixed for Thursday, April 1st.

FIRES.—There were four fires in Liverpool last week, but they were all extinguished before they had done any serious injury.

An association has been formed for the purpose of encouraging the growth of flax in Wiltshire.

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.

THE AMERICAN AGRARIAN REFORMERS.

THE ANTI-RENTERS—AGRARIAN VIEWS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

We have already announced the liberation of the imprisoned Anti-Renters. On this Agrarian victory we find the following editorial comments in *Young America*:—

"The Anti-Renters are liberated! and the war cry which has had a place at the head of this paper since their incarceration gives place to the watchword, next in order.

It is time now that the public mind should be disabused respecting these Anti-Rent victims and their cause. For many years the Anti-Renters have vainly endeavoured to obtain legislative redress for grievances that the principles of the revolution entitled them to relief from as soon as the National Independence was obtained; and yet, although two or three generations of them have gone to the grave as dependent tenants instead of freeholders as they had a right to be, it has been said that they should have redressed their wrongs by the ballot! They were a *minority*, and the ballot to them was insufficient; they might have sunk to the condition of Ireland's tenantry if they had not shown that they had, as a last resort, a weapon more powerful. The mass of the people, suffering in other ways from the same gigantic evil, were too much engaged with their own grievances to be able to investigate the subject of the feudal tenures of the Anti-Renters, until it was forced upon their attention by resistance of the law, the death of an over-officious public officer, a threatened insurrection, and the costly preparations to meet it.

Now, shall we profit by these events, or are they to be thrown away upon us? There is certainly reason for hope. The country that hunted Anti-Renters like wild beasts has elected Anti-Renters as legislators. Anti-Renters condemned to imprisonment for life, and others condemned to be hanged, are now at liberty, and will soon receive high honours from the people.

The following is a list of the names of the liberated Anti-Renters:—

Zerah Preston	Daniel Northrop
Daniel W Squires	John Latham
John Phoenix	W Brisbane
Calvin Madison	W Jocelin
Isaac S Burhans	C T McComber
John Burch	John B Coons
W Reside	Thomas Morgan

The foregoing are not only pardoned but restored to the rights of citizenship.

The following named persons have been pardoned, but not restored to citizenship:—

Smith A Boughton	John Van Steenburgh
Edward O'Connor	Moses Earle

The editor of *Young America* concludes his remarks by raising the cry,—

Restoration to Citizenship of the Anti-Renters' Boughton, Earl, Van Steenburgh, and O'Connor.

The noble stand taken by the American Agrarians against the unjust and wicked war of which Mexico is the victim, entitles them to the thanks of the men of all nations, who hold fast by the great principle, that "what is morally wrong cannot be politically right." The following extracts are from *Young America*:—

Standing Armies.—*It used to be the democratic doctrine* that a standing army was the bane of Republics; but this war of conquest is to *increase* our standing army instead of abolishing it. The President already wants ten additional regiments, and Congress, with extraordinary munificence, have offered twelve dollars a piece for lacklanders, to be employed "to conquer a peace!" By and bye, when the cripples and men with broken down constitutions and broken up morals, return among us, I think the matter will be better understood.

WICKEDNESS OF THE WAR.

If it be democracy, to invade and conquer a neighbouring republic, and maintain the conquest by a standing army, I beg leave to wash my hands of it as quickly as possible; but, as I understand it, it is not democracy, or anything like it. If every man has a right to a home on the earth, as we believe, we have no right to invade the homes of others. If we could not trade with them we should have kept away from them. If they were in our debt, how much better it would have been for government to have assumed the debt, and prohibited all intercourse with them till they had paid us. Can anything be imagined more wickedly and stupidly absurd than to take advantage of the necessities of the poor lacklanders congregated among us from other countries, as well as our own, to send them to kill or be killed in Mexico because some of their citizens had wronged some of our own who choose to go among them for trading speculations? If Mexican men, women, and children deserve death because they belong to a nation some of the members of which have taken our property, what do they deserve who virtually rob our landless citizens of their right to the soil by refusing to co-operate to restore it?

WHAT CONGRESS SHOULD HAVE DONE.

If instead of voting this Mexican war, Congress had voted the public lands free, Mexico must inevitably have followed suit, for it would be impossible long to monopolize land and keep lacklanders in a state adjoining one in which there was free land. Thus would the whole continent have become really free without bloodshed.

DRIVEN TO THE SLAUGHTER.

A few days since our attention was drawn to a company of volunteers paraded at the battery, for the purpose of being incarcerated on Governor's Island, until they should be transported to the slaughter grounds in the interior of Mexico. We made an ante-mortem examination upon this forlorn body of landless wretches, and give the facts as they were elicited. They were *volunteers* only in name, having, as themselves asserted, *been driven to enlist by being out of employ*, and necessitated by hopeless destitution and gnawing starvation. Many of these were mechanics, and others, with no avocations, except that of compulsive idleness. They had been enrolled in the manufacturing towns, Pittsburgh and Pittsfield, Pennsylvania. They looked woe-begone, dejected, and unhappy; presenting any other appearance than that of being the bulwarks of a Republican nation's liberty. It occurred to us that if President Polk could have been an eye-witness to this scene of harrowing wretchedness, if he could have looked upon these heart-broken men, compelled by starvation and want to alienate themselves from poverty-stricken homes and forlorn and neglected families, to be cruelly butchered on the battle fields of Mexico, or die from fevers and exposure among damp marshes and wild fens, *for his glory*, he could not but have repented in gall and bitterness the heinous and wicked war policy which is sowing broadcast over the land, murder, wretchedness, famine, and an immense national debt.

THE DUTY OF NATIONAL REFORMERS

Seems plain. Nothing can be imagined more absurdly unjust, than that men deprived of their right to the soil should be required to risk their lives, or pay their money, to carry on this war. If it must go on, it properly belongs to the land-lords, and those who have obtained wealth through land monopoly, to do the fighting and to furnish the means. Instead of which, the President proposes to tax tea and coffee, so that Astor with his thirty millions may pay no more than the poor seamstress earning twenty-five a day of sixteen hours, and to get an additional half million from the people's lands by cheapening them to the "grasping speculators;" while Congress proposes to the landless men to leave their destitute families in rented houses, submit themselves to the arbitrary rule of well paid officers for ten dollars a month, and a bounty of their own land if they happen to survive the bloodthirsty contest! It will never do! The war must be stopped.

As it is the policy of Monarchies to fight with Lacklanders, so should it be the policy of republics to fight with Freeholders. One freeholder would be a match for two or three lacklanders, because he has a "stake in the hedge," something to fall back upon. It would be the aim of freeholders to terminate a war as soon as possible, but lacklanders, having no home, care little about terminating a war that they once engage in. In republics all should be freeholders; and the way to bring this about is for lacklanders to leave all fighting to the landlords, and make those who profit by landlordry pay the expense. Landlordry is an alien, who, instead of being naturalized in this republic, should be expelled, with as little ceremony as possible.

The monarchists of Europe have looked upon our war with a sister republic with the greatest delight; and it is the darling policy of the British Tories, and their Fundmongering Allies in this country, of whom the *Courier and Enquirer* is the chief organ, to burden this republic with a national debt and a standing army, the most effectual means they could devise to destroy its existence. The game is becoming plain to the people, and the true policy is to stop this most unnatural war without further bloodshed. The Tories must be defeated! The Republic must be saved! Young America must become a model for a Young World!

Potatoes.—A gentleman in India writes thus:—"I wish I could send you some of our potatoes so beautiful and white. I am sure the reason the potatoes in England have become so bad is from over cultivation. All those fine manures have altered and destroyed the natural structure of the root, and if farmers would let the ground alone, the potato may be again plentiful and good. Some time hence they may find that not only wheat but other grain may become like the potatoes."

Poetry in Prussia.—It is a lucky thing that Hood was not a Prussian, otherwise his "Song of the Shirt" might have cost him dear. A Dr Von Meyer, at Berlin, has been accused of what are called communistic tendencies at Berlin, for only reading a composition called "The Weaver's Song," by Heinrich Heine, the literary exile at Paris. One witness examined, to incriminate the doctor, is said to have stated that he informed against him because he hated him. Dr Meyer was, nevertheless, sentenced to long imprisonment, and although he has appealed against the sentence he is to remain in confinement until the decision on the appeal is formed.

Colonial and Foreign Intelligence.

MOVEMENTS OF THE WEEK.

The arrangement entered into between the Bank of France and the Russian Autocrat, by which the Russian Government has purchased French Government stock to the extent of 50,000,000f. (£2,000,000 sterling) has been the principal topic of discussion in the French journals. The organs of the money-jugglers generally approve of an arrangement by which the Bank is relieved of its pressing embarrassments. The "National" regards the transaction with indignation, as placing in the hands of the Tsar the means of operating at the Bourse against French interests. This is, without doubt, a prelude to that closer connexion of the Russian despotism with the present villanous French "system," which Louis-Philippe has so long desired. The tyrant and the traitor are about to combine to keep down democracy, but democracy will be too strong for them.

Of the right-royal immoralities just now attracting the "eyes of Europe" to Madrid, we have spoken elsewhere. According to the latest accounts from Portugal, Saldanha had "made no sign" of reducing the "rebellious" Junta to obedience. In Italy, the Pope is progressing in his good course; one of his latest acts has been the taking to task of the Roman aristocrats:—"If you will not cultivate your lands," said Pius, "I will take them and cultivate them for you. I will not endure any longer the spectacle of a rich but uncultivated soil, and a starving peasantry." This is an example which the British Government would do well to imitate in Ireland.

The Turkish Sultan has replied to King Otho's letter to the effect, that the adjustment of the differences between the two governments should be left to the two cabinets. The Ottoman Ministers still demand "satisfaction." The Sultan is marching with the age, and daily giving proofs of a sincere desire to promote the enlightenment and happiness of those over whom he rules.

INDIA.

The Overland Mail has arrived, but brings but little intelligence of any importance.

With the exception of marauding in Scinde, and some hostile operations in the Gransoor territory, tranquillity reigns supreme in every part of the land.

Affairs in the Punjaub are progressing favourably. Rajah Lall Singh has been taken to Agra, and placed with his family in the fort, where the celebrated gates of Somnauth are still in "durance vile." He is said to look happy and jovial enough, and doubtless, were it not for the loss of wealth and power, he would be glad rather than sorry to escape from the silken chains of bondage imposed on him by his imperious mistress. Nor has the Ranee's grief been long-lived. She is represented by those who have seen her to be a pretty little creature, with black eyes—"fair, lively, and intelligent." She will probably soon supply the loss of her *cavalier servente*.

A revolution is reported to have taken place amongst the Birmans. The son and successor of the late Tharawaddie, is said to have been murdered.

FRANCE.

The Scarcity.—Baron James de Rothschild has expressed the intention of devoting a sum of five million francs to the buying of grain and flour for the supplying of Paris. The grain and flour will be bought in the foreign *entrepots* of Europe and America, and sold in the Paris market at the current price of the day. Should the operation be attended with loss, it will be supported by the Rothschild firm. If, on the contrary, there be a profit, it will be converted into *bons de pain*, to be distributed to the poor of the capital. Several of the journals mention the report of serious disturbances having broken out in the neighbourhood of Orleans owing to the rising prices of food. In the department of the Loire, outrages of the most alarming character. Plunder has been perpetrated in the presence of the troops sent for the protection of property. In one instance 100 soldiers have been disregarded. In another, fifty infantry and twenty-five hussars were defied by the populace, pressed upon and hemmed in so completely as to be incapable of moving, while boat-loads of grain were carried off by the thousands of peasantry assembled.

The Chamber of Deputies resumed, on Tuesday, the discussion on the proposition of M. Duvergier de Hauranne relative to electoral reform.

SPAIN.

