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NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ., M.P.

Dear Sir,—We, members of the Aberdeen branch of the National Land Company, in meeting assembled, are of opinion, that in accordance with a previous resolution, passed at a general meeting of this branch, that unless some prospect of a speedy settlement take place in the Court of Queen's Bench the affairs of the Company be now immediately wound up. We were all anxiety to await the decision of the case pending in the Court of Queen's Bench regarding the registration of the Company; but seeing that the case has never been brought forward, or, at least, never been made public through the *Northern Star*, our hopes of success are now blasted, and seeing that there is so much trouble required in making some of the located members conform with the *rules, and pay their rents, after* so much—in fact, far too much—lenity has been shown them; we therefore maintain, without hesitation, that as the funds have now entirely fallen off, and the *reproduction so small* and uncertain, and, as a climax to the whole, the Company never at all likely to become legal, we see no other alternative but to wind up the whole affairs of the Company, and thus prevent it from swamping itself with the liabilities attending directorship, &c. But, dear sir, we do not attribute the failure of this scheme unto you,—far from it; never man did more to elevate our order than you have done; the blame rests with the government and ourselves. The government has refused registration simply because the *members of this Company* have not, by keeping up their contributions, shown that determination to carry the thing out, which they so enthusiastically displayed at the commencement of the undertaking. But, sir, we are of opinion that there is no chance of any company succeeding that has for its object the amelioration of the working classes, until the people be fairly represented in the Commons House of Parliament; and as you have always already done, we trust that you will unswervingly support, with your great abilities, every motion that has for its end the hastening of that great object, never forgetting occasionally to display before their view the *whole hog, bristles and all*. But, sir, we must confess we are astonished to hear you repeatedly saying in *your letters "that the Land Company shall go on."* We declare that we see no possibility that it can go on, or that it can stand any length of time without being swamped, the liabilities being so very heavy, and nothing coming in to meet them. Dear sir, this our opinion, and wrote in the kindest of spirit towards you, and we trust that you will seriously consider it, and let us know what grounds you have for maintaining that the Company can, and shall go on, after the dear-bought experience you have had to the contrary.

Signed for behoof of the meeting,
David Burns, Chairman.

P.S.—I trust that the above, with your comments, will appear in the first publication of the *Northern Star*.—D.B.

Aberdeen, 15th December.

TO THE ABERDEEN MEMBERS OF THE LAND COMPANY.

My Friends,

With every sentiment contained in the above letter I most fully and cordially agree. Nearly two hundred thousand pounds more than has been paid into the Land Fund was guaranteed, and should have been paid; and if the Company is completely registered during the ensuing term, which commences on the 11th of next month—and it is set down for hearing in that term—then every shareholder who has not and does not comply with the rules and provisions of the Company, will have forfeited his claim; while, should it be out of my power to carry the Company on under provisional registration, Parliament is bound, by the unanimous recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee, to pass an Act of Parliament to wind it up; and, in that case, every member who has complied with the rules would receive back the full amount that he has paid, even if the properties purchased were to fetch over 20,000*l*. less than they cost; and for this reason, because over the sum of 20,000*l*. has been paid in shillings and half-crowns, the contributors of which have put the Company to as much expense as the paid-up shareholders, but who would not be entitled to receive back their driblets.

As to carrying on the Company, my friends must understand that I mean the location of the working people upon the land under another Company, which is already enrolled; and opposed as I may be, and persecuted as I may be, and robbed as I have been, I never will abandon the Land Project, because it is the social question on which the working classes must be instructed, when they achieve the Charter, as the political means for carrying it out nationally, and when it will not be in the power of tyrant governments, griping employers, and quibbling lawyers, to resist its legal realisation.

I have struggled for the Charter, and adhered firmly to its principles, against as frightful and dangerous odds as I have had to contend against with respect to this Company; but I am determined to persevere in both against all and every opposition—that is for the LAND and the CHARTER—the only reward that I desire being to live frugally, support an unblemished character, and leave the world better than I found it.

Your faithful Friend,
Feargus O'Connor.

TO THE UNLOCATED LAND MEMBERS.

My Plundered Friends,—

I invite your strictest attention to the following letter, written by one of the allottees of Minster Lovel to his son. Here it is:—

November 25th, 1849.

Dear Son,—You will think me long not answering; I have been so unwell with a cold and cough, but I am much better, and I have been waiting to send you all I could about rent day; it has been much talked of here, but the day has gone. The Directors was to have been here on the 12th; M'Grath and a lawyer came on the 14th; we met M'Grath in the school; the lawyer sat in a public-house, and every one who wanted to speak to him, must go there. M'Grath said he came here to collect the rent for Mr. O'Connor, he was our landlord; he was told by Mr. Beattie, that we had no faith in Mr. O'Connor nor the Directors, neither would we acknowledge him as our landlord; there was very few that paid. The next day we heard that the bumbs were coming to more that sixty of us; on Thursday came two bumbs to Beattie's; he told them they had no business there; a great many came to help Beattie drive them off; they had a scuffle, and got the big drum and other instrument, and beat them off the estate, and promised them, if they came again, they would serve them out; the women did their part. On Thursday met the Justices of the Peace at Witney; Beattie said he owed O'Connor nothing—he never agreed to pay him anything, neither would he. The Justices said O'Connor had not established his claim as landlord, so they cannot trouble us; we have since had a letter from Lowbands—they acted just the same way we have. A lawyer in Witney is very good, he gives his advice free, and says he will do all in his power to assist us; the Witney people generally sympathises with us; we did not come here to pay rent, but to pay as according to what was laid out; if we pay rent we lose the vote; that is what we came more particular for, and we think they charge too much. There is a builder in Witney, ready *any time to build two houses for the same* money they charge us for one—that is one hundred and fifty pounds—it makes our two acre lot come very high, that is nine *pounds twelve shillings*; there is not one amongst us but that will pay what is just, we are determined not to be imposed on. The war is commenced, they *talk of taking it to the Queen's Bench*, were O'Connor has declared that the estates are none of his, but the Company's. M'Grath said, there is no Land Company, O'Connor is our legal landlord; so we shall see how it will turn out, time will prove. I think you will see nothing of it in the *Star*; some of us has sent to the *Dispatch*. Why does not O'Connor come amongst us himself and heal our discontents? It is sure to break out some day. I think if he behaved himself he would not share the same fate as the bumbs. The cowslips are in full blow in front of my castle; what a particular mild season. I am very backward owing to going a threshing; that time was wanted, I have not got any of the carrots up, nor sowed any wheat. I have got the mangels up and sold. They were not so good a crop as I expected they would have been a month or two back; owing to the dryness of the season. The Sweeds are still growing; they have been much injured with the mildew—quite white-washed over, a great many rotten ones, and others stopped in growth. The potatoes turned out three parts rotten, but they are better than last year, for we had not one we could eat; this year what are sound are very good; what we sell is very low. I do not mean to sell any more of the crop till I can help it. I am going to send two porkers up to London this week, and then I shall have more stock to eat the crop. We shall never get on till we raise stock to consume the crop. I have been obliged to throw to the dung-heap what would have kept more stock. When I complain of the blight, they tell me that I have more crop than many four acres, and all I want is more stock, and that I hope soon to have. My farm looks beautifully green, like the middle of the summer. That gentleman called on you, I do not know him; he came with others to see the estate, and Gilbert, from Banbury. They came to see my lot; they said I had plenty to keep two cows; they liked my lot better than any they saw. He asked me where I came from; he said he was going through Nuneaton. I asked him to call and give my respects. I hope we shall be getting along better now. Rent day is gone by, and I think to send two more pigs to London by Christmas. If they could have forced rent they would have made sad slaughter here; they must have sold their little stock and crop, and been turned out this winter. I am heartly glad they cannot. These castles must be our own, without paying, I entrust. Accept our thanks for all favours.

I remain, your affectionate father,
T. Clarke.

Now, let me ask if the above requires one word of comment; and am I not justified in allowing the mortgagees of this estate—who hold the title deeds, *according to law*, and who can make a clear and unexceptionable *title—to sell* that estate, to compel those honest voters, who supposed that you were to pay 300*l*. to give them a vote for 5*l*. 4s., to return you that money?

Only think of one of my dupes having enough *on* two acres to feed two cows, his domain adorned with cowslips in November, and his cottage a castle, built with your labour, *and for which* he considers it dishonest to be called upon to pay any rent. Will not this show you the difficulties against which I have had *to contend?* and will it not convince you of *the prudence of getting rid of such an honest set of tenants?*

Now, my friends, read the following poor mouth. It is a resolution adopted by the occupants of the same estate with respect to which Mr. Clarke has written to his son. Here it is:—

"That from the various estimates of the cost of our cottages, previously given by Mr. O'Connor in the *Northern Star*, and in the *Labourer*, we are of opinion that the attempt now made to estimate them at £150 is unjust, as we believe that sum to be double the real value thereof—and that in consequence of the Directors having neglected to fix the value of our allotments, *according to the quality of* the land—we do hereby pledge ourselves separately and collectively, to refuse and to resist the payment of any rent charge or interest on the capital laid out on our allotments, until the Directors have set an equitable value on the cottages—properly adjusted the value of the respective allotments, in accordance with the quality of the land, and given us such security of tenure, as is guaranteed by the rules of the Company."

John Smart, Chairman.

Mr. Clarke, in his letter, tells you that a builder at Witney would build two cottages *for what one of those cottages cost.* Let me ask him if a builder would get timber cheaper or better than I did at the wholesale price, receiving estimates from several timber merchants? If he would get slates cheaper? If he would quarry stones cheaper? If he would get masons to build cheaper? Carpenters to work cheaper? Ironmongery cheaper? or painting cheaper, than I did at wholesale prices? Timber merchants, quarrymen, masons, carpenters, ironmongers, and painters, all competing, and I, the trustee of the poor man's fund, being much more niggardly than I would have been of my own. But suppose I had built them by contract with a builder, he would have charged nearly double the price, and the roofs would have tumbled in in less than five years, while now the youngest man that lives the longest life will *not* outlive their soundness.

But let me give you a proof of this. When commencing operations at Lowbands I thought I would try the experiment of building the cottages by contract; I met a master builder, by appointment, in the presence of Mr. Cullingham and Mr. King, at the Bell Hotel, *Gloucester*, and he told me that as he was friendly to the Scheme he would undertake to build the cottages for 320*l*. each.

Now to the resolution. This is my answer; the same that I have given many a time before. That every allottee who is prepared to pay up the full amount of rent due shall receive a *lease at the exact value of his allotment*; but I dare say, as the occupants have a kind-hearted solicitor at Witney, who gives his services gratuitously, if they apply to him he will inform them, that a lease to those who have not paid would be a receipt, in full, up to its date, and a legal set-off against rent previously due. Moreover, I am not going to put *the Company, or rather myself, to the* expense of paying a surveyor for critically examining, and fairly adjusting, the rents of the several allotments, until they are prepared to pay.

These gentlemen will very speedily find that they have been deceived in their expectation to frighten me by slander and Press denunciation. The mortgagees are now their landlords, and they will very speedily discover the difference of the treatment they will receive from them, as compared with the treatment they have received from me.

Now, read the following letter from Salford, relative to the deplorable condition of a man and his wife who have been revelling in dissipation upon your property. Here it is:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

Salford, Dec. 16th, 1849.

Gentlemen,—Having noticed in a statement of A. How, that he defied Mr. O'Connor, or any of the Directors, to find a drunken man on the estate; it is well known that there is one of the occupants *at Lowbands here, and has been here* eight or nine months out of twelve months, doing nothing but drinking; his wife also doing nothing, and left one of his family to keep possession of the property, from which they receive the means of subsistence; and I suppose him to be one of those rascals that refuses to pay the demand of the Directors. If men can do without labour for the time mentioned in this note, it is necessary that steps must be taken to make them pay rent, or to quit their holdings immediately, and do justice to all parties connected with the Land Company. I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
John Robinson,
Secretary of the Salford Branch.

P.S.—The party's name is David Webster, of Lowbands Estate. It is left to your own option how you act with this note.

You will also read, at foot of my letter, the irrefutable reply of Mr. James Brown, the Preston secretary, in reply to a fellow who has dared to assume the name of the immortal "Andrew Marvel." You will also read the account of a "WE," though it does not profess to be the Editor of the *Daily News*—which appeared in that paper of Wednesday last. I have no doubt that it is the note of the "WHISTLER," who has escaped from his cage. I shall make but very few observations, and they shall consist in merely calling your attention to the absurdity of the author:—

1st,—From an eighth of an acre, to a quarter, is as much as any prudent man will *undertake to occupy; in other words this is*, or would lead to, the retail feudal system; for, as I have often told you, that so cherished is any portion of land by those who hold it, that the man is completely the slave of his employer for whom he works at some other avocation, and to whose reduction of wages he will submit rather than leave his plot of ground.

2nd.—Think of a man requiring 200*l*. capital, or 50*l*. an acre, to work four acres of land—that is, that a farmer renting one hundred acres should have 5,000*l*. capital, whereas, practical agriculturists consider 500*l*. or 5*l*. an acre more than enough; while the occupants of a hundred acres at O'Connorville, have received 750*l*. capital, and had neither horses nor implements to purchase.

3rd.—The "Whistler," if he expects to be credited, should be critical. There are thirty-five, and not thirty cottages, on the estate, and the occupants were not located early in the spring of 1847, but in the August of that year.

4th.—The commentator appears to know nothing of the rules of the Company, as the occupants were not to pay five, but four per cent. upon the outlay.

5th.—If the land is worth from 15s. to 25s. per acre, and if we take the average at 20s., it is much more than I paid for it, and more than, deducting cultivation, the allottees are charged; but I am glad that so good a judge has set so high a value upon it. I do not think the occupants would wish to select him as one of the appraisers.

6th.—As I have often predicted, I am clerk of the weather office, and am responsible for the wet season of 1848; but as "one swallow does not make a summer," I presume that one wet season does not make a failure.

7th.—This BOAR saw some goats that were fed upon weeds, whereas, when I visited Griffith's *allotment*, I could see no food for the animals; it was in a high state of cultivation, and I never saw a man better pleased with his situation. Well, this critic has discovered what I have often stated, that a man working from four in the morning till nine at night, cannot sufficiently cultivate an acre and a half; and now I will put a clincher upon him. If this man—working at free labour from four in the morning *till nine at night*—cannot exist and pay rent, how can the agricultural labourer—who works, and not so hard, from six till six, five hours less—pay rent, and make profit for his employer? Now, is not that a finisher for you, "Mr. Whistler?"

8th.—Think of a man being able to support himself, wife, and three grown up sons, upon two acres, and hoping to buy a cow; and think of two acres giving employment to four men; and think of the man having a cough that prevented him from working when he came *from* his HEAVEN *to* my HELL; and think of the hard work to which he is now subjected, curing the cough; and think of his being able to buy a cow after supporting such a family; and think of his not being able to pay any rent. Did he pay rent for his house when he was idle from a cough, in his paradise? Is *it not enough to make a sick monkey bite its* mother?

9th.—Now, just think of a cripple occupying two acres, having a cow and some pigs, and being in a prosperous state because they are well managed by his wife. Does not this show what management will do, and am I to be charged with the mismanagement of others?

10th.—The discontented members are not suing Mr. O'Connor with success.

11th.—I beg your attention to the three propositions of this practical agriculturalist:—

First, not to leave their actual employments and stake everything on a plot of land, but to endeavour and acquire a bit of land as a secondary means of subsistence or for enjoyment; secondly, to be content with a small and manageable piece; and, thirdly, to acquire the absolute ownership.

Now, what do you think of that?

"The first and second are the same,
They never meet but to complain."

while the third tells you that men, who are not able to pay four per cent. upon the wholesale price of land and buildings, ought to purchase a piece of land out and out. Suppose an operative purchases a quarter of an acre, or half an acre, within a convenient distance of the town in which he works artificially, he will pay three or four times the price that I have paid for land in the wholesale market; he would not have much time to spare from his "rattle-box," and if he is out of employment he must leave his estate, and go to some other factory town to look for work; but above, and before all, where is the money to come from to purchase it?

12th.—The farm-house and land at Dodford has been sold for 1,400*l*., and not 2,000*l*.

13th.—The Oldham gentleman, Mr. Kelshaw, did not pay 55*l*. bonus for his allotment, he had the "pick" of the estate, with the exception of one four-acre allotment, and he bought it OUT and OUT for 55*l*. an acre; and the house was built by contract the price for labour agreed to by himself, and materials were furnished to him at the wholesale price.

14th.—The neighbouring farmer who has told our informant that he would not take the crops upon the estate, at the expense of taking them to market, is a Mr. Jones, whose farm bounds the estate, and through whose farm-yard the road to the estate passes. There never was a greater opponent or enemy of the Land Plan than this gentleman, believing—as he gathered from the press—that the Company consisted of Chartist ruffians. But to show that this gentleman does not estimate the depreciation in the value of produce by the Great Dodford estate, he assured me, more than once, that Free Trade would compel him to throw up all his farms, as even HIS OWN crops WOULD NOT BE WORTH TAKING TO MARKET; so you see the value of this gentleman's testimony as regards the Land Company.

15th.—Mr. O'Connor did appear amongst the allottees, until he discovered that their frequent appeals had too great an effect upon his generosity, as regarded his duty to the unlocated members; and the scheme—that is, of locating occupants upon land charged at four per cent. upon the outlay—will outlive every FREEDOM FOR THE MILLIONS humbug, and flourish as the index of national regeneration, when every bubble scheme is blown into air.

All other schemers try to hide their work; but in July, 1848, I took Lord Ingestrie—now Earl Talbot — Lord Drumlanrig, Sharman Crawford, Mr. Maunsell, and Mr. Sullivan—all members of Parliament, *and all members of the Land Committee*—to visit the estates of Lowbands and Snig's End: they said, they never saw such crops, they never saw anything that gave them greater delight. That was the second year's crop at Lowbands. It rained when Mr. Crawford was inspecting the estate; he is not one of the best, but the very best landlord in Ireland; he is a great advocate of the Small Farm system; he said that he could remain till he was wet through to witness such a sight, that much as he thought of it, he had formed no conception of it. These five gentlemen I submitted as witnesses to the committee, but the HAYTER the chairman, the juggler in English and foreign railroads, and who for his good services has been elevated to a higher office than he then held, WOULD NOT HEAR ONE OF THEM. Now what think you of that?

In conclusion, let me assure you my friends, and also my enemies, that not all the power at the command of my enemies so lavishly displayed by their press, shall ever turn me from my two great objects, namely, the CHARTER AS THE POLITICAL MEANS, and the LAND AS THE SOCIAL END; for, as I told the men of Stockport in 1835, when I first opened my commission as a Radical missionary, I would not give you twopence for the suffrage to-day, if the land was locked up to-morrow; and ere long the Protectionists will discover that their only hope of salvation, is in bringing the land into the retail market, when the Government can interpose no obstacle to the title, and the people, aye, and the shopkeepers too, will shortly discover, that there is no hope of escape from ruin, except by the application of the NATIONAL RESOURCES TO NATIONAL PURPOSES.

Those who are catering for a little popularity, *are nibbling at the Land scheme with* their *freehold bite*, while I tell you that it is moonshine, and I defy the world to base opposition to my plan upon any other grounds, than the DISSATISFACTION OF THE MOST FORTUNATE, and the dread of it entertained by employers.

Your Faithful Friend,
Feargus O'Connor.

SECOND VINDICATION OF THE CHARTISTS AND THE LAND SCHEME.

To the Editor of the *Preston Guardian*.

Sir,—In your last *Guardian* I find that "Andrew *Marvel*" has thought fit to address you again. I did hope for, and doubt not that your readers naturally expected, some explanation of the gross misrepresentations contained in your correspondent's previous letter; but it appears that "Andrew Marvel" has no desire to *grapple with facts*. He seems destitute of those principles which always guide the conduct of an honourable mind in search of truth, and desirous of dealing justly with an opponent.

Before I am justified in entering into a discussion upon questions altogether foreign to the subject, it will be necessary to call your readers attention to your correspondent's original charges and their refutation.

Mr. Marvel's charges against Mr. O'Connor were expressed as follows:—"Your subscriptions enabled him to purchase the above estates and carry out the Chartist Land Scheme, wherein all *were to become freeholders*, but I find in the *Northern Star* a public notice demanding rent from the dupes who *fancied they lived on their own land*." He then gives a list of the sums which the allottees are to pay (amounting at O'Connorville for a *four acre allotment to* £43 15s., and on the other *estates* in the same proportion), and added that "Feargus O'Connor *threatens to take possession* and cause a general *ejectment*." In my answer it was clearly proved that neither Mr. O'Connor nor the Land Company ever professed to make the occupants *freeholders* till they had purchased or redeemed their allotments, and then that no notice had ever appeared in the *Northern Star* stating that £43 15s. would have to be paid, or Mr. O Connor would cause a general ejectment; but that a notice *had* appeared which said that £6 15s. would have to be paid on the 12th of November, 1849.

I would now wish "Andrew Marvel" to give some explanation of the reason which induced him to make the above false and apparently malicious statements. Either he is totally ignorant of what the Land Company is now or ever was, or he is not. If not, then in the absence of any proof or mention of the same, in support of those charges in his last communication, we can only come to the conclusion that he has deliberately made charges against a gentleman which he was entirely unprepared to substantiate. Nay, he had not the manliness to refer to the subject at all, for he felt that he had been detected in a gross misrepresentation. Why, just imagine for a moment the absurdity of Mr. O'Connor giving four acres of land that cost £50 per acre, a good house, and the land cultivated, with £30 in cash to commence operations, and the party receiving it not to be called on to pay anything as compensation for all this property and privileges! Will any sane man believe that such prospects had been held out? The original rules of the company stated that six per cent. *should be paid upon the* first £100 expended, and five per cent. upon the amount exceeding that sum; but since that time the members have thought fit to change it to four per cent. upon all the capital expended. If "Andrew Marvel" wants proof, he will find it in the printed rules of the company.

But he says that he has been to Redmarley, and that "not one of the occupants was *satisfied*," &c., &c. What gurantee have we that this is more deserving of credibility than the other statements of this marvellous man? But admitting that he has made such visits, I, too, have visited the estates of Lowbands, Snig's-End, and the Moat, and was present when the reports of the committee appointed *to examine into the condition of the allottees* was given in, and publicly read before an assembly comprising most of the allottees and families, the statement of each being read separately; and if the assertion of "Andrew Marvel" be correct, it would have come out on that occasion, but there was no statement that would justify such a conclusion. He again asks why M. O'Connor is afraid to visit the estates? My answer is, that I saw Mr. O'Connor daily during the Conference, traverse the estate, *visit the houses, and mingle with the allottees*, and there was no sign or necessity of fear about him.

I have now clearly demonstrated the inaccuracy of Mr. Marvell's letter, and shall not follow him *into any extraneous matter till* he has answered my first letter, as to the truth or falsity of the charges he made against Mr. O'Connor. But he is not satisfied with these charges; he basely insinuates that I am *a well-paid agent, an official*. If he had and knowledge of the Land Company, he would have known that the statement was without foundation. I went to the Conference as the representative of the district, to represent their interest, and as such received from them remuneration for my services, but to talk of O'Connor paying me is a rank sbsurdity. I *have been the secretary for the* branch in this town for the last four years and a half, and who has paid me? Why, the man of money to be sure—O'Connor! No, sir; I have given my services gratuitously. Although I was entitled, according to rule, to a salary from the members who appointed me as their servant, I never received a farthing, and this is being a "well-paid agent," is it, "Andrew?" Poor fellow, you are most unfortunate in your attempts to destroy other men's characters. You are unable to meet my facts, *so you wish to insinuate* that I have an interest in the matter. But, sir, I was paid; my wages were the consolation of knowing that I was labouring in a cause calculated to benefit my country; and whatever may be the obstacles thrown in the way to impede its progress, the change that is working in the public mind upon this question of the Land convinces me of what will be the ultimate result of the principles we have promulgated, and in their success I shall be amply compensated. If I had been an opponent of Mr. O'Connor, and knowing the facts which I have stated, it would have been my duty to have refuted the unfounded charges brought against him; but when he happens to be one with many of whose principles I coincide, there was no other course but the one which has been taken, whatever may be the fiery ordeal of persecution to which it may subject me.

I now ask "*Andrew Marvel*" to substantiate the charges he has made, or stand convicted of slander, and then I shall be prepared calmly to discuss other queries.

Hoping, sir, that you will give insertion to this,
I remain, yours, &c.
James Brown.

Preston, December 11th, 1849.

[We are inclined to think that the present discussion has now been carried to sufficient length; but still we are not unwilling to afford "Andrew Marvel" another opportunity of meeting the charges fixed upon him by Mr. Brown. We feel called upon, however, to intimate that in doing this, "Andrew Marvel" must adduce *facts*, in lieu of mere aspersions and insinuations. The two latter are not the staple of honourable controversy.—Ed.]

Who steals my purse, steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands,
But he that filches from me my good name,
Robs me of that which not enriches him,
And makes me poor indeed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE IRISHMAN.

[From the *Irishman*, Dec. 15th, 1849.]

Sir—Before resuming my correspondence upon the subject of the People's Charter, allow me to express the satisfaction I derived from your letter to Mr. Duffy in last week's *Irishman*.

No man is better aware of the difficulties against which an honest journalist has to contend than I am, and no man more rejoices in the co-operation of such a journalist than I do.

The verdict in your case, sir, will not be one of mere acquittal, based upon the insufficiency of the evidence adduced against you; but as one of the jury I would base my verdict upon the irrefutable refutation of every sentence contained in every count; and knowing but little of you personally, I felt no small excitement after reading the accusation till I read the defence. It's neither my wish nor my province to take any part in such squabbles; but my reason for writing is to inform you that, had it not been for your honourable and successful defence of your character, I should have abstained from making your paper the channel of communication with my countrymen.

Sir—The *Irishman* stands high in the estimation not only of the Irish exiles in England, but also with the English Democratic party; and as they are a shrewd and sceptical, because an oft-deceived people, especially by *journalists pandering for their support*, I have considered it my duty to give your able, simple, and irrefutable defence a prominent place in this week's *Northern Star*, and have the honour to remain the faithful friend of a faithful supporter of his country's rights,

Feargus O'Connor.

Then onward, the green banner rearing,
Go flesh every sword to the hilt;
On our side is virtue and Erin;
On theirs is the Saxon and guilt.—Moore.

TO THE IRISH PEOPLE.

Friends and Countrymen—Don't start when you read the above quotation, furnished by Tommy Moore, the Irish poet. I have given you one from Lord Bolingbroke, a Tory, and from Byron, a Radical, adopted as the stereotyped motto of O'Connell, and I now use the above selection from Moore, to show you that the language which was formerly not only tolerated but admired, would now be considered high treason.

In last week's *Irishman* there appeared a letter just before mine from Mr. Michael Seagrave, of Barnsley, a most excellent, sterling, and unflinching patriot; but in order to show you the difficulties against which public men have to contend, I must offer a word of comment upon that letter.

You are aware, that the power of every government has been based upon the antagonism of Celt and Saxon, and you are aware that the principal element of discord was the odium attached to the bloodthirsty principles of Chartism: and you are also aware that the chief object I had in view in visiting my native country, and in addressing you through a sterling Democratic paper, was to bridge that wide and all but impassable gulf which had so long separated the English from the Irish people.

We have been designated, nay, branded as "physical-force Chartists," while I have often told you and the English people that my chief regret was that I had not a sufficient amount of physical force to overthrow tyranny and establish freedom in its stead! and believe me when I tell you that nothing so much tends to weaken a party as a silly and impotent attempt to achieve rights with a *force* which it does not possess,

You would infer from Mr. Seagrave's letter that in mine I aimed a blow at John Mitchel the patriot, whose portrait I have given with the *Northern Star*, and whose memory I honor. He assails me because I speak of achieving your rights by moral power which you cannot secure by physical power, and because I wish to see "the throne based upon the affections of the people rather than *upon the caprice of the aristocracy*." Now, I repeat those sentiments, and my words used in the House of Commons, that I care not who is upon the throne, provided the power behind the throne is greater than itself, and capable of hurling from the throne the occupant who would violate the people's rights.

Now, if I was to base my letters to you upon those principles which Mr. S. appears to approve, but could not accomplish by the means in his power, I should weaken the people's cause, and justify the dire antagonism that has been created, and successfully perpetuated, between the English and the Irish people. With so much of a preface, I now come to the consideration of the question of

universal suffrage.

I have before explained to you that Universal Suffrage was once the law of the land; and let me now show you the flimsy pretext upon which opposition to this right is based, the partial use that is now made of it, and the beneficial result to which it would lead. Opposition to Universal Suffrage is based upon the ignorance of the people, and upon their incapacity to select fit and proper persons to represent them.

To these charges I answer:

Firstly—It is their knowledge and not their ignorance that their oppressors dread, as the ignorance of a people is the tyrant's best tittle to power; and,

Secondly—If the people are ignorant, who are chargeble with the crime—whether those who are willing to learn and greedy to receive knowledge, or those who have assigned the fund intended for their maintenance and education to bloated bishops, bigoted parsons, tyrant Poor Law Commissioners, and jailers of bastiles?

Whereas, had the funds assigned to those parties by tyrant class legislation, been appropriated to their just and legitimate purpose—the education of the people—ignorance would be a crime.

Many Irishmen who have sprung from the ranks of the people, and who have commenced their educational career as poor scholars, have been the greatest ornaments of the senate, the pulpit, the bar, and the stage; and once let the Irish people be educated, and let education, and not money, constitute the basis of the franchise, and then Ireland, as of yore, would be a free and independent nation,

My countymen, If knowledge, permanent, knowledge, which must remain with the possessor, and not transitory property that may ebb and flow, gave you the right to vote one of the first Acts of Parliament, elected by the present ignorant mind of the country, would be to educate the people, as knowledge is power.

One of the chief objections to Universal Suffrage is, that it would create a ramble House of Commons—that was the objection to the Reform Bill: while, in truth, I defy you to select a greater ramble than constitutes the House at the present moment. If a recognised leader or a toadey spouts indescribable and unintelligible rubbish, he is cheered to the echo, while, if an independent member delivers a sound and eloquent speech he is "boo'd," and "bah'd."

Again, even now, both Whigs and Tories, when an election is about to take place, cater for popular support, by appealing not to the electors only, but to those whom, when they are returned, they designate the mob. And have you ever reflected upon this strange anomaly, as regards the present system? Upon the day of nomination electors and non-electors attend—the show of hands is declared in favour of the popular candidate—the returning officer announces him to be duly elected, and he remains the representative of the majority of the people until their will and their voice is overpowered, extinguished, and crushed, by an insignificant minority of voters.

My countrymen, if you had Universal Suffrage to-morrow you would have laws based upon the knowledge, the wisdom, and the discretion of the majority of a well-educated people. You would have no thieves, no drunkards, no prostitutes—all born with propensities which may be nurtured into virtues, or thwarted into vices, according to their training; there would then be no sympathy for the criminal convicted of violating laws which he had his share in making; whereas the criminal now—and justly—is looked upon as the victim of class-legislation.

If the tool of a Member of Parliament can secure a situation for his son, as an exciseman, or any other office which requires a certain description of education—and if want of that education is the only barrier that stands in his way, the father will soon inform the patron that the son can speedily be *educationally qualified, while for seventy long years* want of education has been urged as the curse of your disqualification.

My countrymen, only think of the folly, the absurdity—nay, the injustice, of a highly-intellectual man voting out of a house at this election, and from a reverse of fortune, being ousted out of that house at the next election, still possessing his knowledge, but deprived of his vote.

If you had Universal Suffrage, all the channels would be so opened, that the reservoir would be pure, and no one could attempt bribery or corruption. No theorist could then excite you to madness by a flaming hustings oration, or high-flown pledges of patriotism and nationality. Instead of that antagonism which now exists, instead of legitimate disloyalty which is now manifested towards the present system, every freeman would fly to the cry of "My cottage and my country is in danger." Every hamlet would be a sentry-box, and every peasant a volunteer, when he had rights to defend, and property to protect.

Then those who create wealth would have a share in its legitimate distribution—then the rich would become richer, and the poor rich, when the owners of the raw material—Land—which is God's gift to man, saw the necessity of measuring its value by increased produce, by the application of increased labour, instead of by the standard of patronage. Then the resources of the country would be so developed, that nature's pap would be opened to nature's children; there would be peace, plenty, happiness, and prosperity reigning throughout the land; then the industrious Irishman, foully calumniated as a willing idler, would not be compelled to abandon his native country, in quest of some foreign refuge, where he may save himself and family from the grasp of the tyrant landlord, the bloated bigot, and the law's persecution. Then you would require no bloated buffoons dressed like monkeys at a show, with coal-scuttles upon their heads, paid by you, for shooting or stabbing your order—nay, perhaps your friends or family—no spies, detectives, or informers—no bludgeon-men, no jailers, no hang men, no Poor Law bastiles—not one law for the rich, and another for the poor, by whose construction there is more danger to the peasant that shoots the squire's hare, than to the squire that *shoots the* peasant's head.

Let me, in conclusion, give you the most graphic illustration of the present system. Many years ago, when the late Earl Fitzwilliam offered himself as candidate for the West Riding of Yorkshire, a clodpole *in the crowd interrupted him with a question*,

The noble Lord observed—"What do you know about *making laws?*"

"Nout," replied the clodpole; "I know nout about making shoes, either; but I know d—d well *that when a chap makes a pair that pinches my toes*, he shall make no more for me; and I know thy laws have pinched me."

"Is that all you know about it?" rejoined the noble Lord.

"No," replied the clodpole; "I know that all the stuff in the world was made for all the folk in the world, and that I han't my share of it."

Let me now give you another graphic illustration of the present system. When Church and State were very much in dread of Chartist principles, in 1842, a Right Reverend Father in God, who stood in dreadful awe of Chartism, waited upon a very intelligent shoemaker who took an active part in the Chartist movement. The Right Rev. Bishop *had been dissipated in youth*, and was not blessed with a family, though he fleeced a large flock. He called upon the shoemaker, and said—

"Daniel, I understand you are a Chartist. I am astonished that so intelligent a man as you could lend yourself to such an agitation. Are you not aware that God never created a mouth in this world *that* he did not create wherewithal to put into it?"

Daniel had ten children, and replied, "Yea, my lord, I know that well; but the difference lies here—God Almighty sent all the mouths to my shop, and Parliament sent all the meat to thine!"

Now let me ask you, if the man of twenty-one years of age who opposes *Universal* Suffrage does not vote himself a fool, and does not give an unmistakable approval of the present system, which makes him a pauper—and, *is he not*, therefore, a self-created pauper, and a willing slave, an enemy to his home, to his family, and to his country's interest?

My countrymen, at the foot of this letter you will read three letters written to me by that glorious young patriot, Meagher, from that dungeon to which treachery, deception, enthusiasm, injustice, and tyranny consigned him.

Your faithful friend and countryman,
Feargus O'Connor.

London, Dec., 1849.

LETTERS OF T. F. MEAGHER, ESQ.

Richmond Prison, Dublin, April 23, 1849.

My Dear Feargus O'Connor,—I have been a long time promising myself the pleasure of writing you a few lines, to thank you for the very kind interest you have taken in me, and the generous zeal you have manifested in behalf of the State Prisoners of '48.

To many claims, however, upon my gratefullesteem, you have lately added one more, which to my mind possesses a peculiar weight and value; you have 'brought out' the very best likeness that has yet appeared of me. All my friends are delighted with it. The execution of it, too, is very beatiful, and has been greatly admired.

We are all quite well here, and in right good spirits, for it will always be to us a source of happiness to feel that we are undergoing some slight punishment for our love of the old country. Should a heavier punishment be in store for us, we shall meet it not only with light, but with proud hearts. Next to battling for the right, the best thing is suffering for it, and next to a victory, a sacrifice conduces most to the progress and the glory of any great cause.

When you see Mr. ——, and Mr. ——, both of whom I had the pleasure of meeting on Patrick's Day twelvemonth, at the house of the former, being introduced there by you, will you kindly remember me to them? As a little *souvenir* of my esteem and friendship, I enclose for each of them a copy of the words I spoke in Clonmel, and you must accept one for yourself.

Believe me, my dear Feargus O'Connor, your sincere and much esteemed Friend,

Thomas Francis Meagher.

To Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P.

Richmond Prison, June 6, 1849.

My dear Feargus O'Connor,—You will have seen before these few lines reach you that our fate has been decided. We are to leave the country (probably to-morrow night) as convicts for Van Diemen's Land.

I wish to bid you an affectionate farewell, and to thank you, as I sincerely and most gratefully do, for the deep sympathy you have felt for me, and the efforts to defend my name and conduct you have so generously and bravely made. May the good God, in whose justice all oppressed nations repose their trust, protect, aid, and, with his Almighty arm, exalt the cause of Freedom, which you have served so long and faithfully; and may you live to witness its triumph the reward of the sacrifices you have made in its behalf.

This, my dear, excellent friend, is the sincere prayer of one who glories in the proud thought that the first days of his youth have been devoted to the struggle of his country; *and that, failing in that struggle, he was doomed to be removed far*, far from his old home in testimony of the love with which he clung to it, and the sincerity with which he strove to render her honourable before all nations—a benefactress and a glory to humanity.

Be so good as to hand the enclosed to that noble-hearted Englishman, Mr. ———.

And ever believe me to remain,
My dear Feargus O'Connor,
Wheresoever my lot may be cast,
Your sincere and affectionate young friend,
Thomas Francis Meagher

To Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P.

Richmond Prison, July 5th, 1849.

My Dear Feargus O'Connor,—I have this moment received your very kind letters, and feel most grateful to you for these, as for your former proofs of interest in my welfare, and the affectionate sympathy with which you regard my fate.

I have hardly time enough to write these lines—few as they are, and must conclude with the assurance that my esteem and friendship for you, will be as enduring as the love I cherish for my country and the darling hope I entertain of her eventual happiness and independence.

Believe me, my dear Feargus O'Connor,
Ever to remain your faithful, warm friend,
Thomas Francis Meagher.

To Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P.

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ., M.P.

Dear Sir,—I enclose half-a-crown's worth of postage stamps, to help you to pay off the money that you have borrowed to pay Macnamara's cost of action. Sir, I am sorry that the Chartists in general did not take your advice; you have often told us to be prepared with a defence fund; if we had done so, we would, by this time, be with a fund that would make the *government* tremble, for money is the strength of the law. Sir, I am sorry that you have to pay so much, and get nothing but abuse for it, from them that you have served the most; but be of good cheer, for you will have your reward. I wish you long life to see your labours crowned with joy. I hope Mr. Duncombe will be able to help you this session.

I remain, your well-wisher, and old guard, for the "Charter and no Surrender."

Thomas Paris, Blacksmith.

Cold Bath, Greenwich, Dec. 19, 1849.

Liberation of Chartist Prisoners from Horsemonger-lane Gaol. — On Wednesday afternoon three of the Chartist prisoners, convicted at the Old Bailey, in 1848, were liberated by order of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, from Horsemonger-lane Gaol, were they have been incarcerated fourteen months. Their names are William Poole, Thomas Irons, and Thomas Herbert. They were apprehended in a public-house in Webber-street, Blackfriars-road, and were tried at the Old Bailey Sessions in October, 1848, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment in Horsemonger-lane Goal, and at the expiration of that period to find good bail for their future conduct during five years. The Secretary of State commuted their sentence to fourteen months' imprisonment, which expired on Wednesday; and the required sureties being approved of by the Secretary for the Home Department, they were brought to the Southwark police court by Mr. Keene, the governor of the gaol; and the necessary formalities being gone through before the magistrate, they were immediately liberated, and were joined by their families and a number of anxious friends.

Trades Union Conspiracy at Sheffield.—At the York assizes on Wednesday, Cornelius Minor, 26, John Cundy, 21, Daniel Wilkin, 35, John Glossop, 38, George Pickering, 25, Thomas Ratcliffe, 2[illegible], Thomas Cartwright, 21, and William Windle, 38, were indicted for having, on the 11th of July last, at Sheffield, unlawfuly conspired to force and compel two men named Joseph and William Snape, against their will and with violence to their persons and *property*, to attend a meeting of the "Table-knife Grinders' Union," for the purpose of raising money for the support of the said association.—After the examination of two or three witnesses, Mr. Justice Williams suggested the adoption of a course which would meet the justice of the case. That course was, that the prosecutors should overlook the violence done to them, and that all the defendants should plead guilty, and give security for their good conduct in future, by entering into their own recognizances of £20 each, to appear and receive judgment when called upon. The counsel on both sides were ready to accede to this proposition, and it was accordingly acted upon.

The Late Epidemic.—From returns just published, it appears that the number of deaths from cholera in Paris amounted to 10,950, or, including those dying in the civil and military hospitals, to 20,000. The most fatal month was June, when 5,769 perished. In London the most fatal month was September, when 6,644 fell victims.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has presented to the Assembly the bill relative to the Associations for Mutual Relief, as proposed and drawn up by the President of the Republic. This project differs a good deal from that which has already come under the consideration of the Assembly. It introduces the intervention of the government in the foundation and developement of these associations. The donation proposed by the bill is 1,000,000f. per annum, comprised in the ordinary estimates of the Minister of Commerce, and forming a special fund for relief and the basis for contributions of a voluntary kind. The object of the new associations is thus defined:—'*Relief to operatives* rendered unable by wounds or sickness to pursue their ordinary avocations, and the defraying the funeral expenses of deceased members of the association.' Three systems are concurrently suggested for the benefit of the working classes—one, the creation of a savings bank, where the operative shall deposit his savings to support him when out of employment; a *caisse de retraites*, formed also of his savings, and destined to his maintenance when rendered unable by old age to earn his livelihood; and a *caisse des secours mutuels*, in the event of illness, or wounds, incapacitating him for labour. With respect to the first, the state leaves the operative at perfect liberty to transfer his savings to such a fund or not, as he may think proper. As to the second, the state induces him to contribute to its support by the attraction of premiums after a certain specified period. In the third the action of the state is more sensibly felt. Every association of mutual relief must, with a view to a legal authorisation, have one co-associate for every four operatives belonging to the association, who will perform a portion of the duty without participation in its benefits. The government engages to obtain the intervention of all over whom it has influence in every class of society. In order to give greater weight and authority to the establishments the President of the Association will be named by the President of the Republic.