A curious state of things exist at Madrid. The queen wishes to change her ministry, but none of them will resign, and she cannot get any to countersign her dismissal of them. The ministry distrusting General Serrano, and wishing to get rid of him, had appointed him Captain-general of Navarre. This office he declined accepting. He was then desired to go and inspect the troops in the Basque Provinces. He was ordered to start forthwith, and told that his instructions should be delivered to him at Pampeluna. A regular passport accompanied the order. The general replied by a respectful memorial to her Majesty, declaring that his station as a senator did not permit his quitting his parliamentary post, unless real peril threatened. On this the ministry demanded permission of the senate to prosecute Serrano, which permission was granted. According to the latest accounts Serrano was still in hiding. The cause of this curious affair is thus explained:—The queen, for whom foreign Powers have been at such pains to select a husband, has already, following the example of other ladies of her family, allowed her affections and favours to stray from their legitimate claimant. She has, to use a favourite Spanish expression, *pronounced* herself in favour of General Serrano, a young man towards whom we have ourselves observed in public such behaviour on her part as would astonish the demure ladies of England. Her wish has been for some time to get rid of the present ministry, and to form another, with General Serrano at the head of it. This plan, however, she has not been allowed to carry through. The king objects to the irregularities of his wife, and has, jointly with the ministers, used his endeavours to remove General Serrano from Madrid, by offering him the Viceroyalty of Navarre. Serrano refuses that honour, and is doubtless supported by the queen.

PORTUGAL.

The Civil War.—On the 9th instant the Duke of Saldanha, who has collected the materials for a bridge, made a demonstration of an attempt to cross the Douro, somewhere near Carvoiero, but a large force having soon shown itself on the opposite side, he withdrew again, after the popular army had fired a few cannon shots at his men. The "converted" Miguelite General Guedes surprised a detachment of the Queen's troops at Pezo de Regoa, on the Douro, killing twenty and capturing fifteen soldiers, a colonel, and five other officers, and eleven horses, besides a considerable number of muskets, left on the field by the fugitives. Another quondam Miguelite, Bernardino, captured a Miguelite guerilla (for there are yet a few such) of eight men, and sent them off prisoners to Oporto, thus giving a proof of the sincerity of his conversion to the new political creed he has adopted. At Oporto the greatest confidence is felt in the success of the popular cause, provided that England will be neutral herself, and oblige Spain to be so likewise. That "tough man-of-war" (a 74 by the way), old Povoas, has set out again for the province of Beira, the scene of his recent surprising achievements.

GERMANY.

Vienna, March 10th.—The winter appears not at all disposed to leave us. Last night a great quantity of snow fell; it is several feet deep, and the cold is still very severe. In consequence of this continued unfavourable weather, together with the high prices of provisions, the public health, especially of the lower classes, has suffered very materially. The hospitals are all so full that there is no room for receiving any more patients.

March 13.—The proceedings against the officer and cadets implicated in the conspiracy of 1839 most of whom belong to Count Mazzakelli's regiment of infantry, as well as to some other regiments, are now concluded, and sentence has been passed—in most instances, the sentence is confinement for five years in the fortress of Munkatz, in Upper Hungary.

Emigration.—Almost every day, the "Suabian Mercury" brings accounts of the increase of emigration. It is a sign of the times in Germany that a new word—*Europamüde*, tired of Europe—has come into fashion to express the discontent of the people. From the 1st to the 17th of March, 26 vessels sailed from Bremen for New York, carrying out 3,804 emigrants.

SWITZERLAND.

Scarcity.—Accounts from Berne of the 15th inst. state that misery prevails to a frightful extent in that canton, usually regarded as one of the most opulent in Switzerland. One of the journals estimated the number of persons subsisting on public charity at no less than a hundred and some thousands, which is equal to one quarter of the population of the canton. In some of the districts, especially in the Bernese Oberland, provisions are so scarce, and of so bad a quality, that some epidemic disease is feared in the spring. Bankruptcies occur daily, and sales by auction increase on a similar scale. It was remarked that during the whole year of 1807 there were fewer bankruptcies than are indicated in one of the last numbers of "Official announcements" of the canton. The budget of the town of Berne for the present year shows a deficit of 127,576f., or about one-tenth of the cantonal deficit. The scarcity of food increases. Domiciliary visits have been made by order of the authorities in the establishments of certain individuals accused of hoarding up stores of grain, but they led to no other result than to prove the universal want. In the midst of all this misery, party spirit is as violent as ever.

ITALY.

Rome, March 9.—The sovereign Pontiff has appointed a commission to draw up the statutes for an order of chivalry. The order is to be the reward of merit and good actions, without regard to the faith and the country of the individual. It is to be divided into two classes. The first will confer hereditary rank, the second nobility for the life-time of the member. The order is a star with the motto—"Virtuti et merito." Owing to the high price of provisions, and not to deprive a number of persons of the means of earning their bread, the Pope has authorised the theatres to remain open during Lent: this is the first example of such a measure.

The "Aix-la-Chapelle Gazette" states, from Rome, that a conspiracy against the liberal policy of the Pope had been discovered at Ancona, and that several monks were at the head of it. Some arrests have, it is said, taken place.

Cardinal Grasselini, governor of Rome, has introduced the most liberal reforms in the department of the police, and decreed the walling up of all the under-ground cells in the prison of the Palazzo Madama. Six unfortunate men, confined in them at the time of the cardinal's visit, were set at liberty.

Tuscany.—A letter from Leghorn of the 13th says: "Arrests continue to be made in Tuscany. Amongst the prisoners are MM. Barbanera and Georgini, and M. Grossi, a physician."

Austrian Tyranny.—Mr. Mazzini has published the following letter:—

Giovanni Morandini, a young engineer from Sienna, (Tuscany,) after having journeyed through France and England, re-entered Italy from Vienna, in the month of September, 1846. Having never taken any part in the political agitation of the country, he was suffered to travel unmolested throughout Austria; but once arrived in Venice, he went to pay a visit to the mother of the Bandieras, who was so moved at the mark of sympathy she was receiving by a stranger to her, that she fainted during the conversation. Some persons were present, and the incident produced a certain sensation at Venice. In consequence of this Morandini was arrested, and taken to Milan, where he is still imprisoned, without any trial. Morandini is the nephew of the Bishop of Massa Marittima. Giulio Bargnani, of Brescia, Cattaneo, and one Mettelli, *employe* in the Royal Civil Tribunal, are likewise, during five months, in prison at Milan, for no other crime than having received a work of l'Abbe Gioberti.—Joseph Mazzini.

19, Cropley-street, New North-road, March 23, 1847.

POLAND.

The *Cologne Gazette* announces that the Grand-Duke Michael of Russia is to be nominated Viceroy of Poland, with the same power and attributes as were exercised by the Grand-Duke Constantine up to 1830.

THE WAR IN THE CAUCASUS.

Constantinople, Feb. 27.—It has been lately stated in the *Journal de Frankfort*, that a Russian fort in Abasia, by name Soabchi, had been attacked by the Circassians, who had been decidedly repulsed by the Russian garrison. This account is so far true; but the most important feature of the affair is left out of it. The attack on the fort was made by eight thousand men from seven independent Circassian tribes, who have been for the last five years in truce with Russia, and consequently have taken no part in the campaigns of Shamil. Woronzoff, by endeavouring to convert this truce into peace and alliance, has provoked this outbreak into open war. He had been for some time carrying on negotiations with these tribes, and seemed to be making way towards his object, when the chiefs, dreading to be seduced from their neutrality into overt hostility against their countrymen, thought there was no other way of terminating the negotiation than by at once taking up arms against the subtle negotiations. The purpose of their attack on the fort was therefore, not so much to take it, as to be relieved from the persecution of negotiations, in which they felt they were overmatched, and to come to the aid of their heroic countrymen under Shamil, whom their orators told them they ought to feel shame and sorrow for having so long left to defend their country without their active assistance. The seven independent tribes in question inhabit the coast country of Abasia, which forms a shore of the Black Sea. The next fact or report is well attested, yet wants confirmation. It is said, and pretty generally believed here, that two Armenian officers of Georgia, in the Russia service, General Bebuton and another general, who were with the army in Daghestan, have deserted with many followers to Shamil. It is added that the Patriarch of Etchmialzine, the spirtual head of the Armenian church, an intimate friend of these generals, is implicated in their desertion; and that he has been carried prisoner to Tiflis, where he remains under arrest.

Massacre of a Tribe.—A letter received at Constantinople from Circassia gives an account of a terrible act of vengeance taken by Chamyl on the tribe of the Achenes, for an act of treachery on the part of the latter. The Russians had persuaded the tribe of the Achenes, who had made their submission to them, to send messengers to Chamyl, demanding of him to send them 1,200 men to aid them in rising against the Russians. Chamyl, not suspecting any thing, sent the 1,200 men required, who were received in the most hospitable manner by the Achenes. The insurrection was to take place on the 15th of January; but on the night of the 13th, the Achenes, aided by a regiment of Cossacks, fell upon the followers of Chamyl and massacred the greater number; some, however, escaped, and carried the sad tidings to the Circassian chief. After the massacre, the Achenes and the Russians took possession of the village of Cassaban which they fortified. Meantime, great activity prevailed in the Circassian camp, numbering 50,000 strong; they swore by Allah not to spare a living soul. On the 27th January they appeared before Cassaban; on the following day they stormed the village, and man, woman, and child, Russians and Achenes, were put to the sword. On the evening of the 28th, 5,000 lives had been destroyed. The few Achenes who contrived to escape, crossed the frontier, and have been distributed amongst the different Russian forts in the Crimea.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

By the packet-ship Garrick and Montezuma we have accounts from New York to the 4th and 6th inst. inclusive, respectively. The accounts are important.

Close of the Session.—The sittings of Congress terminated on the 4th of March. The Three Million Bill had received, previously, the sanction of both branches of the Legislature. The Wilmot proviso was rejected. The following is the substance of the bill:—

This resolution enables the President to conclude a treaty of peace, limits, and boundaries, with the republic of Mexico, to be used by him in the event that said treaty, when signed by the authorised agent of the two governments, and duly ratified by Mexico, shall call for the expenditure.

The house of Representatives had refused to sanction the levy of a duty on tea and coffee.

The Irish Relief Bill passed the senate, but was thrown out of the house by a vote of 102 to 53. The Irish relief fund in New York amounted to 55,000 dollars. One vessel with the supplies of American charity had already been dispatched from New York for Ireland. A second was to follow.

The news from the seat of war promises a speedy collision. While the army of General Scott was preparing to march upon Vera Cruz, the Mexicans suddenly appeared before Saltillo, and drove in the outposts of General Taylor. General Taylor was, however, exceedingly strong there, having with him 6,000 men, who had marched with him from Monterey.

Correspondence.

THE TEN HOURS' BILL.

[Mr Oastler has addressed the following letter to the Editor of the *Morning Post*.]

Sir,—It was natural that I should read the report of the speech delivered by Mr Bright on the second reading of the Ten Hours' Bill with marked attention.

The Honourable Member for Durham, although he refused to meet me in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, had given me reason to expect that he would prove, in the House of Commons, that factory children, engaged twelve hours per day in actual labour, may be educated; and also, that if the hours of labour should be reduced from twelve to ten, a reduction of one-sixth in wages would be the result.

Judge, Sir, of my surprise, when I found that, after all, no reasons, on these points, were given by the would-be Member for Manchester.

The perusal of that speech convinced me that "a little learning is a dangerous thing." It was well that Mr Bright told the house how very imperfect his education had been. I heartily wished, for his own sake, as well as for that of those whom he represents, and for the constituency of Manchester, should he ever represent them, that he had remained a few years longer at school. Certain persons require long memories, and, in a legislator, consistency is a virtue.

In this wonderful speech our hero blows hot and cold—at one time insinuating the Ten Hours' Bill would not injure the millowners; at another, declaring that it would rob them of one-sixth of their production! He said, "Let it not for a moment be supposed that in his opposition to the Ten Hours' Bill he was actuated by the belief that it would in any degree injure his personal property or prospects." Having made the above assertion answer his purpose, by giving its author a disinterested position in the debate, Mr Bright, before he sat down, asked the house, "Was it possible that a measure which would at once cut off one-sixth of all the great manufactures of the country could be considered unworthy of deliberation and discussion, or could be passed without producing confusion and disaster amongst all the producing classes?" This "disinterested" manufacturer next hinted at some scheme which the masters will adopt to rid themselves of loss, by throwing it upon the operatives; he says, "It would be necessary for the manufacturers themselves to take the proper steps (*by reducing the wages*) to prevent the ruin which must inevitably fall upon them if this course of legislation should be persisted in."

Mr Bright also assured the house that "he believed in his heart that the proposition was a most injurious and destructive one"—this from the lips of a man (a mill-owner) who, a few minutes before, had said he "would not have the house believe that it would in any degree injure his personal property or prospects!"