The Court of Cassation rejected on Thursday the appeal of the members of the Association, termed, '*La Solidarite Republicaine*,' against a decision of the Inferior Court, by which they were sent for trial before the Court of Assize for Paris.

A letter from Foix, of the 12th inst., states that M. Armand Marrast is canvassing the department of the Ariege, where a vacancy has been created in the representation by the conviction of M. Pilhes, a representative of the people, before the High Court of Justice at Versailles.

Accounts from Perigueux of the 7th inst. mention that a captain of the National Guard of that town has been condemned by the Court of Assize of the Dordogne for having with a number of Socialists cried '*Vive la guillotine*.'

The 'Moniteur' contains a decree by which the last six battalions of the Mobile Guard are to be disbanded on the 31st inst.

If we are well informed, says the 'Constitutionnel' government intends to subject to a kind of military organisation a certain number of functions in the lower ranks of the administrative hierarchy, such as those of rural postmen, *gardes champetres*, *cantonniers*, and some others whose nomination being within the attributes of the local authorities, places the nominee in a situation of isolation which deprives him of all kinds of advancement, whatever may be his intelligence or good services. In future government will dispose of the greater number of these places in favour of old soldiers.

This is a serious measure in pursuance of the centralising system. Louis Napoleon is evidently bent in carrying out his plan of gathering all the reigns of authority into his own hands. We shall soon see nominations of gamekeepers inserted in the 'Moniteur'—Snooks (I know no equivalent in French) to be gamekeeper, vice Snooks, dismissed.

A letter from Toulouse, of the 15th inst., announces the acquittal, by a jury of that town, of MM. Janot, Luset, Berruyer, Villa, Foust, Forcade, Baillard, and Salles, prosecuted for having conspired to overthrow the government.

A letter from Chalons sur-Saone states that the acquittal of the political prisoners of that town, pronounced by the Court of Assizes of the Cote-d'Or, gave rise a few days back to some disturbance. Some of the men who were acquitted being expected by the railway a number of persons collected about four o'clock to receive them. Only one of them, however, arrived, but he was greeted with loud cries of *Vive la Republique Democratique et Sociale!* The crowd shortly after separated, but re-assembled about eight o'clock in the evening, singing revolutionary songs, and crying out *A bas les Blancs! Vivent les Rouges!* The Sub-Prefect, the Procureur of the Republique, and the Colonel of the 22nd Regiment of the line, immediately acted in concert, and the crowd was dispersed. Calm was restored, and it was supposed that the town again enjoyed tranquillity, when about midnight cries of *A bas les Blancs! Vivent les Rouges!* were heard near the Lyons gate. The men so offending were arrested, and the town of Chalons then remained quiet for the rest of the night.

The 'Courrier d'Auvergne' states that an attempt at riot was made last week at Trevol (Allier,) with cries of *Vive la Republique Sociale, A bas les Blancs!* A judicial inquiry into the matter has commenced.

Taxation.—During the past week there has been a protracted debate in the Legislative Assembly, on the excise tax on spirituous liquors, which, it will be recollected, was repealed by the Constituent Assembly. After an animated discussion, the Chamber came to a division on Monday, and decided to take into consideration the clauses of the Ministerial bill, for re-imposing the tax for a limited period, by 445 to 229.

A letter from Belle Isle states that at the departure of the last detachment of the prisoners who had been amnestied, the remaining prisoners broke out into open revolt, because they also had not the benefit of the amnesty. They shouted 'Vive la Republique democratique et sociale,' and began to break down the woodwork of their rooms. Colonel Pierre, in command, called out the garrison and arrested ten of the ringleaders. The other prisoners then discontinued their riotous proceedings. One of the ten who had been arrested attempted to make his escape, was shot dead.

ITALY.

Rome, Dec. 7.—M. D. Corcellus has returned to Rome from Portici, and positively announces that M. Baraguay d'Hillier's mission has been unsuccessful. The Pope, he says, will not return to Rome. The cause assigned, he adds, by the carmarilli, is the fear of a *coup d'etat* in Paris. It is generally supposed that M. Baraguay d'Hilliers will send in his resignation.

Letters of the 1st, from Verona, announce an aggravation of the state of siege in consequence of frequent conflicts between the Austrian soldiery and the people both of the town and country, who were exasperated beyond bounds at their insolence. It was forbidden by a proclamation to sing or cry out in the streets; places of public resort were closed at ten; the patrols and sentries were enjoined, upon occasions of the least insult, to make use of their arms. The opening of the Teatro Filarmonico is put off for a month. There, also, the cold was exceedingly severe; the heights about the city were covered with snow; the Adige rolled down large fragments of ice.

The little Republic of San Marino is occupied by Austrian troops.

Letters from Terracina state, that 4,000 of the Spanish troops in the Roman States embarked for Spain on the 5th. The remainder (3,000) were to follow.

Accounts from Rome of the 8th state, that the contracts for the provisions of the French army have been renewed for three months.

PIEDMONT. — From Turin, the news of the 13th inst. is, that, out of 168 known elections, the conservatives had obtained 101, the remainder being for the radicals and the Left and Left Centre. Twelve elections in Piedmont were still unknown, and those of Sardinia Proper were not yet published. The 'Concordia' states that M. Pinelli is appointed ambassador at Madrid.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Vienna, Dec. 10.—There was posted about Vienna to-day a placard announcing three sentences against fugitive offenders by the court-martial. One of these sentences was death by the rope, which was executed this morning, upon a figure stuffed with straw, a gallows being erected for this purpose on the glacis before the Neuther, where the murderers of Latour suffered. The name of the condemned, Kuchenbacher, was inscribed upon a tablet affixed to the gibbet. The two others, Unterschill and Redl, were condemned to twelve years' imprisonment, with hard labour, in heavy irons, and fifteen years' imprisonment in a fortress. All three were officers in the Austrian service. Unterschill is accused of having taken part in the murder of Latour. The heavier sentence against Kuchenbacher was motived by his having been brought up at the cost of the state, and joined, after his flight, the 'rebels' in Baden.

According to the 'Lloyd's' correspondence from Pesth Paul Nyary has been set at liberty.

The 'Prag,' an evening paper of Prague, was suppressed on the 7th. On the day before five students were arrested.

Anarchical Results of 'the Triumph of Order.'—Symptoms of the humour with which the Servians receive their new Woiwodina are already manifested in Syrmia. Letters of the 25th represent that country in a state of complete anarchy. The Banal commissioner and magistrates exercise no control whatever over the lawless multitude, and shrink intimidated from the assertion of their authority. The still existing Servian commission has sent instructions to the county authorities to receive no command but theirs, not even those which are issued from Vienna. In Csalma the imperal dragoons were refused teams for draught; and when these were seized by force, the inhabitants fired on the soldiers, and a sanguinary conflict ensued. At Kuma quarters were refused to a squadron of cavalry, who thereupon stormed the houses on which they were billeted.

TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

Constantinople, Nov. 27.—Diplomatic relations still continue suspended between Turkey and Russia. The Porte refused to consent to the expulsion of the Polish refugees established in this country previous to the late movement in Hungary, but the Turkish ministers recognise the right given to the Czar by the Treaty of Kutchuki Kiardju to demand the expulsion of Dembinski and his companions. The note of the Sultan's government to M. de Titoff written in this sense has been forwarded by the Russian envoy to St. Petersburgh. This note has been approved of by the French and English ambassadors. Sir Stratford Canning and Gen. Aupick both seem very anxious for the settlement of the present question. They have had more than one conference with M. de Titoff, and used what arguments they thought best suited to smooth the way towards a renewal of the friendly relations between the Porte and the cabinet of St. Petersburgh. The Russian minister said that, though he felt the force of the reasons put forward by Sir Stratford canning and General Aupick, he could take no step in the matter till he had received fresh instructions from his government. The Porte, as well as the French and English ambassadors, see in M. de Titoff's conduct nothing but a wish to gain time. The Russian envoy and his government knew full well that the Porte had no objection to expel Dembinski and his friends from the Ottoman territory; but that the expulsion of other Polish refugees established here since the revolution 1830 would be refused. The last demand of M. de Titoff was made in such a way that it was impossible for the Sultan's ministers to understand whether he wished for the expulsion of all Polish refugees or only those who had taken part in the late war in Hungary. M. de Titoff pretends that he is in the same state of uncertainty, and that the vagueness which the Porte observed in his demand, was simply the consequence of the nature of the instructions which he had received from St. Petersburgh. In the conferences which the Russian envoy had with the English and French ambassadors, he said it was simply the doubtful nature of his instructions which prevented him from accepting the reply of the Porte and renewing diplomatic relations. He also spoke in the same sense to the Grand Vizier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Porte and their allies are seriously annoyed by the conduct of the Czar and his envoy. It can scarcely be called duplicity on the part of the Emperor and his representative, for the veil which covers their real motives is very transparent. No answer can be received to the note of the Porte, which M. de Titoff has forwarded to St. Petersburgh, till the middle of next month. And when the answer does arrive it will not be difficult to find fresh means for keeping the present question unsettled till the end of spring. The Emperor is playing a safe game. He has sown the seeds of discontent amongst the rayah population of Turkey, and his agents are still daily occupied with the same work. His hopes of a disunion between England and France are still lively, if we are are to believe information which has reached Constantinople from a high source; and the latter object once attained the Czar would find in the heart of Turkey itself materials for the ruin of this empire.

The 'Constitutionnel' says that it is assured that a courier arrived the day before yesterday in Paris, with the news of the conclusion at Constantinople of a treaty putting an end to the Turco-Russian dispute, and that after being signed by MM. Titoff and Stürmer, it was sent for ratification to Vienna and St. Petersburgh.

ALGERIA.

The 'Moniteur Algerien' of the 10th announces that after the capture of Zaatcha, all the tribes of Ziban, who had been waiting the issue, hastened to the camp of General Herbillion to give hostages for their submission, and for the payment of fines inflicted on them. Colonel Daumas, after having established the French authority in Bou Cada, and among the neighbouring fractions of the Ouled Nails, had sent force against the Ouled-Ameur-ben-Feradj, owing to the unsatisfactory replies they had made to his demands; and on the 29th ultimo an engagement took place at Djebel-Messad, which ended by the defeat of the enemy, and by their tents and great part of their flocks falling into the possession of the French, after which they made their submission. The loss of the French in the affair was only a few killed and wounded. The defeat of the Ouled-Ameur-ben- Feradj, joined to the taking of Zaatcha, caused such a profound impression, that another important fraction of the same tribe, which had been resisting, made its submission also.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have received Cape of Good Hope news to the 27th of October, brought by the Windsor. They abound with reports of meetings held to protest against the colony being made a penal settlement. The convicts still remain on board the Neptune, in Simon's Bay. The anti-Convict Association are determined to carry out the 'pledge,' and will listen to no compromise—no middle course; their united cry is, 'Send the Neptune away!' and nothing short of it will satisfy the members or the colony at large.

At a meeting at Worcester, a resolution was passed entreating his Excellency to send the Neptune immediately from the shore, as the only means of restoring the colony to its former peace and prosperity;' but (continued the resolution) 'should the base design of Earl Grey be persevered in, we will rather offer our last drop of blood than that this colony should be degraded to become a penal settlement.' Those shopkeepers who have taken the 'pledge' have their shutters partially closed, as a demonstration of respect to public grief, while those who remain entirely open are avowed and abandoned by their regular customers. Such is the substance of the principal news conveyed by the above vessel.

INDIA AND CHINA.

Bombay, Nov. 17.—The present mail is unusually barren; there is scarcely an event which will prove interesting to the English reader. The health of the Marquis of Dalhousie is said to be still further failing him, and it is not thought probable he may, at the end of next month, bid adieu to India. When last heard of, he was on his way from Simla towards the provinces, whence he would visit Lahore, and probably Peshawur, thence descending the Indus to Kurrachee, taking a look at Mooltan on the way.

Conflicts with Pirates. — Hong Kong, Oct. 30.—The proceedings of the pirates, our interference, and the extensive slaughter committed by the guns of our ships-of-war, are the topics of general conversation amongst the Chinese. Her Majesty's ships Fury and Columbine have had an affair with a large fleet. Just prior to the departure of the last mail to Europe the Columbine was sent after some pirates who were reported to have landed and destroyed the town of Tays-ami. This fleet consisted of thirteen; two of the largest junks kept up a rapid fire with the Columbine during the night. In the morning the chase was continued, and the pirates made towards shore, but were cut off by the steamer Canton, the captain of which vessel was in search after the Coquette, and seeing the manœuvre of the junks, he immediately steamed between them and the shore. The Canton took the Columbine in tow, carrying her near the largest of the junks: during the chase the Columbine got on shore, and the junk anchored near two small forts. The Columbine's boats were lowered and manned, for the purpose of cutting the junk out, the boats being under the command of Lietenant Bridges. After having exhausted their ammunition, it was resolved to board the junk, in which operation several of the pirates were driven overboard. Mr. Midshipman Goddard, observing a man going down the hold with a lighted match in his hand, followed, but before this officer could overtake the man an explosion took place. On the first appearance of the smoke Lieut. Bridges jumped overboard, dragging a seaman with him, by which means both escaped unhurt. Two marines and one seaman were killed, and eight wounded. Mr. Goddard was mortally wounded, and died on his way to Hong Kong. Of the crew of the junk (about ninety) it is said that only one escaped. The Canton, with the wounded, was despatched to Hong Kong, accompanied by a request for assistance to pursue the main body of the fleet, which was much too strong for the Columbine. In two hours notice the Fury was under steam, and proceeded to the assistance of the Columbine to a place called Mirs Bay, about seventy miles distant from Hong Kong. The piratical fleet was observed at anchor, with flags flying at their mast heads and the crews dressed for the occasion. The Columbine keeping to seaward, the Fury proceeded towards the junks, and, approaching the latter, they opened a deadly fire, which was unheeded and not a single shot returned from the Fury, which vessel steamed at twelve knots through the entire fleet until she got between the pirates and the shore, when, having cut off all chance of escape, the Fury anchored. The Fury's bulwarks were thrown down, and the guns opened upon the junks, throwing shells with such precision that scarcely one failed in its object. By noon fourteen of the largest junks were burning. As the junks were firing, the crews were seen to land and escape over the heights, carrying the wounded with them. Parties of marines from the Fury succeeded in shooting a few of these runaways. A wounded man was taken out of the water; he said the shell which took away his leg struck ten other pirates, including their chiefs, Chui-Apoo; the latter was wounded in the back, but managed to escape on shore.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ANTI-CONVICT MOVEMENT AT SYDNEY.

We have seen the result of the anti-convict movement at the Cape—a triumph over the Colonial Secretary after passive resistance and a novel kind of rebellion by starving her Majesty's public officers and troops as well as seamen.

By the last file of newspapers from Sydney we are informed of the manner in which the Secretary of State for the Colonies is respected in New South Wales, and it would appear prudent in a wise government to remove from office a man who has, by his public acts, so thoroughly and so generally disgusted the population of our colonies. Demerara has been for the last three years in a state of rebellion and of great hostility to Earl Grey, having refused the supplies called for by his tool, Governor Barkley. Ceylon has been subjected to military law, *i.e.* 'the abrogation of all civil rights,' by the governor, Lord Torrington, who has acted under orders of Earl Grey and has received the sanction of her Majesty to the hanging and shooting of the unfortunate inhabitants of that fine island, which has been rendered a scene of barbarous military executions and banishment.

The approbation of Earl Grey to the atrocious conduct of More O'Ferrall at Malta, in refusing an asylum to the unfortunate patriots from Rome, has disgusted every thinking Englishman!

The proceedings at the Cape ought to put to shame Earl Grey and all his colleagues—the violation of public faith on the part of Earl Grey did excite an expression of disgust to an extent that we believe has never before been manifested by the inhabitants of any British colony towards a British Secretary of State; and the triumph of the inhabitants, after their union against Sir Harry Smith and his troops, is an event that will be related in every British colony, and held out as an example of the course to be adopted against all worthless proceedings of the Colonial-office.

We annex an extract from the 'Launceston Examiner' that expresses very forcibly the position of Earl Grey in the hearts of the inhabitants of Sydney.

At a public meeting, in the open air, of 6,000 persons, the chairman of the meeting stated that, 'in defiance of all good faith, they had a large detachment of convicts poured in upon them;' and Dr. Aaron, the first speaker, stated that 'Earl Grey had been guilty of tyranny and faithlessness,' and the meeting came unanimously to the following resolutions:—

'That considering the arbitrary and faithless manner in which this colony has been treated by the Right Honourable Earl Grey, this meeting most humbly prays her Majesty to remove that nobleman from her Majesty's counsels.'

'That it is indispensable to the well being of this colony, and to the satisfactory conduct of its affairs, that its government should no longer be administered by the remote, ill-informed, and irresponsible Colonial-office, but by ministers chosen from, and responsible to, the colinists themselves, in accordance with the principles of the British constitution.'

'That considering the discourtesy shown by his Excellency the Governor to the former meeting and to its deputation, this meeting abstains from appointing a deputation to wait upon his Excellency with the preceding resolutions and address (which merely embodied the resolutions,) but requests the chairman to transmit them to him, with a written request that his Excellency will be pleased to forward them to her Majesty the Queen for her gracious consideration.'

The example of the United States is now held up at all the meetings in the colonies, as proper to be adopted against the mal-administration of Earl Grey; and responsible government is now everywhere demanded. We think it time for Lord J. Russell and his colleagues to attend to the signs of the times.

The Body and Papers of Mr. Kennedy, who perished in exploring the north-eastern portion of Australia, have been found. A correspondent of the 'Athenæum' has forwarded an extract from a letter written on board the 'Harbinger,' a vessel which sailed in company with the 'Freak,' in pursuit of these objects. 'On arriving at the place we armed two boats'-crews. They went ashore, and were successful in finding and obtaining the papers, and burying Mr. Kennedy without any bloodshed. This was much to be wondered at; but it was chiefly owing to the wise measure of Captain Simpson, of the 'Harbinger,' who ordered the men to fire a volley over the heads of the Indians while they were in ambush. This had the desired effect; for no sooner did they hear the report of the muskets than they were off, at a quicker pace than our people cared to follow them.' It will be seen, that nothing is said of the three men left by Mr. Kennedy at Melbourne-bay, whose recovery (though against hope) was one of the objects with which the 'Freak' was commissioned.

UNITED STATES.

The recent attack of the London 'Times' on the credit of the state of Alabama, has excited much resentment among its inhabitants. We certainly are a very thin skinned people, and a sour English paragraph is noticed and commented on in all parts of our country. It appears by an official report, just made to the Alabama legislature, that the foreign debt is diminished from nine millions to five millions of dollars, and the interest now to be provided for by taxation is only three hundred thousand dollars. The state has also promptly paid the interest of her debt, and intends to do so till the principal is extinguished. We cannot conceive why the 'Times' is so rabid in its articles on the financial affairs of this country. It is doing more to disturb the peaceful relations of Great Britain and the United States than can well be imagined abroad. It is rousing a feeling of resentment as bitter as it is inoppertune, and if neither the good sense of the English people, nor the admonitions of its friends in high places, can check its rancour, they will before they know it enjoy the satisfaction of having to pay a few more millions of pounds sterling, for an angry adjustment of future controversies, arising solely from the bad temper, and the injurious aspersions of half a dozen violent newspaper writers.

'I sent you,' writes the correspondent of the 'Daily News,' 'per last steamer, an account of a small affair in Mosquita, where a party of Americans having been robbed and maltreated by the negroes, mustered force enough to attack and destroy a town by way of revenge. Let me say, on the authority of a highly respectable person who was in the squabble, that the American side of the story will be found worth listening to. The British agents are endeavouring to make a dreadful case of it, but '*audi alteram partem*.' A very respectable Scotchman, long resident in that part of the world, called on me on Saturday, and I learned from him, that since the Americans have appeared on the San Juan, very great and favourable changes have already taken place. Large quantities of houses and lumber have been sent up the San Juan in schooners which have been able to get up within forty miles of the lake.'

California a free State.—The steamer Empire City arrived at New York, on the 11th inst. She brings intelligence of the holding of a Convention to form a Constitution for California. The Convention commenced business on the 4th of September, by choosing Robert Semple, of the District of Sonora, President. The members took the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. Some were opposed to organising a State government; but a majority of the Convention were of a different opinion, and the objectors gave way. The vote stood eight to twenty-eight. The first section of the Constitution affirms, in the words of the preamble to the Declaration of Independence, 'that all men are by nature free,' &c. The seventeenth section refers to slavery, and is thus explicitly worded:—'Neither slavery, nor Involuntary Servitude, unless as a Punishment of Crime, shall ever be tolerated in this State.'—So far satisfactory. But how speedily do the Californians forget their assertion about the equality of all men! They no sooner set about settling the suffrage question, than they begin forthwith to contradict themselves. Indians, Africans, and descendants of Africans, are specially excepted, as not to be allowed the right to vote, or, of course, in any way to interfere with the measures of government. Thus is the coloured man, go where he will, under the flag of the United States, insulted and degraded. We are thankful, however, for the clause prohibiting slavery. This is the result of the large emigration from the Free States. It is probably different from what was anticipated by our slaveholding government. The South, no doubt, hoped to extend her patriarchial reign over the territory. In this, Calhoun and company are disappointed. Slavery will not be permitted in California.—'North Star.'—(We observe in the Washington correspondence of the New York 'Tribune' a statement to the effect, that Mr. Calhoun will resist the admission of California as a state into the Union, with a restriction of slavery as a part of its organio law. He takes the ground that California has no right to exclude slaves, and thereby exclude slave-holders from her soil, the sovereignty over which belonged to every citizen of the United States, and must be exercised by their representatives in Congress. We may expect a tough contest therefore on this question in Congress at the ensuing session.

HORRIBLE MURDER AT BOSTON, UNITED STATES.

The American papers are filled with accounts of a horrible and mysterious tragedy at Boston, which had created very great excitement. We extract the following from the many and various accounts published.

The mysterious disappearance of Dr. George Parkman, of Boston, had been a theme of comment in that city for some days. He left his residence on a Friday, and was not heard of until the Friday following. Meanwhile, a reward of 4,000 dollars was offered for his discovery.

(From The 'Boston Evening Transcript,' Dec. 1.)

'Since last evening our whole population has been in a state of the greatest possible excitement in consequence of the astounding rumour that the body of Dr. Parkman has been discovered, and that Dr. John W. Webster, professor of chemistry in the Medical school of Harvard College, and a gentleman connected by marriage with some of our most distinguished families, has been arrested and imprisoned on suspicion of being the murderer. Incredulity, then amazement, and the blank, unspeakable horror, have been the emotions, which have agitated the public mind as the rumour has gone on, gathering countenance and confirmation. Never, in the annals of crime in Massachusetts, has such a sensation been produced. The principal reasons for the suspicions assigned are as follows:—Dr. Parkman held a note for 450 dollars against Professor Webster, which had long been overdue, and upon which, although it was secured by a mortgage of some real estate in East Cambridge, the doctor had several times importuned for the money, and been from time to time put off. At length he applied to the officer who disposed of the tickets for Professor Webster's course of lectures, to know if there was a sufficient balance due for the professor to take up his note. This circumstance is said to have greatly incensed Professor Webster, who, on Friday morning of last week, called at Dr. Parkman's house, No. 8, Walnut-street, and left word 'if he (Dr. Parkman) wanted his money on that mortgage, to call at the Medical College about one o'clock that afternoon.'—The doctor is known to have proceeded to the College at the time specified—was seen to enter by several persons in the vicinity; but was never seen to come out.

'It is said Professor Webster admits that Dr. Parkman was at the College about the time mentioned, and that, although he asserts he paid him the 450 dollars, he cannot show a receipt for it—when it is well known that Dr. Parkman was very methodical in his business matters. It is also stated, that during the whole of the past week, Professor Webster has kept himself very secluded — that his rooms at the College have been kept constantly locked — circumstances quite unusual with him. From these and other alleged facts, such suspicions were aroused that, in the professor's absence last evening, Mr. Ephraim Littlefield, who has the care of the College building and grounds, was induced to break the partition wall to the vault under the private laboratory of Professor Webster, in the basement of the building, and there discovered one leg and a portion of the trunk of a human corpse, in a condition which made it apparent that the remains had not long been there deposited. The discovery, with the fact that Professor Webster is not an anatomist or surgeon, but simply a chemist, and having nothing professionally to do with the dissection of bodies, was sufficient to give rise to the astounding suspicion that Dr. Parkman had thus been most foully and diabolically murdered. Professor Webster was accordingly arrested at his residence in Cambridge, by officers Clapp and Rice, and lodged in Leverett-street gaol last night to await further developement. We learn that a further and a thorough investigation was made in the professor's laboratory this morning, when in the ashes of his furnace were found pieces of bone from the skull and other parts of a man's head, together with several false teeth, some coat buttons, and some grains of gold, apparently from a watch melted down. On the stairs leading from the laboratory to the lecture-room above, were found spots made by a strong acid capable of destroying marks of blood which might have been there spilled, or of almost instantly consuming the flesh, if thrown upon the person. It is known that Dr. Parkman carried a gold watch and wore some artificial teeth; but as yet we do not learn that any real identification has been made concerning these articles, or of the portion of the body found.'

TRY ERE YOU DESPAIR.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Cure of Asthma.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Benjamin Mackie, a respectable Quaker, dated Creenagh, near Loughall, Ireland, dated September 11th, 1848.

Respected Friend,—Thy excellent pills have effectually cured me of an asthma which afflicted me for three years to such an extent that I was obliged to walk my room at night for air, afraid of being suffocated if I went to bed by cough and phlegm. Besides taking the pills I rubbed plenty of thy Ointment into my chest night and morning.—(Signed) Benjamin Mackie.—To Professor Holloway.

Cure of Typhus Fever when supposed to be at the Point of Death.

A respectable female in the neighbourhood of Loughall was attacked with typhus fever, and lay for five days without having tasted any description of food. She was given over by the surgeon, and preparations were made for her demise. Mr. Benjamin Mackie the Quaker, whose case is referred to above, heard of the circumstance, and knowing the immense benefit that he himself had derived from Holloway's Pills, recommended an immediate trial, and eight were given to her, and the same number was continued night and morning for three days, and in a very short time she was completely cured.

N.B.—From advice just received, it appears that Colonel Dear, who is with his regiment in India, the 21st Fusiliers cured himself of a very bad attack of fever by these celebrated Pills. There is no doubt that any fever, however malignant, may be cured by taking, night and morning, copious doses of this medicine. The patient should be induced to drink plentifully of warm linseed tea or barley water.

Cure of Dropsy in the Chest.

Extract of a Letter from J. S. Mundy, Esq., dated Kennington, near Oxford, December 2nd, 1848.

Sir,—My shepherd for some time was afflicted with water on the chest, when I heard of it I immediately advised him to try your pills, which he did, and was perfectly cured, and is now as well as ever he was in his life. As I myself received so astonishing a cure last year from your pills and Ointment, it has ever since been my most earnest endeavour to make known their excellent qualities.—(Signed)—S. Mundy.—To Professor Holloway.

Cure of a Debilitated Constitution.

Mr. Mate, a storekeeper, of Gundagai, New South Wales, had been for some time in a most delicate state of health, his constitution was so debilitated that his death was shortly looked upon by himself and friends as certain; but as a forlorn hope, he was induced to try Holloway's pills, which had an immediate and surprising effect upon his system, and the result was to restore him in a few weeks to perfect health and strength, to the surprise of all who knew him. He considered his case so extraordinary that he, in gratitude, sent it for publication, to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, in which paper it appeared on the 2nd January, 1848. A few doses of the pills will quickly rally the energies of both body and mind, when other medicines have failed.

The Earl of Aldborough cured of a Liver and Stomach Complaint.

Extract of a letter from his Lordship, dated Villa Messina, Leghorn, 21st February, 1845.

Sir,—Various circumstances prevented the possibility of my thanking you before this time for your politeness in sending me your pills as you did. I now take this opportunity of sending you an order for the amount, and at the same time to add that your pills have effected a cure of a disorder in my liver and stomach, which all the most eminent of the faculty at home, and all over the continent, had not been able to effect; nay, not even the waters of Carlsbad and Marienbad. I wish to have another box and a pot of the Ointment, in case any of my family should ever require either.—Your most obedient servant (signed), Aldborough.—To Professor Holloway.

These celebrated pills are wonderfully efficacious in the following complaints:—

Ague	Female Irregularities	Scrofula, King's Evil
Asthma	Fevers of all kinds	Stone and Gravel
Bilious Complaints	Gout	Secondary Symptoms
Blotches on the Skin	Head-ache	Tic-Doloureux
Bowel Complaints	Indigestion	Tumours
Colics	Inflammation	Ulcers
Constipation of the Bowels	Jaundice	Venereal Affections
Consumption	Liver Complaints	Worms of all kinds
Debility	Lumbago	Weakness, from whatever cause
Dropsy	Piles	&c., &c.
Dysentery	Rheumatism	
Erysipelas	Retention of Urine	
Fits	Sore Throats	

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 civilised 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.

PROTECTED BY LETTERS PATENT.

DR. LOCOCK'S FEMALE WAFERS,

Have no Taste of Medicine,

And are the only remedy recommended to be taken by Ladies. They fortify the Constitution at all periods of life, and in all Nervous Affections act like a charm. They remove Heaviness, Fatigue on Slight Exertion, Palpitation of the Heart, Lowness of Spirits, Weakness, and allay pain.

They create Appetite, and remove Indigestion, Heartburn, Bile, Head Aches, Giddiness, &c.

In all Tropical Diseases, a proper perseverance in the use of this Medicine will be found to effect a cure after all other means had failed.

Full Directions are given with every box.

Note.—These Wafers do not contain any Mineral, and may be taken either dissolved in water or whole.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

Unprincipled persons counterfeit this Medicine in the mode of PILLS, &c. Purchasers must therefore observe that none are genuine but "Wafers," and that the words, "Dr. Locock's Wafers" are in the Stamps outside each box.

Observe.—The Counterfeit Medicines have words on the Stamp so nearly resembling these, as to mislead the unwary. Purchasers must therefore strictly observe the above caution.

Agents.—Da Silva and Co., 1, Bride-lane, Fleet-street, London. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.

Price, 1s. 1½d.; 2s. 9d.; and 11s. per Box.

Instant Relief and Rapid Cure of Asthmas, Consumption, and Coughs.

And all Disorders of the Breath and Lungs, is insured by

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

The truly wonderful powers of this remedy have called forth testimonials from all ranks of society, in all quarters of the world. The following have been just received:—

Cures of Consumption.

Gentlemen,—Your Wafers I can speak of myself with the greatest confidence, having recommended them in many cases of pulmonary consumption, and they have always afforded relief when everything else has failed, and the patients having been surfeited with medicine, are delighted to meet with so efficient a remedy having such an agreeable taste, &c.—(Signed) John Mawson, Surgeon, 13, Mosley-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—December 5, 1848.

Important to all who Sing.

From S. Pearsall, Esq., of Her Majesty's Concerts, and Vicar-choral of Lichfield Cathedral.

Gentlemen,—A lady of distinction having pointed out to me the qualities of Dr. Locock's Wafers, I was induced to make a trial of a box, and from this trial am happy to give my testimonial in their favour. I find by allowing a few of the Wafers (taken in the course of the day) to gradually dissolve in the mouth, my voice becomes bright and clear, and the tone full and distinct. They are decidedly the most efficacious of any I have ever used.—(Signed) Samuel Pearsall.—Lichfield, July 10th, 1848.

The particulars of many hundred cases may be had from every Agent throughout the Kingdom and on the Continent.

Dr. Locock's Wafers give instant relief, and are a rapid cure of asthmas, consumptions, coughs, colds, and all disorders of the breath and lungs.

To singers and public speakers they are invaluable, as in a few hours they remove all hoarseness and increase the power and flexibility of the voice. They have a most pleasant taste.

Price 1s. 1½d.; 2s. 9d.; and 11s. per box.

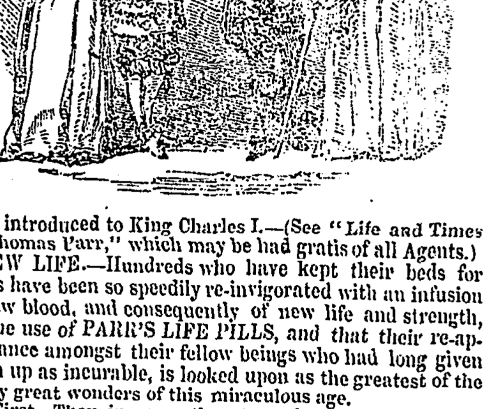
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Beware of Imitations.

Note.—Full directions are given with every box, in the English German, and French languages.

GOOD HEALTH, GOOD SPIRITS, AND LONG LIFE, SECURED BY THAT HIGHLY ESTEEMED POPULAR REMEDY,

PARR'S LIFE PILLS



Parr introduced to King Charles I.—(See "Life and Times of Thomas Parr," which may be had gratis of all Agents.)

NEW LIFE.—Hundreds who have kept their beds for years have been so speedily re-invigorated with an infusion of new blood, and consequently of new life and strength, by the use of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, and that their re-appearance amongst their fellow beings who had long given them up as incurable, is looked upon as the greatest of the many great wonders of this miraculous age.

"First—They increase the strength, whilst most other medicines have a weakening effect upon the system. Let any one take from three to four or six pills every twenty-four hours, and, instead of having weakened, they will be found to have revived the animal spirits, and to have imparted a lasting strength to the body.

"Secondly—In their operation they go direct to the disease. After you have taken six or twelve pills you will experience their effect; the disease upon you will become less and less by every dose you take; and if you will persevere in regularly taking from three to six pills every day, your disease will speedily be entirely removed from the system.

"Thirdly—They are found, after giving them a fair trial for a few weeks, to possess the most astonishing and invigorating properties, and they will overcome all obstinate complaints, and restore sound health; there is a return of good appetite shortly from the beginning of their use; whilst their mildness as a purgative is a desideratum greatly required by the weak and delicate, particularly where violent purging is acknowledged to be injurious instead of beneficial. As a general Family Medicine they are exceedingly valuable, and no family should be without them; they may be used with perfect safety in any disease, for to every disease they are of inestimable value. John Dale, Esq., of Manchester, Lecturer of Chemistry, and Pupil of the late celebrated Dr. Dalton, F.R.S., in a letter addressed to the proprietors in London, says:—I beg to state I find them worthy of being recommended to the public for their efficacy and simplicity, and to be really vegetable pills, containing, as they do, nothing but what is of vegetable origin.

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. Full directions are given with each box.

Wholesale London Agents:—Messrs. Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, St. Paul's Church-yard; Sutton and Co., Bow Church-yard; Sangar, and Hannay and Co., Oxford-street.

If Mankind are liable to one disease more than another, or if there are any particular affections of the human body we require to have a knowledge of over the rest, it is certainly that class of disorders treated of in the new and improved edition of the "Silent Friend." The authors, in thus sending forth to the world another edition of their medical work, cannot refrain from expressing their gratification at the continual success attending their efforts, which, combined with the assistance of medicines, exclusively of their own preparation, have been the happy cause of mitigating and averting the mental and physical miseries attendant on those peculiar disorders; thus proving the fact, that suffering humanity must always derive the greatest advantage from duly qualified members of the medical profession adopting a particular class of disorders for their exclusive study, in preference to a superficial knowledge of all the diseases that afflict mankind. Messrs. R. and L. Perry can with confidence offer hope, energy, and vigour to those whose constitutions have become debilitated from generative diseases, nervous and mental irritability, local constitutional weakness, &c., and beg to acquaint those so suffering that one of the firm may be personally consulted daily at No. 19, Berner's-street, Oxford-street, London, from eleven till two, and from five till eight in the evening; and on Sundays from eleven till one.

ON PHYSICAL DISQUALIFICATIONS, GENERATIVE INCAPACITY, AND IMPEDIMENTS TO MARRIAGE.

Thirty-first edition, illustrated with Twenty-Six Anatomical Engravings on Steel, enlarged to 196 pages, price 2s. 6d; by post, direct from the Establishment, 3s. 6d. in postage stamps.

THE SILENT FRIEND;

a medical work on the exhaustion and physical decay of the system, produced by excessive indulgence, the consequences of infection, or the abuse of mercury, with observations on the marrried state, and the disqualifications which prevent it; illustrated by twenty-six coloured engravings, and by the detail of cases. By R. and L. PERRY and Co., 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street London.

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Is dedicated to the consideration of the anatomy and physiology of the organs which are directly or indirectly engaged in the process of reproduction. It is illustrated by six coloured engravings.

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Treats of the infirmities and decay of the system, produced by over indulgence of the passions, and by the practice of solitary gratification. It shows clearly the manner in which the baneful consequences of this indulgence operate on the economy in the impairment and destruction of the social and vital powers. The existence of nervous and sexual debility and incapacity, with their accompanying train of symptoms and disorders, are traced by the chain of connecting results to their cause. This selection concluded with an explicit detail of the means by which these effects may be remedied, and full and ample directions for their use. It is illustrated by three coloured engravings, which fully display the effects of physical decay.

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Contains an accurate description of the diseases caused by infection, and by the abuse of mercury; primary and secondary symptoms, eruptions of the skin, sore throat, inflammation of the eyes, disease of the bones, gonorrhœa, gleet, stricture, &c., are shown to depend on this cause. Their treatment is fully described in this section. The effects of neglect, either in the recognition of disease or in the treatment, are shown to be the prevalence of the virus in the system, which sooner or later will show itself in one of the forms already mentioned, and entail disease in its most frightful shape, not only on the individual himself, but also on the offspring. Advice for the treatment of all these diseases and their consequences is tendered in this sections which, if duly followed up, cannot fail in effecting a cure. This part is illustrated by seventeen coloured engravings.

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Treats of the prevention of disease by a simple application, by which the danger of infection is obviated. Its action is simple, but sure. It acts with the virus chemically, and destroys its power on the system. This important part of the work should be read by every young man entering into life.

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THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM

Is expressly employed to renovate the impaired powers of life, when exhausted by the influence exerted by solitary indulgence on the system. Its action is purely balsamic; its power in re-invigorating the frame in all cases of nervous and sexual debility, obstinate gleets, impotency, barrenness, and debilities arising from venereal excesses, has been demonstrated by its unvarying success in thousands of cases. To those persons who are prevented entering the married state by the consequences of early errors, it is invaluable. Price 11s. per bottle, or four quantities in one for 33s.

THE CONCENTRATED DETERSIVE ESSENCE

An anti-syphilitic remedy for purifying the system from venereal contamination, and is recommended for any of the varied forms of secondary symptoms, such as eruptions on the skin, blotches on the head and face, enlargement of the throat, tonsils, and uvula; threatened destruction of the nose, palate, &c. Its action is purely detersive, and its beneficial influence on the system is undeniable. Price 11s. and 33s. per bottle.

The £5 case of Syriacum or Concentrated Detersive Essence, can only be had at 19, Bernors-street, Oxford-street, London, whereby there is a saving of £1 12s., and the patient is entitled to receive advice without a fee, which advantage is applicable only to those who remit £5, for a packet.

Consultation fee, if by letter, £1.—Patients are requested to be as minute as possible in the description of their cases.

Attendance daily at 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London, from eleven to two, and from five to eight; on Sundays from eleven to one.

AN EFFECTUAL CURE FOR PILES, FISTULAS, &c.

ABERNETHY'S PILE OINTMENT.

What a painful and noxious disease is the Piles! and, comparatively, how few of the afflicted have been permanently cured by ordinary appeals to medical skill! This, no doubt, arises from the use of powerful aperients too frequently administered by the profession; indeed, strong internal medicines should always be avoided in all cases of this complaint. The proprietor of the above Ointment, after years of acute suffering, placed himself under the treatment of that eminent surgeon, Mr. Abernethy; was by him restored to perfect health, and has enjoyed it ever since without the slightest return of the disorder, over a period of fifteen years, during which time the same Abernethian prescription has been the means of healing a vast number of desperate cases, both in and out of the proprietor's circle of friends, most of which cases had been under medical care, and some of them for a very considerable time. Abernethy's Pile Ointment was introduced to the public by the desire of many who had been perfectly healed by its application, and since its introduction the fame of this Ointment has spread far and wide; even the medical profession, always slow and unwilling to acknowledge the virtues of any medicine not prepared by themselves, do now freely and frankly admit that Abernethy's Pile Ointment is not only a valuable preparation, but a never failing remedy in every stage and variety of that appalling malady.

Sufferers from the Piles will not repent giving the Ointment a trial. Multitudes of cases of its efficacy might be produced, if the nature of the complaint did not render those who have been cured, unwilling to publish their names.

Sold in covered Pots at 4s. 6d., or the quantity of three 4s. 6d. pots in one for 11s., with full directions for use, by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, St. Paul's Church-yard; Butler, 4, Cheapsine; Newbery, St. Paul's; Sutton, Bow Church-yard; Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Willoughby and Co., 61, Bishopsgate-street Without; Owen, 52, Marchmont-street, Burton-cresent; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Prentis, 84, Edgeware-road; and retail by all respectable Chemists and Medicine Vendors in London.

** Be sure to ask for "ABERNETHY'S PILE OINTMENT." The Public are requested to be on their guard against noxious Compositions, sold at low Prices, and to observe that none can possibly be genuine, unless the name of C. King is printed on the Government Stamp affixed to each pot, 4s. 6d.; which is the lowest price the proprietor is enabled to sell it at, owing to the great expense of the Ingredients.

CORNS AND BUNIONS.

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND,

Patronised by the Royal Family, Nobility, Clergy, &c.

Is a sure and speedy Cure for those severe annoyances, without causing the least pain or inconvenience. Unlike all other remedies for Corns, its operation is such as to render the cutting of Corns altogether unnecessary: indeed, we may say, the practice of cutting Corns is at all times highly dangerous, and has been frequently attended with lamentable consequences, besides its liability to increase their growth; it adheres with the most gentle pressure, produces an instant and delightful relief from torture, and with perseverance in its application, entirely eradicates the most inveterate Corns and Bunions.

Testimonials have been received from upwards of one hundred Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest eminence, as well as from many Officers of both Army and Navy, and nearly one thousand private letters from the gentry in town and country, speaking in high terms of this valuable remedy.