Again he contradicts himself—saying, "If you take off two hours in time, you must take off two hours in wages"—and then, "This bill is a protection to raise wages, at the expense of capital, by Act of Parliament!"

This honourable member would have the world believe that none can understand the Ten Hours' Bill better than he; still, it is thus he fences with himself.

Mr Bright professes to have great regard for truth, "he cannot conceive of a guilt more dreadful" than that working men should be deceived; yet, it is clear that he thinks there is no harm in misleading the house. He said, "The object of these parties (the advocates of the Ten Hours' Bill) from the beginning was not what it pretended to be, but to interfere by law with the labour of all persons, of whatever age and sex, employed in the manufactures of the country."

Now, nothing is easier of proof than the fact that, for thirty years the advocates of this measure have consistently sought to protect those who were not adults or free agents. Their efforts have been all that time before the public—the records of the two Houses of Parliament furnish proof of their consistency. Pity that Mr Bright should use his privilege as member of Parliament to pervert truth—to denounce thousands as hypocrites!

The member for Durham was resolved to become "Grand Inquisitor;" passing from the condemnation of a vast multitude, he singled out one individual for his most malicious shaft. Mr Bright said, "The things formerly stated by Lord Ashley were now given up, and his own friends would not credit them. It was acknowledged that on no question had a greater number of exaggerated statements been brought forward to justify this unjust interference with factory labour."

Had the unfortunate member been better educated, he would have been more courteous—had he been honest he would have met the noble lord at the public meeting in Rochdale or Manchester, and there charged him, in person, with falsehood! Had he not known that he was "bearing false witness," he would have given proof of his assertion.

Mr Bright gave the house to understand that he had no objection to meet his neighbours in public; he said "he was not afraid of going before that or any other manufacturing constituency in Lancashire, so far as this bill was concerned. Wherever he was known he was sure no one would charge him with any want of sympathy for the class for whom the house was now called upon to legislate." What could induce him to deny himself the pleasure (seeing that an invitation was given to his firm) of confronting the noble Lord Ashley? The true answer is—Mr Bright knew that all Lord Ashley's statements were true; he therefore reserved their denial for a place where he was well aware Lord Ashley could not reply. I may also be excused asking the hon. member why he refused to *meet* me at a public meeting in Manchester. In Manchester it is commonly reported that he dare not. Mr Bright knows that the friends of the factory children have no need to exaggerate. Language cannot describe what those victims have suffered. Their wrongs are only known to God!

The man who expressed such deep anxiety lest the operatives should be deceived ought to be very careful not to delude his hearers by false statements.

Again, I charge Mr Bright with stating an untruth. He said—

"Now, with respect to the question of wages, the noble marquis (Marquis of Granby) opposite said, 'He believed the question had been put to the working classes, and they were willing to work a shorter time even with less wages.' He (the hon. member for Durham) denied that assertion."

The truth of the statement made by the noble Marquis of Granby is attested by the votes of great numbers of public meetings. Lord Ashley, Mr Fielden and Mr Crawford have themselves thus tested the operatives. In very many cases I have distinctly asked them, when thousands have been present, "Whether wages shall fall or rise, are you for the Ten Hours' Bill?". The unanimous and reiterated answer has been, "Yes; let wages take their chance."

Now, sir, when one member of Parliament presumes to deny the assertion of another, he is bound to give some proof. I dare Mr Bright to the proof. Has he ever attended one of those meetings? Has he received his information from those who have been there? Let him answer.

There is no mistake about the matter with the factory operatives. They have been too well schooled in factory suffering to be duped by those who would uphold the oppressive system.

Mr Bright was not less trustworthy when he ventured to touch on the financial part of this great question. When this precocious schoolboy turned financier, it was laughable to witness what capers he cut. He calculated the millions of millions of pounds of our annual produce of *textile* fabrics (among which textiles the learned gentleman specified £4,000,000 worth of hardware,) and then he positively asserted that the sixth part of the whole will assuredly be lost, if the women and children work only ten hours a day in factories! It was thus that Mr Bright attempted to alarm the Chancellor of the Exchequer—"Taking into consideration (says the hon. member) the fact that the diminution of imports and exports would cause a loss to the revenue of nearly £7,000,000, he would put it to any man whether it would be possible to carry on the affairs of the country under such circumstances?"

Such absolute madness cannot impose upon any sane man. Mr Bright knows very well that it is not the custom for factory operatives to be employed, on an average of years, more than ten hours a day. He is well aware that the Ten Hours' Bill will not reduce the annual production—that its operation will be a beneficial regulation—merely distributing the labour equally over the whole year, and preventing those altercations from excessive toil to no work—alternations that are so destructive to the health, comfort, and prosperity of the factory operatives.

* * *

Mr Bright has not an operative in his mill who could not inform him that his own production has not been reduced by the regulations and reductions of time heretofore made by the Legislature, or that could not tell him that, for a series of years, his mill had not regularly run ten hours a day.

The truth is, the Ten Hours' Bill will not reduce the average hours of labour, it will only regulate them. Sir Robert Peel cannot be ignorant of this fact. Just now many mills are not working—many are only working four hours, six hours, or eight hours a day. I am told that Mr Bright's mill is now closed against his factory operatives.

Before any Member of Parliament permits himself to talk of one-sixth loss in production and wages, he is bound, in justice to himself and the house, to prove that practically twelve hours regular work per day at all our mills has, on an average of years, been the custom. Failing in this proof, his statement is not worth the breath it cost him.

* * *

I cannot omit to notice the self-gratulation with which Mr Bright informed the house, that his workmen had "dared" (yes, that was the word) "dared to petition this house." Granted, this is an improvement! But, no thanks to the opponents of the Ten Hours' Bill. Had that party (now represented in the house by Mr Bright) had their way, the tyranny of the system would have remained in its pristine state. Thanks to the friends of the Ten Hours' Bill, factory workers dare now petition the House of Commons!

The records of the house contain proofs that, formerly, factory workers have been discharged and proscribed (the hon. member for Durham knows the meaning of those words), for no other crime than obeying the summons of the House of Commons! I allude to those factory operatives from Scotland who were summoned to appear before Mr Sadler's committee, and who, on their return, finding themselves discharged and proscribed, for no other crime than obeying the speaker's summons, petitioned the House of Commons for compensation.

* * *

Mr Bright's allusion to Lowell, is simply dishonest. The factory workers there can never be compared to ours. They (of Lowell) are farmers' daughters, working a few months in the factories, and then returning home. A wise opponent of the Ten Hours' Bill will never name Lowell!

Mr Bright's garbled extracts from my observations about Mr Ackroyd, of Halifax, call for no remarks at present. We shall meet in Manchester—then I will settle all private scores with my accuser.

* * *

I remain, Sir, your obliged servant,

London, March 13. Richard Oastler.

P.S.—I am told that Mr Escott informed the House of Commons that I had attended meetings to advocate an Eight Hours' Bill. If the hon. member for Winchester did so, he told the house that which was false. R.O.

Printers' Wayz Goose.—The *Era* says:—"The derivation of this term is not generally known to those who annually open their purse strings at the customary festival of the gentlemen of the press. It is from an old English word 'wayz,' stubble. A stubble goose is a known dainty in some places of our own days. A 'wayz-goose' was the head dish at the annual festival of our forefather of the fraternity of printers. These wayz-geese were formerly kept about Bartholomew tide; and till the employer had given this feast, the journeymen did not work by candle light." [The "wayz goose" is now generally held the last Monday in June or first Monday in July. It is, however, the custom, in many respectable printing establishments, to defer "lighting up" till Bartholomew Fair,—when the days shortening, the workmen has the privilege of working an hour a day less than usual.]

Mrs Caudle at a Concert.—Russell was singing the dismal song of "The Gambler's Wife," and having uttered the words

Hush! he comes not yet;
The clock strikes one!

had struck the key to imitate the sullen knell of the departed hour, when a respectably dressed lady ejaculated, to the amusement of everybody, "Would'nt I ha' fetched him home?" Ten volumes of Mrs Caudle's were concentrated in that little sentence.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, March 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Lord Brougham moved the second reading of the Bankruptcy and Insolvent Bill, which, after a few words from the Lord Chancellor and Lord Ashburton, was agreed to. The Drainage Lands Bill was also read a second time. The Bill to facilitate the Sale of Encumbered Estates in Ireland, was read a first time, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Government Plan of Education.—Mr C. Berkeley asked whether it was the intention of government to persevere in the system of education founded on the minute of council: and, if so, when the miscellaneous estimates would be brought on?

Lord J. Russell said that it was the intention of the government to persevere in the plans which were laid down in that minute. (Cheers.) The miscellaneous estimates would be brought forward after Easter, and the education estimate on Monday, the 19th of April.

Poor Law Amendments.—In answer to Mr Borthwick, the noble lord stated that it was his intention to bring forward the proposed amendments in the poor law shortly after Easter.

Post-office.—Mr Moffatt asked whether any steps had been taken to prevent public servants employed in the Post-office being also employed in a private speculation, called the "Post-office London Directory." Last session grave charges had been made against certain officers of the Post-office for employing the public servants of the Post office in collecting information for a private publication of their own, and an inquiry was to be instituted. The result of that inquiry had not transpired, but it was understood that the public servants were still employed on Mr Kelly's "Directory."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said Mr Kelly had made a claim for compensation which was valid to a certain extent, and it was necessary to allow him to continue the "Post-office Directory" for a time. It had been decided that Mr Kelly, who bought this work from his predecessor, and had spent a good deal of money in machinery for the printing of the "Directory," and was in partnership with his brother for this purpose, should continue to superintend its publication, receiving no compensation, but he was prohibited from employing the servants of the Post-office, and if any one of them accepted employment from him he would do so under the penalty of dismissal.

Mr T. Duncombe understood from what had been stated that Mr Kelly was no longer to conduct the "Post-office Directory" at the public expense, and that he was to receive no compensation. He was glad to hear it; for if anything, he ought to have made restitution. A return had been made to the house stating that Mr Kelly's profits were £1,200 a year, but he (Mr Duncombe) said they were £12,000, and were made by means of the letter-carriers. He understood that Mr Rowland Hill had obtained an office in the Post-office—that he had a room there, and two or three clerks. What he (Mr Duncombe) wished to know was, what were Mr Rowland Hill's duties, and what was his salary? He seemed to be quite powerless, and was not likely to be assisted by Mr Kelly and Mr Bokenham; and a notice had been given at the Post-office, that any of the letter-carriers who had any suggestions to make to Mr Rowland Hill should lay them before him through the heads of their department, and those heads were Mr Kelly and Mr Bokenham. The principal complaints were made with relation to the "Post-office Directory," and it was not likely that the men would make such complaints through Mr Kelly, but they ought to go direct to Mr Rowland Hill. To prove the *animus* with regard to Mr Rowland Hill at the Post-office, and how Colonel Maberly and Messrs Kelly and Bokenham felt with respect to him, when Mr Hill left the Post-office in 1842, a notice was given that, as Mr Hill's office in the Post-office had ceased, any officer holding any communication with him directly or indirectly would be dismissed the service. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr Duncombe) wanted to know what chance Mr Rowland Hill could have of obtaining information from those heads of departments who had given such a notice? It was important that it should be known what were the duties and salary of Mr Rowland Hill, and what chance he had of improving the Post-office service through such channels.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, with regard to Mr Rowland Hill, it would have been more convenient if his hon. friend had given him notice of the question he had put, because he had made statements relative to what had been done in 1842, and spoken of notices which were given in the Post-office at the present time, which were no doubt true, but he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had had no opportunity of ascertaining whether they were so or not. It was notorious that the business of the Post-office had increased to an enormous extent. This being so, it was desirable that there should be additional assistance, and the government were of opinion that no one was more qualified for that duty than Mr Rowland Hill: early in the autumn, at the suggestion of the Postmaster-general, he had been appointed his secretary, not to the Post office generally, at a salary of £1,200 a year.

Mr Duncombe—What is the salary of the clerks?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was unable to say. If he had had notice of the question he would have obtained the information required by his hon. friend, and if he liked to move for a return on the subject he should have it. There were two or three clerks attached to the department. He had been informed by his noble friend the Postmaster-general two days ago that he thought most highly of the services of Mr Rowland Hill, and that since he had held his office he had been the means of further improvements in the Post-office. (Hear, hear.)

ACCOMODATION IN THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.—Mr Hume complained that space enough had not been provided for the members of that house, when they were required to attend the House of Lords. Indeed the approaches to it were such as to hazard the personal safety of members, and the space below the bar would not contain more than twenty-two persons without pressure.

Lord Morpeth said it was impossible to find space below the bar for all the members consistent with fitting up the house for business, but every arrangement possible for the convenience of the Commons had been made.

THE ARMY SERVICE BILL.—Mr Fox Maule, in moving the second reading of this bill, stated the principle and explained the provisions of the bill. He was not sanguine enough to look to limited enlistment as a cure for all the evils connected with the service, but he believed that it would operate to the removal of many of them, particularly if accompanied with other improvements. What the Government now proposed to do was to enlist recruits for ten years in the infantry, and for twelve years in the cavalry, artillery, and ordnance. At the expiration of these periods it was proposed that they might further enlist for eleven years in the infantry, and twelve years in the cavalry, artillery, and ordnance. Should the period of service of any soldier expire when his regiment was abroad, his commanding officer was to have the power of detaining him for one year more, on showing that such detention was necessary for the public service; and should he become entitled to discharge when the country was engaged in war, and his regiment was in active service, his commanding officer would have the power of detaining him for two years beyond the period for which he had enlisted. It was also proposed that after this period of service had expired, the retiring soldier might enrol himself for a deferred pension, to which he would be entitled for life, provided he were so enrolled for twenty-two years, and served for twelve days each year during that period. The earliest period at which a recruit could, under these regulations, become entitled to a deferred pension, was when he attained his fiftieth year. The operation of the bill was designed to be prospective, and was not to extend to the existing army. Not only would the proposed alterations render the service more popular, but a limited system of enlistment recommended itself to them in an economical point of view. The right honourable gentleman concluded by pointing out the benefits which would accrue to the army itself from the proposed system, as well as to the State, from the readiness with which it would occasion the ranks of the army hereafter to be filled up, and from having at home, independently of the army, the nucleus of a well disciplined force to repel attack, should the country ever be called upon to do so.

Sir Howard Douglas was not prepared to meet the motion with a direct negative, nor was he disposed to move an amendment to it. He maintained, however, at considerable length, that the proposed changes would not be beneficial to the soldier, to the class from which the soldier came, to the service, or to the country. In addition to this, he contended that no more inopportune period could have been chosen than the present for making such an experiment.

Col. Reid, Col. Lindsay, Col. Sibthorpe, and Col. Wood opposed the bill; Sir De Lacy Evans and Major Layard supported it.

Col. Sibthorp said that the bill before them was a proof that at the present time nothing was right. (A laugh.) They had attacked church, law, and physic. (Renewed laughter.) No profession was safe now—nothing was as it ought to be. (Laughter.) The wisdom of our ancestors (laughter,) for which he entertained a great respect, was totally neglected, if not deprecated, within the walls of this reformed house. (Laughter.) And yet the people were none the happier, or the better. Here they were going to meddle with the army. He should have thought that the past services of the army were sufficient to prove that it required no change, having ever proved itself invincible. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) He strongly deprecated the use by the right honourable gentleman the Secretary at War of the term "unhappy" as applied to individuals enlisting in the army. For his own part he had been ten years in her Majesty's Dragoons, before he had come into this refined society, (laughter,) and he must say that he had met with as good men and as good manners in military circles as he had done since he begun to listen to the long speeches in the house—speeches which, if he was unlearned before, had made him ten times more unlearned still. (Loud laughter.) He had heard with great regret that the majority of men who entered the service were disgusted with it. The right honourable gentleman opposite had asked whether it was to be wondered at. He thought yes, it was to be wondered at very much that any such sentiments should be entertained. He thought the proposed term of service too short; it would take three years to make a raw recruit a good dragoon, and what length of service had they afterwards to recompense them for the expense of training? As to opposing the bill, he presumed that there was no use in kicking against the pricks, (laughter,) but he wished that a division might take place, to give him and those who thought with him, an opportunity of putting on record their opinions.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday next.

Deaths from Famine in Ireland.—Lord G. Bentinck observed that Mr Labouchere, in answer to a motion made by him some evenings ago, had said that the Irish clergy kept no records of the deaths which occurred in their parishes. Since that time he had received several letters from Irish clergymen, informing him that by the canons every Protestant clergyman was required, on the 25th of March in each year, to make a return of the marriages and deaths which had occurred in his parish. It was evident, therefore, that if the government wished to receive such returns as he had moved for, on the occasion referred to, the machinery existed whereby such returns could be made.

Mr Labouchere observed, that he had objected to the returns alluded to, because he believed that it was impossible to get accurate information on the subject. The noble lord had alluded to the canon law, by which Protestant clergymen were obliged to keep a registry of the burials which occurred in their parishes, but he (Mr Labouchere) was much deceived if that law had been generally observed by them.

Lord J. Russell briefly vindicated the course which the government had pursued in reference to the importation of grain into Ireland. That the government had acted on the safest principle, in refusing to interfere with private enterprise, was evident from the fact that vast quantities of provisions were now being poured into Ireland at all points by the private trader.

Mr Disraeli contended that if private speculation was now doing anything for the relief of Ireland it was not until many of the population had died from famine. So far as these were concerned, therefore, the relief now afforded was like locking the stable when the steed was stolen.

After some further talk, the house went into committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill.

On clause 9 being reached the committee rose, the chairman reported progress, and the house adjourned at a quarter past one.

TUESDAY, March 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Lord Brougham presented a petition from the Spanish bondholders, in which they complained that their claims, to the enormous extent of seventy-millions sterling, were still left unliquidated, and that no provision was made by the Spanish government for their payment. The noble lord hoped that a country which had the character of entertaining a very high sense of national honour, was not about to follow the example of repudiation which had been recently presented to the world by certain states in America.

The Earl of Clarendon admitted the high sense of national honour which generally actuated the Spanish people. The government of Spain had never denied its obligations to the parties to the petition before their lordships. He believed that the chief obstacle which existed in the way of an arrangement, which would be satisfactory to the creditors of Spain, was, that before any government in that country could complete such an arrangement, it was driven from power by some new revolutionary movement. The British minister at Madrid was at this moment in communication with the Spanish government upon the subject, and he hoped that his exertions would prove successful.

The petition was then laid upon the table.

The Drainage of Land Bill then went through committee.

Their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Mr John Romilly moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better administration of charitable trusts for the benefit of her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects.

Viscount Sandon then moved for the appointment of a select committee on the present state of our commercial relation with China. The motion was agreed to.

Capt. Wynn.—Mr C. O'Brien then moved for a select committee to inquire into the conduct of, and into the letters of Capt. Wynn during his employment in the county of Clare, in November, and December, and January last, as inspecting officer under the Board of Works. The government had refused him the inquiry for which he now appealed to the house—a poor reward, certainly, for sixteen years' undeviating support to the Whigs.

Major Macnamara seconded the motion.

Mr Labouchere would, as a member of the government, be sorry to conciliate any support in the house by pursuing a course different from that which he had pursued towards an officer of the government whose conduct had been traduced. He could not assent to the inquiry sought at present, and he regretted that the motion had not been deferred for a few days. Papers relating to the conduct of Captain Wynn had, on the motion of the hon. gentleman, been laid before the house, and were now in the course of being printed. In the course of a few days they would be before the house, and if what they contained were not satisfactory to the house, he was far from saying that inquiry should not then be made. At present there was not even a *primâ facie* case against Captain Wynn, and he could not consent, until a better case were made against him, that he should be dragged as a criminal before any committee of inquiry. The right hon. gentleman then defended the conduct of Captain Wynn, who, under circumstances of the most trying nature, had behaved with firmness, spirit, and forbearance. He (Mr Labouchere) had defended the conduct of the relief committees generally in Ireland, but he was bound to say, that in the county of Clare the relief committees had been guilty of a very gross neglect of their duty, which had magnified the difficulties with which Wynn had to contend. In the course of a few days, however, hon. members would have an opportunity of judging of the conduct of that gentleman for themselves from the printed papers which would then be in their hands. He hoped, under these circumstances, that the hon. gentleman would withdraw his motion for the present.

Mr W. S. O'Brien supported the motion, being at a loss to conceive why the government should refuse the committee, considering the charge, which, on an *ex parte* statement, had been suspended for two months over two hon. members of that house.

Lord J. Russell observed that Mr Labouchere was not averse to the inquiry sought for, but thought, under all the circumstances, that that inquiry should be deferred until the house was assured that there was a sufficient case against Captain Wynn to justify inquiry. If the hon. member would frame his motion so as not to contain objectionable terms, and defer naming the committee until the printed papers alluded to were in the hands of members, there would be no objection to the committee demanded.

After some further conversation,

The motion was withdrawn, whereupon

Mr W. S O'Brien renewed the motion in terms proposed by Sir R. Peel.

The amended motion was then agreed to.

The National Fast.—Lord J. Russell moved the adjournment of the house to Thursday. At the same time he thought it right to state that it was the Speaker's intention to be in the house on Wednesday, in order to give such honourable members as might wish it an opportunity of attending Divine worship there.

Mr M. Philips wished to know what effect the fast would have in Ireland. It was said there were 700,000 persons employed on the public works in that country, and he was, perhaps, not wrong in supposing that they were each paid on an average one shilling a-day. He wished to know whether they were to work on the fast day, and if not, whether they were to be entitled to pay from this country, without giving any consideration whatever for the money?

Mr Labouchere said if his recollection served him right, they had a fast in Ireland since the introduction of the system of public works, and it was then thought right that the men employed on these works should be allowed to work on the fast-day, and should be paid for so working. The government considered that where the money of the counties and baronies was to be paid away, it was quite necessary that the people should work, while at the same time they felt it would be inconsistent with the principles of humanity and religion to let them starve. (Hear.)

Mr M. Philips said he was anxious to hear the explanation just given, as it showed the great injustice done to the working classes of this country in being compelled to remain idle.

Lord G. Bentinck asked if the reduced rations of ½lb. of bread, per day, which appeared in the morning organ of the government, the *Times*, was really the quantity of food ordered by the Irish government for those employed on the relief works?

Mr Labouchere could not say, as he had not seen the order.

Mr Bright said he should be one of the last persons in the house to say a word against any religious observance adopted by the people of this country. But he could not help saying that, considering the proposed fast would have no effect on a large proportion of the English people who did not assemble for worship in the churches of the established religion, while in Scotland a large portion of the population were also opposed to the established faith, and that in Ireland, according to the statement they had just heard, the government acting on a late precedent, would not require the people to fast, it would have been more wise if such a step had not been taken at all. Instead of doing honour to the Deity, he thought it was insulting to religion. On the one hand it would tend to encourage a gross superstition among some, while it would strengthen infidelity on the other. (Hear, hear.) He had spoken to many persons on the subject since the fast was ordered, and he had not found among any a feeling that the affirmations of the proclamation were verified, or that any reasonable ground existed, from what they know from Scriptural revelation, for expecting that any advantage would result throughout this country from a fast ordered by a civil power, and disregarded by nine-tenths of the people of the country when it was ordered. (Hear, hear.) He did not wish to say more on such a matter, but considering that the fast had been ordered by the government, and was supposed to be sanctioned by that house, he could not allow it to pass without entering his protest against it. He considered it a useless ceremony, a remnant of the days gone by, and not in accordance with the enlightened opinions of the present time. (Hear, hear.)

Sir G. Grey said he hoped the house would not enter into a discussion on this question. (Hear.) His own impression was, that the fast was in accordance with the general feeling of the people of this country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr P. Howard thought the government in appointing a day for fast and humiliation had acted in perfect accordance with the feelings of a majority of the people.

The motion was then agreed to.

Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill.—Committee.—On the motion of Lord J. Russell, the house then resolved itself into a committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill.