Prepared by John Fox, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., or three small boxes in one for 2s. 9d., and to be had, with full directions for use, of all wholesale and retail medicine venders in town and country. The genuine has the name of John Fox on the stamp. A 2s. 9d. box cures the most obdurate corns.

Ask for "Paul's Every Man's Friend."

Abernethy's Pile Ointment, Paul's Corn Plaster, and Abernethy's Pile Powders, are sold by the following respectable Chemists and Dealers in Patent Medicines:—

Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Church-yard; Butler, 4, Cheapside; Newbery, St. Paul's; Sutton, Bow Church-yard; Johnston, 16, Greek-street, Soho, and 68, Cornhill; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Willoughby and Co., 61, Bishopsgate-street Without; Owen, 52, Marchmont-street, Burton-crescent; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Prentis, 84, Edgeware-road; and retail by all respectable chemists and medicine vendors in London.

Country Agents.—Baines and Newsome, Heaton, Smeeton, Reinhardt and sons, J. C. Browne, 48, Briggate; Denton, Garland, Mann, Bean, Harvey, Haigh, late Tarbottom; Bolland and Kemplay, Land, Moxom, C. Hay, 106, Briggate; Rhodes, Bell and Brook, Lord, R. C. Hay, Medical Hall, Leeds; Rimmington, Maud and Wilson, Rogerson, Stanfield, Bradford; Hartley, Denton, Waterhouse, Jepson, Wood, Dyer, Parker, Jennings, and Leyland, Halifax; Smith, Elland; Hurst, Cardwell, Gell, and Smith, Wakefield; Pybus, Barnsley; Knowles, Thorne, Brook, and Spivey, Huddersfield; Hudson, Keighley; Brooke, Doncaster; Matthews, Creaser, Driffield, Cass, Goole; Milner, Pickering; Stevenson, Whitby; Bolton, Blanshard and Co., Hargrove, Fisher, Otley, Linney, York; Wainwright, Howden; Horsby, Wrangham, Jefferson, Malton; Buckall, Scarborough; Smith, Furby, Bridlington; Adams, Colton, Pullen, Selby; Omblier, Market Weighton; Gledhill, Old Delph; Priestley, Fox, Pontefract; Dalby, Wetherby; Slater, Bedale; Dixon, Northallerton; Ward, Richmond; Ward, Stokesley; Foggitt, and Thompson, Thirsk; Monkhouse, Barnard Castle; Pease, Darlington; Jennett, Stockton; Ballard, Abingdon; Thompson, Armagh; Jamieson, Aberdeen; Potts, Banbury; King, Bath; Winnall, Birmingham; Parkinson, Blackburn; Bradbury, Bolton; Noble, Boston; Beach, and Co, Bridgewater; Brew, Brighton; Ferris and Co., Bristol; Haines, Bromsgrove; Sirett, Buckingham; Bowman, Bury; Cooper, Canterbury; Jefferson, Carlisle; Eagle, Chelmsford; Fletcher, Chester; Smith, Colchester; Rollason, Coventry; Bowman, Chorley; Pike, Derby; Byers, Devonport; Brooks, Doncaster; Hollier, Dudley; Duncan, Dumfries; Drummond, Dundee; Baker, East Retford; Evans and Hodgson, Exeter; Garbutt, Gateshead; Raimes, Edinburgh; Henry, Guernsey; Neilson, Glasgow; Simple, Greenock; Weymss, Hereford; Butler, High Wycomb; Cussons, Horncastle; Noble, Hull; Fetch, Ipswich; Tuach, Inverness; Green, Jersey; Milner, Lancaster; Harper, Leamington; Butler, Dublin; Cooper, Leicester; Aspinall, Liverpool; Coleman, Lincoln; Cocking, Ludlow; Wigg, Lynn; Wright, Macclesfield; Lessey, Manchester; Langley, Mansfield; Butler, Marlow; Campbell, Montrose; Ridge, Newark; Sutton, Nottingham, Mease, North Shields; Jarrold and Co., Norwich; Stump, Oldham; Mennie, Plymouth; Gowans, Perth; Vint and Car, Sunderland; Leader, Sheffield; Deighton, Worcester; Froud, Dorchester. And by all respectable Chemists in every Market town throughout the United Kingdom.

Wholesal Agents.—Messrs. Bolton Blanshard and Co, Druggists, Micklegate, York.

A Christmas Garland.

The return of CHRISTMAS bids us wreathe another chaplet for the brow of Time.

Popular rejoicings at this season of the year date from long before the commencement of Christianity. The Roman Saturnalia was celebrated at our Christmas time, when all classes occupied themselves with mirth and feasting, and sent presents to each other. Masters treated their slaves on an equal footing at first for one day, afterwards for three, and, by command of Caligula, for five days. Indeed, the festival really extended beyond even that term. Capital punishments were not permitted while the season of rejoicing continued. Sacrifices to the Gods were offered, and hymns in honour of Saturn and Bacchus were chanted. These rejoicings recalled to the minds of the enslaved and unfortunate the fabled golden age (sung of by the poets) when the human race were free from the curse of kings, priests, labour-grinding tyrants, disease and misery; when all were equal and happy. A *dream* as regards the past; may it be a *reality* in the (not distant) future.

At this season of the year the northern nations also caroused, danced, sang, and indulged—in their rude way—in all the kindlinesses of hospitality, mingled with religious rites in honour of their god Thor, ages before they bore the name of "Christian." To them we owe the yule log; and as their most favourite beverage was ale, or mead, it was doubtless quaffed at their festivals in no stinted measure. Scott has drawn a lively picture of the festivities of those barbarians, in the following striking lines:—

The savage Dane,
At Iol, more deep the mead did drain;
High on the beech his galley drew,
And feasted all his pirate-crew;
Then in his low, and pine-built hall,
Where shields and axes deck'd the wall,
They gorged upon the half-dressed steer,—
Caroused in seas of sable beer,
While round in brutal jests were thrown,
The half-ground rib and marrow bone;
Or listened all, in grim delight
While Scalds yell'd out the joys of fight;
Then forth in frenzy would they hie,
While wildly loose their red locks fly,
And, dancing round the blazing pile
They made such barbarous mirth the while
As best might to the mind recall,
The boisterous joys of Odin's hall.

The early teachers of the Christian faith, finding it impossible to eradicate the deep-rooted love of the people for many of their ancient ceremonies and festivals, sagaciously determined to make the popular customs subserve the interests of the new religion. To transform the Saturnalia into Christmas was not more difficult than the placing of a new head on the statue of Jupiter, and christening his dethroned godship: "St. Peter." So it has been, so it will be. The institutions of mankind — religious as well as political—change with the advance of time.

"From the first introduction of Christianity into these islands," says the *Book of Christmas*, the period of the Nativity seems to have been kept as a season of festival, and its observances recognised as a matter of state. The Whitenagemots of our Saxon ancestors were held under the solemn sanction and beneficent influence of the time; and the series of high festivities established by the Anglo-Saxon kings, appear to have been continued with yearly increasing splendour and multiplied ceremonies under the monarchs of the Norman race. From the Court the spirit of revelry descended, by all its thousand arteries, throughout the universal frame of society, visiting its furthest extremities and most obscure recesses, and everywhere exhibiting its action, as by so many pulses, upon the traditions, and superstitions, and customs which were common to all or peculiar to each. The pomp and ceremonial of the Royal observance were imitated in the splendid establishments of the more wealthy nobles, and far more faintly reflected from the diminished state of the petty baron. The revelries of the baronial castle found echoes in the hall of the old manor house, and these were again repeated in the tapestried chamber of the country magistrate, or from the sanded parlour of the village inn: merriment was everywhere a matter of public concernment, and the spirit which assembles men in families now, congregated them by districts then."

The influence of Christmas in the olden time may be gathered from the following fact, stated by Mr. TURNER, in his History of England: "During the reign of ORLEANS, in 1428, the solemnities and festivities of Christmas gave a short interval of repose. The English lords requested the French commanders that they might have a night of minstrelsy, with trumpets and clarions; this was granted, and the horrors of war were suspended by melodies that were felt to be delightful."

We must again draw upon the poetry of Scott for a graphic description of

CHRISTMAS IN THE OLDEN TIME.

The damsel donned her kirtle sheen;
The hall was dress'd with holly green;
Forth to the wood did merry men go,
To gather in the mistletoe.
Then opened wide the baron's hall
To vassal, tenant, serf, and all:
Power laid his rod of rule aside,
And ceremony doffed her pride.
The heir, with roses in his shoes,
These nights might village partner choose;
The lord, underogating share,
The vulgar game of "post and pair."

* * * *

The fire with well-dried logs supplied,
Went roaring up the chimney wide;
The huge hall table's oaken face,
Scrubbed till it shone; the time to grace,
Bore then upon its massive board
No mark to part the 'squire and lord,
Then was brought in the lusty brawn,
By old blue-coated serving man;
Then the grim boar's head frowned on high,
Crested with bays and rosemary.
Well can the green-garbed ranger tell,
How, when, and where, the monster fell;
What dogs, before his death he tore,
And all the baitings of the boar.
The wassail round, in good brown bowls;
Garnished with ribbons, blithely trowls;
There the huge sirloin reeked; hard by
Plum porridge stood, and Christmas pie;
Nor failed old Scotland to produce,
At each high-tide her savoury goose.
Then came the merry masquers in,
And carols roared with blithesome din;
If unmelodious was the song,
It was a hearty note and strong.
Who lists may, in their mummery, see
Traces of ancient mystery;
White shirts supplied the masquerade,
And smutted cheeks the visors made
But, O! what masquers, richly dight,
Can boast of bosom half so light!
England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again;
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale,
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft would cheer,
The poor man's heart through half the year.

The Puritans endeavoured to prevent the observance of Christmas, and the Parliament passed an ordinance that no service should be performed in the churches on the 25th of December, commonly called Christmas-day, and that markets should be held on this day. In Canterbury about a dozen shopkeepers attempted to comply with this ordinance, but the people insisted that they should close their shops, and as they refused to do so, the populace wasted their goods, and a serious riot was the consequence.

The Christmas festivities of the present generation are too well known to need description; we will, however, presently note the origin of some of the customs which have descended to us from the days of old. Come we at once to a few poetical leaves and flowers we have selected for our GARLAND.

THE BRIGHT HOURS OF MEMORY.

BY FRANCES BROWN.

The bright hours of mem'ry! oh, who can look back,
Retracing his path through the desert of years,
Nor find, in the waste of that long-trodden track,
Some far isle of verdure, whose dew is not tears;
Some spot to whose greenness his steps would return,
In spite of the thorns and the deserts between,
Could they bear back the spirit that once they had borne,
Or find it the region that once it has been?
The lights of the past may be feeble and few,
And seen through the mist when life's morning was gray,
And pleasures and hopes which they brought to our view
Like the mists of that morn may have melted away;
But still their bright track, which remains in the soul,
No shadows can cover, no tears can efface;
Around it life's billows and tempests may roll,
But they leave it still clear for the pilgrim to trace.
Perchance 'twas an hour when the triumph of youth
Arose o'er its labours, and honours achieved,—
Perchance when the vows of affection and truth
Were fervently uttered and fondly believed:
Or far in the distance of childhood it lies
Where dim, as the cloud-covered-mountains have grown
The scenes that surround it, but still in our eyes—
It seems like one spot where a sunbeam hath shone.
The bright hours of mem'ry—how oft in our dreams
They bring us the glory of long summer days,
The joy of the spring-time's first blossoms and beams,
And the laughter that rang by the winter hearth's blaze!
And, oh; there are hearts, though by fate long estranged,
And eyes that can lighten our journey no more,
That come in those visions, still true and unchanged,
With the light, and the love, and the gladness of yore!
Bright, bright shines the beacon of hope from afar,—
And strong is the faith of our youth to pursue
The path of its promise, till dim grows the star.
And faint grows our steps in the wilderness too—
But ne'er of her treasure can Mem'ry be reft,
And dark must the days of his pilgrimage be
Who finds not one hour, in his retrospect, left,
Like a full ark of joy on the desolate sea!

The following poems, from the pen of Thomas Hood, have not before appeared in this journal:—

THOSE EYES THAT WERE SO BRIGHT, LOVE.

Those eyes that were so bright, love,
Have now a dimmer shine;
But what they've lost in light, love,
Was what they gave to mine.
And still those orbs reflect, love,
The beams of former hours;
That ripened all my joys, my love,
And tinted all my flowers.
Those locks were brown to see, love,
That now are turn'd to grey;
But the years were spent with me, love,
That stole their hue away.
Thy locks no longer share, love,
The golden glow of noon;
But I've seen the world look fair, my love'
When silvered by the moon.
That brow was fair to see, love,
That looks so shaded now;
But for me it bore the care, love,
That spoilt a bonny brow.
And though no longer there, love,
The gloss it had of yore;
Still memory looks and dotes, my love,
Where Hope admired before.

A TOAST.

Come! a health! and it's not to be slighted with sips,
A cold pulse, or a spirit supine;
All the blood in my heart seems to rush to my lips,
To commingle its flow with the wine!
Bring a cup, of the purest and solidest ware,
But a little antique in its shape:
And the juice it shall be the most racy and rare,
All the bloom with the age of the grape!
Even such is the love I would celebrate now,
At once young, and mature, and in prime—
Like the tree of the orange that bears on its bough
The bud, blossom, and fruit at one time!
Then with three, as is due, let the honours be paid,
Whilst I give with my hand, heart, and head—
"Here's to her, the fond mother, dear partner, kind friend,
Who first taught me to love, woo, and wed!"

From *Punch's Almanack*, just published, we quote a few specimens of the not very brilliant wit of the Fleet-street hunchback:—

To Game Preservers.—On the 14th of February give your gamekeepers a holiday; for, on this day, the feathered tribes pair, so that the poachers will not be able to destroy a *single* bird.

To Find the value of a Friend.—Ask him to put his name to a Bill.

To Find the Value of Time.—Travel by a Bayswater Omnibus.

To Find the Value of Eau-de-Cologne.—Walk into Smithfield Market.

To Find the Value of Patience.—Consult Bradshaw's *Guide* to ascertain the time of starting of a Railway Train.

How to learn the Moon's Age.—When, like a good-natured spinster, she makes light of it.

A Bed without a Bedstead.—The bed of the Sacramento.

The Californian Arms.—Bowie knives, rifles, and revolving pistols proper, with Yankees rampant gules, on a field or.

To Restore Stale Bread.—Request the cook's "cousin," the charwoman, and the policeman to bring it back again.

Hint to the Benevolent.—The persons most in want of baths and washhouses are those who have no coppers.

SHORT RULES FOR CALCULATION.

To Find the Value of a Dozen Articles.—Send them to a Magazine, and double the sum offered by the proprietor.

Another Way.—Send them to the butterman, who will not only fix their value, but their weight, at per pound.

To Find the Value of a Pound at any price.—Try to borrow one when you are desperately hard up.

To Railway Travellers.—The best adhesive label you can use for your luggage is to stick it to yourself.

To Find which way the Cat Jumps.—You may always tell which way the cat jumps by finding "cook's cousin" with a quantity of cold meat in his possession. The cat that has been jumping has usually very fine whiskers, and might often be taken for a policeman in disguise.

An Obvious Truism.—If there were no beasts there would be no Smithfield.

Animals admitted to the Opera.—Puppies and white kids.

A Hint to Ladies with Grey Hair.—Never say "Dye."

The Roman Question.—Why are the Pope and his people unlikely to agree? Because they differ on *Cardinal* points.

A New Reading of an old Request to John O'Connell.—"Shut up your (agi) tator trap."

Good Wishes for Christmas.—May the overnights face over the punchbowl bear the morning's reflexion in the looking-glass.

Man's last Friend is the Tax-gatherer.—His wife may leave him, his family disown him, his children run away from him, his best friend and worst acquaintances avoid him, but the Tax-gatherer follows him wherever he goes, even to the grave. It must be most flattering to an Englishman's pride, that, poor as he may be, he has always one friend that takes care of him, and who will call without the smallest ceremony and share his last penny loaf. Solitude and selfishness cannot exist in England, for no man can live independent of the Tax-gatherer. His existence is a partnership drawn up for life, between the government and himself, in which the former takes what it likes, and the latter gives more than he likes. In short, every Englishman may be said to possess two shadows—his own genuine, true-born shadow, and the government representation shadow; but there is this difference between the two, that, whereas his own shadow merely walks after him, the government shadow walks *into him if it is not paid the moment it runs* after him.

One of Tom Moore's jovial songs may fittingly find place in our Garland—

DRINK OF THIS CUP.

Drink of this cup—you'll find there's a spell in
Its ev'ry drop 'gainst the ills of mortality;
Talk of the cordial that sparkled for Helen,
Her cup was a fiction, but this is reality.
Would you forge the dark world we are in,
Only taste of the bubble that gleams on the top of it;
But would you rise above earth, till akin
To immortals themselves, you must drain every drop of it.
Send round the cup, &c.

Never was philter form'd with such power
To charm and bewilder as this we are quaffing:
Its magic began when in autumn's rich hour,
As a harvest of gold in the fields it stood laughing.
There, having, by nature's enchantment, been fill'd
With the balm and the bloom of her kindliest weather,
This wonderful juice from its core was distill'd,
To enliven such hearts as are here brought together!
Then drink of the cup, &c.

And though, perhaps—but breathe it to no one—
Like caldrons the witch brews at *midnight* so awful,
In secret this philter was first taught to flow on,
Yes, 'tis not less potent for being unlawful.
What though it may taste of the smoke of that flame,
Which in silence extracted its virtue forbidden;
Fill up—there's a fire in some hearts I could name,
Which may work too its charm, though now lawless and hidden.
So drink of this cup, &c.

We proceed to notice the origin and past history of a few of the still surviving

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

Evergreens.—It is notorious that from the earliest times the evergreen plants or some of them, were used at the celebration of this festival, but it is a mistake to suppose that the practice had a purely Christian origin; it was common both in Jewish and Pagan times, and indeed it is so natural an expression of joy and gratulation, that we wonder not to find it of universal adoption.

With the ancients generally the productions of the vegetable and floral world were held to be emblems of joy. The laurel was certainly used by the Romans. The mistletoe is mentioned by Virgil, and the respect paid to it by the Druids is well known. This practice has descended to us in all its positive vigour.

The Yule Log.—In the olden times the yule log was lighted with a brand saved from the previous year, and the ceremony was rather an imposing one. It was to be introduced with music, according to the direction of Herrick—

Come, bring with a noise,
My merry, merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing;
While my good dame, she
Bids you all be free,
And drink to your heart's desiring.

It was deemed an evil omen if the log ceased to burn during the evening.

The "Waits."—A short time previous to Christmas our nocturnal repose is disturbed by the somewhat inconsiderate hospitality of the "waits," who, with what they please to call music, contrive to "make night hideous." These visitors are doubtless the successors of the ancient minstrels, but most shockingly supply their places. The origin of the word is of high antiquity, and can be distinctly traced to the time of Edward III.

Washington Irving, in his *Sketch Book*, giving an account of a Yorkshire Christmas, says:

I had scarcely got into bed, when a strain of music seemed to break forth in the air just below the window. I listened, and found it proceeded from a band, which I concluded to be the *Waits* from some neighbouring village. They went round the house, playing under the windows. The sounds, as they receded, became more soft and aerial, and seemed to accord with quiet and moonlight. I listened and listened, they became more and more tender and remote; and as they gradually died away, my head fell upon my pillow, and I fell asleep.

Christmas Carols.—The reformed church introduced carols instead of the latin hymns which had formerly been chanted on the same joyous occasion; and modern carols have been provided in great profusions; but it must be confessed, as most of them were composed under the influence of the *gloomy spirit of Puritanism, they are more like* dirges than songs of joy.

Carols are still sung in London, and in other large towns, printed on sheets, and adorned with wood-cuts, which for the most part may be considered as *chef d'œuvres* of the genus of ugliness. They are in fact equalled by nothing of which the mind can form any conception, except the wretched murder of harmony which is committed by the vendors.—We recollect hearing of a gentleman who gave an itinerant musician half-a-crown to take his music out of hearing, and we are half of opinion that the money bestowed upon these carol singers is given with the same benevolent intention.

Those who may wish to know more of ancient customs and practices having relation to the festival of Christmas, will do well to consult Bohn's admirable edition of *Brand's Popular Antiquities*. A good deal of interesting information will also be found in a cheap compilation published by Slater, entitled *Christmas: its History and Antiquity.*

The lovers of good-fellowship and harmony will not hesitate to give welcome to

A WORD FOR CHRISTMAS.

Is there a lip unwont to smile,
An eye that fails to beam,
A cheek on which no warmer glow
Doth like a sun-ray gleam,
When but the name of Christmas falls
In music on the ear,
Awakening in its echoes thoughts
And memories that appear
Like shadows summoned at the call
Of some all-potent seer!

If such there be, how little he
Of life's best joys can know;
How cold and drear must, year by year,
Time's waves unvarying flow.
I would not bear the soul he bears,
Or live his creed to own,
Though Fortune's smiles were mine, and Fame
Charmed with her blandest tone,
So closely have my heart's first loves
Unto old Christmas grown.

That carnival of fresh delight—
Delight uncloyed by time—
Season of harmony complete
As its own echoing chime.
When hand grasps hand in firm embrace,
And lip meets lip in truth,
When wrinkled brows unbend, and seem
Once more like brows of youth,
And full contentment fills the place
Of griefs and sorrows ruth.

A spell is in the shining leaves
And clust'ring berries red,
That gives more zest to feast and song—
To feet a lighter tread;—
A spell that by its magic makes
All worth's distinction end,
And bidding high and low alike
Before one altar bend,
Points with the trusting hand of Faith
To him—the mutual friend.

Then here's a shout for Christmas time—
A loud, long-echoing shout,—
There should not be a falt'ring voice,
When tones of joy ring out.
Shout, shout we from the vessel's deck,
And answer from the shore,—
What, though the grave is close at hand
And life is nearly o'er,
Each Christmas, though perhaps the last,
Should welcomed be the more.

Miss CLARA SEYTON, whose name is well known to the lovers of vocal music, gave twice last week, and once this week—on Tuesday last—a Literary and Musical Entertainment, at the Western Literary and Scientific Institution, Leicester Square. The programme of the evening embraced an immense variety of topics in connexion with the lives and works of the descriptive poets and minstrels of Hungary, Denmark, Germany, and England. The performance more than realised our expectations. The extent of Miss Seyton's information concerning the great range of subjects on which she descanted, struck us as truly astonishing. As a speaker, her voice and manner are both admirable. Her eloquent observations on the recent struggle in Hungary elicited enthusiastic applause. That portion of her address had, however, one fault—its brevity. As a singer she is at once both sweet and powerful, and leaves nothing to be desired. This much by way of introduction to one of the Hungarian songs—a translation, of course—*encored* by Miss Seyton's audience on Tuesday evening last:—

THE INVITATION TO THE DANCE.

(A popular Magyar Melody.)

Lads, come hasten to the ball—
See the lassies waiting all;
Shake your feet, and join the line:
See, the maidens bring the wine—
Oh! life is strung with pearls!

Hark! the spurs are tinkling sweet,
Czimas echo on the feet,
Feet and hands move joyously—
Oh! the dance is full of glee,
And life is strung with pearls.

Where the smiling maidens be,
There the happy youths we see;
Up and down, in waving row,
With Tartarian steps they go.
Oh! life is strung with pearls.

Mortal, thou whose spring is past,
Join the dance, though 'twere the last;
Bask thee in its genial heat,
Warm thy heart and shake thy feet,
For life is full of pearls.

Come, be joyous while you may;
Hence with sorrow, let's be gay.
These are moments made for gladness,
Kindle mirth and banish sadness.
Oh! life is full of pearls.

So, lads, come hasten to the ball—
See the lassies waiting all;
Hear the minstrel's measure sound—
Thus should life's bright hours be crown'd.
Let's string our life with pearls.

We understand that Miss Seyton is about to visit Bristol and other provincial cities; after which, on her return to Town, she will repeat her Entertainment to Metropolitan audiences. She well merits success, and by the patronage of these who love vocal music, and admire the gallant Hungarians, she can hardly fail of achieving that desirable consummation.

Lastly, not least, we give the following spirited, democratic, and, altogether, admirable

SONG.

BY EDWIN GILL.

Fill, fill to the brave and the free,
Who have struggled in Liberty's cause;
Drink, drink in a bumper with me,
Destruction to tyranny's laws.
Tho' Freedom lies wounded and bleeding,
Staunch hearts never think of receding,
But strong in the right,
Will rush to the fight,
The scaffold and hulk never heeding.
Then fill to the brave, &c.

Here's a health to Kossuth, the brave,
And to Hungary's gallant band,
Who spurned the base yoke of the slave,
And struck for their own fatherland.
Tho' treason, awhile, is victorious,
And the vengeance of despots notorious,
Hungary shall be,
The pride of the free,
And the name of her sons e'er be glorious.
Then fill to the brave, &c.

Fill up to Mazzini's proud name,
And honour fair Italy's cause;
Future ages shall trumpet his fame,
And enjoy his magnanimous laws.
Tho' a home the Patriot's seeking,
And priestcraft its vengeance is wreaking,
Scorn for ever shall cling,
To the "President king,"
For the blood of martyrs still reeking.
Then fill to the brave, &c.

Drink, drink—"The brave of 'Forty-nine,"
(No matter what climate or creed,)
Whose virtues for ever will shine,
Like beacons to Freemen in need.
Raise, raise the goblet aloft with me,
To the brightest stars of chivalry.
To both high and low,
Who defied the foe,
And fought and bled, that man might be free.
Then fill to the brave, &c.

Freedom in dungeons may languish,
And vile fetters encircle her form;
Her wounds she may mourn o'er in anguish,
And low bend to the o'erwhelming storm:
But her spirit, immortal, beameth;
Its rays in the dark hour gleameth;
And the cause of right
Shall baffle the might
Of the despot, when little he dreameth.
Then fill to the brave, &c.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOW; A TALE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

BY THOMAS MARTIN WHEELER,

Late Secretary to the National Charter Association and National Land Company.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Ye stubborn recusants of right—and, worse,
Daring apologists for wrong—know ye
How bitter 'tis to earn a nation's curse,
That execration wrung from misery?
Go—learn it from the millions who rehearse
The foul deeds which sum up your infamy;
Go—read it on the tombs which mark the grave
Of myriads whom you could but would not save!

That curse is stamped upon the haggard face
Of starving multitudes throughout the land;
E'en in the countenance of babes you trace
The mark, as though impressed with demon hand!
Britannia's self is pale at the disgrace
Which taints the annals of her native strand;
And History turns her mournful face aside,
The gushing fountains of her grief to hide.

God! do thy thunders sleep, while England moans
Beneath this Whiggish sway? Shall mortal dare
Thus to make men anticipate the groans,
The pains, the agonies of hell? or where
Is vengeance to be looked for? Must the bones
Of those who died of hunger be laid bare,
And brought as damning evidence to show
Who were the authors of this fearful woe?

Oh! that the great arch-orator,* whose tongue
Made Verres tremble, could return again,
To vent on ye the indignation wrung
From every honest heart; to taint—to stain—
And to besmear your names, ere they be flung
Forth on the moral dungheaps that remain
Throughout all ages, to perpetuate
Those dread examples which we execrate!

They starving stand upon the land
Wrought fruitful by their hands alone;
Around them, halls made rich and grand
By them—who have for bread a stone.
Shall the producers have *this* share
Of the rich produce of their toil?
Shall the consumers never bear
The labour, yet devour the spoil?
Behold the plight of men by whom
For rights of property have birth!
What do their *prior rights* become,
Whose *duties* give the soil its worth?
They ask enough to house and feed,
From hand to mouth, their babes and wives;
No hoard of all the wealth they breed
For the weak age of toil-worn lives.

Francis Worsley.

The National Assembly, after propounding a plan of organisation more suitable to the genius of the French than the English people, a plan which needed discipline almost military in its strictness, and a good faith in the honour of our brethren, more famed, in this instance, for its breach than its observance, dissolved itself; and the easy, comfortable, every-day world, after being for months terrified with dreams and omens of revolution, were at length allowed to slumber in quiet, whilst the government filled the public ear with loud huzzas upon the victory they had gained, and the Press and the Legislature vied with each other in commending the wisdom of the Executive, and the loyalty of the people, which had averted the impending evil of revolution from our heads; but their triumph was premature, they had scattered the elements of revolution, not destroyed them. The sons of Erin had looked with no careless eye upon the proceedings in London; they received with enthusiasm Ernest Jones and Samuel Kydd, who waited upon them, requesting their co-operation with the Assembly, and elected several delegates to attend the meeting of that body, but owing to the dissensions respecting the legality of its sittings, only one, Michael Doheny, (whose adventures in connexion with the late rebellion would form a romance in itself,) ever attended, and the leaders seeing no chance of a powerful diversion in England in their favour, trusted to native ranks and native swords, and embarked in a noble but hopeless struggle,—a struggle in which priestcraft dominated over patriotism, and treachery and ignorance marred the efforts of enthusiasm and intelligence; a struggle in which the dastardly Whigs, outvieing in infamy even the Tories of old, by blood money and spyism of the most nefarious description, succeeded in entrapping their destined victims, and then, may burning curses ever blight their names, brought the same agency to bear on the Chartists of the Metropolis. It was at this period that Arthur Morton was delegated by a few ardent spirits to make a tour of the country, and collect a transcript of the state of public feeling, more especially in the north of England; during this tour he visited the several estates of the National Land Company, and became more than ever impressed with a love of the natural over the artificial state of society; the interests of his mission prevented his making a long stay at any of these happy retreats—these verdant oases in the surrounding agricultural desert,—but the elegance of the cottages, and the beauty of their respective situations, made a lasting impression upon his mind, coming as he did fresh from the turbulent scenes which the Metropolis then displayed, nevertheless he could not but observe with regret that the slime of the serpent had penetrated even to these abodes of bliss; society had become so thoroughly vitiated by the long dominant power of wealth, that it was impossible even there to contend successfully against it, unless favoured with more capital than fell to the share of most of the inhabitants of these fairy abodes; and the majority of the occupants had been so trained in the vicious customs of looking to a capitalist for their Sunday's meal, that it needed both mental and physical energy to withstand the evils they had to encounter. With a mind filled with these reflections he quitted those peaceful abodes, which will ever remain a monument of the power of the masses to do much, even under adverse circumstances, towards achieving their own emancipation; when he contrasted their situation with that of the surrounding agricultural peasantry, he thought that, even with all their privations, he could be happy and contented with such a lot, so forcibly did their advantages shine by contrast. He saw the peasant in his master's fields consuming life and strength in the ungrateful task of turning up the clods of jealous mother earth, who will yield her treasures only to unremitting toil, and at the close of the day, a dry black crust was his only recompense, the rich harvests he produced, the noble animals he fattened, were not for him, they were reserved for the table of his employer, who worked not, but consumed in luxury the results of his labour. He saw him with downcast head and stooping gait, too much oppressed, too poverty stricken, and too certain of his ultimate fate ever to think on the beauties of nature, or listen with delight to the melody by which he was surrounded. What to him are the charms of scenery, the delight of hill and valley, wood and stream, tower and waterfall, they are only one universal blank, representing his master's acres, from which by hard toil he can scarce extract his six, eight, or ten shillings per week; one-sixth of which goes to find him a home—if a wretched hovel less comfortable than his master's pigsty deserves that name—his life is one dull round of tedium, enlivened only by the village alehouse, when so favoured, as to be able to enter its threshold; domestic love and enjoyment are not for him, they reside not with penury and wretchedness; his lot is, indeed, one of toil, softened only by ignorance and apathy, for hope to him is unknown; wake him not from his trance, attempt not to educate him, for you will only increase his misery; let him rest in peace, a memento of the brutish state to which thoughtless loyalty, priestly rule, and want of education can reduce a human being. And yet, where is the man who should be so happy as the peasant? Nature is no niggard of her bounties, she is ever young, beautiful, and generous—poetry and loveliness dwell in her domains, and cannot be separated therefrom; It is the eye, the intellect, the unbroken spirit, that alone is wanting in the labourer, to enable him to understand and appreciate her beauties; the most blessed of beings should be that man, who possessing a mind, enriched with knowledge, cultivates his own little domain, and secures happiness and liberty to himself and family, by the exercise of his strength applied to Nature's garden, protected from want by his own industry, independent of the power of capital, working when the sun of Heaven cheers his labour, reposing when Nature dictates repose, surrounded by all that is calm, serene, and beautiful, he would, indeed, be a *man*; living in the essence of poetry, yet mixing sufficiently with the world and his fellow labourers to shield him from inanity, he would, indeed, be a poet—ay, and a philosopher—for too far removed from the bustling world to be subdued by its glare, yet sufficiently influenced by it, to watch with emotion its ever varying phases, he could calmly reflect on its features, and analyse their worth and defects. And Arthur saw that all this, and much more, might be attained by the members on these estates, provided their first difficulties were overcome; he saw in them the leaven that was, to infuse light and activity into the benighted population, by which they were surrounded, and ultimately become the regenerators of our agricultural population; and so bright did the prospect appear, that he sighed in bitterness of spirit, even at the supposition of its failure; he feared it would throw back the cause of social progress for years, for he well knew the avidity with which its opponents, ever on the watch to misrepresent, would seize upon such an event and turn it to their own vile purposes; perhaps the view he took was too desponding; but misfortune upon misfortune had been so heaped upon him, that he feared to look with too sanguine an eye, lest his disappointment should be the more severe. Impressed with these feelings, he wended his way *to the busy hives of industry in the North*; how he succeeded in his mission it is not for us to tell; the events are too recent, and the prominent actors too well known, for the subject to be now broached, suffice it to say that everywhere he found misery and distress, trade languishing, artisans starving, indolence rioting, industry pining; everywhere the seeds of incipient revolution were rising; but in such profuse disorder, that, if a struggle came, it needed no seer to foretell the inevitable result. Of all the struggles that Time hath yet witnessed, that will be the most dire where a monied and landed aristocracy are combined against the people. Between a people roused into wrath and a despot, *the contest is soon decided*; but in a country like Britain, where capital and its interests penetrate into every fibre of the social frame—in a country like Britain, where the aristocracy have shared their privileges with the bulk of the middle classes; where talent in every class (provided it is subservient enough to the powers that be) can penetrate even into the highest offices in the state; a country where all who do not labour enrich themselves by keeping the labourer dependent and voteless; in such a country where all are so interested in the stake, the struggle will be one of life and death; ay, and even should the people prove physically victorious, the combat will but then have commenced, for the enemy has been so long in the ascendant that he has a fortified camp in every guild, an army in every abuse, sentinels and guards, even in the heart of the army of progress; but so long have we bowed to wealth and influence, that there is traitor even in every man's heart, and when the struggle comes—and come it must—the least vacillation, the least treachery—misnamed mercy and moderation—will at once break down the barriers, which have shut out oppression; and the hot blood, which has been so freely lavished, the privations, which have been so heroically endured, will have been shed and endured in vain, another cycle of oppression will commence, and the hopes of bleeding, tortured humanity will again have been blighted. Oh! that the veritable democrats of England may read aright the lessons of the past, that the example of prostrate France may not be given in vain, but may the slaughter and banishment of her glorious sons ultimately eventuate in achieving a world-wide freedom; then will their misery not have been endured in vain, for the fire of their persecution will have become the beacon light, to show the shoals and sandbanks on which they have foundered, and guide us in triumph to the rocks of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Heaven speed the day.

(To be continued.)

* Cicero.

AN ENTREE AT ALL HAZARDS.—We find the following story in the *Droit*; "The presence of the President of the Republic at the Hotel de Ville, and the splendours of the ball to be given to him, inspired a M.B——, teacher of the Italian language to the daughter of a representative, with a violent desire to be present at the fête. He requested the father of his pupil to procure him a ticket, but that gentleman said that, as each invitation was personal, it was impossible for him to do so. The Italian, however, resolved to go to the ball. Accordingly, on Monday, he dressed himself in his best and went towards the Hotel de Ville. Having entered a *cafe* on the Place de Greve for a *demi tasse, he requested permission to leave his hat,* which was granted. He then went bareheaded to the entrance of the hotel, and, stating that he was one of the domestics, was admitted without difficulty. Seeing a *plateau* of pastry, he took it, marched boldly into the *salons*, and presented it to the guests. But in so doing he paid such extraordinary attention to the beauty of the ladies, and was so dazzled by the splendour that surrounded him, that it soon became evident he was not a real waiter. He was questioned, and as the account he gave of himself was not satisfactory, his tray was taken from him, and he was unceremoniously shown to the door. Undiscouraged, however, by this misadventure, he resolved again to try his luck, and, in a moment of confusion, succeeded in again slipping into the hotel. This time he resolved to devote his attention to the liquids, and seizing a tray laden with glasses of punch, carried it, as bold as brass, into the principal salon. He had, however, only made a few steps when he, to his great mortification, ran against a tall gentleman dressed in the very height of fashion, and the shock caused the punch to drench the tall gentleman in a way which he found the reverse of agreeable. In his fury the tall gentleman roughly rebuked the clumsy waiter, and the man of the punch tray stammered forth the best excuses he could find. This caused a circle to be formed, but it was soon dispersed by one of the *chefs* of the service coming up, and recognising the pretended waiter as having been already expelled, caused him to be ignominiously kicked out. Still, strange to say, the Italian teacher was not daunted, and he again determined on effecting an entrance. Having sought his hat, he waited until a number of guests arrived, when he slipped in among them, and by putting his hat over his face so as to avoid the glance of the domestics, again contrived to reach the salons. He now walked about with as much assurance as any of the invited guests, but after a few minutes had the deplorable misfortune to be recognised. This time he was handed over to the police in an adjacent apartment. Convinced from his pertinacity in entering the hotel so repeatedly that he must be a pickpocket, they searched him, and had their suspicions confirmed in finding on him an empty purse, and £50 in Money. He was sent to the Prefecture of Police, where he passed the night, and it was not until several highly respectable persons had borne testimony to his character that he was released.

MONSTER IRON WAREHOUSE.—A most commodious iron warehouse is now in the course of construction by Messrs. Cato, Miller, and Co. It is intended for exportation to California. The whole building, which is sixty feet in length by forty feet in width, is constructed on a framework of wood and iron, and entirely sheeted, side as well as roof, with pated corrugated galvanised iron. The extreme height of the warehouse, by internal measurement, is thirty-six feet at the gables, and about twenty-six feet four inches at the eaves, and is divided into three stories: the first of which is eleven feet in height, the second nine feet, and the third eight feet. Though every attention has been paid to strength, it is somewhat remarkable that the weight of the whole will little exceed thirty tons.

Varieties.

GRANT JUSTICE whenever the demand is made, or the moment that wrong is apparent; do not mimic the false "charity" of modern hypocrisy, by offering misnamed *spiritual* consolation to a poor creature when he wants bread! tamper not with the feelings of the hungry by a proffer of words to fill the stomach! grant him justice he will ask no charity!

"DEY DOES SAY, that way down in Georgia, they makes poor nigga work twenty-five hours ebbery day. Now, looke hea, I'se been told that day hasn'd got no more nor twenty-four hours, an' I wants you, Mr. Johnsing, to splanify to dis chile, how they make'em work twenty-five hours?" "Golly mighty, what ignoramus nigga you is, Scipio; why, way down dare, they make poor nigga get up one hour *afore* day—doesn't that make 'em twenty-five?" Scipio was convinced.

PHONETIC POETRY.—The following is hard to beat for depth of pathos and soul-stirring sentiment:—

"Here Pies and Kakes and Bier I sell
And Oisters stoo'd and in the shell,
And fride wuns tew for them that chews,
And with dispatch black butes and shews!"

FASHION IS a superfine germ of idiocy; it can only be tolerated by rational beings, out of pure compassion for the frailty of fools! we do not mean neatness when we repudiate fashion. To be neat and cleanly in our garb, attentive to our neighbour, and kindly in our general commerce with mankind, are only the dictates of common sense.

MISS M——, a young lady of considerable attractions, chanced to be seated at a dinner-party next a gentleman remarkable for the brilliancy of his wit, who had long made one of her train of admirers. The conversation turning upon the uncertainty of human life, "I mean to insure mine," said the young lady archly, "in the hope." "In the hope of what?" said her admirer; "a single life is hardly worth insuring; I propose we should insure our lives together, and if you have no objection, I would prefer the Alliance."

THE PRESENT practice of artillery, at moderately long distances, is tenfold more accurate than it was thirty-five years ago—that is to say, that at the distance of which we speak, ten artillery missiles (shot or shells) would strike the mark for one that struck such a mark in 1814.

TO BUILD a single 120-gun ship requires the timber of seventy-five acres, and of a century's growth; to build a frigate it would take nearly half as much; and for the construction of even one of those revenue vessels which are seen off every seaport, there are needed no fewer than 180 oak trees, each of which must have been growing ever since the battle of Culloden.

"LUTIN," IN the *Morning Post*, says:—"Queen Christina, of Sweden, told Dr. Burnet that she was well assured that the Roman Catholic Church was governed by the immediate care and providence of God, for none of the four popes she had known since she had been at Rome had common sense."

AN ELECTIVE BETTER THAN AN HEREDITARY MONARCHY. — Few kings, like Stephanus Battorius, King of Poland, do measure their actions, not by their own profit, but by the welfare of their own country. There is a saying of his extant, worthy to express the bravery of his disposition:—"I will make the world," quoth he, "understand how much a king, chosen for virtue by the consent of a nation, is better than he whom right of succession thrusts upon the shoulders of an unwilling people."—*Barclay's Mirror of Minds, Englished by Thomas May*, 1633.

A PUBLICAN blowing the froth from a pot of porter which he was *bringing to a customer*, the gentleman struck him. Boniface eagerly asked why he struck him? "Why," replied the gentleman "I only returned blow for blow."

A POOR Irishman offered an old saucepan for sale. His children gathered around him, and inquired why he parted with it. "Ah! my honeys," answered he, "I would not be afther parting with it, but for a little money to buy something to put in it."

A GENTLEMAN calling for some beer at another gentleman's table, finding it very bad, gave it to the servant without drinking. "What!" said the master of the house "don't you like the beer?" "It is not to be found found fault with," answered the other, "for we should never speak ill of the *dead*."

QUICK WITS be commonly apt to take, unapt to keep; more quick to enter speedily, than able to pierce far; even like oversharp tools whose edges be very soon turned.—*Roger Ascham's Schoolmaster.*

GOOD HEAVENS!—what a sight!—to see them feeding together in public, upon the public viands, and talking of public subjects for the benefit of the public. It is a pity that they are not immortal; but I hope that they will flourish as a corporation, and that pension will beget pension to the end of the chapter.—*John Philpot Curran.*

AT PRESTON quarter sessions, last week, an overseer deposed that there was no church or chapel in Westby. Notice to levy a rate was posted at the wheelwright's shop; the parish meetings were held at a public house; the parishioners had no clergyman; and the people got married "anywhere—wherever they pleased."

THE WINTER series of accidents by explosion, arising from the stupid practice of taking lighted candles to *see* where the gas is escaping, has already begun. It is to be hoped that our contemporaries will prevent their frequent recurrence, by pointing out the danger as well as absurdity, of such a practice, and advising trusting to the nose, instead of the eye.—*Builder*

THE EGYPTIANS assumed as their symbol an ox; the Jews, the letter tau; the Athenians, an owl; the Romans, an eagle; the Goths, a bear; the Franks, a lion; and the Saxons, a horse.

NATURE'S PLENTY TURNED INTO WANT BY MAN.—There, are few countries which, if well cultivated, would not support double the number of their inhabitants; and yet fewer where one-third part of the people are not extremely stinted, even in the necessaries of life.—*Dean Swift.*

THE *Port Natal* gives an account of the doings of some mighty hunters:—"In our last we omitted to notice the return of Captain Faddy, Royal Artillery, and his companions, from the two months' hunting expedition in the interior. From the following catalogue of trophies, it will be seen that the excursion has been one of no ordinary character, either as regards the degree of excitement and sport, or the amount in substantial value of the game. The list, including a goodly array of no contemptible antagonists, is as follows:—137 elephants, 42 buffaloes, 39 elands, 17 rhinosceroses, 1 lion, 8 koodoos, 1 hippopotamus, 7 wild boars, 1 leopard, 3 brindled gnoos, 10 riet bucks, 4 hartbeests, and 1 wolf."

"DON'T YOU understand me, Jim," thundered the old man. "Why, you must be quite a fool." "True, I am very *near one*," meekly replied Jim.

A CONSTANT frequenter at the city feasts having grown enormously fat, it was proposed to write on his back, "*Widened at the expense of the Corporation.*"

EATING "HUMBLE PIE."—A correspondent of that most useful publication, "Notes and Queries," gives the following as the origin of this expressive phrase:—"Humble pie" was made out of the 'umbles' or entrails of the deer, a dish of the second table, inferior, of course, to the venison pastry which smoked *upon the dais, and therefore* not inexpressive of that humiliation which the term 'eating humble pie' now painful describes. The 'umbles' of the deer are the perquisites of the gamekeeper."

WHO SHOULD NOT GO TO AUSTRALIA.—The *Morning Herald*, of Syndney, New South Wales, June 5th, admonishes mechanics, clerks, &c., that there is no need of them in Australia. "It cannot be too often repeated, that the only persons required in the colony are those who are willing to devote themselves to agricultural and pastoral pursuits. To induce those to come out who are only adapted for a town life, is a fraud upon the land-fund, and a *gross cruelty* to the unfortunate individuals themselves."

THE YANKEE COMIC MUSE.—What can be more beautiful than the following outbreak of passion addressed to the fascinating Miss Howe, of Saratoga Springs:—

"When weary I are,
I smoke my cigar;
And as the smoke rises,
And gets into my eyeses,
I think of thee, dearest,
And feel queer of the queerest!"

THE FAMILY HERALD MINCE MEAT PUDDING.—Crumble fine a stale savoy cake, or stale crumb of bread; *mix* well together a cup and a half of either of these, with one cupful of mince-meat. Butter a mould well, and fill it with this mixture, and a custard prepared with one quart of milk and six or eight eggs. If bread crumbs are used, then it is necessary to add about six ounces of sugar to the quart of custard, otherwise none is required. Cover it with buttered paper, and steam it. When done, serve with brandy sauce.

"DID I not give you a flogging the other day?" said a schoolmaster to a trembling urchin.—"Yes, sir," answered the boy. "Well, what does the *Scripture say upon the subject?*"—"*I don't* know, sir," said the other, "except it is in that passage which says, '*It* is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

THE FLESH of animals which feed excursively, is allowed to have a higher flavour than that of those which are cooped up. May there not be the same difference between men who read as their taste prompts, and men who are confined in cells and colleges to stated tasks?

SEVENTH DRAGOON GUARDS.—A young man, now serving as a private soldier in this regiment, has lately come into possession of landed property in Ireland to the value of £12,000 per annum, in addition to a large amount of cash. He becomes of age in a few months, when he will quit the profession of arms for the quietude of civil life.

NICE BOARD WAGES.—The Admiralty Board [illegible] £136,303 a year.—*Punch's Almanack.*

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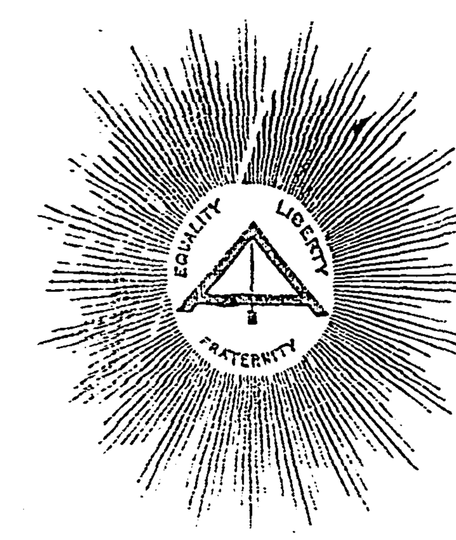
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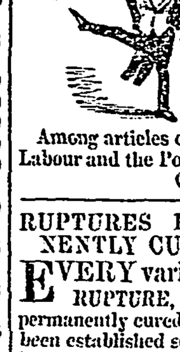
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FRATERNAL FESTIVAL.

A SUBSCRIPTION SOIREE, Consisting of TEA PARTY, CONCERT, and BALL, convened by the FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS, will be held at the LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, JOHN-STREET TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, on New Year's Eve., Monday, December 31st, 1849.

All the Advocates of Democratic and Social Reform are hereby invited to take part in the proceedings.

The full Choir of the Apollonic Society have kindly consented to give their powerful assistance at the Festival, accompanied by the Organ of the Institution.

Tea on the Table at Six o'Clock Precisely.

Single Subscription One Shilling and Sixpence; Double Subscriptions (to admit Male and Female, or Two Females,) Two Shillings and Sixpence, may be had as follows:—

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TO BE LET, ON LEASE, THE TWO-ACRE ALLOTMENT, now in the occupation of T. M. Wheeler, together with the crops, stock, several tons of manure, gardening implements, &c. The house is pleasantly situated in the most fertile portion of the estate, and the soil is not to be surpassed by any in the county. The stock consists of a sow in pig, two store pigs, a quantity of rabbits and fowls. The crops consist of several tons of parsnips, mangel wurtzel, and Swedes, also a quantity of seed potatoes, several bushels of artichokes, and seeds of every description, twenty apple trees, several damson and plumb ditto, and also several dozen of gooseberry, currant, and raspberry bushes; there is an excellent barn, tool-house, rabbit-house, a liquid manure tank, and other conveniences; half an acre of the land is cropped with wheat, quarter of an acre with tares, and a quarter of an acre with rape, cabbage, &c. The price demanded is £65. This is the greatest bargain yet offered to the public, as no monetary value can repay the advertiser for the capital and labour he has expended thereon. The only reason for letting this allotment is, that the proprietor has engagements in London, which compel him to reside there.

All applications to be addressed to T. M. Wheeler, O'Connorville, near Rickmansworth, and must contain a postage stamp for reply.

Also, to be disposed of, a FOUR-ACRE ALLOTMENT on *the same estate.* Enquire as above.

TO the Friends of Messrs. ERNEST JONES, VERNON, and FUSSELL.—In consequence of the non-payment of the oakum-picking fine, the above-named victims are *at this moment* menaced with, if not already subjected to, the horrible treatment which occasioned the deaths of Williams and Sharp. The Committee of the FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS earnestly request the attendance of the leading and active Chartists of the Metropolis at the TWO CHAIRMEN, WARDOUR-STREET, Soho, TO-MORROW EVENING (Sunday), *December 23rd, at eight o'clock, to take steps* in aid of our unfortunate brothers. It is earnestly hoped that friends attending the meeting will, if possible, bring Chartist subscriptions with them.

G. JULIAN HARNEY, Secretary.

To Correspondents.

BARNSTAPLE, DEVON.—The Chartists of this small town sent £1 1s. for the cost of Macnamara's action last week, and they earnestly call upon the Chartists of other places to subscribe for the above object. They justly state that their number is small, but that if every town paid in proportion to its members, as they have done, the just claims of the Chartist body would not only soon be liquidated, but a good sum would remain in hand for a future campaign.

NOTTINGHAM.—J. Sweet acknowledges the receipt of the following sums, sent herewith, viz.:—FOR MACNAMARA'S ACTION.—A Friend, 1s; Mr. Wild, 2d; A Friend, £1; Mr. S. Hudson, 3d; A Friend, 1d; Mr. Burgin, 6d; A Friend, 6d; Mr. Peter Alfrey, 3d; Mr. Chipindale, 6d; Mr. Elson, 6d; Mr. Mellors, 6d; From Bulwell, 5s; From Carrington, 6s 7d.——Less 3d. for Post-Office Order.

J. SKERRITT, Nottingham, begs to acknowledge the following sums, sent herewith, viz.: — FOR MACNAMARA'S ACTION.—Seven Stars Locality, £1 10s 6d; Victoria Tavern Locality, New Lenton, 9s; Collected at Council Meeting, ditto, 2s 6d; A Few Friends at New Radford, 12s; Collected by Messrs. Hall and Moison, 8s 5½d; Colonel Hutchinson Locality, £1 11s 0½d.

THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS.—Julian Harney has received, for the Fraternal Democrats, a donation of ONE POUND from 'S. P., a Red Republican;' also 1s. 6d. from Mr. Whitcombe, Greenwich, and 1s. from Mr. Mann, Greenwich, for the 'Fraternal Fund' of the same society.

MR. GERALD MASSEY.—A letter for you is in the hands of *G. Julian Harney.*

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Mr. Skevington acknowledges the receipt, for Macnamara's action, of the following sums, sent herewith:—Mr. Hudson 1s.; Berry 1s.; Skevington 1s.; Taylor 9d.; Chamberlain 6d.; Harris 6d.; Woodward 6d.; Wright 6d.; Coulson 6d.; Bishop 6d.; Butes 6d.; *Gilbert 6d.; Clarke 6d.; Dexter 6d., Arnott 6d.; Harding 6d.; Pratt 3d.; Weldon 3d.; Belton 3d.; Sundries 4½d.; Collected by J. Jackson 2s. 6d.*—Total 13s. 4½d. Expenses 4½d.—13s.

THE NORTHERN STAR,
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1849.

"UP GUARDS, AND AT THEM!"
"BREAKERS A-HEAD! LOOK OUT—"
"ALL HANDS TO THE PUMP, THE SHIP IS SINKING!"

To surfeit, have we repeated that the industrial classes of this country, upon whose labour and industry the luxury of all other classes is based, can entertain no hope of any, the slightest, improvement in their condition, save through a thorough union of their order. When catering for power, the Whigs have invariably excited the people to madness; and when power has been achieved through popular fury, the Whigs have been the first to enact the most bloody and tyrannical laws, upon the maxim that what the people have done the people can undo.

Upon this principle the people of this country have ever been governed, but more especially since the passing of the Reform Bill, from which so much was promised and so much was expected. We are to presume that the leading organ of any movement is to be looked upon as a fair index of the mind of that movement; and if such is the case, we beg to call the critical and jealous attention of our readers to an article extracted from the *Daily News* of Tuesday last, and from that article the reader will gain wisdom.

However unwilling we were to offer any, the slightest opposition to any movement that was calculated in any, the slightest, degree, to serve the cause of the working classes, we, nevertheless, assured their order in the outset that we would remain upon the watch-tower, ready to give the signal when we anticipated deception, fraud, or desertion.

During the recess, large and influential meetings of this new association have been held, and at not one of those meetings has a working man, although firmly attached to the principles of Chartism, offered any, the slightest opposition; a fact which irrefutably proves the desire of the working class to improve their condition, by moral rather than by physical force.

Now, however, we find that this chirruping bird is to have its wings clipped—that some Downing-street minister, intimating to the modification in the Rate-Paying Clauses, or the adoption of ANY ONE ARTICLE in Mr. HUME's programme, in the Session of 1850, will be received as a boon by the working classes.

If the Chartists had given their unconditional adhesion to this movement, allowing its originators so to construct the machinery as they thought best, they may have received the intimation of their prospects for 1850 with complacency and satisfaction; but their new allies appear to have forgotten, that so far from the Chartists having abandoned a single particle of their own principles, they have compelled their new allies more critically to define their definition of the Suffrage, and to adopt the "NO PROPERTY QUALIFICATION" principle]

We look upon the announcement in the "*Daily News*" as a kind of despatch to the concessions upon which the Whigs may base their continuance in office. It comes just in time to allow of deliberation before Parliament opens; and, no doubt, the reader will gather from the article to which we refer, the fact, which we have more than once stated, that dread of a majority of Protectionist members, *consequent upon an election,* would induce the Whigs and the middle classes to join in any plan or policy which may uphold the power of the one and the monopoly of the other; but then comes the question, whether the people, who have constituted the body and nerves of this new movement, will be satisfied?

To the organ of the party we attribute no blame, inasmuch as a newspaper, which represents a party, if the policy of its managers is based upon Free Trade, must be the index of the mind of that party; and taking this view, we entirely agree with the following passage, selected from the article which we are now commenting upon:—

> But in the division of the country into two camps, *many a man hastens blindly to the standard which is not* its own.

Now, although the "*Daily News*" has, no doubt, blindly hastened to that standard which is not its own, we are not going as blindly to rally around that standard which is not our own. Our standard is the CHARTER and NO SURRENDER; and while we were resolved not to sully our banners by offering an opposition, based upon vanity or ambition, to any project which, if FAITHFULLY CARRIED OUT, was sure to improve the condition of the working classes, we *will not* allow them to be deceived when no such hope can be anticipated.

Again, the "*Daily News*" says:—

> *That such an appeal will be more than usually solemn,* serious, and critical in its results, no one can doubt. And if ministers have a due sense of their position and of the danger of the country, they will render that appeal more *solemn and effectual by calling to the hustings and admitting* to the franchise the large, but not enormous, body *of ratepayers in every locality.*

In faith, we have no doubt that the appeal will "be more than usually solemn, serious, and critical;" but we are much mistaken, if the working classes will allow their new associates to administer a tonic composed of milk and water to strengthen the nerves of Whiggery. But what does the writer mean by the term "large, but NOT ENORMOUS, body of ratepayers?" Are we to understand that there is now to be a retrograde movement, and that—as by the parent Reform Bill of yore—the people are to be again juggled by this new-fangled bantling? We have more than once predicted that all parties would find themselves in a fix in the next session of Parliament, and we have also stated—and we repeat it, that any, the slightest, surrender of any portion of those principles to the support of which the Chartists have given their hearty and generous co-operation, will be the signal for total separation between the New Reform Association and the Chartists. But, let us ask if Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, or GEORGE THOMPSON, can acquiesce in the following pithy and understandable sentence, and expect for a moment to hold that power which they have so justly achieved. The *Daily News* says:—

> "AND EVEN ONE OF THESE REFORMS, HOWEVER INCOMPLETE, WITHOUT THE REST, SHOULD BE WELCOMED."

Now, what will a Chartist say to this melting down of the REFORM FAT? Let us analyse this, and critically. Would they welcome the ballot with the present suffrage, for that is one of the proposed reforms? Would they welcome triennial parliaments with the present suffrage, for that is another of the proposed measures? Would they welcome the denial of the franchise to the ENORMOUS BODY OF RATEPAYERS who were to be admitted within the sanctuary? And would they welcome the NO PROPERTY QUALIFICATION, with the present franchise? With regard to Ireland and the present franchise, we have too often analysed the subject to justify repetition. Again, the *Daily News* says:—

> Nor is it merely the great questions of protection and free trade, which demand that the country at large should participate in them by their representatives—there is the question of *finance* bound up with them, and of expenditure bound up with finance. If through any dexterous, and party handling of the cry of protection, the landlord class should once more get possession of the government of the country, and of a working majority in a parliament, we must be prepared to submit to a large increase of indirect taxation. Property will not pay, and industry must. And whilst property is not made to pay the holders of property, however nominal, and of the government together, will scout economy, and continue to the utmost the present lavish expenditure; nay perhaps we shall see this expenditure increase in order to support the despots of Europe, their tyranny and their reaction.

Now, in point of fact, does not the above resolve itself into the old dodge? Keep out the Protectionists by keeping in the Whigs, and that you can only do by a large modification of your demands.

In faith it matters but little what party is in power, so long as the people are excluded from a participation. We have so often defined the above probability, as to the restoration of the Protectionists to power—and our readers are so familiar with the facts—that we shall not trouble them with their repetition; while we may state, that a Parliament of employers, based upon the modicum of Reform pourtrayed by the *Daily News*, as likely to be satisfactory to the people, would be as unlikely to relieve the people from any one of their sufferings, as would a Protectionist Parliament. We agree that property never will be made to bear its legitimate share of taxation, and that INDUSTRY MUST, and more, till the PEOPLE'S CHARTER becomes the law of the land.

"Live horse and you'll get grass." We are now—upon the eve of the meeting of Parliament, and after more than six months continuous agitation—told by the organ of the active Reformers, that we must be satisfied with any change, however slow it may be, and we are to be *satisfied if* the Government will fling itself into EVER SO PARTIAL AN EXTENSION OF REFORM. And we are to look to Freehold Land Societies; while in the next day's number of the *Daily News* we are assured, that it will require 200*l.* capital, at least, for a man to work four acres of land. Now, could a greater absurdity be propounded than that of predicting that Parliamentary and Financial Reform may, ultimately arise from the Freehold Land Scheme; while allottees, who have paid no rent for five half years, cultivating fertile land, and occupying commodious houses, are pitied and commiserated when asked to pay a half-year's rent? And, as we have more than once stated, any increase of the franchise consequent upon the extension of Freehold Land Societies, would be used by the trustees, the solicitors, the patrons, the guardians, or the mortgagees of those allotments, whereas, by Mr. O'Connor's plan the allottees would be independent voters.

Our contemporary concludes its comment thus:—

> The carrying of even one article of Mr. Hume's programme, would be a great achievement for so early an epoch as the commencement of 1850. Nor should the efforts of *reform associations be left dormant with such a prospect* in view.

Chartists, if you are satisfied with this foreshadowing of the anticipated result, *from your* co-operation with the new Parliamentary Reform Association, say so? Attach no suspicion to Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, or GEORGE THOMPSON—offer no opposition to their progress until you extract from them—upon the platform—that the doleful foreboding in the *Daily News* reflects their opinions. But now is the time. In little more than a month the "show box" will open—the several jugglers will be prepared with their magic lanthorns, to represent the prosperity *to arise* from their several schemes; but England is now united with Ireland; the object of the Whigs will be to destroy the power of the Protectionists, in both countries, but so great has it become that it cannot now be demolished, except by the enfranchisement of the whole people, by the adoption of the PEOPLE'S CHARTER, NAME AND ALL.

The reader must understand that we ascribe no blacksliding or *surrender of principles* to Lord NUGENT, Lord DUDLEY STUART, Mr. HUME, Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, GEORGE THOMPSON, Mr. LUSHINGTON, Mr. HALL, Mr. ATKINSON, and others who have taken a prominent part in this new Parliamentary Reform movement; while it becomes the imperative duty of the people, *to ascertain from them,* whether or not the sentiments expressed in the *Daily News* reflect their opinions, and whether it is their intention to contend for, or rest satisfied with the alterations foreshadowed by the *Daily News*, should they, or any of them, be propounded by the Government.

This understanding is of the utmost necessity, inasmuch as the working classes—when deceived by leaders in whom they have reposed implicit confidence—are sure to be driven to madness and fury, which ever results in persecution and oppression, while, upon the other hand, we now feel convinced that the union of the people will *accomplish* everything from the antagonism and disunion of their oppressors—and, to the people, therefore we say, "BE STEADY, BE WATCHFUL, BE RESOLUTE, AND PREPARED." Give up a bristle, and the animal will be skinned. The people can hope for no amendment in their condition, except through a full, free, and fair representation of their order, and that they can only achieve by a THOROUGH REFORM. READ, MARK, LEARN, and INWARDLY DIGEST the following:—

(From the *Daily News*, Tuesday, Dec. 18.)

> The present moment is one, which strikes us as imperatively requiring that all men visited with fiscal burdens should be called to partake in the *final decision of how they are to be borne. On this* subject there exists the greatest diversity of opinion; of opinion not merely theoretically entertained, but deeply, passionately, interestedly disputed. The country has avowedly come to this pass, that its most wealthy classes declare their inability or reluctance to bear their share of the burdens of the state, unless they are *protected,* or in other words helped to do so. This is the case with the landed aristocracy of the country, not indeed with its more intelligent members, or those most versed in the practical science of politics and finance, but still with a majority of that class. To get that protection, or to shake off the analogous shares of burden, is but too certainly the aim of this powerful interest. On the other hand, with the continuance or restoration of the old dearness of corn, all that capital which derives its profit from the production of manufactures must become profitless and idle, and the hands which live upon it destitute. The interest of the commom mass of consumers is identical with this; and so indeed is the interest of the *farmer* and the labourer, could these dependent classes rightly understand it. But in the division of the country into two camps, many a man hastens blindly to the standard which is not his own.
>
> In this war of opinion, and amidst the desperate efforts of the party, *against which judgment went, to reverse it,* a ministry or any band of officials is comparatively powerless; and political party, in its present fractionary state, is equally without the authority or power duly to resist, or permanently to decide. There must come the necessity of an appeal to the country at no very distant day. That such an appeal will be more than usually solemn, serious, and critical in its results, no one can doubt. And if ministers have a due sense of their position and of the danger of the country, they will render that appeal *more solemn and effectual* by calling to the hustings and admitting to the franchise the large but not enormous body of ratepayers in every locality. Could there in each locality be secured to all an independent vote by means of the ballot, and to each interest its fair influence in representation proportioned to its wealth and population; then, indeed, a decision of parliament might be considered so authoritive and final, as to stifle the very murmur of discontent. It is impossible, however, to hope for all reforms *en masse.* And even one of these reforms, however incomplete without the rest, should be welcomed.
>
> Of these reforms, the extension of the franchise to all ratepayers is most to be pressed, because it is that which even the Whigs must contemplate. There are none of them, indeed, who must not see that to leave the Irish with their present limited franchise and dwindled electoral body, is neither more nor less than to give up that country and its parliamentary influence to malcontent and frantic landlordism. There is but the one remedy, the one safeguard, the extension of the franchise to ratepayers, which, however, imperative and indispensable, would still be impossible to adopt as a principle in Ireland, without extending it to England likewise. Ministers, we are convinced, cannot meet parliament without a large measure dealing with the Irish franchise, and how they are to do this without enlarging the English electoral body at the same time, we are at a loss to conceive.
>
> *Nor is it merely the great questions of protection* and free trade, which demand that the country at large should participate in them by their representatives—*there is the question of finance* bound up with them, and of expenditure bound up with finance. *If through any dexterous and party hand*ling of the cry of protection, the landlord class should once more get possession of the government of the country, *and of a working majority in parlia*ment, we must be prepared to submit to a large increase of indirect taxation. Property will not pay and industry must. And whilst property is not made to pay, the holders of property however nominal and of the government together, will scout economy, and continue to the utmost the present lavish expenditure; nay, perhaps we shall see this expenditure increase in order to support the despots of Europe, their tyranny and their reaction.
>
> However the fears of such danger may be exaggerated, they are still not to be slighted. And over confidence is as much to be deprecated as extra panic. To meet such danger, all the popular party can do is to be done by slow degrees, by those popular associations *for electoral* and financial reform, which have spread their ramifications throughout the country, and the freehold land societies, which seek to raise to an independent franchise the poor industrial, which the franchise will not stoop to reach. It would, however, be a great advancement to all the patriots engaged in efforts necessarily so tedious, if the government of the day were compelled by its necessities to fling itself into ever so partial an extension of reform.
>
> The carrying of even one article of Mr. Hume's programme would be a great achievement for so early an epoch as the commencement of 1850. Nor should the efforts of reform associations be left dormant with such a prospect in view.

A GREAT SWINDLE.

Some impostures can outlive detection. It takes a long time to drive out an established idea, however conclusively its fallacy may be demonstrated. People act more from habit than reason, and, like sheep, follow the bell-wether. It is only by considerations like these, that the continued faith of poor persons in Savings Banks can be accounted for. In the early part of last Session, the defalcations of several Irish Savings Banks were brought before Parliament, with the view of saddling the Government with the pecuniary responsibilities which, it was supposed, they were subject to. In spite of a desperate ministerial opposition, Mr. REYNOLDS carried his motion for the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry; but Sir CHARLES WOOD afterwards, in the most unfair manner, cheated him of the advantage thereby gained, and appointed a committee so obviously packed, for the purpose of stifling inquiry and refusing justice, that the affair ended in nothing. The poor people who had been swindled out of their money by relying upon an assumed Government security, procured no redress, though it was conclusively shown, that if the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, had acted in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Parliament, they would have stopped the robbery of the depositors, years before it was discovered.

Another lamentable instance of the insecurity of these banks, has just been made public; the late actuary of the Rochdale Savings Bank has appropriated between 70,000*l.* and 80,000*l.* of the small savings of the poor to his own purposes. The robbery went on for many years; and such was the careless, if not dishonest, management of the trustees and managers, that it was not until the death of the actuary, this enormous defalcation was discovered. Every one of these banks is conducted on a somewhat similar system, which apparently offers no effectual protection against fraud, and when that is committed, the plundered depositors have no legal remedy or redress; the whole scheme is a heartless and impudent juggle by which the few shillings that by chance escape the other modes of extracting money from the pockets of the labourer may be grasped by the capitalist. The parties who combine to perpetrate the juggle are the Government and the "respectable classes." The mode pursued is ingenious. An Act of Parliament is passed, giving a Government Commission the direct superintendence *of these Banks, and requiring that,* as funds are deposited, a certain proportion must be deposited in the *safe* keeping of the Government; that is, invested with the Commissioners *for* the Reduction of the National Debt. Then the rector, vicar, magistrates, and "respectable people" of a town or district, start a bank for the *benefit* of the poor in their respective localities, and their names appear as Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, Managers, and Treasurers, on the faith and security of which the prudent and thrifty sons and daughters of toil are induced to deposit their savings. The Actuary of the bank is merely the paid servant of these managerial bodies. On his own responsibility the investers of small savings would not deposit a single shilling. They expect that the managers, to whom they really entrust their money, will look after him, and see that he does his duty honestly. They believe that these trustees and managers are really responsible to them, and that, besides this, the Government are bound by an Act of Parliament to keep a sharp eye upon their proceedings, and give warning if *anything* is *going* wrong. The whole is a delusion. There is no actual responsibility anywhere. Sir CHARLES WOOD's doctrine and conduct, last Session, entirely divested the Government of any responsibility. It is now proved that the trustees and managers cunningly contrive to evade all liability except for monies actually paid into their own hands, and as they take care that shall be very little, the security they give to the depositors is as hollow as that of the Government. The specious and attractive checks, by which it is pretended that frauds can be effectually prevented, are mere shams. They afford no protection whatever; either because they are in themselves worthless, or because the ostensible managers merely lend the use of their names, and never trouble themselves about the performance of their nominal duties.

THIRTY MILLIONS of sterling money have been invested *on this rotten basis.* The industrious and thrifty workmen—the hard-worked domestic servant—the village Club and town Benefit Society—have poured their accumulated savings *into the coffers of these* banks, under the belief that they were guaranteed against loss, both by the Government and the trustees. It now *turns out, that there* is not the slightest real responsibility anywhere. That they are at the mercy of any rogue who is clever enough to throw dust in the eyes of lazy "respectables" who may choose to aspire to the honour of being trustees and managers. For at least ten years, Mr. HAWORTH, the Rochdale Actuary, has been *carrying* on his gigantic frauds; and though he had abstracted the vast sum of nearly 80,000*l.*, the *managers had not the slightest suspicion that* anything was wrong. It was only after his sudden decease that it was found there was a "screw loose," and the investigations were set on foot, which have resulted in the announcement of so appalling a loss to the poorer classes of Rochdale and its vicinity.

The late Actuary was "a very respectable man." He was a Quaker, and kept up the appearance of great wealth. He embarked largely in speculations of all kinds, and with the money of which the poor were plundered, made a show of affluence which deceived his victims. Who among the depositors could suspect a *man who was a cotton spinner and* manufacturer, as well as steward for several influential families? The besetting sin of the English people is to worship Mammon. They will prostrate themselves in the dust *before* any man who possesses the reputation of being rich. While GEORGE HUDSON was carrying on his gigantic frauds, dukes and duchesses, earls and countesses, lords and lordlings—"respectable people," of all degrees—crowded his parties. He was a vulgar, bullying, purse-proud man: but his ignorance and his coarseness did not repel the polished fashionable of May-fair. He was beslavered all over with adulation, and worshipped almost as if he had been a Deity. Gold covered all defects. The discovery of his "cooked accounts"—his curious mode of "making things pleasant"—we verily believe would not have dispersed the sycophants who fawned upon him, had they not involved at the same time the loss of the wealth he had so nefariously heaped together. That was a blow their attachment could not survive. It destroyed that which alone constituted him their idol.

We imprison and transport miserable, ignorant and wretched creatures, for stealing a few shillings, under the influence of want and destitution; but our respectable criminals—our plunderers upon a large scale—go scot free.

The frequent recurrence of such frightful robberies in these Savings Banks, ought to make the people at large reconsider the whole question, and demand either that they shall have a *bona fide* security given to them, or their money back again. We wonder, if there was a general run upon Savings Banks, how much of the Thirty Millions would be missing? We have some uneasy suspicions on the subject, and fancy that a special act, suspending cash payments, would speedily make its appearance.

At Rochdale, it appears that a large number of unenrolled Friendly Societies were depositors in the Bank to the extent of 10,000*l.*, and that it is likely every farthing of this sum will be lost. The law treats Freemasons, Druids, Odd Fellows, Shepherds, Foresters, and other similar bodies, as secret and illegal associations, though their objects are of the most praiseworthy character. It is in the power of the other depositors to take an objection to their legality, and deprive them of any participation in any composition that may be paid. This is really a very hard case, and exhibits, in a forcible manner, the injustice and inequality of our legislation. In all directions, we find it unjust to the poor. Its express object seems to be the keeping of them down to the level of "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Every door of escape from unrequited drudgery, is closed as far as possible against them. Associated efforts for social emancipation are debarred. The struggles of the National Land Company to be placed in a legal position, and thereby endowed with the necessary power to carry out its objects, offer a *strong* illustration. The failure of these efforts, and the consequent disadvantages it has had to contend with, are now made a handle of by certain portions of the Press, to throw discredit upon the object itself, as well as the author of the plan.

If the working classes, the depositors in

Savings Banks, were wise, they would not longer submit to be instrumental to their own degradation—they would not weekly supply the means of perpetuating a system, the direct purpose of which is to degrade and impoverish them. The thirty millions they have given to bolster up that system, if well and wisely directed, would be sufficient for their emancipation from slavery. They might with that sum lay the foundation of a better system of society, and while materially improving their own condition, ensure to their posterity a heritage of freedom and plenty, instead of the miserable future to which the despotism of capital will condemn them.

ONE MAN'S VICE IS ANOTHER MAN'S VIRTUE.

As proof of the above, we ask the reader to peruse the following laudation of a Land Society which uses the ILLEGAL BALLOT as the means of locating members, and in a year and a half purchases the enormous quantity of twenty-five acres, and distributes it between ONE HUNDRED AND TWO MEMBERS, or less than a quarter of an acre to each member. Is not this glorious? While the same number of members in the reviled Company of the JUGGLER—measured by the *average quantity*—would have three hundred and sixty acres, one hundred and two cottages, and would receive TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIVE POUNDS AID MONEY. But all will yet come right, when the people's eyes are opened.

Stourbridge Freehold Land Movement.—We are pleased, says the *Worcestershire Chronicle*, to notice the rapid progress the Freehold Land Society in this town is making. It is scarcely more than eighteen months since the society was established, and the members have already purchased two pieces of land, together measuring 24 or 25 acres, adjoining each other, on the Enville and Bridgnorth road, about half a mile from the centre of the town. The first piece was allotted some time back among forty-seven of the members, and the ballot of the other piece, which is capable of allotting fifty-five shares, will take place on Monday evening next, at the British school-room. We understand that land in this neighbourhood is being divided and sold in lots to purchasers, at similar prices, and weekly payments, as those of the Land Society. In this way the franchise will be greatly extended ere long.

TOTHILL FIELDS CHARTIST PRISONERS.

The following letter, addressed to Mrs. Fussell, has been placed in our hands:—

Dear Wife,—The money for keep has not been paid, and was *due* on the 24th of November. Will you see to it *without delay?* If it is not paid this week, let *me know* the reason, by note on Saturday *at latest*. I have been this fortnight in excellent health, and still remain so.

And remain your husband,
John Fussell.

Merry Christmas and happy New Year. God bless you.
Westminster Bridewell, Dec. 19, 1849.

At this hour—late on Thursday evening—we have no opportunity of seeing Mr. O'Connor. Consulting Mr. Rider, he declines to advance money without Mr. O'Connor's sanction. It appears that that gentleman has already expended between 70*l.* and 80*l.* of his own money, over and above subscriptions received, to relieve the sufferers from oakum picking. Mrs. Fussell believes, that if the money is not paid in the course of a day or two, her husband and the other prisoners will be forced to pick oakum, or otherwise be punished by solitary confinement, deficient diet, &c. Mr. Fussell's letter speaks for itself. We trust that the people will forthwith speak through their good deeds, by at once contributing the necessary means to save the imprisoned sufferers from the fate of their martyred brethren.

MR. CHARLES HEINZEN.

Our attention has been called to a late number of the *London German Newspaper*, containing an article from Mr. Heinzen commenting, with some asperity, on a letter printed in a recent number of the *Star*, from "A German Social Democrat." Mr. Heinzen's principal complaint is, that the said letter did not bear the name of the writer. Mr. Heinzen might understand that, unlike the *Times*, it is no part of our policy to recommend the names of the proscribed to the notice of a hostile government.

Mr. Heinzen seems to imagine that the conductors of the *Northern Star* are ignorant of German politics and parties. He is mistaken. We have had opportunities of acquiring correct information concerning both. The "German Social Democrat" is an old contributor to this paper, and we can vouch for his sterling ability, sound political principles, and personal honour.

RECEIPTS OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY

For the Week Ending Thursday, December 20, 1849.

SHARES.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Huddersfield ..	3 12 0	H. Mathews ..	0 5 0
Nottingham ..	1 18 9		
Edinburgh ..	1 0 0		
			£5 15 9

TOTALS.

Land Fund	5 15 9
Expense ditto	0 2 3
Loan ditto	0 1 0
Rents from Allottees...	11 1 0
	£17 0 0

W. Dixon, C. Doyle,
T. Clark, Cor. Sec.
P. M'Grath, Fin. Sec.

FOR COSTS OF MACNAMARA'S ACTION.

Received by W. Rider.—J. Cooke, Shincliffe Colliery, 3d.; Wheatley, near Halifax, per C. Appleyard, 5s. 3d.; J. Butterworth, Sandbach, 1s.; Ralph Stringer, Sandbach, 1s.; J. L., a working man, Exeter, 2s. 6d.; G. W. Reynolds, Esq., London, 2l. 2s.; Mr. Smith, per Mr. Mathiers, 2s.; Barrowford, per J. Gray, 4s.; Pilkington, per J. Eastwood, 5s.; Half Acre, *from a few friends*, per J. Briggs, 2s. 6d.; Reading, per J. Gibson, 4s.; Stockport Chartists, per W. Benfold, 2l. 2s. 6d.; Yarmouth, per W. C. Sawyer, 10s.; A. Fiddes, Aberdeen, 1s.; John Murray, London, 6d.; P. M'Ainsh, Crieff, 6d.; a few Friends, Oxford, per R. Warner, 4s.; W. B., Oxford, 1s.; W. S., Oxford, 1.; Nottingham, per J. Skerrett, 1l. 13s. 6d.; J. Wilson and S. Widdop, Addingham, 1s.; T. Blakey, Shiney-row, County Durham, 2s.; South Shields, per H. Haines, 1l.; J. Taylor, Steur Provost, 1s.; J. Lewis, Lantwit Varder, 1s.; Tiverton, per W. Kilbey, 10s.; A. and J. Charles, junr., Miles Platting, 2s.; Nottingham, per J. Sweet, 1l. 15s. 7d.; J. Scott and J. ickerson, Lynn, 1s.; J. Butterworth, Miln-row, Rochdale, per R. Gill, 8s. 3d.; two Young Guards, Rochdale, per R. Gill, 1l. 1s. 6d.—E. Mitchell, Rochdale, per R. Gill, 6d.—Female Chartists, Rochdale, per R. Gill, 11s.—W. Baker's Book, per R. Gill, 4s. 8d.—Chartists Association, Rochdale, per R. Gill, 4s. 7d.—T. Boughton, Brampton, 1s.—T. A. C., 6d.—E. S. C., 6d.—Old Guards, Bamber-bridge, near Preston, per W. Liddle, 6s. 1d.—a few Friends, Coventry, per C. Tristram, 7s.—G. Shawe, Leeds,—18s. 3d.—C. Rayner, Leeds, 1s.—T. Broker, Leeds, 1s.—W. Wilkinson, Leeds, T. Braithwaite, Leeds, 1s.—E. Owen, Leeds, 1s.—J. Rowel, Leeds, 6d.—D. Dodgson, Leeds, 2s.—Bristol, per C. Clark, 10s.—J. Dunmain, Birmingham, 1s. 2d.—J. Howe, Birmingham, 10d.—D. Grantham, Birmingham, 6d.—J. D., Huddersfield, 2s. 6d.—J. Gledhill, Huddersfield, 2s.—J. Oldfield, Huddersfield, 2s.—Sumbutts, near Todmorden, per J. Howarth, 5s.—Ship Inn, Birmingham, per J. Newhouse, 11s.—Three Friends, West Bromwich, 1s. 6d.—Loughborough, per J. Skevington, 13s.—W. Sutcliffe and Friends, Barnsley, 3s.—a few Friends, London, per G. Percy, 4s.—Thomas Paris, 2s. 6d.—Received by T. Clark.—Higham Ferrars, 1s. 6d.—Mrs. Austen, 4s.—Nuneaton, 1l.—Tower Hamlets, per Fidge, 1s.—A. Fanchild, 1s.—Mr. M'Lean, 1s.—a few Cigar makers, 9s.—Received by John Arnott.—Mr. Hilliard, per B. Newley, 6d.—a Friend, per B. Newley, 3d.—Total, £23 11s. 8d.

FOR THE AGITATION OF THE CHARTER.

Received by W. Rider.—Bristol, per C. Clark, 2s.—Received by T. Clark.—A few Cigar makers, 3s. 6d.

EXECUTIVE FUND.

Received by W. Rider.—Todmorden, per W. Robinson, 4s. 3d.

TO EXEMPT PRISONER'S FROM OAKUM PICKING.

Received by W. Rider.—E. Todd, West Auckland, 6d.; J. Lewis, Lantwit Varder, 1s.

FOR WIDOWS OF THE LATE MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND SHARP.

Received by W. Rider.—Leicester, per J. White, 8d.; A. Fiddes, Aberdeen, 6d.; T. Boughton, Bramton, 1s. 6d.

M'DOUALL'S TESTIMONIAL.

Received by W. Rider.—A. Fiddes, Aberdeen, 6d.; E. Todd, West Auckland, 6d.; South Shields, per H. Haines, 5s.

FOR MRS. JONES.

Received by John Arnott.—H. B., per B. Newley, 6d.

FOR WIVES AND FAMILIES OF VICTIMS.

Received by W. Rider.—Boot and Shoe makers, Harmonic meeting, at King and Queen, Foley-street, Marylebone, per Messrs. Waters and Dickenson, 12s.; Yarmouth, per W. C. Sawyer, 10s.; W. C. Sawyer, Yarmouth, 2s.; South Shields, per H. Haines, 5s.

NATIONAL VICTIM FUND.

Received by John Arnott, Secretary.—Whittington and Cat, per Benjamin Newley, 5s.; G. W., 6d.; Mr. Rider, as per *Star*, £1 9s.

The sum acknowledged in the *Star* of December 8th, from the Whittington and Cat, to exempt the political prisoners from oakum picking, should have been 6s. instead of 5s.

THE PRINTER'S BILL.

Paisley, Dec. 14th, 1849.

Sir,—I am desired by the committee of the late Chartist Association in Paisley, to inform you, that they have instructed their secretary to forward to you the sum of £2, to assist in defraying the debt owing to you by the late National Convention and Assembly.

The committee have to state that the Chartists of Renfrewshire paid their fair proportion of the debts contracted during the sittings of these bodies, and their now consenting to pay the above-named sum, is because they are desirous to have your just debt satisfied; the non-payment of which they believe calculated to injure the reputation of the whole Chartist body.

Hoping that the Chartists over this country will not allow you—who have confided in their integrity, to suffer, but will lend a helping hand to have the debt speedily paid,

I am, Sir, yours truly,
Mr. M'Gowan. Robert Cochrane.

NATIONAL LAND AND LABOUR BANK.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

This Bank will be closed to the public from Saturday, the 22nd instant, two p.m., until ten a.m., on Wednesday, the 26th. All letters reaching the Bank on the Monday and Christmas Day, will be answered on the following Wednesday. T. Price, Manager.
493, Oxford-street, London,
December 13th, 1849.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

Established 1845.

"Is it not time that the millions made an effort—united and determined—to save themselves from sinking to the level of Irish wretchedness? By heavens! the patience, or, rather, the suicidal apathy of the masses is wonderful and pitiable."—L'Ami du Peuple.