In the committee some discussion took place on the 9th clause, which was, however, ultimately agreed to. On the proposition of the 10th clause, which provides that "whenever the expenses chargeable to an electoral division of a union in one-half year shall exceed 1s. 3d. in the pound on the net annual value of such a division, the 1s. 3d. is to be charged to the electoral division, and the remainder to the union at large," Mr M. J. O'Connell proposed, as an amendment, to omit the whole body. He himself belonged to a particular portion of the community, which did not admit her Majesty to be at the head of the church; but they admitted the duty was one sanctioned by holy writ. There had been repeated instances of national humiliation. The government would sustain no detriment by having acceded to it. The bishops of his own church had so far sanctioned, although they did not think it ordained by legally spiritual authority, as to recommend to their clergy and people the observation of the fast as appointed.

of the clause, and to insert certain words which would give it this effect:—that "all expenses to be henceforth incurred for the relief of destitute poor persons in Ireland, whether under the provisions of this act or of the act of the 1st and 2nd Victoria, c. 20, shall be charged to the union at large." His object was to prevent the rural districts from throwing their population for support on the town districts. The amendment was vigorously resisted by the government, and on a division the numbers for the amendment were—

Ayes 25
Noes 120
Majority against it — 95

Mr Stafford O'Brien then moved the omission of the 10th clause, on the grounds, that in union-divisions the area of taxation was too large, and it would be more advisable to make it commensurate with town land divisions. He declined, however, to move his own scheme of rating, as he did not wish to embarrass the government.

Mr Labouchere defended the clause on the ground that it was a safe and equitable medium between the extravagant claims made by the representatives of towns for union rating and the equally extravagant claims of the agricultural members for town lands rating. He, therefore, trusted that the house would reject the amendment.

Considerable debate took place on this amendment, which was denounced by one party as an undisguised landlord's job, and defended by the other as absolutely necessary to the salvation of the rural proprietors of Ireland. On the division the numbers were for the amendment—

Ayes 57
Noes 118
Majority against the amendment ... 61

The clause, therefore, stands as part of the bill.

The Chairman then reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Thursday.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at twelve o'clock.

THURSDAY, March 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Drainage of Land Bill was read a third time, under protest, from the Earl of Ellenborough.

Lord Stanley, in an explanatory speech, moved for copies of the correspondence between the Colonial-office and the governor of Van Dieman's Land, respecting the personal conduct of Sir Eardley Wilmot, which, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, Earl Grey consented to the production of.

The Marquis of Londonderry gave notice of his intention to ask, on Monday next, whether the bill for limiting the period of enlistment in the army had been introduced under the sanction of the commander-in-chief.

Their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The house met at twelve o'clock.

Lord J. Russell, in answer to Mr J. Collett, said he should bring in the bill for amending the constitution of the ecclesiastical commission immediately after the Easter recess, but that the proposition of creating four new bishoprics, or even one, would form no part of that measure.

Dismissals from Public Works (Ireland.)—On the question of going into committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill,

Mr J. O'Connell called the attention of the government to the deplorable consequences that were anticipated to arise from the government order reducing the number of persons employed upon the public works by one-fifth, unless due consideration be paid to the peculiar circumstances of each locality. It was impossible that the passive and peaceable conduct of the people could continue if reduced to a state of positive starvation, and he implored the government either to withdraw the order of discontinuance, or direct depots to be opened for the distribution of food to those who are thus to be deprived of the means of subsistence.

Mr Smith O'Brien concurred in this appeal to the government, hoping the order would be recalled, or that committees would be appointed to afford out-door relief.

Mr. Labouchere had only to repeat his former statement—that the order of the government was, that on a certain day a reduction of 20 per cent. should take place upon the aggregate number of persons employed on the public works, but not irrespective of localities; leaving it to the discretion of the Irish government to make the reduction more than 20 per cent., where it could be safely done, but less where the particular circumstances of the locality would render it dangerous or inadvisable to go to that extent. He felt the deepest gratification in being able to state that immense supplies of provisions were pouring into Ireland by means of the ordinary operations of trade, a prediction which he had formerly ventured to hazard, and the realisation of which would effect more good for that country than any direct interference on the part of the government.

Mr Shaw concurred in the propriety of reducing the number of persons employed on the public works, but thought no fixed rule ought to be adopted, unless where relief committees were established.

Lord G. Bentinck condemned the course taken by the government with respect to the supply of seed for Ireland, considering himself justified in the assertion that in this respect they had exercised a pernicious influence as regarded the future cultivation of the soil of that country. Again, with reference to Mr Labouchere's self-gratulation as to the abundant supply of food which was deluging Ireland, he would only say that had the government displayed but a tithe of the sympathy shown by the people of the United States, the period of its arrival would have been anticipated by six months at least. He thought the right honourable gentleman had little cause to congratulate himself when he reflected upon the hundreds of thousands of persons who had died under his administration of the affairs of Ireland.

A desultory debate ensued: on the one side criminatory of the government, on the other defensive and palliatory.

Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill.—The house went into committee on the bill,

Mr J. O'Connell moving that the clause proposing an extension of the number of *ex-officio* guardians be struck out.

After some discussion the committee divided, when the amendment was negatived by a majority of 128; as was a further amendment proposed on the same authority, extending the provisions of the clause to borough as well as county magistrates, the proposition being rejected by a majority of 112. Eventually the committee got through the bill, but not without threatened amendments and proposed new clauses, to be moved on the bringing up of the report.

The house adjourned at a quarter past seven.

(From our Third Edition of last week.)

FRIDAY, March 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The business was limited to the presentation of petitions, and a declaration from the Marquis of Conyngham, that though his name was appended to the protest of the "Irish party," presented to Lord J. Russell, against out-door relief, it was done without his knowledge or consent, he being in favour of that proposition; Lord Monteagle admitting that his noble friend's name had been inserted by mistake.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Window Tax.—Lord Morpeth, in answer to Lord Duncan, said that although the subject of windows was involved in the sanitary question as regarded the health of towns, he was not aware that it was the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the forthcoming bill, to propose any change of a financial character with respect to the window-tax.

Poor Relief (Ireland.—The House then went into Committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill.

In the committee considerable wrangling took place on certain amendments proposed on the first and second clauses, but not pressed by their movers to a division. The chief discussion, however, took place at the close of the evening, when Mr Shaw proposed to expunge the whole of the second clause, which authorizes the Poor Law Commissioners under their seal to administer in certain special cases, relief out of the workhouse to destitute poor persons not permanently disabled, for any time not exceeding two calendar months from the time of their order, provided always that all relief given out of the workhouses to such persons shall be given in food only, save in cases of sudden and urgent necessity.

Lord J. Russell said that Mr. Shaw had argued throughout as if the present state of things in Ireland was to be permanent, and drew the inference that therefore out-door relief would be found impracticable. That, it was to be hoped, would not be the case; and all that the clause proposed to do was, to afford some relief when, either from a temporary increase of distress, the prevalence of fevers, or infectious diseases in the workhouses, it became necessary to prevent the people from starving. The experience we had had in this country proved that out-door relief was not incompatible with prosperity, and the successful pursuits of trade, commerce, and manufactures. Indeed, he was to some extent inclined to think the two coincident, and he hoped that the introduction of this principle into the law would lay the foundation of a better system in Ireland, by furnishing a strong inducement to better cultivation on the part of landlords and farmers, and more industrious habits on the part of the labourer.

A division took place, when the numbers were,

For Mr Shaw's amendment 36
Against it 242
Majority against it 206

Police Report.

WORSHIP-STREET. — Cruel Robbery. — George Brown, alias William Jones, was charged with robbing a poor sailor, named William Kilshaw. The complainant had served for 17 years in the royal navy, and having worked his way back to this country, after his discharge in the West Indies, entered himself for a voyage to North America, in a barque called the "Kate," which was to sail on last Monday three weeks, and while looking about for temporary lodgings on the Saturday night preceding, he accidentally met the prisoner, who offered to accommodate him in his apartment. On getting up at five o'clock next morning, however, he found that the prisoner had gone away, and carried off what little money he (complainant) had, his register ticket, and the whole of his clothing, including even his shoes and stockings. He was compelled, in consequence, to lie in bed for three days, and, to complete his distress, when the clothing he then wore was at length furnished him by the people of the house, he found that his ship had sailed for her destination with his chest and every article he possessed on board. He had been ever since wandering about in a state of utter destitution, and so ill from the ague, that he could scarcely stand, but was unable to meet with the prisoner until Saturday night last, when he encountered him with the greater part of the stolen clothing upon his person, at the Refuge for the Destitute, in Playhouse-yard, and gave him into custody. The City constable, No. 618, stated that he should be able to substantiate another charge of a similar description against the prisoner, who was an old offender, and had already been convicted of felony on two previous occasions. The prisoner, who declined offering any defence, was fully committed on the above case, but ordered to be brought up again for the production of other charges.

Assault.—On Tuesday, George Walker, a toll collector in the City-road, was charged with committing a murderous assault upon Zachariah Longman, aged 70, and also with attempting self-destruction. Ann Longman said the prisoner lived at No. 110, Britannia-street, City-road, in which she and her husband resided. About twelve o'clock on Monday night, the prisoner came into the room on the ground-floor, and asked if they had seen his dog. We replied that we had not. He then asked my husband if he would call him in the morning. My husband said he would do so, if he woke early enough. My husband, at the request of the prisoner, went for some ale, of which each partook. The ale was paid for by the prisoner. The latter afterwards went out for something for the dog. He soon returned, and took another glass of ale. He now appeared the worse for what he had taken. He requested my husband to light him up stairs, which he did. In a few seconds the prisoner returned, and I put my husband, who was very ill, into the front room. The prisoner came into the back room, and having made another inquiry about his dog, left the room, and went into the street. He quickly returned, and arriving in the passage opposite he called out lustily three times "fire!" I then went out to him and entreated him to go up stairs, but he caught me by the throat. I called out murder, and my husband came to my assistance. I then saw the prisoner stretch out his arms towards my husband, and instantly after I perceived that he was bleeding profusely from several gashes in his face. I rushed to the door and screamed murder. The prisoner rushed up stairs. The police constable quickly arrived, and my husband was conveyed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. I pointed out the prisoner's room. Police-constable 51 N stated that he was on duty in Britannia-street, City-road, when he heard cries of "murder," and on arriving at the residence of the last witness, he perceived her husband on the outside of the door, supported by two men. He was bleeding profusely from several cuts in his face and head. Witness directed his immediate removal to the above hospital. Witness then proceeded up stairs to the prisoner's room, and found him lying upon the bed, with his face downwards, and perceived that he was bleeding from an incision in his throat, about three inches in length. He procured the assistance of Mr Coward, the district surgeon, who sewed up the wound, and conveyed the prisoner to the station house. There was much blood upon the passage on the ground floor, stairs, and landing, and upon the bed and flooring of the room. The razor produced was picked up upon the first floor landing by the last witness. It was then covered with blood. The prisoner expressed his sorrow for the old man, but said he was fearful he had not completed the job for himself, which, however, he would do as soon as an opportunity presented itself. The above evidence was corroborated by other witnesses, and it was stated that the unfortunate old man was considered in imminent danger. The prisoner was so weak as to be unable to stand, and was accommodated with a seat in the dock. He said nothing, and was remanded for a week. The prisoner has for some years, it appears, been a toll-collector at the gate in the City-road.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—Burglary.—On Monday W. Ogle and W. Saunders were charged with having committed a burglary at the Queen's Head public-house, Little Windmill-street. The two prisoners were seen by the police constable on duty to come out of the house about three o'clock that morning. The constable suspected that something was wrong, and he went to the door of the public house, and, finding it open, he gave an alarm, and instantly commenced a pursuit of the prisoners, who were endeavouring to effect their escape. The prisoners were ultimately secured by two other police constables, and when they were searched a quantity of papers of tobacco, copper money, and a sixpence, were found on their persons. It is conjectured that the prisoners must have secreted themselves in the yard at the back of the premises before the family went to bed, and that as soon as they found the coast clear, they effected an entrance into the house by breaking a square of glass in the window of the back door and by undoing the fastenings. They had conducted their felonious operations with great deliberation, as there was a bottle of whisky opened and consumed, a portion of the neck of the bottle being afterwards found in Sherrard-street, through which one of the prisoners attempted to make his escape. Mr Udall, the landlord, said he had lost a great quantity of cigars from his bar similar to those found on the person of the prisoner. The prisoners were fully committed.