The energetic and eloquent correspondent of the *Star*, from whom we have barrowed the above most appropriate quotation to this article, may well give utterance to his astonishment and grief, at the infatuation of the working classes, who so quiescently and unresistingly offer their necks to the yoke of their unscrupulous taskmasters. It is, indeed, "passing strange, and pitiful—wonderously pitiful," that a class, possessing such enormous means at their disposal, wherewith to wrestle with the manifold oppressions—political and social—they are subject to, should present to the world such a dreadful spectacle of unresisting, abject slavery. The legal right of association is, thank God! still left to the working classes of Great Brinain, and it is to prove to them the enormous power which this right, *properly and judiciously exercised, would give them* to emancipate themselves from the thraldom of capital, that is, essentially, the mission, and a glorious one it is, of the National Association of United Trades.

From the first Conference, in 1845, to the present time, the principles and objects of this Association have been most grievously misunderstood. The majority of the trades who have joined, and have since seceded, appear to have had no more exalted idea of the great purpose it was designed and destined to accomplish for labour, than as a strike machine upon a gigantic scale—and the question is still frequently put to us, "Will the National Association, at the expiration of our six months' protection, support us in a strike—a *right and just* strike?" or in other words, "When we have paid into your Association, at the rate of two pence per week, the enormous sum of four shillings and fourpence per man, will you grant us, for an *indefinite* number of weeks, or months, twelve shillings and sixpence per week, for any number of men we may find it convenient to place upon your funds? If so, we shall have no hesitation in joining *so noble an institution*." We have told such parties privately, and we here tell the working classes publicly, that the National Association is established for higher and nobler purposes than of perpetuating, by encouraging a system which has done more to impoverish and disunite the working classes than all the encroachments of capitalists upon their wages. The money which has been uselessly and mischievously squandered through strikes, within the last fifty years, would have amply provided for one million of the superabundant labourers of Great Britain, in comfort and independence. Such being the case, it is full time that such a ruinous and ineffective system was done away with, and some other plan more *in accordance with reason and common sense* substituted; and it is only, therefore, until such improved substitute can be brought into operation, that this old and favourite weapon of the working classes can be in any case sanctioned by the Central Committee: and in no case, until *every other mode* of dealing with disputes have been, tried and proved inefficient.

The cause of reduction in wages, and all other attacks upon the rights of labour, is traceable to the competition engendered and fostered by that selfish spirit of disunion, which is the besetting sin of the masses. The remedy must strike every man who does not wilfully shut his eyes to the truth. You must provide employment for the unemployed of your order, and you must unite, to give you the means and the power to effect this. It is the unemployed men, in all trades, who reduce wages and introduce every mischievous innovation, and not employers. This latter class but act in the spirit of their vocation—to "*buy their labour in the cheapest market*," and the working classes, *in their* ignorance, always take care that the market of labour *shall be cheap*. There is no other class that has *the slightest interest in regulating the supply of labour to the demand but the working classes*; and they, by their apathy and selfishness, neglect to use the vast means they possess, and thus entail upon themselves wrongs and oppressions, which are fast bringing them down to "*Irish wretchedness*."

The payment to the National Association by those members whose wages average twenty shillings weekly, is, *in round numbers, about ten shillings* per annum. This small sum—about twopence farthing per week—from one million men, would yield an income of *half a million a year; every fraction of* which could be applied to the redemption of the unemployed, who now, without any fault of their own, are the active agents in the hands of the capitalists, to beat down the wages of labour to the starvation point. There are many trades that we are acquainted with who are constantly paying a self-inflicted tax of from sixpence to one shilling per week, with the *vain hope of preserving* themselves from the inevitable consequences of an overgorged labour market. We know one department of industry that has thus appropriated *no less a sum than £30,000 within the last twelve months*. We know of another large interest in Sheffield, who have paid this voluntary poor rate to the tune of £16,000, in a period of about eighteen months; *in fact, the sums of money* thus applied annually by a large number of the most important and influential trades is enormous. But has the money so paid answered the end—or rather the chief end—intended; has it arrested the downward tendency of wages in almost all these trades? Assuredly not. The *cause* which occasions reductions remains untouched; *and the effect continues* in full operation. "*Is it not time then that the working classes made an effort—united and determined*"—to extricate themselves from this wretched position? We call again upon those men who have power and influence over the masses to arouse themselves to a full sense of their danger, and no longer to remain contented to waste their talents and energy in a peddling, fruitless contest with the gigantic power of capital, which can only be effectually grappled with by the united efforts of an extensive and thoroughly organised confederation.

Land, Labour, and Capital are the three elements of production. These elements of wealth are most unquestionably as available to an association of "*Labour Capitalists*" as of "*Money Capitalists*." The power of either differs but in degree. Whatever a joint-stock company of capitalists, with *£1,000,000 sterling, could accomplish in one year*, our Association, of one million working men, subscribing ten shillings per year, could accomplish in two years. If the one could render the now worth*less bogs of Ireland a source of fruitful employment*, and eventually a mine of wealth, as rich and productive as the sands of the Sacramento—well, so *could the other*. We contend, broadly and boldly, that £500,000 would go very far at the end of the first year appropriated to its collection—to remove, effectually, the surplus labour from the first trades, who, to the number of one million, united their pence and their energies to work out their redemption. We apprehend that half a million a-year, *which would give £50 each to ten thousand individuals, would, at least, place* them in a position, by the economical appliance of associative labour, to make themselves perfectly independent, with very little further assistance. We are perfectly sure that land may be obtained in the United Kingdom upon long leases, and at excessively low rents, in sufficient quantity for colonising all the unemployed of the industrious classes. And that £50 per head would be an ample fund for the commencement of such an undertaking. But we content ourselves now, with simply enunciating the perfect practicability of the Trades of Great Britain, thus relieving themselves of the incubus which is dragging them down to perdition. The idea may appear extravagant to such as have not given the subject consideration. But we think its grave importance, to the interest of our order, *should*, and will, ensure for it, the calmest and most unprejudiced investigation. One of the first effects which would be felt in any trade, who succeeded in producing an equilibrium between the demand and supply of labour in that particular trade, would be an advance *in the wages* of those who remained in it, thus compensating, with probably a very large addition, the pecuniary contributions which had been thus appropriated. *The tables would thus become effectually turned. Strikes, and all their accompanying evils, would be for ever abolished—the sure remedy* for low wages would have been discovered—the *power of union could then be acknowledged and* appreciated; and the now despised serfs of labour, constantly increasing in power and intelligence, would soon force a recognition of their social and political importance.

Dec. 12th, 1849. William Peel, Sec.

THE FRENCH EXILES OF THE "13th OF JUNE," AT PRESENT RESIDING IN LONDON, TO THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS OF ENGLAND.

Friends and Brothers,—

From the bottom of our hearts we thank you for the noble manifestation of sympathy contained in your addresses to our suffering compatriots, to their families and friends, and to ourselves.

Your sympathy is a glorious proof of the rapid progress of the ideas for which we are suffering. You have truly said that the religion of Fraternity is arising from the ruins of false systems. True also it is that our enemies are yours; for our cause is the cause of the oppressed of every land.

For the moment victory is to Falsehood and Treason. It is Falsehood which has delivered up France to the sham Republicans. It was under the influence of falsehood that a French army was led to attack Rome. It was Falsehood that disarmed the heroes of Hungary. Treason is everywhere. It forced our brethren, the soldiers of France, although raging with despair and shame, to destroy a free people whom they loved. Treason has subjugated the Rhine and the Danube, opened the gates of Milan, Rome, Vienna, Rastadt, Venice, and Comorn. Treason is extending, and scaffolds are the monuments of its triumphs.

We repeat, victory for the moment! The Democrats of Europe struggle for Truth, for Right; and Truth cannot perish, and against Right even majorities are powerless.

Liberty! Equality! Fraternity! Immortal principles that move the world. Those of your defenders who have not suffered death are consigned to dungeons, reduced to silence, or driven into exile. But the love of mankind—the hope of triumph—the faith of the martyr, remain to them, and their sufferings are mitigated, while they press the hands *offered to them by their brethren of all* countries.

Thanks to you, English democrats, for your words of encouragement and affection. Be assured we shall remain firm to the good cause, and believe that you will soon hear resound from all parts of France the rallying cry, *Vive la Republique Democratique et Sociale!*

(Signed) Ledru Rollin, Landolphe, F. Pardigon, Rattier, B. Duverdier, Ch. Ribeyrolles, Etienne Arago, Martin Bernard, Songeon, E. Madier de Montjau, jun.
London, December, 1849.

LETTERS

TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

LXXI.

"Words are things, and a small drop of ink
Falling—like dew—upon a thought, produces
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think." Byron.

THE FRATERNITY OF NATIONS.

Brother Proletarians,

The response of the French Exiles (which precedes this Letter) to the addresses of the Fraternal Democrats, will excite the most pleasurable emotions in the breast of every true English Democrat. For the first time, we find men whose names are famous in the struggles which our French brethren have engaged in against Tyranny and Inequality, addressing themselves to the Democrats of England, and, thereby, testifying their devotion to that glorious principle of Fraternity which is so closely entwined with the name of Revolutionary France.

It is not to mingle in our politics—which would be as injudicious as unnecessary—that Ledru Rollin, Etienne Arago, Martin Bernard, Landolphe, and their comrades in misfortune, present themselves before the British public. Their work is simply to thank their English Friends for the expression of that sympathy which was given utterance to at the Farringdon Hall meeting—sympathy which, not confined to that or any other local gathering, animates the hearts of all the good and true, from the Orkneys to the Land's End.

The words of brotherhood which have passed between the Fraternal Democrats and the French Exiles, must not be regarded as a mere interchange of civilities. Those words carry with them a deeper and far more important meaning. In the days of old, Englishmen and Frenchmen gloried in mutual slaughter; and while the one side vaunted of Agincourt, the other exultingly proclaimed the name of Fontenoy. But we have progressed, and are progressing. The valiant feats of thieves in mail, and brigands in buff jerkins, have lost their charm; and not even the lay of the minstrel, or the song of the troubadour, could rekindle enthusiasm for the cut-throat heroes of the past. To speak of events within our own time, no one of the *people* of England boasts of Waterloo, or affects to pay the slightest homage to the Iron Duke. Marengo and Austerlitz were not very long ago, names to conjure with, and *Vive l'Empereur* was a cry which inspired tens of thousands to march with an air of triumph to a bloody grave. But now Frenchmen reflect on the passage of the Beressina, and call to mind the hecatombs of corpses piled on every battle-plain in Europe, only to build up the power of one being, who, if he was above the common order of men in capacity, was far below them as regards those kindly sympathies which, more than the mightiest genius, constitute the glory of true manhood. Frenchmen reflect, too, on the shameful deeds of Buonaparte the *Second*, and remembering the assassination of the Roman Republic, turn with loathing from the false, blood-besmeared "glory" associated with the name of Napoleon.

It is the policy of the enemies of Democracy to cast ridicule and contempt upon the disciples of Fraternity; and it must be admitted that dissensions and jealousies—individual and national—which yet occasionally disfigure our good cause, do afford to those enemies the means of wounding us. Nevertheless, the holy principle of Fraternity is no fiction, no mere fool's vision, or coinage of a schemer's brain; but is, on the contrary, a great fact—one of the greatest facts of this time. If our enemies point the finger of scorn in the direction of *Rome, the answer is easy.* The destruction of the Roman Republic was not the work of the French people, but of those who had deceived that people, and who, from the hour of their election have conspired against the liberties of their own and every other country. In the case of Rome, too, let it be remembered, to the redemption of the French name, that Frenchmen died on the walls of Rome, fighting in defence of that Republic against that arch-fratricide Oudinot. Let it be remembered, too, that the men whose names appear above this letter sacrificed station, political honours, and all the endearments of family, home, and fatherland; defied persecution, and risked their lives in the attempt—*unfortunate but not the* less noble—to save the lives and liberties of their Roman brethren from the destroying blows of the agents of Royalism, Priestcraft, and Privilege.

Others still more unfortunate are languishing in the Royalist dungeons. Not merely those who confronted the tyrants on the 13th of June, but those also who preceded them in the path of affliction. Barbes, Raspail and Blanqui, sacrificed themselves for Poland, as the patriots of the 13th of June did for Rome. So also the unfamed soldiers of Democracy, the mute, unknown, and nameless defenders of Equality, proscribed, and assassinated, from the commencement of the Reaction to the present time—all, all, struggled, suffered, and fell, not for personal advantages, but for the common good; not to exalt France only but to raise the world. Let it never be forgotten, that on the 14th of June, the Proletarians of Lyons rushed against the bayonets and cannon of the Royalists, to the cry of "Long live Italy!" "Long live the Roman Republic!" Devoted martyrs! Your memories shall be cherished through the stormy present, and your wrongs be remembered in the great day of the Future!

In Germany, Italy, Hungary, Poland,—wherever freedom's flag has been unfurled, it has had inscribed thereon:—"For our freedom and yours;" and in fraternity's cause, the heroes and martyrs of those lands have poured out their blood for the regeneration of the human race, without distinction of nation or name. Sublime proof that "the Religion of Fraternity *is* arising from the ruins of false systems," and *is* superseding the delusions of false teachers.

No one who is aware of the progress of the good cause in France can doubt that ere long the exiles will be recalled to their Fatherland. When that day arrives they will take from these shores the assurance, that the British *people* desire the welfare, and glory, and happiness of France, and, to that end, the triumphant establishment of the *true* République—Démocratique et Sociale.

L'AMI DU PEUPLE.

December 20th, 1849.

National Land Company.

Ship Inn, Birmingham.—At the usual weekly meeting of members, at the Ship Inn, on Sunday evening last, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:—"That we, the members of the Land Company, having heard Mr. O'Connor's Mr. Addy's, and Mr. Sherrington's letters read from the *Star*, and also letters received from Lowbands, Snig's End, and Charterville, are perfectly satisfied with the general management of the Company, under the direction of Mr. O'Connor, from the *commencement to the present time*, and do therefore tender him our *most* sincere thanks for the noble exertions he has made for alleviating the sufferings of the oppressed millions of this country. We would, at the same time—unless the Company is finally registered during the next term—recommend him to apply to Parliament for powers to wind up the affairs of the Company, as the best means of getting rid of those dishonest and ungrateful members who have been located by the combined contributions of the whole of the members, and who now refuse to pay the small sum they are called upon to do; and also that the complaints of those located, as to the cultivation of their allotments when entered upon is entirely unfounded, as most of the allotments were cultivated far beyond the expectations of most of the members. A resolution was also passed to take in the *Irishman* newspaper for the use of the members."

Banbury.—A meeting of shareholders was held at the Butchers'-arms Inn, on Monday night, when the following resolution was proposed by Wm. Penn, and seconded by James Rose:—"That this branch is of opinion that Mr. O'Connor is justified in enforcing the allottees to pay the rents; at the same time they would recommend they should, if possible, receive such a receipt as would give them the right to vote for a Member of Parliament, that being the original intention at the formation of the Company. If this cannot be done, we wish the directors immediately take steps—if not completely registered—to wind up the affairs of the Company as early as possible." Carried unanimously.

Similar resolutions to the above have also been adopted at Loughborough, Ipswich, Huddersfield, and Carrington.

MANCHESTER.

A public meeting of the members of Feargus O'Connor's Land Company, in this locality, was held on Wednesday week, at the Golden Lion, Church-street, "to consider the propriety of winding up the affairs of the Compnay." The meeting was called for half-past seven p.m., but at that time not more than twelve persons were in the room. At about half-past eight o'clock, Mr. Wm. Hull was called to the chair.

The Chairman opened the business of the meeting by requesting that every one should be allowed a fair hearing. Mr. Feargus O'Connor in the last *Star*, had wished the opinion of the members on the prospects of the Company, and on the proceedings of the Directors, and for that purpose the meeting had been called. Those who condemned Mr. O'Connor regarding the ejectments, would have an opportunity of doing so. He should call on Mr. Armstead to read the letter of Mr. W. A. How, of Lowbands, from a Manchester paper of Saturday last.

Mr. Armstead read the letter alluded to, together with Mr. O'Connor's reply, from last Saturday's *Star*, after which,

Mr. James Smith, an allottee at Lowbands, being called upon, proceeded to state that Mr. O'Connor's letter contained a deal of false statements, to the prejudice of those unfortunate occupiers of the society's land. He took possession of three acres of land at Lowbands, in August; but in place of finding his allotment in a high state of cultivation, and for the most part cropped, as described by Mr. O'Connor, he had only half an acre cropped. He had one acre and half sown with turnips, which were put into the ground too late to be good. He cut a drain but could not get tiles to lay it; although Mr. O'Connor stated that "tiles were given gratis to those who wished to drain more. He likewise stated that there had been more manure put upon his farm in that year than had been put upon it during the last twenty years. If he had put a spoonful on, so far as he could learn, it would have been more than had been put on during the last twenty years, for the land had not been manured for a great length of time. With regard to the rent, it was too high. He had made inquiries and found that no land in that neighbourhood let for more than 20s. per acre, while Mr. O'Connor charged £5 per acre. It was a moral impossibility for any man to pay such an exhorbitant rent. And Mr. O'Connor over-estimates the cost of the houses, &c. The cost of the houses is put down at £130 each, and better houses could be built for £80. Mr. Cunningham had contracted to erect a number of the same description at a cost of £70 or £80, although the same gentleman, before a committee of the House of Commons, said they could not be built under £200. He (Mr. O'Connor) stated that they had firing for sixmonths, but his did not last three months. True, they had a double row of apple trees, but they were of no use to starving men; for it would be several years before they produced any fruit. *With regard to the aid money, he got it*; but it was six months before all was paid. Mr. O'Connor says he had put in distress for only half a year's rent; but that is untrue, for on all at Lowbands he had distressed for two years' rent. Mr. Smith then gave a description of the land, and stated that all the three years' crops would not make an average one. He did not think that Mr. O'Connor was using the occupiers justly, after drawing them from their homes and occupations. For himself, he had never suffered such distress. He had been weeks and months without ever tasting animal food or butter. He concluded a most pitiful description amidst the murmurs of the meeting.

Mr. Emmerson did hope that the man might not be put down by clamour; let them have the truth, which could only be got at by reasoning with one another. *They all knew that the Land Company* had not met the expectation of the members. But let them know the worst, and not fall out one with another. (Cheers.)

After great confusion, several persons wanting to speak all at the same time, and the meeting refusing to hear them, order was restored, and

Mr. A. Armstead moved, "That it is the opinion of this locality that the occupiers of the Company's land should have twelve months to pay their rent."

Mr. Emmerson seconded the motion.

Mr. William Yates believed that if they had to give *them forty years to pay their rent*, at the expiration of that time they would not pay any. Mr. Smith, after his first Christmas, had wrote a letter to his friends, stating that he had killed a good fat pig, and regretted that all his friends were not located on the land. But he sang a different song now, for the occupiers thought to live like gentlemen out of the society; and with regard to his sufferings, they could not have been much more acute, for he had had 8s. per week to live upon from the first that he went upon the land until the last. He would move, as an amendment, "That Mr. O'Connor and the directors are justified in making the distresses, and proceeding to ejectment, if the occupiers of the Company's estate do not pay rent."

Mr. W. Parkinson seconded the amendment.

Mr. George Norton moved another amendment:—"That the affairs of the Company should be wound up;" which was seconded by Thomas Driver.

This caused the utmost confusion, and the unfortunate Smith was severely rated for returning. On order being restored, Smith's brother said that the directors had no occasion to proceed to ejectment for out of forty-four allottees at Lowbands only fourteen remained.

The Chairman then put the amendments:—For Norton's—to wind up the affairs of the Company, 23; for Yates's—justifying the directors, 26; for Armstead's motion, 9. *Many declined voting.*

The meeting then broke up, at half-past eleven, in much confusion.

THE NATIONAL LAND SCHEME.

(From the *Daily News*, Wednesday December 19th.)

We are not among those who believe that the possession of land in small quantities cannot be made the means of improving the condition of our working classes. On the contrary, we have little doubt that not a few of our artisans and mechanics, and some of the working men of the rural districts, may improve their circumstances by the possession of land. But the extent of such must be no more than the possessor can well manage; and it ought to belong to him absolutely. We can conceive nothing more calculated to elevate working men than to be impelled by the wish to acquire a plot of freehold land whereon to erect their own dwellings, or to employ their spare time in its cultivation. The extent of land which a working man can manage is limited by the amount of his capital, usually consisting of only a few shillings per week saved from his wages, and the small surplus of labour he has at his own disposal. From one eigth to one quarter of an acre is the *utmost quantity* of land any prudent working man will undertake to cultivate. Above all, let him beware of being seduced into becoming a cottage farmer, of three, four, or five acres, unless he has accumulated a considerable capital. We do not say that a decent subsistence might not be earned from four or five acres of land by a man who posesses from £100 to £200, but, otherwise, his lot will be a life of hard and unrequited labour.

The present condition of Mr. O'Connor's allotment holders, at Herringsgate, near Rickmansworth, in Hertfordshire, is full of instruction on the prospects of small occupiers without capital, or with inadequate capital. The general character of the land scheme is now pretty well known. For subscriptions amounting to £2 12s., £3 18s., or £5 4s., the members of "The National Land Company" were to obtain allotments of *two, three, or* four acres of land, with a cottage, and the advance of £7 10s. per acre, as capital for cultivation. We pass by all the jugglery by which this was to be brought about, simply stating that it was in effect a land lottery, the allotments and cottages provided being obtained by lot by a few fortunate prizeholders at the expense of a much larger number of members, whose chances of cottage farms were somewhat indefinitely postponed. Most of the members of the Land Company were likely to have remained expectant rustics only to the end of their natural lives, had not the investigations of the committee of last year blown up the bubble altogether. But the practical result of the scheme has been to establish on allotments of two, three, and four acres of land, a number of hard-working and industrious men, but who possessed little other capital than their industry and the small sum per acre advanced to them by the Land Company.

The earliest of such establishments was that at Herringsgate, where, in the spring of 1847, thirty allottees were located, in full reliance that they could live and thrive on the produce of their allotments. On each allotment is a cottage, and besides the original advance of £7 10s. per acre, each allottee had a further allowance of £10 towards the erection of out-buildings. They were to have freehold grants of their allotments, subject to the reservation of perpetual rents, equivalent to £5 per cent. per annum on the prime cost of their land and their cottages, and the amount of the advances made to him. This, in the instance of the Hertfordshire allotments, would have exceeded £5 per acre, though the land—which varies in quality—is not worth at the most more than from 15s. to 25s. per acre. *Having regarded this as an experiment* of some interest, we visited Herringsgate in the summer of 1847, again in May, 1848, and a third time on the 10th of July. On the two former occasions we found the allottees in high hopes, several of them having come in by purchase from the original prizeholders, and brought with them a little money; but the wet season of *1848 afforded* them an insight into the uphill nature of their undertaking.

Hitherto no leases have been granted and no rents have been paid, and, looking at the present prospects of the allottees, there can be small difficulty in predicting that no rents ever will be paid upon the actual system. The first man we talked with had been a turnpike-gate keeper in Worcestershire. He was the holder of four acres, and had been one of *the first settlers. He had brought no capital* with him, but, on the contrary, had been obliged to expend a portion of the £30 advanced by the company in taking his family to the location. This man is a pattern of patient and enduring industry amongst incredible hardships. He is still hopeful, but upon the most insufficient grounds. He has at *present some goats, which he keeps tied up in a* shed, and feeds them with weeds collected by his children from his own allottment and elsewhere; and he has a boar, which he hopes to be able to fat and kill for his own use, and a breeding sow, on the produce of which no little part of his hope depends. Last year he had an acre of wheat which produced only eleven bushels, and he has at present about the same quantity sown, which is not likely to yield more than twenty bushels. There is some barley no better than the wheat; some beans more promising, and a fair crop of potatoes. Mangold wurzel plants had been raised for transplantation, but which the dry weather has hitherto prevented. The whole produce of the four acres will *not* be likely to do much more than provide food for the family during the ensuing year. That he can pay rent is out of the question, he said that if he had been employed for the last three years at weekly wages of 12s., and had lived as hardly as he had been compelled to do on his allotment, he would have been well off. It is his *intention* to have two of his four acres ploughed next autumn, in order to sow grain, and also to lay down half an acre to grass, being convinced that an acre and a half is quite as much as he can attempt to cultivate himself. He says that he works from four in the morning till nine at night.

There was a man from Wigan in Lancashire who had been a cotton spinner, who has a two acre allotment, and his family consists of himself, his wife, and three grown up sons. Their land shows the power of labour, for he had good crops of potatoes and wheat, and he hoped, if the potatoes remained free from disease, to be able from the produce of *this year's crop, to buy a cow*. This man and his wife seem shrewd and industrious. They had erected some useful out-houses with lime and flints, *and had both flowers and fruits in the front of their* cottage. Their neighbours said they had improved their circumstances since their location. The man had for fifteen years been subject to a cough, which generally prevented him from factory work for two or three months in the winter, so that his original condition was probably low enough; but since he *had settled on his allotment he had* entirely lost his cough, and looked hale and happy. He thought that if he could get a cow he might able to pay rent. One or more of his sons return occasionally to their original busines, when trade is brisk; and this, perhaps, has helped the family. At all events, the labour of four adult men on two acres of land *represents a considerable capital, and on the whole* the condition of this family seems to have been improved by the change. How they will meet the rent of £7., £8., or £10. a year, when demanded, may be a question. It was obvious that one of the allottees seriously believes that they will be called upon for rent.

There is a man who bought the interest of an original allottee to four acres for £70, and has since expended upon his land near or quite £200. This man has a breeding sow, and ten or a dozen handsome store pigs. His crops are very good, and it is probable that he may be able to pay rent when demanded. But he says he wishes he had hired a small farm, *instead of buying the allotment; and* though originally engaged in trade near London, and quite unacquainted with husbandry, he has *taken to the culture of the land with so much good* sense and industry, that he would probably have succeeded. There is a man from Northampton who, being a cripple, is obliged to hire labour for the cultivation of his two acre allotment; but being possessed of a cow and some pigs, which his wife manages well, and working also at his trade as a shoemaker, he is reputed to be the most prosperous man in the settlement.

With the above exception, if they are exceptions, we may say that the condition of the allottees appeared most hopeless. Several of the allotments are for sale, and one appeared to be totally abandoned. The crops generally are not better than those on the neighbouring farms, and full one-half of them are not nearly so good. The great hope of all is in their potatoes; but with or without potatoes we do not see how, with their present system of cultivation, more than two or three allottees can hope to pay any rent.

What, then, is to be the end of this scheme? No more subscriptions are coming in, and discontented members are suing Mr. O'Connor for the recovery of their subscriptions, and with success. There seems no doubt but that the land must and will be speedily sold off; and what then is to become of the allottees? Will they be first made partially secure by a lease? If perpetual leases be granted to them, as at first proposed, nobody will give anything for the land, for it is clear the rents can never be paid with regularity. From the avidity with which this *scheme was taken by the working-men of the towns* it is plain that there exists amongst them an ardent desire to possess a portion of land, and by its failure they may learn three things; first, not to leave their actual employments and stake everything on a plot of land, but to endeavour to acquire a bit of land as a secondary means of subsistence or for enjoyment; *secondly, to be content with a small and manageable piece*; and, thirdly, to acquire the absolute ownership. Keeping these things in view, let our shrewd artisans practice frugality and self-denial *that they may become landowners and county* voters. The following statement of the present condition of another of these locations, that at Dodford, near Malvern, is from a local journal. This, we believe, is a recently established settlement:—

Dodford is about two miles and a half from the town of Bromsgrove, *lying to the left of the Kidderminster road.* Here, about two years ago, Mr. O'Connor bought a freehold estate, containing about 300 acres, which is approached by some of those picturesque lanes which only England knows, and from the top of the hill of which it forms a part, *you get one of those enchanting scenes only* English landscape can afford; you have an open view of miles of Worcestershire's fertile fields till they fade away into silvery indistinctness beneath the Malvern Hills, which bound the horizon with their beautiful outline. Upon it, according to the first promises, seventy subscribers were to be located—the funds, we suppose, not being handy the seventy has been reduced to forty-one. The farm-house has been left standing, and this with eighteen acres of the land was sold the other day to a gentleman who is now in possession—the purchase money being, as we are told, £2,000. To each of the forty-one houses four acres of land are attached, and the 100 acres and upwards which are thus left undisposed of are, we believe, to be resold. One out of the forty-one allotments is at present occupied by a retired tradesman from Oldham, in Lancashire, who has now been there six months, having paid a bonus equal to about £55 per acre upon the land, and a very considerable sum for the house. His plot was in a high state of cultivation, and was triumphantly pointed to by the '*chiefs' of the party as proof of what might be done* with the land. They did not say, however, what is the fact, that the occupier has spent £20 per acre upon the land during the six months he had been there, and that it was only by such means that he managed to get it into its present condition. The land, for the most part, is very poor, composed of marl and sand, and will require not only much hard work but much manure to make it at all productive. Three-fourths of each allotment are already planted with peas, beans, potatoes, and cabbage, but the lentil crops looked particularly wretched, and there was quite as much *Sinapis arvensis* in many parts as anything else. A neighbouring farmer says, that if he had a present made to him of all the crops on the estate he would not be at the trouble of harvesting them and taking them to market. The land in the bottom may, with considerable outlay, good crops, but alas! for those allottees who have got the plots upon the top of the hill, where it is so bleak and cold that no care or pains can ever ensure a fair return for the labour expended. The houses at Dodford are built of bricks, after the plan of those at Snig's End, being a considerable improvement on the Lowband habitations. They consist of three roome on the ground floor, the middle one being tiled and the two side ones boarded. They are fitted up with grates, cupboards, &c. At the back are three outhouses, without flooring of *any sort*, to be used for washhouse, storehouse, &c., with necessary and piggery. The various allotments are laid out in the same manner as on the other estates, without any hedges between them. There is no schoolhouse at Dodford; the moral training of the families located on these estates, which cut so important a figure in the original prospectus of the Land Scheme, has been altogether left out now.

Mr. O'Connor does not appear amongst his allottees, and the whole scheme appears to be rapidly drawing to a close.

ARISTOCRACY *alias* PROTECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—It appears that the Aristocracy, under the leadership of that essence of ideality, Benjamin Disraeli, M.P., have commenced an agitation for the *restoration of the principle of sectional protection*, which means a power taken by the minority of legislating, for the purpose of elevating the said minority at the expense of the great bulk of the community; we have plundering principles in opperation, the character of which is not distinctly seen by the people, or they could not possibly be perpetuated for a single day. But for Disraeli to imagine that he can restore protection on the principle he advocates, is to suppose that the people are as ignorant as he calculates. He will find that he is relying upon a broken reed. The aristocracy may do what they will, the laws of nature against which they have hitherto acted are retributive in their character, and will manifest this retribution by speedily destroying them as a class. The protection of the aristocracy means the adoption of certain laws by which they may be enabled to protect themselves from the reduction of rents, which must take place under the adoption of the principles of Free Trade. Let any reasonable man reflect for a moment on this subject, is it right, is it just? Can the idea for one moment be tolerated—that a class of men who scorne industry, who look upon the producing classes as an inferior race of beings, who consider themselves "Gods," and the rest of the community created merely for the purpose of ministering to their licentious and unholy passions, and though they have had the power, and been placed in positions which has enabled them to increase their resources infinitely, yet with all these advantages, according to their mouth-piece, (Disraeli) their extravagance has involved their estates in mortgage debts, in England alone, to the amount of £400,000,000—take the united kingdom, and the mortgages will be found to amount to £600,000,000? This class of individuals have had the government in their hands for ages, and their capabilities of government are only manifested by a National Debt of £800,000,000, and a personal debt on their own property of £600,000,000. The interest of which has been, up to the adoption of Free Trade principles, extracted from the producers, and now, when they discover that the interest of their mortgages will have to be paid by themselves, they are endeavouring to raise a "dust" for the restoration of protection. "Don't they wish they may get it." Surely the gullibility of the farmers is not such as to be led blindfold by Disraeli. They may rely upon it that he is gammoning them—his sympathies are in favour of the aristocratic class. He sees that their position is sure to be sacrificed, and, in order to prevent this result, he appeals to the prejudices of the farmers, and professes to be their friend, working for their special benefit. Let the farmers test the sincerity of Disraeli, by calling upon him to agitate for the reduction of taxation, reduction of rents, and the reduction of usury, which is especially protected by the currency laws of Sir Robert Peel; *if he will consent to do this, then* the farmers will have some tangible proof of his sincerity on their behalf. His project for equalising the land tax, and thus, raise a sinking fund to be *devoted to the purchasing of consols*—which he says would advance them to par, and thus enable the farmers to borrow money at a lower rate of interest—is not only unjust itself, but delusive in its promised results. Mr. Disraeli must know that at the rate of interest depends upon the quantity of money in the nation; and unless he can show that his taxation scheme will augment the general stock of money, a lowering of interest is impracticable. The scheme is one resulting in plunder; suppose that consols were at par from the investments of the funds derived from his adjustment of the land tax—it would give the present fundholders the power to rob the nation of several millions. The price of consols at present being $92\frac{1}{2}$, as one per cent. is equal to an advance in the value of consols to the extent of eight millions, it is evident that to drive them up to par, would be an advance of $7\frac{1}{2}$, which is equivalent to giving the holders of these consols sixty millions sterling. The people must be wide awake to the various projects which will result from the severe pressure upon them, and augmenting from year to year; they must "prove all things, hold fast that which is good." Objects to be achieved must be of a universal character to be of any advantage to the masses. *If the projects of professed reformers* have not this characteristic, the results will lead to disappointment.

Yours truly,
Halifax. John Culpan, Junr.

Penny Punch.—Everybody should read this facetious publication, its price comes within the means of all. Here is the first volume, handsomely bound for five shillings, with first-rate illustrations by Kenny Meadows, Henning, Hamerton, and other popular artists. The literary matter is full of point and humour, so that young *Punch* must number some of the ablest contributors of the day, though, as is customary with publications of this class, their names are not given. We cordially wish the Penny *Punch* all success.

The Austrian journals of the 13th bring account that Count Edmund Zichy, brother of Count Eugene, hung by order of Gorgey with the approbation of Kossuth, has been struck with apoplexy at Florence, and has lost his reason in consequence.

The Metropolis.

Health of London during the Week. — In the week ending last Saturday, 1,002 deaths were registered in the metropolitan districts; the weekly average of the season corrected for increase of population being 1,162, the present decrease on the estimated mortality amounts to 160 deaths. The numbers returned in the last four weeks have been consecutively 892, 931, 1,053, and 1,002; the increase of mortality was preceded and accompanied by a decrease of temperature (the mean having fallen about 16 degrees in three weeks), and a rise of temperature is now followed by a slight decrease in the total number of deaths. The deaths from phthisis in the last four weeks were 104, 134, 133, and 108. But under other diseases of the respiratory organs the increase is generally maintained; the deaths from bronchitis were 60, 60, 86, and 89; those from pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs chiefly in young persons) were 82, 94, 88, 90; and from asthma, 12, 21, 16, 26. In the zymotic or epidemic class, scarlatina and typhus have declined respectively from 32 and 51 fatal cases in the previous week to 19 and 33 in the last, and are both below the average; whilst measles, which numbered 29 in the former week, was fatal in 46 cases in the last. Last week the deaths from diarrhœa were only 14; only one death from cholera occurred in the same period. The deceased in this case was a child of four years, who had lived in Horace-street, Marylebone. Mr. Burrows, the registrar of Goswell-street, sub-district, reports that within two weeks he has registered the deaths of three persons, at 9, Charles-street, Northampton-square, where the family had recently lodged—first, a young woman of nineteen, who died of erysipelas (4 days' duration) and œdema of the glottis (12 hours); next week her parents, who were forty-eight and forty-seven years of age respectively, and died within 48 hours of each other, the father, also of œdema of the glottis (48 hours), congestion of the lungs (24 hours); and the mother, of congestion of the brain, after 48 hours' illness. The cause of death is certified in each case by the medical attendant. Amongst other deaths registered last week was that of a child of three years, who died of inflammation of the larynx, from inhaling the steam of boiling water. Vaccination was attended in two cases by fatal results. An old man died from exposure to cold in a field. Three deaths are ascribed to intemperance. In the 1,002 deaths, the cause of death was certified by the written statements of medical attendants in 888 cases; in 12 cases, there was no medical attendant; in 15 cases, the patients may have had medical aid, but the diseases of which they died are not certified; of the remaining 87 cases, 84 were the subjects of inquests, and returned by coroners. A table is appended to the present return, which shows the annual mortality of London at various ages, as compared with that of the South-Eastern Division of England, and also a part of Northumberland. Taking boys under five years, it appears that while 29 out of 1,000 die in three Northumbrian districts, 53 die in the South-east Division of England, and 93 in London; and that this rate of 93 which prevails in London in ordinary times was raised by a few weeks' prevalence of influenza in 1847-8, to 106, and by cholera in 1849 to 107. Influenza was almost as fatal to children as the more terrible epidemic by which it was followed; and to aged men and women who had turned seventy-five years, the mortality of cholera was even less. The annual mortality of men between forty-five and fifty-five years, which is in parts of Northumberland 12 out of every 1,000 living, and in the South-Eastern division 15, is in London 27 in average years; and here it was raised from 27 to 28 by influenza, and to 35 by cholera. The daily mean height of the barometer at Greenwich Observatory was above 30 in. on Monday: the mean height of the week was 29·852. The daily mean temperature, which was 37° on Sunday, fell to 32° on Thursday, and rose on the next two days to 49° and 53°. The mean temperature of the week was 40°, about the average of the same week of seven years; on Thursday the daily mean was 8° below the average, and on the following days successively 9° and 13° above it.

Shocking Accident. — On Saturday last an inquest was holden at the Half Moon Tavern, in the Lower-road, Islington, to inquire touching the death of Sarah Golding; aged sixty-three. The facts of the melancholy case are these: — On the previous Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Pearce, one of the medical men connected with the above parish, was visiting, in his professional capacity, the husband of the deceased: while the deceased was conducting that gentleman up stairs to the apartment of her afflicted husband, she slipped through the staircase, which had become rotten in consequence of improper drainage, and fractured her leg in two places. Every attention requisite was immediately paid to the poor sufferer, but death speedily ensued.— A verdict of "Accidental death" was recorded.

Accident at the Marylebone Theatre.— Last week the season closed at this theatre, and on Wednesday Mr. Watts, the manager, invited his *corps dramatique* to a ball and supper at the theatre. The stage was most tastefully fitted up for the occasion, and a large and happy party met with the exhilarating expectation of spending a delightful evening. All went well until three o'clock, when suddenly appalling shrieks, and the cry of "Fire" resounded through the theatre. The next moment a female was seen rushing franticly about, enveloped in flames. The scene that ensued was an awful contrast to the gaiety of the previous scene. Miss Susan Roberts, a member of the *corps de ballet*, whilst walking near the footlights, suddenly turned to speak to some one passing her; in the act, a portion of her dress swung round, and, spreading over some of the lamps, it instantly caught fire. Every assistance was immediately rendered, but so fierce and rapid was the appalling element in its progress, that before it could be subdued the poor girl was so severely burnt, that her life is despaired of. Mr. Watts ordered no expense to be spared in procuring surgical aid, and a subscription has been set on foot.

Smuggling.—Her Majesty's revenue cutter Vigilant, Captain Richard Gowlland, captured on the night of the 14th inst., in Sea Reach in the Thames, a spritsail barge, about sixty tons burden, having on board a crew of five persons, and a contraband cargo, consisting of 280 bales of tobacco, about 50lbs. each, concealed under straw stacked on her deck. The barge was proceeding up the river in the usual manner as a coaster with straw for the London market; and had the smugglers been successful in escaping the protective force, between six and seven tons of tobacco would have been run. We believe this to be the largest seizure of tobacco that has been made in the Thames for the past thirty years.

Attempt at Suicide at London-bridge. — On Monday morning, between seven and eight o'clock, an elderly person named Thomas Haylock, a livery stable keeper, of Red Lion-street, Whitechapel, attempted to commit suicide, by throwing himself into the Thames, from one of the recesses of London Bridge. The tide at the time was running down very strong, and as he passed under the arch, one of the men who were navigating a barge threw out a marling-spike, and succeeded in dragging him on board. He was subsequently conveyed to St. Thomas's Hospital, where he remains in a precarious condition.

Suicide.—On Saturday morning last a remarkable case of suicide occurred at the loom works of Messrs. Hamberger and Rogers, gold lace manufacturers, at King-street, Covent-garden. The particulars are as follows:— The weavers of the gold lace have keys to enter the loom room in order to commence their work early in the morning, and amongst those engaged was a man named William Austin, of Cumberland-street, who left the establishment at the usual hour of ceasing work on Friday evening; instead of going home he remained out till twelve or one o'clock on Saturday morning, and then returned to the manufactory. He subsequently went into the loom room and fastened a piece of string to the rails at one of the looms, and to keep the knot from slipping he fixed a piece of iron to the frame, and then placing it round his neck suspended himself by it. He was not discovered until life was quite extinct.—An inquest was held on the body on Monday, at the Unicorn public-house, Covent-garden, by Mr. Bedford, when the above facts were spoken to by the witnesses, and it also appeared that deceased had been addicted to drinking to great excess lately. The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

The Late Extensive Fire at Newington Causeway. — On Monday evening Mr. W. Payne brought to a conclusion the adjourned inquiry respecting the circumstances attending the fire which destroyed the premises of Mr. Hooper, a linen and lace warehouseman, carrying on business at No. 19, Alfred-place, in the same parish, and the jury returned the following special verdict, "That there was no evidence as to the origin of the fire, but the jury think the circumstances attending it are suspicious."

The late Extraordinary Affair at Kensall Green Cemetery.—On Saturday last a communication was made to Mr. M. H. Wakley, respecting the late exhumation of the body of a gentleman, named James Hendry, husband of the Countess de Tourville, of No. 13, Cambridge Terrace, Hyde-park-square, in Kensall-green Cemetery, on the 4th inst., for the purpose of ascertaining whether he intended to hold a coroner's inquest on the remains of that gentleman, which were exhumed in order to make a search for a will, which was supposed to have been placed in the coffin previous to interment. The scrutiny was made, but the will was not discovered, and the deputy-coroner determined on ordering a post mortem examination, and analysis of the stomach, which was entrusted to Dr. Garrod, one of the physicians of University College Hospital. Dr. Garrod sent in his report, in which he stated, that in his opinion the deceased had died from natural causes. Mr. Wakley, on the receipt of the report, communicated with the friends of the deceased, and decided that an inquest was unnecessary. The coffin, containing the remains of the deceased gentleman, which had been kept above ground, in case a jury should have to view the body, was on Saturday again lowered into the grave.

Dockyard Reductions. — Twenty-five of the workmen in the steam-engine factory of Woolwich Dockyard having received notice that their services would not be required after last Saturday, and it being understood that a similar number of men would be discharged every week until the total reduction exceeded 300, meetings of the workmen, and also of the inhabitants of Woolwich, have been held, and it has been determined to memorialize the Admiralty, representing the great dearth of employment in the engine trade at present, and the prospect of many families becoming destitute if the reduction should be made now, and at this inclement season of the year, and accordingly soliciting some delay. Mr. Ballard, an operative, who was in the chair at the meeting of the workmen, put the matter as a question of humanity. The Rev. Dr. Carlisle took the chair at the meeting of the inhabitants, and a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Lords of the Admiralty. A number of the operatives attended this latter meeting, and empowered the deputation to state that the workmen were willing to work at reduced wages, or a less number of days in the week, rather than their fellow workmen should be thrown out of employment as proposed.

False Weights and Measures.—At a special meeting of magistrates on Saturday, at the Holland Arms, Kensington, of which Robert Tubbs, Esq., was chairman, the following tradesmen were introduced to Mr. Reeve, the inspector of weights and measures.—Mr. Benjamin Franks, a butcher, in June-street, Chelsea, was complained of for having his beam and scales inaccurate to the extent of half an ounce, for which offence he was fined 10s. and costs.—Jeremiah Underwood, butcher, of No. 1, Ellis-street, Chelsea, was ordered to pay a like penalty for a deficient balance of ten drachms.—John Leete, a cheesemonger, of 143, Sloan-street, Chelsea, was summoned for two false balances, one to the extent of six drachms, and the other of three drachms. Mr. Griffiths, the assistant inspector, informed the bench that this was a second offence. The worthy chairman remarked that it was an aggravated case, and sentenced the defendant to pay 20s., with costs, or go to the House of Correction for fourteen days. Defendant said he would readily pay the penalty and respectfully decline the alternative; at the same time assuring the bench that he had erred unintentionally, and would rather give than receive.—Alfred Tubb, cheesemonger, of No. 1, Lombard-terrace, Chelsea, was adjudged to a similar punishment for two unjust balances.—James Morgan, of No. 1, Drake-street, Chelsea, cheesemonger, was fined 15s. for a bad weighing-machine.—Joseph Bowell, 4, Marlborough-road, Chelsea, chandler, was ordered to pay 10s., for having soap concealed under his scale, whereby a deficiency was caused of two drachms.—Henry Crosby, of 4, Leader-street, cookshop-keeper, was summoned for a light weight. The defendant was not to blame, having been deceived by a "friend," who had let him the shop. He was fined 1s., and a scuffle ensued amongst the magistrates as to who should pay it. Mr. Frere, the esteemed magistrate, however, showed first with the coin, and the defendant, with tears in his eyes, left the court.—Maria Lloyd, 29, College-street, Chelsea, was fined £1 11s. 6d., for five light weights.— W. Willicomb, a chandler, at 31, First-street, Chelsea, was ordered to pay 10s., with costs, for an illegal balance.—Henry Buckwell, dairyman, 1, Rolt-terrace, Chelsea, was summoned for a deficient machine, and called on to pay 10s., and 6s. 6d. costs.—William Thompson, chandler, 85, New-road, was sentenced to pay 10s., for a false balance.—George Davis, chandler, 28, New-road, was ordered to pay 15s. for three light weights.—William Ashfield, 11, Ellis-street, was fined 15s., for three light weights.—Henry Barber, greengrocer, 25, Queen's-road West, Chelsea, was adjudged to pay 10s., for two light weights; and Thomas Wallis, 55, Queen's-road West, was called on to pay 5s. for three deficient weights.

Fire at the London Docks.—On Tuesday evening, between six and seven o'clock, it was observed that one of the large ships, lying in the eastern basin of the London Docks had taken fire. The vessel, an empty one, named the Maclouden, had been taken out of dry dock, about three days since, and no one was on board when the disaster occurred, but from the fact of other vessels being at her head and stern, it was exceedingly fortunate that the discovery was made early. The policeman, in passing over the bridge, in Gravel-lane, perceived flames issuing from the vessel. The firemen belonging to the docks immediately brought the floating and other engines alongside of the vessel, when they found the caboose on deck in a mass of flame. By means of buckets of water the firemen got the flames subdued, but not until the caboose was destroyed and some other damage done. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Autographs, Letters, and MSS.—Last week, the well-known Winston collection of dramatic MSS. was brought to the hammer by Mr. Puttick and Simpson, of Piccadilly. The sale excited much interest in the dramatic world, and there was considerable anxiety to examine, and in some cases to re-purchase, letters long since forgotten by the writers, whose altered circumstances and position at the present day contrasted in many cases very remarkably with those under which those letters were penned. Rarely has there been amassed such an amount of material for petty scandal as in the memoranda and letters composing this collection, and which we are gratified to know in many cases returned to the possession of the individuals to whom they related, doubtless for immediate destruction. The collection, on the whole, brought good prices. We may mention some letters of Edmund Kean, lot 451, which sold for £8 15s.; lot 477, Vice-Chamberlain Coke's papers relative to the King's Theatre, 1706-15, which sold for £12 10s.; lot 672, the original MSS. of the Rejected Addresses, proposed to be spoken at the opening of Drury-lane Theatre in 1812, £9; a collection of engraved dramatic portraits closed the sale, and appeared to produce high prices. On Monday the same auctioneers sold Mr. Mitchell's small but interesting collection of autograph letters. From the catalogue we extract the following as amongst the most interesting lots, with the prices at which they sold—lot 14, letter of Lord Brougham on parliamentary reform, sold for £1; lot 21, letter of Cinq-Mars, sold for £1 5s.; lot 53, a short note of Haydn, sold for £1 9s.; lot 75, a letter of Moses Mendelssohn, sold for £1 10s.; lot 89, a letter of Smollett, the historian, sold for £3 17s. 6d.; lot 105, a letter of Voltaire, sold for £1 16s. Several letters of Lady Hamilton, and a curious document, being a bill for her funeral expenses, amounting to £28 10s., sold together for £8 4s.; lot 140, a letter of Mrs. Jordan, sold for £1 13s. The sale concluded with fifty letters of David Garrick, which were sold singly, and for the most part were bought by Mr. Colburn, the publisher. In one of these letters, written on the night of his first appearance in London, he says, "my mind has always been inclined to the stage . . . . . . last night I played Richard III. to the surprise of every body, and as I shall make very near £300 per annum of it, and as it is really what I dote upon, I am resolved to pursue it." This interesting series of letters sold at high prices, amounting in the whole to about £110.

Abolition of Oaths in Elections of Common Councilmen.—In the ensuing elections of Common Councilmen for the City of London, a declaration is to be made by voters in lieu of the oath heretofore taken, and in case any person shall refuse or neglect to make the same, the poll or vote of such person shall be null and void, and as such be rejected or disallowed.

The Dismissed Postman. — It was stated some time since that a letter-carrier had been dismissed from the General Post-office for distributing bills against Sunday labour to the public. We have been desired to say that his offence was, delivering the bills to his colleagues only.—*Daily News.*

Melancholy Suicide.—On the 14th inst, Mr. Jas. Andrews, a gentleman who has for a great many years filled the office of clerk to the Croydon board of guardians, and also assistant clerk to the bench of magistrates in that town, committed suicide under very melancholy circumstances. The unfortunate gentleman had for some time been observed to be in a very desponding state. At ten o'clock in the morning there was to have been a special meeting of the board of guardians, but when the members of the board were assembled, they were surprised that Mr. Andrews did not make his appearance, and a messenger was despatched, when it was ascertained that he had gone away from home at nine o'clock that morning, as it was supposed, for the purpose of going to his professional duty. Nothing was heard of the deceased, from this time until half-past ten o'clock, when a labouring man, named James Shirley, who was on his way across the fields, from a place called Violte-lane to Wodden, found the unfortunate gentleman lying under the hedge. He was surrounded by a pool of blood, and in his right hand was a small common flint-lock pistol, with which the act of suicide had been committed. The unfortunate gentleman was conveyed to the Infirmary of the union workhouse, Dupper's Hill, where in about three quarters of an hour the unfortunate gentleman expired. An inquest was held on Saturday last at the Running Horse public-house, in the Old Town, before Mr. W. Carter, the coroner for this district, when the above facts were put in evidence. A written paper, of which the following is a copy, and which was found upon the person of the deceased when he was first discovered, was likewise produced. It was in the handwriting of the deceased, and was to the following purport; "With a conviction that on the approaching inquiry I shall be dismissed for neglect of duty, in failing to report the appointment of the officers several years ago, and with a memory impaired, reason often tottering under a hand paralysed by great age and exertion during the last forty years, I have no prospect before me but a home in a workhouse or a lunatic asylum. Oh God, this is horrible. Often have I prayed fervently that the desire to hurry myself prematurely to the grave might be averted. To church again this evening, and again supplicate." This paper was dated Sunday last. Several witnesses were examined, whose testimony went to show that the deceased had exhibited great despondency for some time past, and they expressed an opinion that he was of unsound mind when he committed the act, and the jury, after a very careful inquiry, returned a verdict to that effect. The unfortunate gentleman was fifty-eight years of age: he was a widower, and has left a son and daughter, the latter of whom, it is said, was about shortly to have been married.

Suicide from accumulated Misfortunes. — An inquest was held before Mr. H. M. Wakley, on Tuesday, at the Horse and Groom, John-street, Edgware-road, on Amelia Coxon, aged thirty-nine, the wife of a coachmaker. The husband, who during his evidence could scarcely make himself audible, through grief, stated that the deceased's parents died of cholera, which greatly affected her. Subsequently the landlord put in a distress for rent, for which witness brought an action, and got trifling damages. To enable him to bring the action, he disposed of his furniture. These accumulated troubles preyed upon deceased's spirits, and she became quite melancholy. After a short absence from home on Friday, she returned and called to witness, exclaiming, "Fred., I am dying—don't leave me!" Witness asked what she meant; and she pulled from her pocket a bottle, and said, "I have drunk the contents." Surgical aid was immediately called in, but she died four hours afterwards. Mr. Jepps, surgeon, said deceased must have taken six drachms of laudanum, which produced death. Verdict, "Insanity."

The Explosion of Fireworks in Bermondsey.—The adjourned inquest upon the bodies of the four persons who lost their lives in consequence of an explosion of fireworks in a dwelling-house occupied by a person named Barlin, was held on Tuesday afternoon at the King John's Head, Abbey-street, Bermondsey, before Mr. Carter. The inquest was adjourned from the 6th of November last, in order to enable the persons injured by the explosion to recover, and be present to give evidence.—Charles Barlin, son of William Barlin, was called and examined. He appeared to have suffered great injuries on the head and hands. He said: I am nineteen years of age next January. My father's name is William Barlin; I lived with him on the 12th of October last, at 4, Brook-street, Bermondsey New-road, and on the evening of that day I was engaged rolling cases for a description of fireworks called blue lights, which are sold to children at ½d. and ¼d. each. There were other persons in the room, and to the best of my recollection they were all rolling cases. I don't think my father was there. The explosion took place at half-past eleven, as near as I can say, and there were then in the room my father and mother, my brother William, and George Barlow. I believe there was a quantity of fire-works being made up in parcels of a gross each. All I can remember is that my mother asked me to give her a chair in order to sit down to supper. We had then cleared away everything. I don't know whether anything was knocked down, but a cracker went off. I have no distinct recollection whether, in the act of giving the chair, something fell; but a cracker fired off, and a number of others followed. I made my escape, in the first instance, without injury; but I returned to the house to fetch out my brother. I believe that the fire was occasioned by striking the lamp as I lifted up the chair.—The boy Larser, who was examined on the last occasion, said, in addition to his former evidence, that he was upstairs at the time of the accident, but from the position of the table when he left the room, he thought the handing of a chair across the table might knock the lamp and ignite some sulphur and lampblack which was on the table.—Mrs. Barlin, who had also just left the hospital, said she asked her son for a chair, and as he was handing it over something fell, and immediately afterwards a cracker went off, and others followed. Her husband had followed the business of making fireworks for many years, but he had been out of employment for a considerable time, and, being in great distress, they had to work early and late. They had a manufactory in the Westminster-road, but a simple thing like blue-lights and crackers they made at home. When the accident happened they were capping the fireworks, *i.e.*, putting on the touchpaper with a little damp powder.—The Coroner said it now became the duty of the jury to consider whether any one was liable for the consequences of the explosion. The Recorder of London had already held that a person was decidedly answerable for the death of a party, occasioned by an explosion of fireworks illegally manufactured. It was entirely, however, a matter for their decision. Should they think any onus attached to the father they would return their verdict against him, but if they were of opinion that the occurrence was purely of an accidental nature he would not be liable for the consequences of it.—The jury deliberated for some time with closed doors, and on the public being admitted, the Coroner directed that Mr. Barlin, the father, should be brought in, and on his entering the room said that the jury had found a verdict of "Accidental death," but had thought it right to append the following to it:—"We, the jury, cannot separate without expressing our regret that sufficient steps are not taken by the police authorities to prevent the manufacturing and selling of fireworks, whereby lives and property are greatly endangered."

The Provinces.

Daring Robbery.—On the 13th inst, between three and four o'clock, the dwelling-house of Mrs. Anna Palmer, in Whitecross-street, Hull, was feloniously entered by some daring depredators. Mrs Palmer is an aged and very infirm lady, and is aunt to the present Mayor of Hull. Her establishment consists of two female servants, and a young woman named Sarah Glover, who, for some time past, has acted as a sort of companion to the old lady, and has been in the habit of sleeping with her. She was awakened by the strong glare of a candle flashing across her face, and, upon looking up, was terrified at seeing a man standing over her, with what she imagined at the time to be a large knife or part of a scythe, but which ultimately proved to be a plough coulter. She begged for mercy. He said he did not intend her any harm, but that he must have money. She told him she did not believe there was any in the house, excepting what her mistress might have in her purse. She then awoke the old lady, who, after some hesitation, offered the man half-a-crown to go away; but he swore that he had four mates below, and must have the purse and its contents. The purse was handed over to him; it only contained some fifteen or eighteen shillings. He then commenced breaking open the drawers, forced open a jewel case, and took from it five or six gold rings, several gold brooches, and a valuable necklace. He had previously been in the room where the servant girls slept without alarming them, but considering, probably, that they did not possess either money or valuables, he left without molesting them, although, there were, in fact several sovereigns belonging to them in a drawer. Having obtained all that he thought he was likely to get, he decamped, but not without first helping himself to the contents of the larder, together with some gin, brandy, and sherry, which he abstracted from the parlour cupboard. He and his companion (for there can be no doubt he had one, if not more) then left the house, taking with them the street-door key. It is somewhat singular that the man who was in Mrs. Palmer's bedroom should have overlooked a gold watch which was hanging at her bedhead, three valuable gold rings which she had taken from her fingers three or four hours before, the plate chest, and several other articles of value. The entrance into the house was effected by the thieves removing a grating and shutter which led to the cellar, and then forcing open with the plough-coulter the various doors. Sarah Glover describes the man who entered her mistress's bedroom as of the middle size, and stout, with florid complexion, and long light hair, dressed like a tramp, with smock frock and cap, and without the least attempt at disguise. When she thought the house was clear of such unwelcome guests, she gave an alarm from the window, and in a short time the superintendent of police came with three of the most active constables belonging to the town, all of whom commenced an immediate pursuit after the thieves, but hitherto their efforts have not been attended with success. The Yarborough association for the prosecution of felons have offered a reward of ten guineas for the apprehension and conviction of the offenders.

Incendiarism in Berkshire. — On Saturday evening last, a fire broke out at Lollingdon farm, in the parish of Cholsey, near Reading, in the occupation of Mr. George Hewett; and an extensive barn was totally destroyed, together with a large quantity of thrashed corn. Fortunately, owing to the assistance rendered by the neighbours and the speedy arrival of an engine from Aston, the other farms, and a number of ricks nearly contiguous to the spot, were saved. Mr. Hewett, it is believed, is insured. The fire was clearly the act of an incendiary.—Another fire in the above neighbourhood also broke out about half-past six o'clock in the morning at Drayton, on a farm belonging to Mr. William Botteridge. The barn in which the fire was discovered was entirely destroyed, together with its contents, which consisted of about seventeen quarters of barley in sacks, twenty ditto thrashed and ready for winnowing, and also four ricks standing close to each other near the spot. There is no doubt that the fire was caused by some incendiary. Mr. Betteride is fully insured.—A third fire, involving the destruction of farm property to a considerable extent, occurred about eight o'clock in the evening at Inholmes farm, situated a few miles from Hungerford, in the occupation of Mr. Spackman. The whole of the farm buildings, including three extensive barns, with their contents of corn and agricultural implements, two large wheat ricks, a barley rick, together with a colt, and a fat pig intended for a prize exhibition, were totally destroyed. The whole of the property is insured. This fire also originated, it is believed, in the act of an incendiary.

Serious Charge against an Officer of Marines.—On the 13th inst., Charles Pyne, second lieutenant of the Royal marines, stationed at Stonehouse, was brought before the magistrates at Stonehouse, and committed for trial at the next assizes for the county of Devon, under the following circumstances. About two months since a child of fourteen years of age, named Ellen Barrett, the daughter of a poor woman residing in Devonport was invited by a female to come to the Marine Barracks on the following morning. The child followed her directions, and, on arriving at the barracks, she was met by the female, who took her to the room of the prisoner. Here the three had breakfast together; and immediately afterwards prisoner locked the door, and criminally assaulted the girl. On the application of Mr. J. E. Elworthy, the solicitor for the prisoner, the magistrate agreed to accept bail for the appearance of the prisoner, himself in £200, and two sureties in £100.

Diabolical Cruelty.—A valuable hunter, the property of J. S. D. Selby, of Cheswick, was found, one night last week, to have been cruelly wounded, one of its eyes having been actually scooped out. An alarm was raised during the night by the servant lad, who slept in a room above the stable, who stated that he had heard a noise below, and on going down had encountered some thieves, with whom he had a struggle, in the course of which his hands sustained some injury. The animal at the time was found to be missing, and the harness was observed to be much entangled. It has since been discovered, however, that the servant himself was the author of this cruel outrage, and that the pretended alarm which he raised, and the injuries which he received, were intended only as a *ruse*. He has, it appears, acknowleged his guilt. — *Newcastle Journal.*

Lights in the Liverpool Docks.—On Monday a very numerous meeting of captains and others connected with shipping, was held in the cotton sales room, Liverpool, to adopt a memorial to the dock committee, to allow lights and fires to be used on board vessels while in the docks. Several parties addressed the meeting, and resolutions were unanimously adopted, that the committee should be petitioned.

Large Fire at Belper.—On Sunday night the town of Belper, in Derbyshire, was the scene of a most terrific conflagration, which terminated in the total demolition of the hosiery establishment of Messrs. Ward, & Co. It appears that some of the hands were at work until eleven o'clock on Saturday night. At that hour the premises were closed, and, as it is believed, left in complete security. On Sunday morning two men were employed in the store-room doing some repairs. About eight o'clock on Sunday evening the watchman on duty perceived a strong smell of fire, and immediately gave the alarm. At that time the people were leaving the different places of worship, and numbers were soon congregated about the premises. Mr. Taylor, one of the managers, and the other heads of departments were speedily on the spot, and it was found that the lower windows of one warehouse were so hot as to render the touch unbearable. The fire-engines were soon got into play, but without immediate effect. About nine o'clock the flames burst forth in terrific fury, and extended with such rapidity that the whole building was in a general blaze. A very small quantity of goods were removed; and the remainder, comprising an extensive stock of silk, cotton, and other goods, were totally consumed. At five o'clock on Monday evening last the engines were still playing upon the smouldering ruins, and it was evident that part of the walls must fall. The stock and buildings were insured in the Norwich and other unions to the extent of £28,500. The damage by this lamentable catastrophe has been variously estimated at from £100,000 to £150,000. Upwards of 1,500 hands are deprived of employment. The firm is one of the largest in the world, and was formerly known as Ward, Brittle, and Ward. Every department of the hosiery trade was carried on here. There are also several other establishments connected with the same firm in various parts of the country. The warehouses now appear a mere shell. The most praiseworthy conduct was evinced by the crowd in assisting the firemen to stay the conflagration. We have not heard to what amount Messrs. Ward are insured. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

The South Shields Pilots. — On Friday, the 14th inst. a public meeting, convened in compliance with a requisition, was held in the Guildhall, Newcastle, to promote a public subscription for the relief of the widows and orphans of the pilots who perished on the 4th instant.—The Mayor, Joseph Crawhall, Esq., took the chair.—There was a numerous attendance, comprising the most influential inhabitants of the town.—Resolutions were passed, and an expression of sorrow and sympathy was followed up by the appointment of a committee to raise a subscription, at the head of which are the Mayor and the Master of the Trinity House.—Mr. John Rayne, who supported one of the resolutions, made a powerful appeal in behalf of the widows and orphans, and spoke in warm terms of commendation of the spirit manifested at the meeting in South Shields, where, he said, £500 had already been subscribed. A suggestion was thrown out that the resolutions of the Newcastle meeting should be sent to the London Coal Exchange; but an application in that quarter, it was justly observed, would come with more propriety (if it had not already emanated) from the South Shields committee. On Sunday collections were made in Hanover-square chapel, Newcastle, for the relief of the widows, orphans, and other dependent relatives of the brave pilots who perished on the unfortunate occasion above mentioned. Several other congregational collections have been made; and others are to follow, in various towns, forthwith.—*Gateshead Observer.*—The Queen has forwarded one hundred guineas towards this fund. The corporation of Newcastle have sent a donation of 100 guineas, and the Master and Brethren of the Trinity House have also contributed 100 guineas to the same deserving object—Mr. Robert Anderson has stated that the life-boat had gone off from South Shields, since 1841, to ninety-six vessels, and brought on shore 466 shipwrecked mariners.

Forgery and Speedy Apprehension.—On the evening of the 14th inst, information was lodged with the police authorities, that a forged order for £100 had been that day presented at the Union Bank of Edinburgh for payment. By the instructions of Mr. Moxey, John Milligan, and Alexander M'Pherson, criminal officers, proceeded to the house of the party whose name had been forged, and who is a legal practitioner in the New Town, and, after some inquiry, took into custody the female servant, whom they suspected of the forgery. In the course of the evening they also apprehended the party who uttered the document, and another person who, it is believed received the forged document from the servant girl. When on her way to the police office the female prisoner attempted to destroy two other orders upon the same bank, one or both of which are alleged to be forgeries. The accused parties were brought before the police judge on Saturday last, on a petition at the instance of Mr. Moxey, and were remitted for examination to the sheriff. Milligan and M'Pherson having learned that valuable articles of dress had disappeared some weeks ago from the house of the girl's master, made a careful search, and discovered the missing articles carefully concealed under a bed in the kitchen; and having continued their search on the Saturday evening, they found a chest, containing various books, and other articles the property of her master, concealed in a cellar in the front area, covered over with rubbish. —*Calendonian Mercury.*

A Centenarian at Osborne.—A correspondent at Cowes writes thus on the 18th inst.:—"It having reached the ear of royalty that an aged woman, named Read, residing in Cowes, would complete her hundredth year on the 21st instant, and that she had lost none of her faculties, her Majesty caused a carriage to be sent to convey the old lady to Osborne, whither she went, wondering but rejoicing. After an interview with the Queen, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, and the royal children, she was sent home, loaded with gifts, and with a well-grounded persuasion that her few remaining days will be cheered with plenty.—*Daily News.*

Lancashire.—Burglary at Bickerstaffe.—On the night of the 14th inst., between eight and nine o'clock, five or more men, armed with pistols, entered the house of Mr. Stockley, wheelwright and farmer, near this town, and demanded money. At the time of their entry four men were in the house, and one of them endeavoured to make a show of resistance. For this purpose he endeavoured to take a gun from the chimney-piece, when one of the villains seized the gun and broke it over his head. It appears that whilst the thieves were engaged in ransacking the house for money, three other men in the service of Mr. Stockley came in, and an attack was made on the burglars. Four shots were fired, two of which took effect on the wall without injuring any person. The burglars made a strict search for money, but were only able to find 4s. 6d., with which they decamped. They also took two double barrelled guns, one of them marked with the name of "Barnes," and the other with "Green." The pistols which the fellows discharged, were, as appeared from subsequent examination, loaded with slugs.

Kent.—Daring Robbery.—A daring robbery was committed in the village of Aylesford on Sunday night, or rather early on Monday morning, in the house of Mr. E. O. Golding, surgeon. The night was extremely stormy. About three o'clock Mr. Golding was awoke by some noise below, and was preparing to examine the cause, but hearing nothing more he attributed the noise to the violence of the wind. On his servant going down in the morning, however, he found that an entrance had been effected at the back of the house, and that the lower rooms had been completely ransacked. The thieves appear to have laid their plans very cunningly, locking the door at the bottom of the staircase, thus securing themselves from attack, and unlocking the yard door, over which they had climbed to get in, so as to make good their retreat. A candle had been lit and they had evidently been carousing making free with the spirits and wine, carrying off with them half a dozen of the latter. A fierce dog chained up close to the door had been drugged by the rascals to render him harmless. They broke open two inner doors, several cupboards, a work box, desk, and cash box, the latter fortunately containing only papers, and carried off two great coats, a shooting jacket, two valuable cases of surgical instruments, some table cloths, two or three silver articles (the plate basket having prudently been put out of the way) and some steel knives and forks. The property stolen is worth altogether about £25. Suspicion attaches to certain parties, for whom a sharp look out will be kept, and a reward of £5 is offered for the conviction of the thieves.

Portland Breakwater. — We learn from the *Western Flying Post* that the works at Portland were last week proceeding with considerable activity. The storms of last week, however, were not to be restrained by the trifling resistance offered by the works but just commenced, the whole of which were swept clean away, and on Tuesday a systematic commencement of the national breakwater works, with permanent materials, by the convicts, took place. The whole of the convicts were mustered to see its commencement, Captain Whitty, the governor of the prisoner, and Mr. Coode, the engineer of the breakwater works, accompanied the first waggon to the water's edge. 800 convicts will be immediately employed thereon, and kept constantly at work, so that the laying of the last stone, as well as the first, may now be anticipated.

Fleetwood a Port.—By a Treasury minute recently issued, Fleetwood will become, after the 6th of January, next an independent port. It belongs at present to the port of Preston.

State of the Hull Docks.—The late easterly winds have brought up large quantities of shipping, including some from India, bound to the continent, but unable to reach their ports on account of ice. The same winds having operated against the departure of vessels, our docks are now inconveniently crowded, and the blue flag, signifying that the docks are full, has been flying some days.

Charge of Manslaughter against a Dispensary Midwife.—Hannah Cushforth, one of the Midwives of the Sheffield public dispensary, who was committed to York for manslaughter, in causing the death of the infant of Harriet Mappin, through improper treatment during the confinement of its mother, was last week discharged from custody after an incarceration of five months, there being no evidence that the infant was born alive.

The Britannia-Bridge.—The operation of raising the second monster tube, of 1,800 tons, to its intended elevation of 100 feet above sea-mark, was commenced by the engineers on Tuesday, fourteen days only having elapsed since the day on which it was successfully floated. The action of the hydraulic presses was found to be most perfect and precise, and the stupendous mass was worked steadily six feet upwards.

Shipwreck.—Falmouth, Dec. 15.—On Friday, at noon, an account was received here of another shipwreck having occurred in this neighbourhood. The brig Venus, of and from Guernsey, of 123 tons, John Blacter, master, in ballast, bound to Newport, to load for Havannah, on the 14th inst., at two a.m., got on the Manacle Rocks. Immediately danger was apprehended, the master, whose "watch" was below, was called up, when he ordered the helm to be put hard up, and the brig wore round. He then took the wheel, when she struck forwards and then aft. Through the concussion the master was thrown over the ship's side, and only escaped destruction by catching hold of the gunwale, but his leg was badly hurt. After striking the second time, way being kept on the vessel, and both pumps going, eighteen inches of water in her indicated that she was settling down. The boat was got ready, and at four a.m., the master and crew got into it; ten minutes had scarcely expired before she foundered. She had very recently had a considerable sum expended on a total refit. The pilot cutter Nicholas Jenking met with the unfortunate people at sea at day-break, not knowing whereabouts to steer for or make a land fall, and brought them in here.

Scotland.

Hungarian Refugees.—The *Edinburgh Evening Courant* says that the subscription in Edinburgh in behalf of the party of the Hungarian refugees (thirty-seven in number,) who have lately been resident in Leith, was closed on Friday week, and the result, though not equal to the sanguine expectations of some of its promoters, will, we believe, with the sums raised in Leith and Glasgow, and the funds otherwise obtained, provide a free passage for the party to New York, and leave a surplus in their hands of about £150. The Hungarians left Leith on Saturday morning last, *en route* to Glasgow, by the Caledonian Railway, the Directors of that line having, in the most liberal manner, agreed to convey them to that city free of charge. The Mountstuart Elphinstone, with a number of the Hungarian refugees on board, left Glasgow harbour on Monday afternoon, at one o'clock. There was a large concourse of spectators present who warmly expressed their sympathy with the exiles as the vessel got under weigh.

The Dolly's Brae Affair.—A meeting, convened by placard, was to have been held on the 14th inst. in the Lyceum Rooms, Nelson-street, Glasgow, for the purpose of denouncing the massacre at Dolly's Brae, and calling upon the government to take measures for bringing the guilty parties to punishment; but one of the superintendents of police being apprehensive that the holding of the meeting might lead to a disturbance, interfered to prevent it, and the committee abandoned their design.

Ireland.

Protectionist Meeting in Cork.—The first of the series of protection meetings was held at Cork on Friday, the Earl of Bandon presiding. It was an exclusively landlord meeting. Lord Bernard, Mr. Charles Beamish, Mr. Cole, and Colonel Chatterton, the new-elected pectectionist member, being the principal speakers. All advocated the necessity of re-establishing protective duties on foreign produce, and joined in attributing all the calamities of the country to the disastrous introduction of the free trade policy. There is, indeed, one great evil which they admit must have had some other cause, and that it is the potato blight; but this misfortune has become a matter of only secondary consideration with the Irish protectionists. Resolutions setting forth the evils of free trade were adopted, and it was agreed, a county association should be formed.

Tenant Farmers Anti-Rent Movement.—The *Kilkenny Journal* of this day contains an ample report of a meeting of tenant farmers, backed by the presence of several Roman Catholic priests, held at Windgap, in that county on Sunday last, and at which speeches were delivered indicative of a very marked determination to carry out the views of the speakers, and to extend the organisation by every means within their power. Should the priests, as is probable, withdraw their patronage from the two rival agitations in the metropolis, and throw all their influence into this peasant movement, it needs no gift of foresight to predict the consequences. Among the resolutions agreed to at the meeting referred to, the most remarkable are as follow:—

"That the high rental of this country, founded upon war prices, and hitherto maintained by protective duties and unnatural competition for land, arising from the extinction of all other means of subsistence, is now, with protection abolished and the capital of the farmer exhausted by a series of adverse seasons, excessive and intolerable; and, if upheld, must speedily eventuate in the ruin of proprietor and occupier, by the discouragement of employment and the consequent impoverishment of the soil, the entire of which will be absorbed in the maintenance of the unemployed poor, leaving nothing to landlord or tenant."

"Therefore, that a valuation of the land, suited to the altered circumstances of the country, is a measure equally beneficial to landlord and farmer; and that we regard the blind, reckless competition for land, hitherto prevalent in this country, as disastrous to the interests of all classes, and affording the only pretext for upholding ruinously exorbitant rents."

"That it is of vital importance to the over-taxed rate-payers, landlords, and tenants, to co-operate forthwith, in providing reproductive employment for the labouring classes; and thus relieve themselves of the growing weight of taxation, which hangs like a millstone round their necks, paralysing the spirit of industry and enterprise throughout the land, while the half-fed recipients themselves of a stingy relief are reduced to a state of demoralisation at which humanity shudders and which religion deplores."

"That sound policy, justice, and the interests of society in Ireland imparatively demand that the occupiers of the soil should not be ejected from their holdings, save only for non-payment of a fair and equitable rent; and in the event of such non-payment they should be authorised to sell their occupancy and interest to the highest bidder, securing the payment of all just arrears out of the purchase money to the proprietors."

Flax Cultivation.—An important meeting to promote the cultivation of flax was held at Mallow, in the county of Cork, last week. Several gentlemen of influence were present, and a local society to carry out the object of the meeting was established. The following resolutions were adopted:—

"That the committee and the members of the society make every exertion to induce the farmers to cultivate flax the ensuing spring; and that the landed proprietors, and all others holding large tracts of ground, be earnestly requested to set the example, by sowing as much ground as they possibly can of a crop that at present pays better than any other, and which will give such extensive employment that the poor will be able to obtain a livelihood, and not be forced to seek a refuge in the poor house to keep them from starvation."

"That, though the cultivation of flax is certain of being productive of much good, the manufacture of it in a country where it is grown would be far greater, as it would give the farmer a certain market at home for the article, and induce him to sow a much larger quantity, besides the vast employment it would give to our idle poor; we therefore earnestly entreat Mr. Dargan, who is so well acquainted with the north, to set the bright example of using his influence to establish the first mill or manufactory in this part of Ireland, feeling convinced that, if he will be kind enough to make the exertion, that success must follow, thereby raising a monument to himself of more real value than the wealth of the Treasury could accomplish."

The Report of the Grand Lodge.—The *Fermanagh Reporter*—Orange authority, for it has made no formal recantation of a change in principles—lectures its quondam friends in very pretty set terms, and gives them to understand that their "grand" report, so far from bettering their position, leaves them but small grounds for their claim to unconditional and exclusive loyalty. "What," asks the Orange censor, "has become of the pure unmingled loyalty to which we thought the Orangeman's oath bound him, when the body show so little respect to her Majesty's representative, the Vice-King of Ireland? And, what of Lord Roden's civility to a government by which he is paid a pension, and his relatives provided for? Lord Roden is a good man, and an honourable gentleman, but we think that most people in the receipt of a pension, and having their relatives in government situations, would not raise a row about a barren honour. It is a good doctrine to be governed by him who governs the purse —be obedient or quit the service. Expediency required that the Orangemen should be encouraged against the Confederates last year; and the same expediency rendered it necessary to discountenance armed processions this year. The government acted on the same principle in both cases, and the Orangemen who availed themselves of it then ought not to have objected now. Of this the Orangemen are now aware, that neither the government nor the landlords care an old wife's curse about them, except when expediency requires, and that they may keep their loyalty to warm their hearts."

Portarlington Estates.—The *Mercantile Advertiser* gives the following particulars relative to the largest property that has yet been brought under the Incumbered Estates Commission:—"The annual rental of the Portarlington estates in Ireland is £32,640, consisting chiefly of well-circumstanced head-rents; and so valuable is the property, that the amount received within one year, 1847, after the terrible failure of the potato, was nearly £29,000. The incumbrances upon the estates amount on the aggregate to £617,000, besides about £3,000 a year charged as irredeemable life annuities. Some years before the death of the late earl, the sum of £344,000 had been raised by 'contributions,' which, with a previous mortgage of long standing, £56,000, which now stands as the prior incumbrance, amounted to £400,000. There were subsequent mortgages to the amount of £130,000, judgment debts, £60,000, and some charges under the will of the late earl, making in the entire £617,000—the amount of the incumbrances at the period of his decease. The present Earl of Portarlington, with a view of liquidating the incumbrances arising from the 'contributions,' under which trustees had been appointed, raised a large sum from the Law Life Insurance Company, who in this way have become creditors, and that company has, besides, a secondary security for those advances on the English estates of the present Earl. There has been a protracted suit in the English Court of Chancery, between Colonel Damer and the Earl of Portarlington, under which a receiver has been appointed; and the case has also been in the Irish Court of Chancery; but if an absolute order should be pronounced by the commissioners, it would practically operate as an estoppel to the suits in Chancery."

A Good Example.—The *Northern Standard* gives the following account of the way in which the Maxwell property, in the county of Armagh, is managed:—"That portion of this extensive property situated in the county of Armagh, under the superintendence and management of George Henry, Esq., of Tassagh, is at present undergoing most important permanent improvements. The representatives of Dr. Maxwell are, through Mr. Henry, allowing the tenants sixpence per perch for sinking the drains and filling them in again, and also giving them any quantity of lime they require at half-price. The whole range of that extensive property, even in those dark December days, presents the appearance of the industry and diligence of a bee-hive.

The Registeries.—In the year 1835 there were 2,300 voters in the Queen's County; at present there are 247. Nor do we believe the Queen's County to be a solitary instance of such a decrease in the number of electors. There has also been a great falling off in Kildare, and we daily see complaints in our contemporaries of the prevalence of such self-disfranchisement.—*Leinster Express.*

The Linen Trade.—Last week the home demand for yarns was not brisk. At present prices there is still left a fair profit for the manufacturers. Linens have been bought a shade lower, especially the finer sorts, for which the demand is limited. The demand is now for heavy linens suitable for the home market. The export of yarns is improving. During last week it amounted to 84 bales; linen, 363 boxes, 19 bales, 2 trusses; muslin, 9 boxes; thread, 6 boxes. —*Belfast News.*

Provision Prospects.—The police have been for some time engaged in making out returns of the quantity of land under corn crop the past season; also the amount of stock. They find the stock of cattle much diminished, even since last year.—*Limerick Express.*

Awful Loss of Life in the Kilrush Union. —On Wednesday evening last, a large numb r of persons, most of whom were paupers who had been seeking out door relief, were drowned while crossing the ferry on their return to Moyarta. Captain Kennedy, accompanied by Doctor O'Donnell, proceeded immediately to the scene of the tragedy, bringing with them such restoratives as are generally used in recovering the drowned; but none of the bodies were washed on shore that night. Those gentlemen remained out all night, and the scene next morning (Thursday) was most distressing. No less than thirty-three dead bodies were washed ashore at the northern side of the ferry. They were removed to an adjacent field, and the coroner arriving soon after from Kilkee, an inquest was held on their wretched remains. It appeared upon the inquiry that no less than forty-three or forty-five persons (for they could not tell the exact number) were allowed to crowd into a crazy and rotten boat, which had beed plying on this ferry for the last forty years. The boat moved on as far as the middle of the ferry, when a sea broke over her stern, and filled her at once, the wind blowing strong from the south-east at the time. She upset instantly, and her miserable living freight were immerged in the merciless waters, while four (who were eventually saved) clung to her until a boat came to their assistance. The verdict of the coroner's jury was as usual in such cases, but imputing gross neglect, and attaching censure to the owners of the boat for premitting such a number of persons into so frail a craft. With the exception of four, the victims were paupers who had frequently come into the town in vain to seek out-door relief, and were returning that sad evening to their wretched hovels in the parishes of Moyarat and Kilballyowen. The disconsolate relatives of the unfortunate victims came down on the shore bewailing with heart-rending cries the awful calamity, and the bodies of others were recognised by the aid of the relieving officer. Captain Kennedy distributed money to those poor creatures, and sent into the Kilrush workhouse for the coffins for the dead. There were two other bodies found on Thursday night, and four on Friday morning, making a total of 39 found dead and two are still missing. The ferry (as it is called) where this most melancholy catastrophe occurred is an arm of the Shannon extending into the spot called the "Turf Yard" by the road to Kilkee, and the peasantry from the western parts of Clare have made it from time immemorial their shortest way home. It is stated the unfortunate creatures forced their way into the boat as it grew dark, and that act would appear as if Heaven awarded them a more merciful death than starvation, by which they probably would have perished in a few days more. They came in many times to Kilrush, seaking relief, and were crowded in squalid groups around the workhouse gate, the most miserable spectacle that ever shocked the eye of humanity. The doomed beings were obliged for the last fortnight to return to the country without receiving one pound of meal, and the charity of the shopkeepers of Kilrush must have been the only means during the sad intrim, together with that of the Roman Catholic clergy, of preserving their miserable lives, and those of many others. The residence of the parish priest Rev. T. Kelly, Kilrush, is every day beset by such forlorn and destitute creatures. The state of this wretched union is almost without a parallel, and only for some humane arrangements made by Col. Vandeleur with Mr. M. Kelly, the Manager of the National Bank, the inmates of workhouse would have had no food during the past week. —*Limerick Chronicle.*

Repeal Association.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Monday in Conciliation Hall. The body of the building was almost totally deserted, and there were very few persons either in the galleries or on the platform. Mr. John Bagnal, T. C., was in chair. Mr. John O'Connell, referring to the recent negotiations for a reunion of Repealers, said he felt satisfied that the committee of the association had faithfully discharged their duty to the people of Ireland in the course they had taken in reference to those negotiations. If the Irish Alliance had agreed to the "peace resolutions," the committe acting on behalf of the association would not have hesitated to make very liberal concessions upon other points. The

Hon. C. Lawless, M.P. for Clonmel, was the next speaker. He thought the leaders of the Alliance were the cause of the disunion. The rent was announced to be £10 13.