Serious Charge.—On Tuesday, Mr Edward Bonney, the landlord of the Fitzroy Arms, Clipstone-street, was brought before Mr Bingham, charged with having endangered the life of Bennett Endean, by striking him a blow on the head with a mallet. Police-constable E 105 said he was called upon to go into the prisoner's house, in consequence of something that had occurred there on Wednesday, the 10th instant. He found the potman before the bar, bleeding profusely from a wound on the head. A surgeon was sent for, who attempted to dress the wounded man's head, but the potman tore off the bandages, and he was eventually removed to the hospital. Police-constable Simon, E 111, said he took the prisoner into custody. The prisoner said he had struck the potman, and he was sorry for it. A certificate was produced from the hospital, which described the patient as in great danger. Mr Bingham immediately proceeded to the hospital with Mr Bishop, one of the clerks, and took the wounded man's deposition. It was as follows:—"I am potman at the Fitzroy Arms, Clipstone-street. Last Wednesday I had done my work, and there were two or three men left in the tap-room, and I took a share of two or three pots of beer with them. I was called in, and my master said he thought I was drinking. I said I was not going to drink to hurt myself, and that if he did not like it he could pay me my wages a week forward, as I was there a weekly servant. My master said he would not pay me neither back or forward a week's wages. I then said I would stop the week out, and would insist on his paying me. I then went into the parlour, and was again called at the bar, when my mistress began at me. I told her I did not want to speak to her, as master was my master, and he was under petticoat government. I said I should not trouble myself to speak to mistress at all. Then master took a mallet from a little cupboard, and he smashed my head with it. I was senseless. I don't know if he gave me more than one blow. I did not see the mallet on the counter before I received the blow." Mr Bingham refused to accept bail, but remanded the prisoner for a week.

THAMES.—Improvident Marriage.—On Monday, Henry Keats, a young man, twenty-two years of age, residing at 4, Princess-street, St. George's-in-the-East, was charged with assaulting Harriet Bennett, a coffee-housekeeper in Cable street, Wellclose-square. It appeared from the evidence of the prosecutrix that the prisoner was her daughter's husband. He had been separated from his wife for some time, and had been leading a dissipated life. He was the father of three children by his wife, and two of them were under the care of the witness, and were maintained by her. She had often made application to the prisoner to maintain his children, but he almost invariably refused anything. On Saturday last he came into the complainant's shop, while she was sitting in a chair within the bar. He said he had some money, and wished her to share it with him. The complainant rather angrily told him she did not want his company or his money, and that he had better take both to his prostitutes. The prisoner instantly struck the complainant a violent blow with his clenched fist, and beat her in a most savage manner, of which she exhibited proofs, for her eyes were blackened and her head was bruised. He was proceeding to further violence, when the cries of the woman brought a constable into the house, who took the prisoner into custody. The prisoner, in defence, said that when he was only sixteen years of age he was inveigled into a marriage with the complainant's daughter of the same age. The complainant was so exceedingly anxious to get her daughter off her hands that, after the courtship had lasted a few days, she paid the wedding expenses and provided the marriage feast. His wife's mother afterwards promoted dissensions between him and his wife, who absconded from her home, and he did not know where she had gone to. Previous to her leaving him the mother fomented repeated quarrels between them, and made his home miserable. He could assure the magistrate he had been greatly provoked, and that his life was rendered miserable by the complainant who was in the practice of taunting him, and boasting that his wife lived with his late master. After a scene of crimination and recrimination, Mr Yardley said the complainant had acted very wrongly in promoting such a marriage, and he was not surprised at the misery which ensued. She must, however, be protected from violence, and it was his duty to hold the defendant to bail to keep the peace, himself in £40, and one surety in £20.

Homicide.—On Tuesday O. Frankish was charged with killing and slaying Samuel Salter. When the prisoner was first brought up on the charge, Salter was still alive at the London Hospital, but without any hopes of recovery. On Monday, about two o'clock, he expired. As the death arose out of a struggle in the dark between the deceased and the prisoner, there was no direct evidence, but Richard Salter, uncle to the deceased, stated that on Sunday morning the prisoner came to him and told him that his nephew was lying ill at the London Hospital. They had a fight together on Friday night. The deceased had struck him first, without reason, and a fight had ensued on the stairs. After this they set to again in the parlour, and afterwards down stairs, where they had four or five rounds in the dark. The prisoner then went up to bed, whilst Salter kept crying out and challenging the prisoner to fight. The latter then came down again, and a couple more rounds were fought in the kitchen, it being dark all the time. After that they both went to bed. In the morning the deceased came down and said to Frankish that he had done for him, but that he would not hurt a hair of his head. Mr Day, house surgeon at the hospital, stated that when he saw the deceased he had several severe contusions over the head, arms, and upper parts of the body. The injuries inflicted could not be produced by blows of the naked hand, but must have been inflicted by a cudgel. The body was fearfully injured, and witness was sure that death was occasioned by the injuries from the marks of violence exhibited. The prisoner, who seemed to have sustained no injury, cross-examined Mr Day, with a view to elicit that death might have been occasioned or mainly accelerated by the intemperate habits of the deceased; but Mr Day adhered to his original opinion. The case was remanded until Monday next, in which interval a *post mortem* examination will be held; the prisoner expressing himself determined, on the next hearing, to have medical witnesses ready for his defence.

Extensive System of Robbery.—On Tuesday Geo. Hempt, an elderly man, was brought before Mr Yardley, charged with stealing seven candles and one pound three ounces of sugar, the property of his employers. Conrad Minah, a sugar baker, in the service of Messrs Bowman and Co, Alie-street and Duncan-street, Whitechapel, sugar-refiners, stated that the prisoner was also in their employ. About ten or twelve days ago he saw the prisoner put his hand into a hogshead of Muscovado sugar in the warehouse, and take some out. After he had done so he went to another part of the building. This was repeated several times. On Monday morning he observed the prisoner take more sugar out of another hogshead, which he deposited in some paper, wrapped it up, and placed it on one side. About an hour afterwards the witness looked for the sugar in the place where it had been secreted, and found it was gone. On further search he discovered the same parcel of sugar wrapped up in the prisoner's apron, under his bench. There were two other parcels, each containing candles, in the same apron. Some time afterwards, on looking under the bench, he ascertained the things were gone. Samuel Cotton, a police constable, No. 44 H, in consequence of instructions he received, stopped the prisoner as he was leaving Messrs Bowman's sugar refining yard, on Monday afternoon, and told him that he was suspected of robbing his employers. He took him into the office on the premises, and the prisoner said he was sorry for what he had done, but he could not help it. The prisoner was then searched, and two packages of sugar, and a parcel containing seven candles, were found in his hat and pockets. Witness afterwards proceeded to the prisoner's lodgings, at 13, John-street, Cambridge-road, where he found in a box under the bed seventy-eight candles, one bed-tick, three blankets, three towels, a cotton filter bag, five pieces of soap, four knives, three pounds of loaf sugar, fourteen pounds of raw sugar, a ball of string, and various other articles. He brought the whole of the property away, and conveyed it to the station-house. On mentioning to the prisoner what he had discovered at his lodgings, he made a reserved admission that the sugar and other articles belonged to his employers, and said he could not help it. Mr James William Bowman said he was in partnership with his father, and that the prisoner had been in their service for twelve years. He had no doubt all the property which the policeman found in the prisoner's box, as well as that found in his possession, was the property of the firm. The prisoner made no defence, and he was committed to Newgate for trial.

CLERKENWELL.—Dreadful Outrage.—On Tuesday Christopher Gaton, a gold chaser, and Mary Sholard, were charged before Mr Greenwood with being drunk, and having most dreadfully assaulted two police constables. Mr John Greigg, of No. 7, Albemarle-street, Clerkenwell, book gilder, said the male prisoner had been a lodger in his house, as a single man, and was entrusted with a latch key of the street door. About half-past two o'clock on that morning, hearing him come home with a female, witness got up and proceeded to the defendant's, who was in the bedroom, and told the male prisoner that he would not allow a female to remain with him in his house who was not his wife, and he ordered him to turn her out. He objected, and refused to open the bedroom door. The woman wished to leave, and endeavoured to come from the apartment, but the man prevented her, and in struggling with her he split the panelling of the door. They struggled together for some time, and fearing they might injure themselves, he requested the interference of Alfred King, police-constable 154 G, at which time the woman had commenced crying out "murder." The officer accompanied witness to the room where the prisoners were, and the cries of "murder," by the woman becoming more alarming, the officer forced open the door, and was immediately felled by Gaton with a dumb bell. Witness, in the utmost terror, rushed down stairs, and met with Plumb, 56 G, who had been attracted to the spot by the uproar, and on that officer entering the room to the assistance of King he was instantly struck on the head by Gaton with the dumb-bell. He (the officer), had power enough to spring his rattle and other assistance arrived, and the prisoners were secured. Plumb, 56 G, said when he first saw the prisoners they were both lying on the last witness and beating him—the woman with her hands and the man with the dumb bell. He attempted to beat them off, when the man gave him a terrible blow near the temple, over the left eye, and laid it bare to the bone: by a strong effort he got back and by the sound of his rattle he brought another officer on the spot. Police-constable 221 G said, that with the help of Plumb and Mr Greigg both prisoners were secured, but not until he had received several blows about the arms and right hand from Gaton, with the dumb-bell, and he was obliged to use his truncheon in return. His brother officer, King, was then lying bleeding on the floor, and to all appearance dead: he was removed with all possible speed to the station house, and attended by the surgeon, who dressed his wounds, and also those of Plumb. Mr Shee, assistant to Mr Taylor, the police surgeon, said that he did not consider the two policemen out of danger, especially Plumb, 56 G, who already exhibited symptoms of erysipelas. Mr Greenwood told the prisoners that the charge was of so serious a nature that he considered it to be his duty to send them for trial; with the usual caution he said they were at liberty to make any remark they thought proper. Gaton said he did not intend to have kept the woman in the house all night with him, he had merely brought her home to pay her some money he owed her. The woman made a similar statement. Mr Greenwood decided on committing them for trial, but as the surgeon's opinion was that the officers were not out of danger, he directed that they should be properly attended to, and that the prisoners should be again brought up in a week, when the state of the officers would be made known.

WESTMINSTER. — Starvation. — On Tuesday Elizabeth Rayban, a sickly emaciated looking woman, was charged with having robbed her ready-furnished apartments. Prisoner has occupied a room in Orchard-street, belong to a person named Woodman, since Christmas last. This morning the landlady discovered that a blanket, a sheet, a frying-pan, and various other articles, were missing from the room. Prisoner admitted having sold the frying-pan, and that the other things had been disposed of, but could not tell the owner where they were, and it was proved by a pawnbroker's assistant that a portion of the property had been pledged at his shop by a man. Prisoner said she would endeavour to restore the property. She was remanded until Monday. Two miserable squalid-looking children, one apparently four and the other seven years of age, were introduced to the magistrate's notice. It was represented that they were the prisoner's children, and had not tasted food of any description since Monday morning. The poor things having declared, with tears in their eyes, that they were very hungry, Mr Broderip immediately ordered that they should be supplied with proper food, as also their unfortunate parent.

GREENWICH—Concealing Birth.—Milicent Fleming was charged with secretly making away with a child which she had given birth to at her master's house in Lewisham, on the 19 ult. Randall, 18 R, deposed that he went to the Highland beer-shop, in the village of Lee, kept by the father of the prisoner, and apprehended her. She had been there from Feb. 19, but under the surveillance of the police, in consequence of her illness. He told her what he wanted her for, and she made no reply. —William Carr, surgeon, deposed that he was sent for by the prisoner's mother to attend her. He went accordingly, and after a conversation, ascertained that the prisoner had given birth to a child. The prisoner said that she had borne a child. After pressing more closely she confessed. He then asked her what had become of the infant, and she said its body would be found at Mr Goodman's, a grocer at Lewisham, whose service she had just left. Witness told prisoner's mother not to distress her mind, nor permit any person to talk to her, and proceeded to see Mr Goodman on the subject—saw Mr Goodman, and explained, when they went together into the yard and searched the water-closet, where they found the body of a newly-born male child, immersed some depth in the soil.—Mr Traill asked if the infant could have sunk so deep in the soil from its own weight. —Mr Carr replied that the soil was so dense he thought it must have been pushed down. He had subsequently made a *post-mortem* examination of the body. It was a full grown healthy male child, and must have been born alive.—H. F. Goodman, deposed that the prisoner slept in the same room with her. Prisoner was taken ill on the 19th of February, and remained in bed. Witness got up to attend to the breakfast, &c. This was at seven o'clock. After breakfast, the prisoner's mother was sent for, and came. During the interim the prisoner came down stairs and went into the yard, and whilst her mother was waiting in the kitchen, the prisoner came in again.—J. M. Goodman, prisoner's mistress, deposed that she was sitting in the parlour, about ten o'clock on the day in question, when she saw the prisoner pass from the yard to the kitchen with a pail in her hand.—Mr Carr, surgeon, in answer to Mr Traill, said that the infant must have been born shortly before discovery—an hour or two, perhaps.—Mr Traill said, under the circumstances, he would reserve the final hearing of the case for a fortnight, and would take good bail, in £40, for her appearance on that day.