Out-Door Relief.—There are no persons now receiving out-door relief in Ireland, under any sealed order of the Poor-law Commissioners although applications for such orders have been made by some of the boards. The out-door relief now afforded (and in a few of the more distressed unions the claimants are still very numerous) is given under the first section of the act, which directly empowers boards of guardians to grant relief out of the workhouse, to certain classes of disabled poor. There is an extraordinary contrast between the north-eastern and south-western unions: and the subject has excited a good deal of attention since the publication of the recent pamphlet of Mr. Sharman Crawford, M.P., the object of which was to show that, in the most prosperous districts of Ulster, there is a more dense population, and a more minute sub-division of the land, than in the most impoverished and pauperised counties of the south or west. The argument of Mr. Crawford, so far at least as the comparative freedom of the north-eastern counties from pauperism, has received very striking corroboration from a statement in the last number of the *Downpatrick Recorder*, as to the condition of the workhouse of that union—one of those particularly referred to by the honourable member for Rochdale. The Downpatrick union workhouse, that journal remarks, was erected to accommodate one thousand paupers, but the inmates at present are only 630. and there are not five able-bodied men amongst the entire. Thus Downpatrick workhouse is little more than half full, and the rate over the entire union is but 11½d. in the pound, including the rate in aid of 6d., whilst several of the unions of the south and west are overwhelmed with pauperism and bankruptcy. The *Downpatrick Recorder* remarks:—"The entire support of the paupers in the union, salaries and every other charge included, does not amount to as much as the rate in aid. The ratepayers of this union are therefore contributing more to the support of the paupers in the south and west of Ireland than it takes to maintain their own poor.

THE LATE GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL.

Nottingham. — Sunday. — Yesterday the sentences on privates Ball, Buttworth, and Knox, tried in this town by general courts-martial on the 6th, 7th, and 8th of November last, were communicated from Sheffield to Nottingham, having been officially announced to the prisoners in the former town on the previous day. The unsentenced prisoners were removed to Sheffield at the time the several troops exchanged quarters a few days ago.—As it is usual in such cases, the official minutes of each trial were read in the presence of the assembled troops.

The following is a brief summary of each case.—

No. 787, Private Robert Knox, charged with having, on the 14th of October last, left the Nottingham Barracks when confined thereto, and not returning until the 15th; also, as a second offence, with raising his hand, in which was a large stone, against Sergeant-Major Davis, and uttering insubordinate words in a menacing manner.—The first charge was admitted. To prove the second, Sergt.-Major Davis deposed: I was sent in charge of a picket in search of men, of whom the prisoner was one. I went to the Gate public-house in Brewhouse-yard, and was endeavouring to secure two of the absentees, when the prisoner and another ran away. My party gave chase. On going close to them, private Knox turned round; he raised his hand, in which, to the best of my belief. was a large stone, and exclaimed, "Do, you b——," or words to that effect, as if in defiance of my securing him. I knocked him down with my sword, and broke it. I cut him across the head. Civilians afterwards rescued the prisoner.

Witnesses were called who swore that the sergeant-major's sword was broken during a row that previously occurred in the Gate public-house, and that when he struck Knox it was with a short piece of the broken sword, the prisoner having his back towards the sergeant-major at the time, and not making use of any menace or expression of defiance whatever. The prisoner's age was said to be 26, his service two years, and his character very good.—"Guilty" of the first charge; "not guilty" of the second. To be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for three calendar months.

No. 607, Private William Butterworth, for breaking out of barracks at Nottingham, when confined thereto, on the 14th of October, and not returning until brought back by a picket on the 15th; and secondly, for insubordination in seizing the detained Troop Sergeant-Major Davis in the Gate public-house whilst two prisoners escaped, saying meanwhile, "I will not hurt you, sergeant-major, but I will hold you," or words to that effect.—The evidence for the prosecution and in favour of the prisoner was very lengthy.—The prisoner's age was described as 28 years, his length of service eight years, and character indifferent.—"Guilty" of the first charge, and partially guilty of the second. To be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for twelve calendar months.

No. 849, Private Edward Ball, charged, first, with breaking out of barracks when confined thereto at Nottingham, on the 14th of October; secondly, with escaping from a party by whom he had been captured the same night, and not returning until the 16th of the same month; thirdly, with using insubordinate language to Sergeant-Major Davis on the 14th, and saying, "You are no man, Sergeant-Major," or words to that effect.—From the evidence it seemed that the prisoner was one of those who escaped from the Gate public-house at the time Sergeant-Major Davis was endeavouring to capture some of the absentees, on the evening they absented themselves from barracks. On leaving the public-house he went a circuit round Genton, and was at Radford, in the vicinity of the barracks, when a second picket observed him, and gave chase. He ran down Derby-road, and entered Nottingham market-place, when Sergeant-Major Davis and his party met him. Both pickets pursued the prisoner up Park-street, when he took refuge in Mr. Shuttleworth's passage, which was very dark at the time. He was observed to enter by two policemen, who gave information to the pursuing pickets, the commanders of which ordered the policemen to follow, with their lights turned on. They then entered themselves, followed by their men, when the prisoner was observed lying on the ground at the top of the passage. Lieutenant Whitby ordered his party to "handcuff him;" when the prisoner exclaimed, "I will go peaceably, but will die rather than be handcuffed." Sergeant-Major Davis cried to his party, "If he stirs, cut him down;" and suiting the action to the word, he cut the prisoner across the head with his sword, and Corporal Sturgess at the same moment thrust the point of his sword into the prisoner's mouth. "Then it was," said the prisoner in his defence, "that I made use of some remark to the effect that they were not using me as a fellow-soldier, or as a man." He was, however, secured, and given in charge to a small party, whose vigilance he eluded at the Park corner, a dark place, and a second time escaped—not returning to the barracks until two days afterwards.—The prisoner's age is 27 years, length of service three years; character indifferent.—"Guilty" of all the charges. To be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for twelve calendar months.

During the late unhappy troubles, a great proportion of the men composing two troops of the 3rd Dragoon Guards have been punished for insubordination and misconduct in one way or other; three have been tried by general courts-martial, thirteen by district courts, about thirty have been disposed of summarily, two were fined by the Nottingham magistrates, and one escaped.

Lieutenant-colonel Arthur, to whose illegal order for confinement of the troops to barracks the Duke of Wellington has attributed the wide-spread spirit of insubordination which followed, is under orders—it is stated in the regiment, to dispose of his commission by the 10th of March next.

All the offenders sentenced to imprisonment have been removed to the military gaol at Weedon.

A Californian Adventurer.—A Mr. John Evans of Totnes, left Teignmouth about two years ago, in the vigour of twenty-four years of age, to seek a commercial clerk's situation in St. John's, Newfoundland. It did not suit him, and he got into the United States. His Devonshire friends have lost sight of him ever since, till now, when a letter arrives dated from the Gold Region of America, August 22, in which he states that he arrived there last July, and in six weeks he was the possessor of six or seven pounds weight of gold (worth £300); he and his partner, working in the sands of the river, could collect three or four ounces daily, which as gold is worth in civilised countries about £3 17s. 6d. per ounce, seems very lucrative labour, but then it must be remembered that food, clothing and lodging are enormously dear there; little or no coin is used, and one pays in a shop with gold dust —so that "down with the dust," is no longer a figurative expression. Mr. Evans has also commenced searching in the "diggings" in the mountains, but had not, at the date of his letter, yet picked up any solid lumps of gold there. Other persons have got large solid masses in the diggings, some weighing 14lbs. Mr. Evans journed across the Rocky Mountains, and took two horses with him. He says he means to return to England when he has amassed fifty thousand dollars.

Capt. Boxer, of the Royal Horse Artillery, has invented a very effective lighting carcase, to be fired into the air over an enemy's position, so as to show his arrangements and movements in the darkest night. It burns in the air at a great altitude. At the highest point an explosion took place similar to the bursting of a rocket in the air, and out came a parachute, fully six feet in diameter, and about three feet in depth, suspending a brilliant blue light. The apparatus floated to the south-east, illuminating the whole of Woolwich Common under and around it, "with a light nearly equal to that of a full moon on a clear night."

THE LATE UNNATURAL MURDER IN HARLEY-STREET.

On Saturday, long before the usual period for commencing business at the Marylebone police court, some hundreds of persons congregated in the vicinity in the hope of seeing the woman, Sarah Drake, who was remanded on the 7th inst., upon the heinous charge of having murdered her child, Lewis Drake, aged two years. At half-past twelve the prisoner was placed at the bar, and, upon the application of Mr. Herring she was allowed to be seated during the inquiry. She held her handkerchief to her face, and scarcely any one in the court could, from the commencement to the close of the investigation, obtain a sight of her features.

It will be remembered that a box containing the dead body of the child was sent off by the prisoner from her master's (Mr. Huth's) house, No. 33, Upper Harley-street, addressed to Mr. Theophilus Burton, her brother-in-law, a blacksmith, residing at North Leverton, Notts, and that from the appearances which the body presented no doubt could exist as to the child having been brutally murdered. An inquest was held by the coroner, and adjourned for the purpose of enabling the officers to get up the evidence.

Mr. Philips, the clerk, read over the depositions taken down by him on the 7th inst. At intervals the prisoner sobbed intensely, and it was quite apparent that she felt acutely the awful situation in which, from the confession of her guilt that she had made to the searcher, she was placed.

The additional evidence taken was as follows:

Sarah Powell examined.—I am housemaid to Mr. Huth, of 33, Upper Harley-street, and I remember Wednesday, the 28th of November. About a quarter to eleven that morning a friend came to see me, and, wishing to take her into the housekeeper's room, I went to the door of it, and found it locked. I called out, "Never mind" to the prisoner, who, I believe, was inside, and I did not hear her answer anything. I did not see her go into or out of her room. I saw the door open in the course of an hour or two afterwards.

Mrs. Jane Johnson was next examined.—She stated that she was the wife of a policeman, residing at Shirley-common, Croydon. In the month of January, 1848, she was desirous of having a child to nurse, and she applied to a Miss Harrington, who then lived at Chelsea, to do all in her power to recommend her. Shortly after this prisoner was introduced to her by Miss Harrington, and she took the child, which was three months old, with an understanding that she was to bring it up by hand as if it was her own, and she was to receive 6s. per week for its support. For the first three months witness was paid by the prisoner, and in the course of visits which were *ad interim* made, she understood from the prisoner that the father of the child was a Roman catholic, and she knew the child by no other name than that of Lewis. She was not then in possession of the prisoner's name. In June the child became very ill, and she had it baptised in the name of Lewis. The payments ceased in April of last year, and in February witness saw Mrs. Drake at Shirley-common, where she (witness) had removed from Peckham. She then said she would take away the child and get it into an institution established at Boulogne. She gave me a sovereign, and said she would pay the rest as soon as she could. She took the child away then, and I did not expect to have it returned to me again. I saw her again next day between eleven and twelve at night. I was in bed when she returned. I got up and took the baby, and the prisoner told me that she had been to a doctor, who told her the child had got the water on the head, and that it would not live long, and that she had better bring it back to where the child had always been brought up. She said she would not take it away any more, and that she would do the best for the child, if I would but keep him again. I did not say anything to her then, or at any other time, about her having taken different names. I took the child back again. She then paid me 11s. more, in liquidation of the old debt, and I told her then I would keep the child for 5s. a week from that time. I did not see her afterwards until I received a letter on the 27th of last month, which was dated the 26th, and which caused me to go to Harley-street on the 28th. Last August I received from her £10, and she had sent me £2 previously to that, which did not pay the whole of the debt. I do not recollect the amount of the debt then. The last letter referred to was then put in and read, and was to the following effect:—

"Mrs. Johnson,—It is with a trembling hand and broken heart I write this letter to you. You will be sorry to hear that I have been obliged to sell the chief part of my clothes to pay my expenses. I am a poor creature, very weak and ill, and when walking in the Park on Saturday for the benefit of the air, I accidently met with Mrs. ——, whom I knew when I was living in a family at Manchester, and she told me she would take me with her to Madrid. I hope to see you before I go. I shall not write to you, for they are all strangers to me here, and I do not wish them to know my address. You say I am not true to the child. I hope you will never have the trouble I have had about him. I have suffered greatly on his account, and I do not wish you to get more for him than I could pay for. It will take me some time to pay what I already owe. My wages are not £15 a year, and I am not able to bring him up respectably. It is not in my power to do anything more for him than I have done. I wish him to go to the parish, and if I return I will do all I can for him. If I die, all my things shall be sold, and the money sent to you, but you must say it was money borrowed from you, for if the truth was known, my parents would curse me in my grave. If I had not done this [accepted, we suppose, the alleged offer to go to Spain,] I must have been starved to death. If I am spared you shall hear from me in a few months; it may be six or twelve months before I return to England. If I leave, it will be about six o'clock this evening. I hope you are all well. God bless you.

"Yours sincerely, S. Drake."

The witness Johnson said the letter was dated "22, Edward-street, Dorset-square, Nov. 26th, 1849."—Mr. Long: When did you receive it?—Witness:—The next day, the 27th, and I went on it to 22, Edward-street, and from information I got there I went to Upper Harley-street, but did not know the number of the house. I went to Nos. 24 and 25, and several other houses, but did not find Mrs. Drake that night. On the next day—Nov. 28—[this is the day on which the child is supposed to have been murdered,] I went again, and found the prisoner at No. 33, Upper Harley-street. I saw her there, and had the child with me. I saw her in her room, and there was no one present but ourselves. She said she did not know when she was going abroad, and that the family had put it off until April or May next. I said, "Mrs. Drake, do not say that; for you had never any intention of going to Spain." She then asked me if I would have anything to eat, and I told her no; and she then said she thought the child was very much better than when she last saw him. I said he was quite well, and a hearty little fellow. I told her I must not take him home any more, for it was the second time she had deceived me; for when she went into the country she said she was going to the Isle of Man, when in reality she was going to Nottinghamshire. She then asked me to take the child back for a week or so, until she could get some one to take care of him. I told her no, that my husband said I was to leave the child with her and not bring him back again. The sum of £9 10s. was due to me at this time. She then came to the area door with me without the child, whose hat and things she had taken off before I left the room. At the door I told her my husband would take out a summons against her for the money. I went up the area steps, and when I got to the top of them she called me back again, and said "How much is it I owe?" I answered "£9 10s." I then went away, leaving the child with her; and I saw no more of her until the following Friday (the 30th ultimo,) when I went to the house in Harley-street again. She had written to me in the meantime, and she asked me if I had received her letter, and I said "No; but that no doubt my husband would receive it that day at two o'clock." I brought the child's things, and told her there was a note and a bill in the parcel with them. She said "Very well, I will read them by and by." She said she had got the child out of the house, without anybody knowing it, to a friend of hers, who would lend her money as far as the debt went. When I got home I found a letter from her.—The letter was produced, and the substance of its contents is as follows:—"Mrs. Johnson, I have got a friend who will lend me the money to pay you the first week in January. My friend's money is out, and I cannot pay you before. I have none of my own until I have earned it. If you summon me I cannot pay it, and I do not know what advantage it will be to you to cause me to lose my character. Providence has so provided for me that I have concealed everything from the person in this house, and I hope you will not expose me.—S. Drake, Harley-street, Nov. 29."—Examination of the witness resumed—I have had no further communication with the prisoner after that. I went down last Saturday morning to North Leverton, and saw the child there dead. I am sure it was the child I had been bringing up.—The witness then indentified the clothes found in the box as those worn by the child when living.

Evidence was next given as to the receipt of the box by prisoner's brother-in-law, Mr. T. Burton (before referred to;) the said box was fully and completely sworn to as being that which was sent from Mr. Huth's house by the prisoner for conveyance into the country by the London and North Western Railway.

Mr. Francis Blagg examined—I am a surgeon, and reside at South Leverton, and have been in practice since the year 1830. I was called in to examine the body of the child, and I was examined as a witness at the coroner's inquest held on it at the Royal Oak, North Leverton, on the 3rd inst. It was the body of a male child, from 18 months to two years old, as I judged from its appearance. It seemed to have been dead only a very short time; not longer than a week, perhaps not so long. On viewing the child I observed great redness, amounting to lividness, of the face and forehead, and particularly of the eyelids, which were swollen. The tongue was compressed between the teeth, the hands clenched, and the nails blue. I observed a bruise on the left side of the forehead, and there was also a bruise on the lower part of the left ear. By the direction of Mr. Falkner, the coroner, I opened the head, and on turning back the scalp, I discovered extensive bruises corresponding with those I observed on the outside of the left part of the head.—Mr. Long: Were they such bruises as might have been inflicted by blows or violence?—Mr. Blagg: Yes, by a blunt instrument.—I should say by something obtuse. On removing the scull, I discovered corresponding marks on the membrances of the brain and on turning back the *duna matter* I found a considerable quantity of extravasated blood on the left hemisphere of the brain. I also found extravasated blood in the ventricles of the brain, and at the base of the skull. The brain generally was congested. I then opened the body and took out the stomach, and found in it about half a pint of fluid resembling gruel. I also found several portions of undigested meat. It appeared to have been cured or salt meat. The stomach was perfectly healthy, as were all the abdominal viscera. I then opened the chest, and found the right lung completely collapsed. The left lung, with the exception of the lower part, was in the same state, and I found there a very small quantity of air. I ought to have said that there was a handkerchief tied twice round the neck of the child. A part of the handkerchief appeared to be tight. There was a mark round the neck, and abraised skin by the side of it, and also considerable ecchymosis in the situation of the mark. Violence would have produced the effects I discovered in the brain, and in my opinion they could not be produced except by external violence, and such violence, in my judgment, was sufficient to cause death.—Mr. Long: Did the appearance of the neck indicate such a degree of pressure on it as must have produced death?—Mr. Blagg: Yes, sir, and led me to suppose that the child had been hanged or strangled in addition to receiving the blows. I am of opinion that death was caused by one or the other of them, or by both together.

Sergeant Whitcher said that on the 6th instant, accompanied by Superintendent Kinler, he went to Harley-street, and on searching the house found three white linen aprons, marked "S Drake," in black ink, and numbered "16, 18, 24." He had compared them with the apron found in the box, by constable Smith, and they corresponded in name, make, and texture. He had received a bunch of keys from the prisoner, one of which unlocked the box in which the dead child had been found.

Mary Ann Wignell identified the box as the one she had brought down. It was the only one the prisoner had unpacked when she came to her place. This witness also identified the wrapper.

Mr. Herring, who, in the present stage of the proceedings, deemed it unnecessary to put many questions to either of the witnesses, applied for a remand, principally with the view of having an opportunity of perusing the whole of the letters to which allusion had been made.

Mr. Long saw no objection to this course, and remanded the prisoner till Saturday (this day.)

Sarah Drake is the eldest daughter of a respectable cottager, named Thomas Drake, of North Leverton, at which place she was born in August, 1813. Her father and mother are still living, but the latter is blind. She was the eldest of four children, three daughters (one of whom is dead), and a son. Having received a scanty education in the village, she was sent out to service, and for some time was in the employ of this late S. Kay, of Sutton-cum-Lound, at the period when he was murdered, on the 27th of December, 1832. Shortly afterwards she lived in the family of John Walker, Esq., of Lound: but after having, in order to avoid a prosecution, signed a paper acknowledging herself to be culpable, she was discharged in disgrace. We next find her in the service of the Rev. John Mickle, vicar of South Leverton, and soon afterwards in that of Mr. F. Blagg, surgeon. In the year 1836 she left Leverton, under the pretence of taking a situation at Manchester, and was absent for several years, during which time her friends were in total ignorance as to whether she was living or dead. During her absence she has said that she was in the East and West Indies, and certainly passed part of the time on the Continent.

On the 26th of December, 1844, an inquest was held by Mr. Falkland, coroner for Nottingham, on the body of a new-born male child, which had been sent from Euston-square Station, London, to Nottingham, thence per Queen coach to Retford, and by carrier to North Leverton, directed—"Mr. T. Burton, North Leverton, near Retford, Nottinghamshire." This circumstance, at the time, excited considerable interest, and many were the surmises as to whence such a present could be sent, and for what particular purpose. After a *post mortem* examination of the remains, however, the surgeon gave it as his opinion that the child had not been born alive, and also, from various appearances he believed the mother had delivered herself. The jury consequently brought in a general verdict—"That the child was sent, but it did not appear by whom, and that whether it was alive before, at or after its birth, to them was unknown." After this investigation the body was interred, and the gossip which it had excited soon died away; and had not the recent despatch of another dead child "refreshed the memory of the past," and pointed in a similar direction, it would not have been thought necessary to notice the circumstance.

A few months after the burial of the child in question, Sarah Drake returned to Leverton, but only stayed a short time. In 1848 she visited her father and mother for the second time, and remained with them for nine or ten months: and it is believed that she would have continued to do so, had not her poor old mother been continually teasing her about the other dead child with which she had previously troubled them. Soon after her first visit to Retford she went to live as servant with Mrs. Ramsay, of Tosmore House, near Bicester, Oxfordshire, in 1845, with whom she remained until July, 1847, when she left that lady on account of being *enceinte* by, as she said, a person of the name of Lewis, or Louis, a Frenchman, who was butler in the same family, and after whom the unfortunate child received its Christian name. The child was born on the 9th of October, 1846, but by whom it was nursed until Mrs. Johnson received it in January, 1848, there are now no means of ascertaining. Soon afterwards Sarah Drake was known to be in the keeping of an officer in the army at Chatham: but they not agreeing long she then took a situation in the establishment of Lady Ann Gore Langton. On her leaving that lady she was well recommended to Mrs. Huth, in whose service she was when apprehended.

After the examination of the wretched woman, Sarah Drake, Mr. Herring, her solicitor, made application to Mr. Long for all the property belonging to his client to be given up, in order that sufficient funds might be raised for efficiently carrying on the defence. The magistrates acquiesced in the request, and Superintendent Kinder, of the Nottingham constabulary, handed over to Mr. Herring a gold watch and about a pound's worth of silver, which were found in the possession of the prisoner when searched by Mrs Bridge, at the Marylebone-lane station-house. Sergeant Whicher, of the Detective Police, also gave up to the learned gentleman the keys of the prisoner's boxes, which were then at Mr. Huth's (her late master's) house. Shortly after Mr. Long had made the order alluded to, Mrs. Johnson, the female who had had the charge of the murdered child, and to whom many pounds are still due for the care which she took of it, spoke to Whitcher upon the matter of the debt, and on the matter being made known to the magistrate, he thought it right that a portion of what belonged to the prisoner, and which was still in her boxes, should be kept back for the benefit of Mrs. Johnson, whose peculiar position in the melancholy affair entitled her to much commisseration and sympathy.

On Tuesday Mr. Herring, who was not aware that the magistrate had altered his decision in the first instance given, entered the court and addressed Mr. Long in reference to the insufficiency of the means afforded him for defending his client, at the same time stating that the worth of what had been given up to him did not exceed £5 or £6.

Sergeant Whitcher came to the court and held a communication with Mr. Herring, who ascertained from him that the boxes containing the prisoner's clothing, &c., had been taken away by him (the sergeant) from Mr. Huth's premises, and that in his opinion a sufficient sum might be realised to compensate Mrs. Johnson, and also to furnish the accused with the means necessary for her defence. The solicitor gave this information to the magistrate, and said that he had made an arrangement with Whitcher to meet him in Scotland-yard, when the boxes which were there would be opened, and the contents thereof carefully examined.

Mr. Long said he was glad to hear the adoption of a course of which he entirely approved had been agreed upon. Mr. Herring said that he had examined the whole of the letters produced on the last inquiry, and had selected two which he considered to be of much importance, but it was not his intention to cross-examine Mrs. Johnson with regard to them, as he (Mr. Long) had no doubt made up his mind to send the prisoner before a jury. Mr. Herring thanked the magistrate for his attention, and then withdrew.

Man Drowned in Bed.—Last week a sailor, named W. Lathom, on board the sloop Turner, lying on Duddon Sands, took out a plug in the vessel's bottom, in order to allow the leakage water to escape. He neglected to replace the plug, and went to bed. As the tide rose, the vessel filled with water, and drowned the poor fellow in his bed.

Mr. Garcia is appointed Solicitor-General at Trinidad,

Assize Intelligence.

YORK.

Charge of Wilful Murder.—Benjamin George Heald, 24, was charged with the wilful murder of William Heald and Elizabeth Heald, at Knottingley, on the 13th of July last.—Mr. Blanshard and Mr. Boothby were counsel for the prosecution; Mr. Overend defended the prisoner. The grand jury ignored the bill against the prisoner, who was now placed upon his trial on the coroner's inquisition.—It appeared that the prisoner, and his father, mother, and brother, and the two deceased, who were the children of the prisoner's brother, resided together at Knottingley, near Pontefract. Two or three months previous to the commission of the offence the prisoner met with an accident to his spine, whilst he was at work, and the consequence was that he was prevented from following his daily occupation for several weeks. One of the results of the injury was that the prisoner's mind became much depressed, but he so far recovered as to be able to resume his work, and he got engaged upon a line of railway. At this employment he remained for some time, but the work being too hard for him, the injury he had previously received to his spine was much increased, and he was again compelled to desist from work. His mind was more impared than before; he gave utterance to expressions of fear of being thrown upon the parish, and evidently showed signs of insanity. On the 13th of July, whilst the father of the two deceased was absent, the prisoner went with the children into the garden, situated at a short distance from the house. In a little time he returned to his mother, whom he had left in the house, and said that the children still remained in the garden. His mother said that he should have brought them into the house, and his reply was, "I have killed them both, as I thought it better to do so than let them pine to death." His mother was much agitated at what she heard, and exclaimed, "Oh Benjamin, you surely haven't," and the prisoner's answer was, "Yes, I have; we are going to be sold up to-morrow, and that was the reason I killed them." There was an entire absence of motive for the act, as the prisoner had always shown the most extreme kindness and affection for the two children. Mr. Wightman, the surgeon, who attended the prisoner when he was confined owing to the spine being injured, gave instructions to the family to keep their eyes upon him, as he was not fit to be trusted, his mind being affected, and he might do himself an injury. The little boy and girl were found dead in the garden; their heads dreadfully beaten, death must have been effected with a thick piece of wood. The jury returned a verdict of "Not Guilty," on the ground of insanity; and the prisoner was then removed.

Cutting and Wounding.—John Cryer was indicted for having, at Gargrave, on the 19th of Oct. last, feloniously cut and wounded William Beecroft, with intent to murder him.—It appeared that the prosecutor, who is only sixteen years of age, resides with his two sisters and two brothers at Gargrave, the prisoner living next door. About seven o'clock on the 19th of October, as the prosecutor and his sister were returning from work at the mill, where they were employed, the prosecutor observed that his shoe was untied, and as he was stooping down to tie it, the prisoner having an axe in his hand, rushed out of his house in a great fury and struck the prosecutor a violent blow on the side of the head, with the edge of the axe. This rendered him insensible, and on being conveyed home a surgeon was sent for, who dressed the wound, which was of a serious and dangerous character, having made a fissure in the skull. It was endeavoured to be shown that constant quarrels had taken place between the two families.—Verdict "Guilty."—Sentence of death recorded.

Administering Poison.—Richard Cludelay, was indicted for having, at Leeds, on the 15th of September last, administered to Ruth Horsfield, a child of the age of ten months, two cocculus indicus berries, with intent to kill and murder.—It appeared from the evidence of a young woman named Mary Horsfield, that she resided with her father, who was a printer, at Holbeck, near Leeds. The prisoner had courted her for some time, and the result of an illicit intercourse had been the child to whom the prisoner was accused of administering poison. The child was ten months old in September last, and had been unwell from cholera in August: on the 8th of the following month, (September,) the prisoner came to the house of Mary Horsfield's father, where she resided with the child; the mother left the house for the purpose of going a few doors off after a bonnet, leaving the prisoner alone with the child. When she returned, in about ten minutes, she found it unwell from vomiting, which, upon taking it up, fell upon her dress. the baby's frock, and likewise upon a cloth with which she wiped its mouth. The next day the child had recovered. But a few days afterwards (the 15th of September) the prisoner was again at the house, and the mother, having occasion to go to her aunt's, a few doors off, left the prisoner alone with the infant again; when she returned in about ten minutes she found the infant sick, and its mouth bloody, and taking it up in her arms, she said, "Oh, my bairn;" and then the prisoner said, "What's the matter?—I've done nothing to it." She replied, "You have." The child then vomited; and what appeared to be a pill fell from its mouth, which afterwards turned out to be a cocculus indicus berry. She picked it up, when the prisoner tried to take it out of her hand, but she prevented him, and said she would show it to Dr. Scott. The prisoner left the house, and the next morning it was discovered that the child had evacuated another cocculus indicus berry.—The jury retired for about twenty minutes, and returned, bringing in a verdict of "Guilty."—Sentence deferred.

Violent Outrage on a Lady. — Edward James Perks, 27, and John Taylor, 20, were indicted for having, on the 17th of September, at Huddersfield, feloniously assaulted Mrs. Ellen Bradley. The prosecutrix, Mrs. Ellen Bradley, is a widow lady, with two children, residing at Gledhill-terrace, Huddersfield. On the 17th of September last, she spent the day with her brother, Mr. Edwin Jowett, of Spring-street, and returned home about ten in the evening. In doing so she had to pass a place called Spring Wood. On going along this place she was accosted by two men, who seized her from behind, and threw her on to the railway embankment. At this moment footsteps were heard, and the men left her. Prosecutrix cried out for help, whereupon the prisoners came up, having with them a large brown dog. Mrs. Bradley exclaimed, "If you are men, help me!" Taylor replied, "I'll soon show thee the help I'll give thee," and proceeded to take off her bonnet and shawl. She cried out "murder," and then Taylor placed his hand over her mouth, and swore with an oath that "he would despatch her soul if she cried out again." The men then proceeded in the most brutal manner to perpetrate the violence charged against them in the indictment. After the prisoners had effected their purpose, prosecutrix implored her brutal assailants to spare her life for the sake of her children. To this Taylor replied that he would have some money, and the two then took her forward to a light, when Taylor made use of a very indecent expression and repeated his former violence, and called on his companion to follow his example. Taylor then searched her bag, but finding nothing but some stockings he gave her them back, at the same time using a most awful imprecation. He swore he would have some money or else he would have her life, and she said, "if he would only spare her life and go with her home, she would find him money and also meat and drink." Taylor asked where she lived, and having considerable presence of mind, she misled him on this point. He agreed to go with her, and she conducted him towards her brother's house. When they got opposite to this house, Taylor began to have misgivings, and observing there was a light in the house, he said, with an oath, that "prosecutrix was a liar, that she was going to deceive him, and if she did deceive him, he would stick a knife through her heart in a minute." Having got close to the door, she told him he must release her right arm, or she could not open the door. He did release her, and she succeeded in getting hold of the handle of the door, but finding the lock fast she cried out "Murder," which brought her brother to the window, and then Taylor released the unfortunate woman altogether, and made his escape. Steps were immediately taken which led to the apprehension of both the prisoners very shortly. Taylor was found under the bed in his father's house, and Perks was apprehended at his lodgings in Manchester-road. As to the question of identity, the prosecutrix made no doubt about the prisoners being the men, for, in addition to the night being starlight, and the length of time they were with her, they each during that time addressed the other by his name. The jury found both the prisoners guilty, and a previous conviction of felony was proved against Taylor. His lordship sentenced the prisoners to be severally transported for the term of their natural lives.

Alleged Attempt to Poison. — John Laverack, 20, and Hannah Laverack, 24, were charged with having, on the 1st of November last, at Armin, feloniously mixed white arsenic in a certain quantity of tea, and administered the same to Abraham Laverack and Hannah his wife, with intent to poison them.—Mr. Overend stated the case. The prosecutor and his wife, Abraham and Hannah Laverack, were labouring people, and lived at Armin, near Goole. The male prisoner was son to the prosecutor, and the female prisoner was his daughter-in-law, and they both resided with the old people in the same house. On the 1st of November last, about six o'clock in the evening, the prosecutor and his wife, who had been engaged at field labour during the day, returned home and took tea. The female prisoner was in the house, and before her father and mother-in-law came home she had prepared the tea. The prosecutor and his wife drank their tea, and very shortly afterwards they became violently sick, and the suggestion on the part of the prosecution was that poison had been put into the tea-pot by the female prisoner, at the instigation of her husband, the other prisoner.—Verdict, "Not Guilty."

Alleged Concealment of Child-birth at Horbury.—Emma Craven, a well-dressed and highly respectable-looking young lady, was indicted that, on the 6th of August last, at Horbury, she was delivered of a male child; and her father, Edward Craven, who was a retired tradesman, was charged that he, knowing that his daughter had been so delivered of a child, endeavoured to conceal its birth. There were other counts in the indictment, charging both the defendants with having endeavoured to conceal the birth. After evidence had been given, the jury returned a verdict of "Acquittal," and the defendants were at once liberated.

Alleged Murder at North Bierley.—George Watson, 26, was charged with the wilful murder of William Brown, on the 23rd of August last, at North Bierley. It appeared that the prisoner and several other men were drinking at a beer-house on the 23rd of August last, when a quarrel took place, in the course of which the prisoner stabbed the deceased with a knife. The latter fell to the ground, and, when taken up, he was found to have eleven wounds on his body. On the 25th of the same month he died, and it was proved in evidence that his death was caused by the severe wounds he had received. Verdict, "Guilty of manslaughter," sentence, twenty years' transportation.

LIVERPOOL.

Child Murder.—Mary Ann Page, aged 27, was charged with the wilful murder of an illegitimate male child, at Manchester.—About the 6th or 7th of August, the prisoner went to the house of a person named Phillips, at Chorlton-cum-Hardy, near Manchester. On the 4th of September, not appearing in good health, she requested Mrs. Phillips to go to a person at Banktop, in Manchester, to purchase her some herb tea. Mrs. Phillips went, but, on her return, was alarmed at some appearances, and suspected the prisoner was in the family way. The prisoner denied it, but Mrs. Phillips indignantly called upon her to leave the house. The prisoner begged to be allowed to remain over night, and her request was granted. Twice during the night the prisoner was observed to go to the yard, and to stay there for a considerable period. At half-past five, the prisoner rose, went to the back yard, and again remained for a considerable time. Shortly after this, she asked a son of Mrs. Phillips to get her a pair of scissors, and went up stairs. The boy laid them on the stairs. Mrs. Phillips found them there, and asked the prisoner what she wanted with them. To cut a knot in my stays was the reply. Mrs. Phillips was alarmed from the position in which the prisoner was sitting, and called in a neighbour, Mrs. Silgrim. The prisoner denied that she had been delivered; but the room was searched, and in a large bandbox the body of a new-born child was found. The prisoner owned to a policeman who was brought that the child was her's The jury found the prisoner "Guilty" of the minor charge, acquitting her of the graver charge of murder. His lordship sentenced her to imprisonment with hard labour for two months.

Manslaughter.—Francis Harrison, aged 25, and Joseph Harrison, aged 18, (brothers), were indicted for having killed and slain Michael Shorrock, at Over Darwen, on the 12th of November last. Verdict, "Guilty;" but the jury recommended the prisoners to mercy. Sentence, six months' imprisonment each with hard labour.

Poaching.—James Lloyd, John Taylor, William Roscoe, James M'Intyre, William Walker, William Tether, and Thomas Seddon, were indicted for night poaching at Altcar, on the estates of the Earl of Sefton. It appeared that on the night in question a person named Warner a gamekeeper to the Earl of Sefton, was, with a number of his assistants, watching on the land in question, hidden near the corner of a field in the occupation of Warner. After being there some time, they saw several men come into the field, and they remained a short period talking together. Two of the men remained at the gate, and the others proceeded through the field. They had a dog with them, which was hunting in the field. On Warner and his assistants rushing towards them he was struck with a bludgeon by Seddon, and it was seen that several of the others were armed in the same way. Warner succeeded in securing Lloyd, and a struggle took place between the other poachers and the gamekeeper, which resulted in the capture of the whole of the prisoners.—His Lordship having summed up, the jury, after some deliberation, said they thought the prisoners were on the land with the intention of taking game, but they were not satisfied that they were armed with offensive weapons.—His Lordship said that the latter ingredient was necessary to constitute the offence alleged, and the prisoners were acquitted. This concluded the business of the assize.

Central Criminal Court.

The December sessions of the Central Criminal Court commenced on Monday morning, before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Common Sergeant, Aldermen Hunter, Finnis, and Carden; the Sheriffs, Messrs. Lawrence and Nicoll; the Under Sheriffs, Messrs. Millard and Wire; and the usual city officers.—The calendar contains the names of 109 prisoners for trial at the present session.

Charge of Conspiracy. — Thomas Barnard M'Carthy, 44, George M'Carthy, a young lad, his son, James Grady, 61, and George Grout, 33, surrendered to take their trial upon an indictment, charging them with unlawfully conspiring together to defraud Henry Barr of certain goods and chattels. The defendants were acquitted.

Robbery by a Discharged Servant. — Alfred Lipscombe, 17, was charged with stealing twenty-seven sovereigns, the monies of Cornelius Phillips.—It appeared that the prisoner had formerly been in the service of the prosecutor, who is an upholsterer at Islington, but had recently been discharged. On the evening of the day mentioned in the indictment, Mrs. Phillips, the wife of the prosecutor, hearing a noise in the bedroom, went there, accompanied by her servant maid, and on the latter looking under the bed the prisoner was discovered concealed. An alarm was given, and he rushed out and made his escape, and it was soon afterwards ascertained that an escritoire in the bed room had been broken open, and the amount mentioned stolen therefrom. The prisoner was taken into custody the same night, but none of the money was recovered.—The prisoner in his defence asserted that the witnesses were mistaken as to his identity, and declared that he was innocent of the offence with which he was charged.—The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," and he was sentenced to be kept to hard labour for one year.

Embezzlement by a Clerk.—Samuel Marlow Phillip, 29, a young man of gentlemanly appearance, pleaded guilty to the charge of embezzling money belonging to his employers.—Mr. Bodkin, who appeared for the prosecution, said he was instructed to recommend the prisoner to the merciful consideration of the court.—Mr. Clarkson, who was instructed to defend the prisoner, said, that as he observed by the indictment, there was a charge against him of having been previously convicted of felony, he thought it his duty to inform the court that fifteen years ago he was so convicted, and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment. Since that period he had been abroad; and, he was informed, had entirely retrieved his character by his conduct, and he had served with honour for some time in the American army. He had returned to this country, and obtained respectable employment; but, having recently married, a temporary pressure, arising from that change in his position, had induced him to make use of his employer's money, in the hope that he would have been enabled to replace it, in which, however, he was disappointed. Under these circumstances, he trusted the court would think it was a case in which the prisoner might have another chance afforded him of becoming a respectable member of society.—The Common Sergeant said the sentence he was about to pass was a very lenient one, considering the character of the offence, and he hoped it might satisfy the justice of the case, without operating as a bad example. The prisoner had been recommended to mercy by the prosecutor, and he appeared to have borne a good character for a long period, and under these circumstances he should only sentence him to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for four months.

Manslaughter by Stabbing. — William Hickey, 28, labourer, was indicted for the manslaughter of William M'Carthy, by stabbing him with a knife. It appeared that on the 6th of June, the prisoner and the deceased quarrelled and fought, and upon the former getting the worst off in the struggle, he was observed to draw a knife from his pocket, and to stab the deceased in the left side, and he then ran away and succeeded in making his escape. The deceased was taken to the University Hospital, where he remained for three weeks, and was then discharged, apparently cured. He subsequently enlisted into the army, and soon afterwards he was found to be suffering from some disease of the lungs, and he died on the 12th Nov. The surgeons who were examined stated the immediate cause of death was an abscess in the lungs, but they, at the same time, expressed a confident opinion that this abscess was the result of the wound that had been originally inflicted by the prisoner.—The jury found the prisoner "Guilty."—The Common Sergeant, in passing sentence, said that the un-English practice of using the knife must be repressed by severe punishments. There was no end of such cases in every calendar, and he considered they were a disgrace to the country; and, as far as he was concerned, he was determined to put a stop to them. He then sentenced the prisoner to be transported for seven years.

Murderous Assault and Robbery.—Johanna Brown, 21, a tall masculine Irishwoman, and Margaret Forbes, 18, were indicted for the capital offence of robbery upon William Williams, the indictment alleging that at the time of the robbery the prisoners cut and wounded the prosecutor. It appeared that the prosecutor met Brown in Westminster, and accompanied her to a notorious brothel in Castle-court, where they were joined by the other woman, and upon his refusal to comply with their demand for money, they made a most murderous attack upon him with a poker, and cut his head open and inflicted severe injury upon him, and at the same time robbed him of a half-crown and some other money.—The jury found both prisoners "Guilty."—The Common Sergeant said it was a very serious offence, and he had no alternative but to order judgment of death to be recorded against them.—The prisoner Brown upon hearing this began to bellow most stoutly, and as she left the dock she shrieked out, "Oh, shall I be hung? Am I going to be hung?"—Judgment of death was recorded.

Embezzlement.—John Bartholemew, 29, pleaded guilty to a charge of embezzling divers sums of money, the property of Daniel Pratt, his master.—The prosecutor, who is the proprietor of the *British Banner* newspaper, recommended the prisoner to the merciful consideration of the court on account of his previous good character.—The Common Sergeant sentenced him to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one year.

A Scoundrel Detected. — W. Tarbuck, 23, tallow-chandler, was indicted for feloniously with menances demanding of William Russell the sum of £2, with intent to steal the same.—The prisoner, a tall effeminate looking man of dissipated appearance, in a mincing tone pleaded "Not guilty."—The prosecutor, who is in the service of Messrs. Lewis and Allenby, the silk mercers of Regent-street, stated at about nine o'clock in the evening of the 8th of this month, as he was returning home from Knightsbridge, he had occasion to enter a place of public convenience, where he saw the prisoner, who spoke to him. Prosecuter instantly left, and walked away, intending to cross the park; but finding himself followed by the prisoner, he turned round with the intention of getting into the main road again, when the prisoner came up, and catching hold of him in a most improper manner said, "You are a gentleman, and must give me £2." Witness tried to get away, and called for the police, when two officers came up, and he at once stated the charge, when the prisoner threatened to give him in custody for indecently assaulting him.—The constable who took the charge said he had seen the prisoner for some long time hanging about the secluded parts of the park. When searched at the station, a small packet of rouge was found in his pocket, a duplicate, and a few pence.—The jury immediately found the prisoner "Guilty." — The prisoner, who said he could bring a clergyman to speak to his former good character, was ordered to be brought up on a future day to receive judgment.

THE ATTEMPTED PARRICIDE AT CHISWICK.

Wednesday.—H. B. Monkhouse, 28, described as a mariner, was indicted for feloniously shooting at John Farmer Monkhouse, with intent to murder him. In other counts his intent was laid to be to do grievous bodily harm.

Mr. Bodkin prosecuted, and Mr. Ballantine defended the prisoner.