HAMMERSMITH.—On Thursday J. Chandler (22), son of a boat builder near the High Bridge, Hammersmith, was charged with having violated E. S. Perriam, a girl of weak intellect, aged 17. Mr Pelham attended on behalf of the prisoner. The evidence of the girl and other witnesses was conclusive as to the commission of the offence, the witnesses all stating that the evidence of the girl was precisely to them what she had stated at the court. The prisoner, who declined saying anything, was committed to Newgate for trial on the capital charge.

Forfeiture of a Wife's Claim upon her Husband. —On Friday, J. Ellridge was charged with having unlawfully refused to support his wife Mary Ann, who had become chargeable to the parish of Hackney. The defendant alleged as his reason, that last Tuesday fortnight, when he went home, he found a man rolled up in a sheet under the bed; after this proof of his wife's infidelity he separated from her. Their son, he said, saw the man as well as himself. The wife, in explanation, said that the man spoken of came into the room and sat down upon the chair, but without attempting to touch her. Hearing a knock, however, she said, "Here's my husband," and was going to let him in when the man said, "Don't be a fool," and got under the bed, but was pointed out to her husband by her little boy, and then came from under the bed; he was a stranger to her, but a friend of her husband, who, she had no doubt, sent him there in order to "have a pull" upon her, and an excuse for getting rid of her. The defendant indignantly denied the imputed collusion. The man was his fellow workman, but no friend, and had never been in his place with his consent. The case was suspended until the son, a little boy, was sent for, and his evidence was found to be so conclusive, that Mr Bingham discharged the defendant without making any order upon him, and the wife returned to the workhouse.

AN IRISH ROW IN AMERICA.

Riots on the Line of the New York and Erie Railroad.—Some serious disturbances have recently occurred among the workmen engaged on the portion of this road lying between Otisville and Port Jervis, the particulars of which, as far as we have been able to gather them, are as follow:—That portion of the labourers known as Shamrock men, or Fardowns, and who were the most numerous on the line, it seems, had determined to drive the Corkonians and all others from the ground, and thus monopolize for themselves the labour on these sections. About three weeks since, these Fardowns made an assault, on Saturday night, upon the Corkonians engaged on Carmichael and Stranahan's section, at Shin Hollow, beating them severely, and compelling them to promise to quit the line immediately. On Monday morning they proceeded to another portion of the section, fired guns over the heads of the workmen, and told them if they did not quit work they would fire into them. They drove the men up to the contractor, and compelled them to settle and leave the work. Many were knocked down and beaten in a shameful manner. They then traversed the whole line, compelling the proscribed labourers to quit work, beating and abusing them with much severity. In this riot one man is supposed to have been killed. During this outbreak the rioters attacked a party of Dutch, engaged on this same section. The Dutch gave them a little better than they sent, and the assailants were glad to retreat. Work was pretty much suspended on the road, but no farther outbreak occurred until Wednesday of last week. During the evening of that day, repeated discharges of fire-arms were heard along the line, which was probably the signal for the gathering of the rioters. About midnight one of the two shanties situated in Shin Hollow, and occupied by Irish labourers, was assailed. The windows were dashed in, guns fired into the building, and soon the insurgents had possession of the lower part of the tenement. The assault was made by about one hundred men. There were about fifty men in the shanty all in the loft. The rioters cut away the beams, and let them all down into the lower room. Many of the assailed were then severely beaten, and made to promise to leave the work. One man was thrust into the oven with the comforting assurance that he should be baked when they had time to attend to him.

After the "regulators" had disarmed the men and settled things to their satisfaction at this shanty, they proceeded to the other building occupied by the Irish, and which was but a few rods distant. Here they enacted much the same savage feats as they had done at the first. They had stolen several kegs of powder from the office of the contractor, and threatened to blow up the shanty if the men did not come down from the loft. The men were frightened and finally came down. The rioters drove all these men into one end of the room, and taking one of the number compelled him to go down on his knees, and then presenting muskets at his breast, threatened him with instant death if he did not give up his pistols and take an oath to leave immediately. Having finished their fiendish work at this shanty, they set out for an assault on the Dutch, whose quarters were about fifty rods off. The Dutch had heard what was going on at the other shanties, and were prepared for the attack. They had fire arms, but unfortunately had nothing but small shot to discharge them with. Their principal leader, Whistler, had mustered them in two platoons, on the outside of the shanty, ordering the first division to give their assailants their fire as they approached, and the second to rush upon them, firing when in close contact. The Irish approached, and having fired a few shots, the Dutch opened upon them in a style that put all their bravery to flight, and themselves with it as fast as legs could carry them. The Dutch peppered the wrong side of their valour in fine style, and the impulse of the shot quickened their pace wonderfully. They took two prisoners. One of these they discovered clambering up a rock on his hands and knees, and they brought him to a surrender, after greeting him with a full charge of fine shot upon that part of his corporality which, in that attitude, presented the fairest mark. These prisoners were taken into the shanty, and bound together, and Whistler had some difficulty in restraining his excited countrymen from taking summary vengeance upon them. They are now in Newburgh awaiting their trial. On Friday, Sheriff Welling repaired to the scene of disturbance, and on Monday was again on the ground accompanied by a large posse. Some fifteen or twenty were arrested, who are now under examination in this village. Every precaution has been taken to prevent a repetition of these scenes. The Dutch are now well armed, and able to defend the mountains against any similar assaults.—*New York Sun.*

FALL OF PART OF THE LIVERPOOL AND BURY RAILWAY.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—Yesterday, twenty-one arches of the Liverpool viaduct of the Liverpool and Bury Railway fell to the ground, one after the other, in rapid succession, with a tremendous crash, the noise of which resembled the quick discharge of as many small pieces of artillery, and was heard for more than a mile off. The site of this disastrous destruction of property is about two miles from the Liverpool Exchange, and the arches, the six northernmost of which were so far completed as to allow of the centrings being withdrawn a few days ago, the others having been completed three months ago, were built entirely of brick. It is not yet known how it was that the first arch which fell gave way, but it is certain that each buttress afterwards, incapable of bearing the weight of the arch reared upon it when that on the other side had fallen, was forced outwards immediately, the entire destruction of the whole being completed in about the space of a minute and a half from the fall of the first. Symptoms of its defectiveness were first manifested on Saturday last; but whether proceeding from any sinking in the foundation of either buttress, or from defective workmanship or materials in the arch itself, was not known. It had been condemned, and means were about to be taken to shore it up and secure the buttress in order that it might be rebuilt. It is possible that this work would have been so far performed yesterday as to have prevented the accident, had it not been for a heavy fall of rain driving all the men away from their work. This was so far fortunate, that no person whatever has sustained the least personal injury, though we regret to say that the loss of property cannot be less than £5,000 or £6,000. The span of the arch which first gave way was, we are informed, about 35 feet—that of the others was 30. They were constructed for Mr M'Cormick, the contractor for this portion of the line, by Messrs Bullock and Evans, and all that was wanting to their completion was the erection of a portion of the parapets. Another viaduct, near that which has fallen, is being erected by Messrs Holme, after the same plan, and as these gentlemen are so eminent in their business it is a proof that the plan for the viaducts cannot be insufficient. It is not improbable that the fall of these arches might have resulted from the sinking of the foundation of one of the buttresses, in consequence of the severe winter, or that the mortar in the defective arch had been prevented from setting sufficiently by the late heavy rains.

LOSS OF LIFE ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

An accident of a frightful nature, involving loss of life, took place on Tuesday afternoon, at the Camden station of the London and North-western Railway, on the premises in the occupation of Messrs Pickford, the railway carriers.

It appears that for some months past a number of workmen in the employ of Messrs Piper and Co., builders, of Bishopsgate, have been engaged in erecting additional warehouses for Messrs Pickford, the basement of which is supported by arches forming a capacious stabling. On Tuesday afternoon the men were employed in finishing the stables, when four of the arches suddenly gave way with a frightful crush burying the poor fellows who were at work in the ruins. As soon as the consternation created by the occurrence had subsided, a large number of men employed at the station set to work to remove the rubbish, and a frightful scene presented itself. Four of the unfortunate men were so deeply buried, that a considerable time elapsed before they could be extricated, and they were got out frightfully mutilated, and apparently lifeless, but they were at once conveyed on shutters to University College Hospital, where they were promptly attended to by Mr Alfred Williams, the house surgeon, and subsequently by Mr Liston. Every one of the poor fellows were in a state of insensibility on their arrival, and one of them died in about half an hour after admission. On inquiry at the hospital it was ascertained that the other sufferers are still in a dangerous condition.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—MURDER IN A CHURCH.

An accident occurred at St Michael's church, Angel-street, Manchester, on Sunday evening; no less than the falling in of a great portion of the ceiling, but a few minutes previous to the time of divine service. About five minutes past six o'clock on Sunday evening, a very few minutes after the bell had begun tolling for divine service a boy, who blows the organ bellows, was in the choir gallery when he observed the centre piece in the ceiling bulge downwards for a moment, then rise up again, and the next moment, that portion of the ceiling, joists, &c., between the centre principals fell in, followed in immediate succession by those parts between the two next principals. The reading desk was completely smashed, and the door broken, fourteen of the pews, seven on each side the centre aisle, were more or less damaged by the weight of the falling materials, which, including wood, plaster, nails, &c., is probably upwards of two tons. The whole extent of the space from which the ceiling has fallen is about twelve yards by four, and the accident most probably arose from the joists having been cut in their first admeasurement rather too short, or from the decay of the material, or both these causes combined. Had the accident occurred but a few minutes later, as the service would have commenced at half-past six, there is little doubt but that many lives would have been sacrificed. As it was, the escape of three persons with their lives appears little short of miraculous. An aged woman, grandmother of the organ blower, had already entered the church, and was very near the pulpit, when the boy shouted to her to take care, as the ceiling was falling, but the alarm came too late to enable her to escape before it fell; she was knocked down, and completely covered with the materials of which the ceiling was composed, but most fortunately, it seems, was not struck by the joists, a blow from any one of which might have killed her instantly. She was so little injured, however, as to be able immediately to creep on her hands and knees from her perilous situation to a place of safety. Two other persons were also in the aisle at the time the accident occurred.—Richard Ashworth was much bruised and cut, and on being taken to the Royal Infirmary, it was found that one of his ribs was broken. He is now, however, so far recovered as to be expected to be quite restored in a few days. His wife was more fortunate; she accompanied her husband to the door, but sauntered leisurely up the aisle, looking in at the pews, and was about six feet distance from her husband when she heard a crack, saw him covered with the materials of the ceiling, and stepping backwards herself, escaped without injury. The Rev. W. Jones, the curate, had been officiating in the reading desk at a funeral only an hour previous to the occurrence; and from the damage sustained by the desk, it does not appear that his life could have been saved had the accident happened then. The interior of the church, which has been built about fifty-eight years, presents a singular spectacle. Of the two portions of the ceiling yet remaining, the western part does not seem likely to fall, but the eastern portion is expected to give way; precautions have consequently been taken to preserve the pulpit in case of such an event. The churchwardens are taking every necessary precaution under the circumstances, and have taken the opinion of two experienced and skilful builders, both as to the cause of the accident, and the present state of the fabric.

Murder in a Church. — Last Saturday night, the young Count de Liederkeke, the representative of one of the noblest families of France, entered a small chapel contiguous to his chateau, in the neighbourhood of Namur, and without any notice fired at his two sisters, who were engaged in their devotions. The eldest sister fell dead on the spot. The Count then fired twice at the survivor, and the second time wounded her mortally. The miserable perpetrator of this double deed then hurried away, vowing vengeance against other members of his family. It is feared that he has destroyed himself, as he has not yet been found, and as his dog returned late at night to the chateau without him. The bodies of the young Countesses were conveyed by the peasants to the chateau. It is asserted that the Count was subject to fits of insanity, which had become more violent since the recent death of his parents.

Detection of Feigned Diseases by Ether Vapour.—M. Baudens has employed ether vapour in two cases in which the individuals were suspected of feigning disease for the purpose of avoiding conscription. In the first there was apparent deformity of the spine and projecting of the back. The young recruit, who was suspected to be an impostor, had been subjected to various experiments, but without success. He was finally made to inhale ether vapour; in a few minutes there was complete relaxation of the limbs, and the supposed deformity entirely disappeared. Thus convicted, the man no longer denied that he had feigned the deformity for the purpose of avoiding service. In the second case the person was believed to feign anchylosis of the hip joint. When the ether had been inhaled, the same relaxation of the muscular system was produced; but, on examination, the anchylosis remained as strongly marked as before the experiment; thus proving that the disease was real.

Extinction of Slavery.—Mr Robert Owen publishes in the "Washington National Era," this plan for the abolition of slavery, viz.: that all slaves born after the 1st January, 1850, shall be educated by the State governments and prepared to become good and useful citizens, and after serving an apprenticeship equal to their assumed value to their owners, they shall be colonized in some territory set apart for them by the government.

Rome.—A letter from Rome, of the 9th, says—"The Pope has determined on creating an order of knighthood for rewarding persons distinguished for virtue or merit, without regard to creed or nation. It will be divided into two classes, one of which is to confer on the members hereditary nobility, and the other personal nobility. His Holiness has permitted the theatres to continue their performances during Lent, so as not to deprive the persons connected with them of their means of living during this time of scarcity. It is the first occasion on which such a thing has been allowed. The promulgation of a law according rational liberty to the press is shortly expected. The differences that had arisen between the Holy See and the Abbé de Lammenais are about to be arranged, the Abbé having already taken the necessary steps to bring about that conclusion."

Berwickshire.—A correspondent states that the Hon. F. Scott is not to stand for Roxburghshire at the next election, his intention being to offer his services, as a Protectionist, to the constituency of Berwickshire.

Naval Service of Boys.—Mr Ward's bill "for extending the period of service of boys in her Majesty's navy," is for the purpose of enacting that boys who enter the navy when under 16 years of age may be detained seven years, and for a further period, in case of emergency. They are to be entitled to the same privileges on discharge as other seamen (with a few exceptions), and re-entering, and receiving bounty at the expiration of seven years, shall serve a further period of five years. A boy's statement of his age is to be considered conclusive; and this bill is not proposed to control the authority of the Admiralty to discharge any seaman or boy from the service.

Poor and Highways Rates Exemption Bill.—This bill of Mr Poulett Scrope's is "to exempt occupiers of small tenements from the payment of Poor and Highway Rates." By it, tenements under six pounds annual value are proposed to be exempted from the rates for the poor or highways. The exemption, however, is to be forfeited by any occupiers of tenements that may be certified by the medical officer of the district to be in an unhealthy state from want of due drainage or ventilation. The act (to extend only to England) is not proposed to apply to parishes where rates are assessable under Local Acts.

Determined Suicide.—On Thursday, Mr Wm. Payne, the City Coroner, held an inquest in the Cogers' Hall, Bride-lane, on the body of Joseph Parkes, aged 32, manager and clerk to Messrs Derling and Thomas, of the Dudley Foundry, Tipton, Staffordshire, and also at Dudley, who committed suicide at Mr Merryweather's, Albion Coffee-house, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, by cutting his throat with a small penknife, literally from ear to ear. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had been labouring under *delirium tremens*.—Verdict, "Temporary insanity."

A Man and Woman Found Drowned.—On Tuesday the body of a young man, apparently about 24 years of age, was found in the River Thames, off Erith. The deceased, who had neither hat nor waistcoat, had on a brown Chesterfield tweed coat, cord trousers, cotton stockings, and Wellington boots. He was about 5 feet 10 inches high, fair complexion, and light hair. The body lies in Erith dead-house to be owned. About the same time the body of a young female, about twenty years of age, was also found in the River Thames. She was five feet one inch high, fair complexion, and brown hair, which was exceedingly short. She wore a cotton print gown, black stockings, and cloth boots, but nothing to lead to her identity. The body is left in the care of the Thames police to be owned.

Fire near Hebden-Bridge.—On Monday morning a fire broke out in the large woollen mill of Messrs Ashworths, of Charlestown. After two hours' exertions the fire was completely got under. The damage is estimated at £4,000 to £5,000. It was partly insured in the West of England.

SOUTH LONDON PUBLIC MEETING.

A numerously attended public meeting was held at the South London Chartist Hall, on Monday evening, March 22nd.

Mr John Arnott was unanimously called to the chair, and said, he thought the issuing of a proclamation for a General Fast at such a time was a sure proof that governments were retrograding rather than advancing. The distress in Ireland was not to be attributed to Providence, but to the improvidence of misgovernment. (Cheers.)

Mr Charles Keen rose and submitted the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, the 'General Fast,' as proposed by her Majesty's proclamation, is adding insult upon the sufferings of the people, who are at the present time compelled by an unjust system, to submit to privations unparalleled in the annals of modern history." He said the people are called on to fast, and humble themselves, but he much wished to know if the bishops, clergy, commoners, aristocracy, or Royalty, who propounded this strange doctrine, would take one meal, or one course the less. (Hear, hear.) He did not believe they would. (Hear, hear.) The Irish produced a large quantity of pork, butter, eggs, &c., which they scarce even tasted, but sent them away to feed rapacious bishops, aristocrats, and royal idlers. He thought before any of those took the bible in their hands, and, with hypocritical prayers, attributed their own diabolical doings to the Deity, they should let the Irish have the Land for themselves. (Loud cheers.)

Mr John Skelton, in seconding the motion, said, he did so with mingled emotions of regret and pleasure—regret that those who had been placed at the head of State affairs should have been so hypocritical and deceitful, as to attempt to impose on the people the belief that the present distress was a visitation from God; on the other hand, he rejoiced that a few men were found bold enough to stand forward and denounce this precious piece of humbug, mockery, and delusion. (Cheers.) Was it not an awful thing to reflect that misgovernment left thousands in that situation, that when they laid down their heads they did not know where to look for a morning meal, and yet were mocked, by being told by crafty priests it was a scourge from God to punish them for their manifold sins and transgressions? (Loud cheers.) It was no such thing; it was man's injustice to man. (Hear, hear.) Look at the mass of uncultivated land in the United Kingdom. True, the Irish people had not been taught to look to this, but it was the business and duty of the Chartists, who had so well begun it, to let them know it. (Cheers.) The Church, the Commons, the Aristocracy, and Royalty, first by their acts starve the people, and then labour in their vocation to make the people believe their scourge is a visitation from God. (Loud cheers.) Most accursed mockery,—most accursed delusion,—most accursed fraud. (Great applause.) He knew he spoke strongly, but he also felt strongly, and he liked to give vent to the feelings of his mind. (Hear, hear.) He repeated it was the duty of the Chartists who had the case now fully in their hands, and the ball at their feet—(loud cheers)—to carry it on to a triumphant conclusion. The true and sure remedy for want was not fasting or prayer, but a new—a just—an equitable distribution of wealth. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr John Moy moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the present system of government is unjust and impolitic to the people of Ireland, unjust as it deprives them of men and of citizens, and impolitic as it stultifies their productive energies, thus causing a lamentable destruction of human life by starvation.

He said had the people of Ireland taken the advice given by Latouche, at the Freemasons' Tavern, they would have saved themselves from death by helping themselves,—(hear, hear,)—the miseries of Ireland were caused by the landlords; the aristocracy, and moneyocracy, it was not the Deity, but, in the words of Robert Burns,—

"Man's inhumanity to man,
That made countless thousands mourn."—(Cheers.)

The earth was nature's free gift to man, and none had a right to monopolize it. (Hear, hear.) He knew not what the Fast could be for, except it was to keep the rich from becoming poor, as the poor themselves seemed especially marked for fasting. What could they call the system but murder, when the people, surrounded by wealth, were yet perishing of hunger. (Loud cheers.) Did they not hear that meal was imported into Ireland at the rate of £8 per barrel, and yet the moneyocracy refused to sell it under £20 per barrel, thus standing out for enormous profits, whilst the people perished from want. (Hear, hear.) But who was to blame? He (Mr Moy) asserted that the Government was to blame. Government appeared to think that the producers of wealth would not be the consumers, that the potato only was for the people, and the potato having failed of course they must die. He was no advocate of death punishments; but if he had any so punished, it should be the traitors to their country—the land stealers who took the land, kept it and left the people, born on that soil to perish—to die of starvation. (Loud cheers.)

Mr John Gathard said he believed it was not the Deity of Heaven, but the God of the moneyocracy—Mammon that caused the famine. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was then given to the chairman and the meeting was dissolved.

Corn Markets.

LONDON.

Friday.—At this day's market there was a good demand for English wheat by French buyers, who freely offered the full prices of Monday last, but factors generally requiring an advance of 1s to 2s per quarter checked business. Foreign moves off at previous currency. There are large orders from France, Belgium, and Holland, but the limits are too low to execute them.

PROVINCIAL MARKETS.

Richmond (Yorkshire), Saturday.—We only had a thin supply of grain this morning, and the prices rather lower than last week.—Wheat sold from 10s to 11s; oats, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; barley, 6s 6d to 7s; beans, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per bushel.

Wakefield, Friday.—We had a good arrival of wheat, for which the trade is slow, at a reduction of 1s to 2s per quarter. Barley is in retail demand at rather less money. Beans are in moderate request at last week's prices. Oats are a turn dearer.

Manchester, Saturday.—At our market this morning there was very little busines passing in wheat, at a decline of 2d to 3d per 70 lbs. on the currency of this day se'nnight. Flour must also be noted 1s per sack lower, with a slow sale.

Hull, Tuesday.—There has been much firmness in every branch of the trade during the past week; with small arrivals and stocks in so narrow a compass, business is necessarily limited, but on the sales made full prices are obtained. Spring corn has attracted more attention than of late.

Birmingham, Wednesday.—During the present week the few sales reported in wheat were at last week's prices. At Wolverhampton, this day, owing to the unexpected decline in Liverpool yesterday, wheat could not be sold without submitting to some reduction, and a general indisposition on the part of millers to increase their stocks.

STATE OF TRADE.

Leeds.—The markets at the Cloth Halls have been very dull. There continues to be a complete absence of speculation for the spring trade. On the whole, however, there has been a little improvement in business in the warehouses this week.

Manchester.—The drop in the price of cotton in Liverpool has had a corresponding effect in this market, and almost all descriptions of goods have fallen in price. The state of the discount market in London and rumours of failure here have caused us to have a very gloomy week.

Bradford.—The purchases of combing wool were more extensive, and prices (except for particular sorts) a little higher on account of the supply being scant. The spinners purchase more freely.

Huddersfield.—There has been a fair attendance of buyers in the town during the week, and trade to the warehouses has been about an average of the season.

Halifax.—Our market to-day has worn a duller aspect than for many weeks past, whether we regard wool or manufactured goods, in both of which prices show a tendency downwards.

Rochdale Flannel Market.—The demand for flannels still continues limited, but prices are much the same as they have been for some weeks past. In wool there has been little doing, and no change in prices.

The Lace Trade.—The demand for plain nets has been less than usual. On the whole the trade is not good. Working short time being on the increase, prices are maintained.

Leicester.—We have no improvement to report in business. The demand for spring gloves has not been so small for the last five years, and many men are out of employment. Wools and yarns remain at present without alterations; but manufacturers are afraid of laying by any more stock.

Glasgow.—Cotton Yarn: Our markets remain very inactive, and prices have given way a shade, manufacturers only supplying their immediate wants. Cotton Goods: The market continues very flat for goods generally, and there is no appearance of any immediate improvement.

Bankrupts.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday, March 23.)

H. King, Fulham, victualler—J. S. Robinson, New Bond-street, upholsterer—T. Williams, Hay, Brecknockshire, maltster—R. Benson, Liverpool, sharebroker—J. Taylor, Bury, Lancashire, grocer and flour dealer—W. Dickinson, Manchester, saddler.

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Saturday March 27th, 1847