The learned counsel for the prosecution having briefly opened the case, the following evidence was adduced:

William Anderton deposed that he was a cab-driver, and on the 4th of October he was engaged by the prisoner, in the Minories, to go to Chiswick, and witness agreed to take him there for 14s. At this time the prisoner appeared as though he had been drinking, and before they started they had some liquor together. On the road to Chiswick they stopped at several public-houses, and witness and the prisoner had drink at all of them, except the Black Lion, which was the last house they stopped at. When they arrived at Chiswick the prisoner directed him to stop at the house of the prosecutor. It was then about ten o'clock at night, and quite dark. The prisoner, when he pulled up, told him to ring the bell and ask for Mr. Monkhouse, and say that a gentleman wished to speak to him. Witness did so, and the servant shut the gate and went in. She returned in a minute or two and said the gentleman must send in his name, and the prisoner then said he would go himself, and forced his way into the garden. Very soon afterwards witness heard the report of fire-arms, and in a minute or two the prisoner swaggered out of the gate and mounted the box of the cab, and told him to go to the top of the lane. Witness asked him about the report of the fire-arms, and he said it was not there. He then pulled up at a public-house and demanded his fare, and the prisoner said that if he drove him to the Bell, at Ealing, he would give him a sovereign, and witness agreed to do so; and as they were going along the prisoner rolled about a good deal, and witness told him to mind that he did not fall off. When they arrived at the Bell the prisoner invited him to drink again, and they both had a glass of brandy. The prisoner then wished him to drive him to his brother's house, which he said was up a lane close by, and he drove according to his direction, and they rang the bell at one of the houses in the lane, but received no answer, and witness drove back again to the Bell, where the prisoner asked the landlord to give him a sovereign, but he refused, and at this time a policeman came up and the prisoner was given into custody.

Elizabeth Daynes, servant to the prosecutor, confirmed the evidence of the last witness with regard to the conduct of the prisoner in rushing past her towards the house, and said that as he passed her he exclaimed, "I am a Monkhouse, and I'll speak to him." She looked towards the house, and saw the prisoner standing in front of her master, who was on the hall-steps, and at the same moment she saw a flash, and heard the report of a pistol and just as her master was falling there was a second report. The prisoner was standing close by the prosecutor at this time, and after he had fired he turned round and came towards her, and as he passed her he said, "There," and he went away, and she saw no more of him. The prosecutor at this time was crawling upon his hands and knees towards the footpath.

Mr. J. F. Monkhouse said: The prisoner is my second son. I have five children by a first marriage, and one by a second. I remember a ringing at the bell of my house on the night of the 4th October, and after my servant had brought me a message, the prisoner rushed up to me and shot me. Not a word passed between us before it happened. I heard the reports, but I did not see the weapons with which he shot at me. One of the shots took effect in my throat, and I fell to the ground immediately. I did not hear the prisoner say anything except that he was a Monkhouse. I had seen the prisoner about a week before, when he came to my house, when I told him he should not remain there. We were not exactly upon good terms. The prisoner is a sailor, in the merchant service. I myself have served in the royal navy, but left it in 1816. The prisoner was first apprenticed to the sea. He is now twenty-eight years of age.—By Mr. Ballantine: The prisoner's mother died in 1831, and I believe the disease of which she died was brain fever. Four others of her children besides the prisoner were alive when she died. The prisoner was bound apprentice to learn the sea, but I don't know what they made of him. Since he has been out of his apprenticeship, I believe the prisoner has been to sea as a common sailor. I don't know where the prisoner went upon his last voyage. He was away a year and a half. I was never a common sailor myself. Before he was apprenticed the prisoner was at a young gentleman's school at Hammersmith. His mother was a gentlewoman, but I believe she had no fortune. Upon the occasion I have referred to, the prisoner wanted to sleep at my house, and for certain reasons I refused to allow him.—By the Court: The reason I refused to allow him to sleep was, that I thought he ought to have sent me an apology for his conduct prior to his going to sea the last time.—By Mr. Bodkin: The prisoner was between sixteen and seventeen when he was apprenticed. My first wife had only a small fortune. I derive the property I am now possessed of from my grandfather.

Henry Reesen, a police constable, deposed to apprehending the prisoner at the Bell, at Ealing, about twelve o'clock at night on the 4th of October. Witness asked him if his name was Monkhouse, and he said it was not. He then told him he suspected he was the man he wanted, and he must take him to the station-house. He was then taken to the police station. He appeared to have been drinking a great deal. When he was searched a pistol, with the barrel separate from the stock, several bullets, which fitted the pistol, and a small quantity of gunpowder and some percussion caps, were found upon him. On the Sunday following witness went to Ealing and received another pistol and some gunpowder from the landlord of the Bell. They were fellow-pistols, and both had percussion locks. As he was taking the prisoner to the station-house, he said that if he had a pistol he would blow his brains out.

Mr. Williams, the landlord of the Bell, deposed that when the prisoner came to his house on the night in question he produced two pistols, and laid them on the table with some gunpowder, and witness took them up and put them in a drawer. He afterwards saw one of the pistols in the prisoner's hand, and directly afterwards he was taken into custody. Witness subsequently delivered the second pistol to the officer. The prisoner appeared to be very much excited, and walked wildly about the room.

Mr. T. W. Perfect, a surgeon, residing at Hammersmith, deposed that he was called upon to attend the prosecutor on the night of the 4th of October. He was suffering from the effects of a gun-shot wound, faint and trembling, and he expected he would die almost immediately. Mrs. Monkhouse and the servant were holding a bason to his mouth, from which a quantity of blood issued. He undid the collar of his shirt, and found a gun-shot wound, with a large blackened surface, upon the throat. The ball appeared to have entered immediately in front of the neck, and the stiffening of the stock appeared to have had the effect of diverting its course into the cavity of the throat, and then upwards, where it must have touched the base of the skull, or some other hard substance in the head,

which drove it downwards, and it made its exit at the back of the neck, close to the collar-bone. It was a most dangerous wound, and witness did not expect the prosecutor would have lived the night out. Witness discovered the ball in the posterior opening, and he produced it; and he said, from the appearance of the wound, he was of opinion that the pistol could not have been discharged at a greater distance than two feet from the prosecutor.

Mr. Halford, the regular medical attendant of the family, gave similar testimony, and also stated that the prosecutor was now perfectly recovered, except in a slight measure in his voice, from the effects of the wound. *Fifteen years ago* witness attended the prisoner for *delirium tremens.*

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Ballantine then addressed the jury, and called the following witnesses for the defence:—

Mr. F. T. Monkhouse deposed that he was a younger brother of the prisoner, and he was in company with him on the afternoon of the 4th October. They went to an oyster shop, where the prisoner had some oysters and bread and butter, and the prisoner behaved very strangely by interfering with the customers who came into the shop, and he also spoke to the passers by. After they left the oyster shop the prisoner went into several public houses, and drank from twelve to fourteen glasses of brandy. Witness tried to restrain him from drinking, but was unable to do so, and the prisoner became very much intoxicated. At witness's request the prisoner went to a coffee shop to get some tea, and while the tea was being prepared, the prisoner leaned his head upon the table, and seemed to be in a state of stupor, and when witness roused him up his face appeared of a deep crimson colour, and witness was quite terrified at his appearance. When they left the coffee shop, the prisoner staggered and appeared unable to walk, and witness wished him to go home and sleep with him; but he refused, and said he would sleep at a public-house, called the Three Crowns, and witness left him about half-past five o'clock. At that time the prisoner was extremely drunk.

Lewis Solomons, an outfitter, in East Smithfield, deposed that he knew the prisoner, and remembered his purchasing a cap of him on the 4th of October. This was about six o'clock, and at this time he considered he was sober. He saw him again at seven o'clock, and he was then very drunk and violent. Witness advised him to go home quietly, and the prisoner called him out of his shop and presented a pistol at him, and pulled the trigger. The pistol was not loaded.

Henry Thomas Powell deposed that he knew the prisoner, and saw him at the Black Horse public-house, near Wellclose-square, about dusk in the evening of the 4th October. He had a pistol in his hand, and was very violent.

Richmond Brown, the barman at the Black Horse public-house, Knightsbridge, deposed to his remembering the prisoner stopping there with a cab on the night in question, and also to the fact of his being very drunk and excited.

William Watson proved that he saw the prisoner at Ealing about half-past ten at night, on the 4th October. He was realing about in the road with a pistol in his hand, which he said was loaded.

Francis Furnden deposed that at half-past nine the same night he saw the prisoner in the Coach and Horses public-house, at Turnham-green, and he observed a pistol in his hand, which the prisoner presented at him, and asked if he was frightened. Witness told him he was not, and the prisoner then pulled back the hammer, and he saw there was a percussion cap on the nipple. The prisoner afterwards let the hammer fall gently upon the nipple, and replaced the pistol in his pocket. At this time he appeared very wild and excited.

Mr. W. Argent, the landlord of the Red Lion at Ealing also spoke to the excited appearance of the prisoner.

M. R. M. Piper, the uncle of the prisoner, deposed that he had known him for several years, and he considered he was a humane young man, and not at all of a vindictive disposition.

Mr. Ballantine said this was the case for the prisoner.

Mr. Bodkin having replied,

Mr. Justice Coleridge summed up. He said that, it being admitted that the prisoner had committed the act of firing the pistol, and that he must at all events be convicted of an assault, the only question that remained was, with what intent had that act been committed? The ordinary rule of law was that a man was supposed to intend to do that which was the natural and inevitable result of his own acts, and if under ordinary circumstances a man were to discharge a loaded pistol at another at a distance of two feet, the only reasonable conclusion that could be come to in such a case was, that his intention was to destroy that person. This would apply to the case of a sober man in his sound senses who committed such an act; but it would of course be widely different in the case of an idiot, and the law likewise admitted a distinction where a man, from the effect of drink, had reduced his mind to such a state as to render him unable to know what he was about, or to form any conclusion as to the consequences of the act he was about to commit. Drunkenness in itself was in law no excuse for a crime, and it was the duty of the person accused to make out to the satisfaction of the jury that the effect of drink had been to render him in such a state of mind as not to be aware of the consequence of his actions. The question, then, for the jury to decide in this case was whether that fact had been made out to their satisfaction. If they thought it had, it would be their duty to find the prisoner guilty of an assault only; but if, on the other hand, they should be of opinion that it had not, then they would say by their verdict to which of the other charges contained in the indictment the prisoner had rendered himself amenable.

The jury retired at a quarter to three o'clock, and were absent about half an hour, when they returned their verdict finding the prisoner "Guilty" upon the count charging the intent to be to do grevious bodily harm to the prosecutor. They at the same time said they strongly recommended him to mercy, on the ground that the act had been committed by the prisoner while under the excitement of liquor.

The prisoner was then removed; and just before the court rose he was again brought up to receive sentence.

Mr. Justice Coleridge, addressing him, said that the jury had found him guilty of firing a pistol at the prosecutor with intent to do him grevious bodily harm, and had acquitted him of the more serious charge. They had at the same time recommended him strongly to the merciful consideration of the court, and he was always glad to attend to such a recommendation when it was founded upon a proper ground. In this case, however, the jury had given the recommendation upon the ground that he had committed the act while under the influence of liquor, and his duty compelled him to say that the court could not allow that fact in any way to operate as an excuse, and that they could not for a moment permit it to be thought that it was any palliation of an offence that it was committed under the influence of drink. He could not help thinking that in the present case the prisoner, having formed the desperate design which to some extent he had carried out, had endeavoured to fortify himself to commit it by the excitement of drink. He had now, therefore, to answer for a grievious crime. Upon some real or imaginary grievance he had deliberately armed himself with two loaded pistols, and having gone to the house of his father at a time when he knew he should find him helpless and unsuspecting, he had discharged both the weapons at him (the father,) and had left him upon the ground bathed in his blood and apparently dead. Human nature shuddered at such an act, and it was one which could hardly be considered possible unless proved, as in the present instance, by the clearest possible testimony. Under these circumstances, the court felt it had no alternative but to pass upon him a sentence that would remove him from this country, and for a very long period. The prisoner was then sentenced to be transported for fifteen years.

KOSSUTH AND THE LYING 'TIMES.'

(From the *Daily News.*)

Our readers will recollect the indignant protest lately addressed by an aide-de camp of Kossuth's against the calumnies of the 'Times'' Vienna correspondent, who charged him with carrying chests of treasures and with Heaven knows how many peculations. The aide-de-camp's letter, though indignant, was a plain statement of facts, and an appeal to a great many witnesses.

Instead of answering such a protest, as the correspondent of a London journal ought to do, the person who fills that office for the 'Times' at Vienna, responds as follows:—

'As one of Kossuth's aide-de-camp's has lately addressed a letter to the 'Times,' complaining of the unjust attacks which have been made on the ex-Dictator, I extract for the benefit of your readers the following 'positive fact' from the 'Constitutionelle Blatt aus Behmen:'—'Kossuth, who practised in the Zempliner County as a lawyer, was, as one of the leaders of the opposition, already most obnoxious to the conservative party in 1831. They took advantage of the circumstance of Kossuth having gambled away a sum of money belonging to some orphans, which had been deposited in his hands. As this took place while the county meeting was assembled, it reached the ears of some of the servative party, and they on the following day manded in the country court that the missing sum should be produced. Being in the majority, they also ordered that a fiscal suit should be instituted against Kossuth, notwithstanding that, with the help of his friends, he had been enabled to pay the money before the court rose.' The paper in questson adds, though whether ironically or seriously I know not, that Kossuth 'probably never intended to wrong the orphans.'

This defence of one calumny by the reckless and jocularputting forth another from a Bohemian print, we leave to the appreciation of every reader.

CHARTIST CONFERENCE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The delegates met at eight o'clock, and the Chairman having taken his seat,

Mr. Clark secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

Mr. Arnott then moved:—"That this Conference earnestly recommend to the Council or Committee of every section of trades to forthwith call meetings of their several bodies, in order to impress on them the imperative necessity of adopting, as their political creed, the principles of the People's Charter, and energetically agitate for its enactment, and thereby ensure their social amelioration."

Mr. Utting seconded the motion.

Mr. Arnott wished to make the following addenda to his motion:—"That a deputation of three be now appointed to wait on the Conference of the National Association of Trades, to solicit their co-operation."

Mr. Townsend seconded the addenda.

Mr. Clark said, they must be cautious as to what union they made with the trades. (Hear, hear.) He recollected, in 1842, that the trades of Manchester got up an agitation, and after obtaining the adhesion of the Chartists of that place, they deserted the cause they had espoused, and left the Chartists to be prosecuted and put in prison. (Hear, hear.) However, though he did not expect a deputation would do much good, the enrolment of some of the members of the trades waited upon might assist, in some measure at least, to carry on the society under its new organisation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. O'Connor said, they ought to solicit the co-operation of these very parties whom they did not think would join the association. He, too, recollected that in Manchester, in 1842, himself and fifty-nine others were prosecuted for an agitation got up by the trades of that town; but let them be wary in future, and give no class of men the opportunity of betraying their advocates, or of compromising their principles. (Hear, hear.) There were two classes of trades—the aristocratic and the lower class. As to the first, they were men getting enough to keep them and their families in comfort, and therefore would not join any political movement, but the lower class of trades, would be with them to a man. He thought the motion of Mr. Arnott a very shrewd and a very timely one, and had much pleasure in supporting it.

Mr. Stallwood said, he knew that much good might be done by sending to the trades. Why, one of the rules agreed to by the late Trades Conference, was in favour of Universal Suffrage. (Hear, hear.) That Conference represented upwards of 17,000 of the trades of London. Besides, they had at least two good Chartists at their head—he meant Walton and Delaforce—who would advance the cause of Chartism among the trades as much as possible.

Mr. Milne supported the motion.

Mr. Lee said, the trades of London were now in a very bad position—so disunited, in fact, that he really did not know where a deputation would be able to meet them. It had been ascertained that there were only 4,000 united for the protection of wages, while the number of those who worked for any price offered by masters exceeded 30,000 individuals. He would, nevertheless, vote in favour of the motion.

Mr. Brown was convinced that great good might be done by the deputation. The shoemakers had contributed no less a sum than £23 to the Victim Fund. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman did not think much good would be done to the cause by the adoption of the motion now submitted to them. He had invariably found the trades of London in favour of Chartist principles, but would not assist in obtaining their adoption. They believed they had political rights, but were content that some other parties should endeavour to get those rights for them. (Hear, hear.)

G. Julian Harney thought the remarks of the chairman had shown the necessity of agreeing to the resolution. They must wait upon the trades, and show the necessity for their joining in a struggle for their rights, that those rights which they agreed they ought to have might be the more speedily obtained. He was convinced that most of the shoemakers, at all events, would join them. (Hear, hear.) The deputation would do well to impress upon each trade the necessity of calling meetings of their different bodies, for the purpose of expressing their belief in the principles laid down in the People's Charter. This done, and he was sure that, with such men as Mr. Walton and Mr. Delaforce at their head, they would soon find a majority of the trades of London marching in the front ranks of Chartism. It was not for mortals to command success, but they might do more—they might deserve it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Utting supported the motion.

After a few words from Messrs. Arnott, Townsend, and Doyle, the motion was put, and carried unanimously.

A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Kydd, M'Grath, and Dixon, was then appointed to carry out the spirit of the resolution.

G. Julian Harney then moved:—"That the patriotic and praiseworthy sacrifice made by Mr. Kydd, in renouncing his claim to the sum of £60 due as salary for his services as Secretary to the late Charter Association, entitles him to the special thanks of the Chartist body. At the same time the delegates constituting this Conference must add their thanks to Mr. Kydd for his services, from the commencement of the Chartist agitation to the present time." He said he had known Mr. Kydd from the commencement of the agitation; and he had ever—both whilst in his own locality, and since he had become a leader of the Chartist body—done that which entitled him to the best wishes and thanks of every lover of liberty in the country. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Kydd had earned a name second to no one in that movement. (Hear, hear.) He had no desire to flatter that gentleman, but he would say, that the sacrifice made by Mr. Kydd was most generous, and he therefore moved the above resolution. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. O'Connor rose for the purpose of seconding the motion. He would rather, at the same time, the resolution had expressed thanks to Mr. Kydd for having suffered the £60 to remain in abeyance. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Kydd was a very talented man; and he was, therefore, sorry that his talent should have been thrown away upon a people who had shown the greatest ingratitude in return. He hoped, however, they would have the assistance of Mr. Kydd under the new organisation; as he was a man calculated to do much good amongst the middle classes, in making converts to Chartism without any abatement. He surprised the middle classes of the West Riding of Yorkshire, by his speech on their hustings at the last general election. He repeated, he had rather that Mr. Kydd had placed the matter in abeyance; but as he last night so generously gave up the sum for the good of the cause, he felt it to be his duty to second the motion of Mr. Harney.

Mr. Utting thought Mr. Kydd had acted a very generous part, and should vote for the motion, not wishing that the sum had been left in abeyance as a clog upon the new organisation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Townsend thought some testimonial should be got up to Mr. Kydd.

Mr. Clark thought the best testimonial that could be given to Mr. Kydd was the money due to him—(hear, hear)—but he would support the resolution, as that gentleman had so willingly given up his claim to the £60.

Mr. Brown thought Mr. Kydd had no right to give up the money.

Mr. Hodden testified his knowledge of Mr. Kydd's abilities, and regretted very much that he should have been obliged to give up so large a sum which so justly belonged to him.

Upon the motion of Mr. O'Connor, it was then agreed that Mr. Kydd be allowed to say a few words to the Conference on the subject.

Mr. Kydd then stepped forward and said, he did not care one jot for the money itself. He gave up his claim because he thought if it were fastened to the legs of the new movement it would prove a great clog to its progress. (Hear, hear.) He thanked the Conference for the kind feeling they had expressed towards himself; and to make that matter *quid pro quo*, he would thank them for their kindness. He would just say, that if they paid him, or placed his debt in abeyance, they should do the same with others who could bring long bills against the Chartist body, among whom, he regretted to say, were Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Doyle. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

G. Julian Harney, moved:—"That the delegates constituting this Conference hereby call upon the Chartists of the British empire to release Mr. O'Connor, M.P., from the onerous obligation of meeting the demand enforced by the attorney who defended certain of the Chartist victims in the trials of 1848."—Mr. Harney said, this question had been so often brought before the Chartist body through the columns of the *Northern Star*, that, with few remarks from him, every member of that Conference would see the necessity of coming to some resolution which might influence the Chartist body to make an effort to re-pay that money which Mr. O'Connor had been compelled to pay on their behalf. If, when the matter had been tried, law had been fairly and impartially administered, the case would not have been decided against Mr. O'Connor, (Hear, hear.) He hoped the money would be re-funded, that Mr. O'Connor might not be made the scape-goat any longer.

Mr. John Arnott seconded the motion.

Mr. O'Connor then rose. He said if £200 was all he had spent in the cause, it would not be too much; but when he looked back, and saw that he had spent between £60,000, and £70,000 he though that the people's ingratitu e had not been a sufficient reward. When the *Northern Star* was bringing in £13,000 a year, nearly the whole of that money was spent in the cause. There was no law for him—no matter what evidence he brought forward—no matter how clear the case was in his favour,—he was always sure to lose the day, and made to pay enormous sums of money. In no single action ever yet brought against him, in this country, had a verdict in his favour been returned. Look at the immense sum he had paid to keep the Chartists in prison from performing the degrading task of picking oakum; yet the Chartist body allowed him to pay that, without ever sending a farthing for the purpose. No single individual in the world, besides himself, would have stood the immense expense which he had been put to on behalf of the cause. And it was a notorious fact, that whilst he was paying £25 per week for the support of the families of Chartist prisoners, he was charged,—and by some of those prisoners themselves—with embezzling the funds of Chartism. ("Shame," "shame.") And whilst upon this subject he might as well tell them, that some of the villains on the Land Company's estates, who had been located at the expense of the poor fellows who had paid their money, and who had no prospect of being located for some time to come—had, well-knowing that he was now £7,000 out of pocket by them, maliciously charged him with robbery and fraud. ("Shame," "shame.") He thanked Mr. Harney most cordially for the kind spirit he had shown in bringing forward this resolution; and he could assure them that, though he had no hopes of ever getting a patch upon what he had paid in support of the cause, yet, as regarded this sum, which he had to borrow to prevent the *Northern Star* being seized by the sheriff's officer, he had no intention of being so magnanimous as Mr. Kydd had been, in relinquishing his claim to the £60 so justly due to him. (Hear, hear.) At the time that great political humbug, Daniel O'Connell, was gulling the people of Ireland with his frothy promises, he could have raised £10,000, from the impoverished people of Ireland to meet an emergency, sooner, than he (Mr. O'Connor) could raise the small sum due to him on account of Macnamara's action. (Hear, hear.) But he cared not if the people owed him ten millions, he would not abandon the cause which he had so much at heart. (Cheers.) In no age or country had any man been subject to so much persecution from a government, or so much ingratitude from the people, as he had been made the victim to; but, nevertheless, were every single man to abandon the cause, he would hold up the glorious banner of Chartism and stand alone, braving the danger, and bidding defiance to all his enemies, until he obtained for the whole people that full, free, and fair representation in Parliament, to which they were so justly entitled. (Cheers.)

Mr. Kydd, having again obtained permission to say a few words, condemned the verdict given by the jury as being contrary to truth; but he thought if Mr. O'Connor had sent for him to give evidence in the case, he might—having been present when Macnamara was engaged to conduct the defence of the Chartist victims—have told that jury that Mr. O'Connor did not make himself responsible for payment of expenses, but positively told Macnamara that he should pay no money besides what came to him through the Victim Committee.

Mr. O'Connor said, it did not matter; for if an angel from heaven had given evidence on his behalf, the result would have been the same. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Lee was anxious that the money should be refunded to Mr. O'Connor, and he looked with contempt at the beggarly answer which was made to that gentleman's appeal in the *Northern Star*. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Clark announced that Mr. Reynolds had just handed him an order for two guineas, as that gentleman's quota towards the liquidation of the sum due to Mr. O'Connor. (Cheers.)

Mr. Utting thought that if the Conference made an appeal to the people, they would soon liquidate the debt.

Mr. Allnutt wished to make a remark upon the circumstance mentioned by Mr. Kydd, which was, that he and another gentleman, besides Mr. Kydd, were present when the arrangements were being made with Mr. Macnamara; and they were witnesses upon the trial: but, though they swore to the fact as to the Victim Committee being answerable for any expense incurred, the case was decided against Mr. O'Connor, and would have been, whatever evidence might have been offered. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Reynolds said, when the Chartists were apprehended, and he heard of the affair, he immediately sent Mr. Davis, his own solicitor, who conducted the examination; and that gentleman caused him the greatest surprise when he received his bill at the end of the year, and found not one single penny was charged for the expenses of that examination. He thought he was in order in mentioning this fact to the honour of Mr. Davis. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Hodden supported the resolution.

Mr. Brown had been one of the men who had assisted in slandering Mr. O'Connor on previous occasions; but he now begged that gentleman's pardon, after hearing what he had just told that Conference. He also wished to convey to Mr. Reynold's the best thanks of Mrs. Mullins, who had, on her departure from England, entrusted him to convey the same for his gentlemanly and patriotic exertions on behalf of her son.

After a few more words from Mr. Harney, the motion was put, and carried unanimously.

G. Julian Harney then moved:—"That the delegates constituting this Conference, without pledging the newly-constituted association to any debts contracted by any former association, or other Chartist body, nevertheless consider it necessary to remind the Chartist body that there is a balance of £26 16s. 7d. due to the printer who printed the documents of the Convention and Assembly of 1848; and the delegates hereby remind the Chartist body of the duty of discharging the said debt—a duty enjoined both by justice and a proper regard for the honour of the Chartist name." He was a member of the National Convention which sat in John-street, Fitzroy-square, in 1848, and this debt was contracted partly by that body, and partly by the National Assembly, which sat in the same place a short time afterwards. The people ought to have paid that debt; but, despite the numerous appeals which had been made, there still remained a balance of £26 16s. 7d. due to the printer. His own constituents, who were also the constituents of Dr. M'Douall, the good and true Chartists of Nottinghamshire had paid up their share of the debt. An example which he trusted would be generally and immediately followed. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which, on being put, was carried.

G. Julian Harney then rose to move another resolution, as follows:—"That the members of this assembly recognising the paramount importance of a Free Press, both to guide the people in the struggle for their political franchises, and to aid them in securing and making a wise use of those franchises when achieved, hereby earnestly advise the Executive Committee of the re-organised Chartist movement, to make every effort in furtherance of that most necessary reform—*the total abolition of the taxes on knowledge.*" Mr. Harney said, that although he was well assured that a Chartist parliament would at once repeal the taxes on knowledge, nevertheless, he considered it of vital importance that those taxes should be abolished even while they were yet struggling for the Charter. The proletarians of this country had no daily organ, and but one weekly. True, they might occasionally see an article in the *Sun*, or the *Daily News*, favourable to the cause of progress, on the part of their neighbours on the continent, but in the next sheet of those journals there was usually a flat contradiction of principles, or, at best, a cowardly equivocation. (Hear, hear.) He thought as little of their affected sympathy for liberty abroad, as he did of those mock philanthropists who held meetings and made long speeches in favour of Hungary and Poland, when they would not even advance one step for the freedom of their own country. (Hear, hear.) In 1848, when they held the Convention in John-street, Fitzroy-square, the press of London most foully misrepresented that body, asserting that the delegates designed to wrap London in flames and deluge the country with blood; although those calumnious writers well knew that the only object of the delegates was to have a peaceable and quiet procession through the streets of London. Then did the infernal influence of a monopolist press display itself in the arming of the whole of the middle classes of the metropolis, against the working classes. The resolutions and declarations of the Convention, announcing the veritable designs of the delegates, were published in vain. But when the Convention abandoned the procession, and held only the meeting on Kennington-common, then the *Times* scoffed at, and ridiculed the Chartists, for not trying physical force. (Hear, hear.) Now, if they had had the stamp tax, the paper duty, and advertisement duty repealed, they would have had daily papers of their own, and would have been able, through those papers, to have successfully combatted the falsehoods of the money-mongering journals. (Hear, hear.) Turn to the continent, and look at the patriots Kossuth, Ledru Rollin, and Mazzini, who, whilst nobly struggling for the freedom of their respective countries, were branded by the base London press, as traitors, anarchists, and enemies of society. In France, an unstamped press which had existed since the Revolution of February, had made millions of converts to the principles of veritable Democracy. So well the enemies of freedom knew the importance to the people of an unshackled press, that they were about to introduce a bill into the Assembly to re-impose the stamp on the journals. It was calculated that that tax would extinguish the multitudinous publication of papers which had for their objects, the suppression of tyranny, let it come from a Monarch, or a President, and the establishment of a veritable Republic. (Cheers.) The abolition of the taxes on knowledge in this country would incalculably advance popular intelligence, accelerate the triumph of Chartism, and ensure the wise use of the Suffrage when achieved. He had taken his first political lessons from the unstamped papers, published between the years 1830, and 1837. He was but a boy then; but boy though he was he had suffered imprisonment thrice for circulating cheap untaxed, democratic knowledge. (Cheers.) He wished to see the spirit of that time revived. He believed there were men ready and willing to, if need be, again brave persecution in the cause of a Free Press—(hear, hear)—and for himself he considered no sacrifice too great to achieve so glorious an object, believing it to be a necessary first step towards the establishment in this country of truly democratic institutions. Mr. Harney, in resuming his seat, was warmly applauded.

Mr. O'Connor rose to second the motion. If the immense tax was taken off newspapers, they would have those selling now at fivepence, reduced to fourpence. He had moved very strongly in this matter before. In 1836 he was one of a deputation who waited upon Lord Monteagle, for the purpose of inducing him to agitate for the repeal of the obnoxious stamp duty. He assisted in establishing an evening paper, (the *Evening Star*,) some few years ago, and acted as the unpaid editor of that journal, for two months of its existence, and wrote five columns of leading matter every day, a comment upon what appeared in the morning papers of the same day; and when, at one time, its destruction seemed inevitable, he paid £150 to preserve it. He travelled through the whole country, telling the people to take that paper in preference to the *Northern Star*; and when his editor wrote to him to tell him he was ruining the latter journal, he wrote back to say he cared not for the *Northern Star*, as one weekly Chartist paper was not sufficient, and he would sacrifice anything in the world so that he could establish a daily journal, to lead the Chartist movement. (Cheers.) After all these great exertions, however, when the *Evening Star* promised to become successful—what was his surprise, on returning from the country, to find the paper sold to the Tory party, and advocating Tory polities! It was necessary that the price of newspapers should be reduced, and he held it to be indespensable, under the new organisation, that they should do all they possibly could for the achievement of so great an object as the repeal of the duties on newspapers. (Hear, hear.) Take these taxes off, and the popular feeling would soon be in favour of democracy; and then the *Times*, which ever went with the most fluctuating party, would be selling at threepence, and advocating Chartist principles. (Cheers.)

Mr. Stallwood said, he had worked with Mr. Harney for an unstamped press, and, like his friend he had borne a long imprisonment, and suffered heavy fines, for publishing a newspaper without a stamp. He believed, that at the time of the unstamped papers, the principles now denominated Chartism were more prevalent that they were at the present time. The good resulting from a cheap, and well conducted newspaper press, was unmistakeable, and he should be ready to take part in the renewed agitation for that purpose, even at the risk of being again placed under Colonel Chestertons care at "Mount Pleasant," or being immersed in heavy fines. (Cheers.)

Mr. Reynolds was fully conscious of the immense amount of good that would be done in the enlightenment of the people, if even the paper duty were taken off. That duty was three halfpence per pound; but if he had no paper duty to pay, he would be enabled to sell his own publications at half the price at which they were now selling, or give double the quantity of information. They found, at the present time, that cheap newspapers were the best supported. The *News of the World*, sold 58,000 copies; *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, sold 35,000 copies; and the *Weekly Times* sold about 24,000 copies, weekly; while the *Weekly Dispatch*—double the price of the others—was the only dear paper which could compete against them. Take only the stamp duty off, and they would have all their threepenny newspapers selling at twopence;—take, at the same time, the tax off paper itself, and they might inundate the country with tracts and periodicals, carrying with them the truths of Chartism; and which would, in a very little time, work such a change in the minds of the middle class of this country, as would shake their prejudices, and obtain that for the intelligence of the people which was withheld from that people's ignorance. (Loud cheers.)

After some further discussion upon the matter, the motion was put, and carried unanimously; with an understanding that:—"It should be a duty on the part of the Provisional Committee to draw up a petition to parliament for a repeal of the taxes complained of."

Moved by Mr. Clark, and seconded by Mr. Allnutt:—"That this Conference tenders its hearty thanks to Feargus O'Connor, M.P., George Thompson, M.P., Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P., Richard Cobden, M.P., William Williams, Esq., and H. T. Atkinson, Esq., for the patriotic endeavours which they have made to procure the liberation of the Chartist victims." Carried.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. Brown, it was agreed that the names of Alderman Humphrey and Alderman Sidney be added to those inserted in Mr. Clark's resolution, as a communication had been received from Alderman Sidney, stating that the Chartists now confined in Newgate, had again been placed under that system of discipline which they were subject to when they went to the prison at first.

Moved by Mr. M'Grath, and seconded by Mr Drake:—"That this Conference, considering the untiring and unparalleled exertions of Mr. O'Connor, and the great monetary sacrifices made by that gentleman during a long political life, in furtherance of the popular cause, hereby tender to him, in the name of their constituents, their most cordial thanks; and at the same time they express an ardent hope that he may live long to witness the happy consummation of the glorious cause to which his life has been devoted."

Mr. Clark announced that Mr. Reynolds had volunteered to pay for the room in which the Conference had been sitting, and that that gentleman had printed the new "constitution" at his own expense. (Cheers.) He would therefore move:—"That the thanks of this Conference are due, and hereby given, to Mr. Reynolds for his magnanimous conduct on the present occasion, and for his services in the cause generally."

The resolution having been seconded, was put, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Arnott, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Provisional Committee, who had drawn up the new plan of organisation.

A vote of thanks was then given to the chairman for the impartial manner in which he had conducted the proceedings throughout.

The Chairman having briefly replied, declared the Conference dissolved.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION AND RE-ORGANISATION OF THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT.

1.—The object of those persons who signify their adhesion to the principles and plans set forth in this document, is to institute a legal, peaceful, and constitutional agitation on behalf of the People's Charter.

2.—The persons thus uniting their opinions and their moral energies, denominate themselves collectively 'The National Charter Association.'

3.—This Association consists of all individuals who take out cards of membership and subscribe to the fund of the society.

4.—The principles to be promulgated by the Association are those contained in the document known as the People's Charter, and which may be thus summed up:—1. Universal Suffrage. 2. Vote by Ballot. 3. Annual Parliaments. 4. Equal Electoral Districts. 5. No Property Qualification. 6. Paid Representatives.

5.—The government of the Association is vested in an executive committee consisting of five members: receiving salaries for their services.

6.—The executive committee appoints the secretary, who receives a salary for his services.

7.—All members of the Association are entitled to votes (personally, and not by proxy.)

8.—*A card of membership* is granted for one year upon payment of one shilling. The contribution may be paid by instalments of not less than one penny weekly the member not to receive his card nor be eligible to be a member of the executive committee, until the contribution is paid in full; but any person subscribing to the funds of the Association will be entitled to vote in all its proceedings.

9.—As any individual who fails to maintain his payments, ceases to be a member of the Association, he cannot vote unless his arrears be previously paid up.

10.—The mode of propagating the principles of the Association shall be by public meetings, by the circulation of tracts, by the aid of lecturers, and by any other legal means which the executive may think fit to adopt.

11.—At the public meetings called by, and at the instance of this Association, the most perfect freedom of speech is recognised; save and except with regard to language calculated to cause a breach of the peace or otherwise violate the laws.

12.—Lecturers will be appointed by the executive committee.

13.—The National Charter Association has been founded and exists independently of all other institutions whatsoever, whether political or social; and it is to be hoped that it may become a rallying point for all democratic sections and popular interests.

14.—An office will be taken in London to serve as the head-quarters of the Association: and this office will be devoted solely to the business of the institution.

[We accidentally omitted in our report, last week, to mention, that a letter was read *from* Mr. C. Clark, Bristol, which stated, that the Chartists of that City were desirous of pursuing any practical plan of organisation which the Conference might think fit to adopt.]

THE LATE CONFERENCE,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—In the report of Wednesday's proceedings of the Conference, it is stated that I moved the following amendment to the 3rd resolution proposed by Mr. Clark:—"That this Conference discountenance all opposition at the meetings of the Reform League, or any other body of men seeking any portion of political reform so long as the Chartists were allowed a fair and impartial hearing." This is not correct; the amendment I moved reads as follows:—"That this Conference discountenance all factious opposition at public meetings, but at the same time recommend the working classes to attend and maintain the right of free discussion at all meetings called for political reform." Allow me to state that in thus acting, I represented not my own opinion only, but also the opinion of those who sent me to that Conference; and for the information of those gentlemen who seem so smitten with the middle classes, I beg to say, that if the National Charter Association is to be based on the principle of Mr. Clark's resolution, that it will gain very little support from the veritable democrats on this side of the water. How the men of the country will act remains to be seen. The fact is, the people are beginning to look for something more than the Charter, as for any thing short of that they deem to be moonshine. The Chartists are told not to mar nor obstruct; I beg to state, that they never have so acted towards any honest body of reformers. The Chartists have always asked for, and are determined to have fair play, believing that any body of men denying that, are dishonest in their profession. I may just mentton that every public building in Southwark is barred against democracy; and that the publican, at whose house the meeting was held for the election of delegates, has been waited on by the police authorities, and through the fear of losing his license, has denied us the use of his house for other meetings. Now, I ask, under such circumstances, how is public opinion to be agitated in favour of democracy? There is only one resource, that is to attend all political meetings, and advance the Charter by all fair and honourable means. I intend so to act, and advise my brother democrats, throughout the country, to do likewise.

I am, yours in the cause of democratic and social progress.

John Pearcey, Junr.

P.S.—There were four who voted for the amendment, not three, as stated in the report.—J. P.

Chartist Intelligence.

Bradford.—On Sunday last, two lectures were delivered in the Democratic School-room, Croft-street, by Mr. R. G. Gamage, of Northampton, the first, "On the condition of the people, past and present; and the necessity of political freedom, as a means of improving their social condition." The second was, "The past Democratic movements—cause of their failure—and advice to the people as to future operations." The lecturer gave general satisfaction.

Rochdale.—A lecture was delivered in the Chartists' room on Sunday last, by Mr. J. Leach, of Manchester. Mr. L. took an examination of the various Emigration Schemes at present agitating the country, for the purpose (in his opinion) of deluding the people; and concluded by reading a letter from a friend of his who had been sent by the Potters' Emigration Society, fully showing that it was a complete delusion. The lecturer was warmly applauded during the delivery of his lecture, and the meeting separated highly satisfied.

Cripplegate Locality.—At a meeting held last week a memorial to the Queen was adopted, praying for the liberation of Messrs. Shaw, Bezer, and all other political prisoners. After the memorial has received the signatures of the inhabitants it is to be presented by Alderman Challis, the Alderman of the Ward.

Newcastle.—At the weekly meeting on Sunday evening—Mr. John Hudson in the chair—the report of the Chartist Conference was read from the *Star*, and appeared to give general satisfaction. The following resolution was proposed, and carried:—"That a full meeting of the Chartists of this branch be called for Sunday evening, December 23rd, at seven o'clock, in the long room at the Cock Inn, Head of the Side, for the purpose of adopting the new plan of organisation, proposed by the Conference."

Greenwich.—At a meeting held on Sunday evening, at the Walter's-arms, Church-street, Deptford; Mr Morgan in the chair; the letter of Mr. Bligh was read from the *Star*; Mr. Robinson being present, stated his willingness to meet Mr. Bligh any evening. Mr. Floyd moved, and Mr. Paris seconded:—"That the meeting take place at the above house, on Sunday evening, at seven o'clock;" to which Mr. Robinson assented.

Monument to the Memory of Williams and Sharp.—At a meeting of the Cripplegate locality of Chartists, held at 28, Golden-lane, on Wednesday evening. — Mr. Slocome in the chair—it was unanimously resolved—"That all persons holding cards for monument purposes, be requested to make an immediate return to the secretary (Mr. T. Brown) in order that the sculptor may complete the work."—"That the best thanks of this meeting are due, and hereby given to Mr, James Harris (late editor of the *Chartist Circular*) for past and present labour rendered gratuitously in engrossing memorials on behalf of the political victims." After the transaction of some business connected with the forthcoming Fraternal Festival, to be held at John-street, Institution, on New Year's Eve, the meeting terminated.

The Chartists in Newgate, and Mr. Alderman Sidney, M.P.—Mr. Alderman Sidney has sent the following reply to a vote of thanks to him from the Cripplegate locality, for espousing the cause of Shaw and Bezer, before the Court of Aldermen:—"Ludgate-hill.—Sir, I beg to acknowledge your favour, accompanied by a copy of a vote of thanks passed at a Chartist meeting in Cripplegate. I am always pleased if my conduct merits the good opinion of my fellow-citizens. On the occasion alluded to I very conscientiously expressed my feelings. Your obedient servant. Thomas Sidney.—Mr. T. Brown."

Westminster.—On Tuesday evening last a meeting of the Westminster Chartist Locality was held at the Two Chairmen, Wardour-street, Soho; Wm. Shute in the chair. Messrs. Grassby, Arnott, and Milne gave in their report of the proceedings at the late Conference. The report was received. It was then agreed that this meeting adjourn to Tuesday evening, January 1st, 1850, and that the members of this locality be requested to attend and take into consideration the propriety of joining the new organisation.

Bermondsey.—At the weekly meeting of Chartists held at the Ship and Mermaid, Snow-fields, it was moved by Mr. French, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, and carried unanimously:—"That a vote of thanks be given to Messrs. Langer, Drake, Pearcey, and Percy, for supporting the right of free discussion, in opposition to the third resolution proposed by Mr. Clark, at the Chartist Conference."

LITERARY INSTITUTION, JOHN-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE.

In consequence of severe illness, Mr. B. O'Brien, President of the National Reform League, was not able to give his usual Friday evening lecture last week; and Mr. A. Campbell undertook to give an impromptu address to the parties assembled.—Mr. Campbell stated that he was not aware at what stage Mr. O'Brien had arrived in the elucidation of the principles of National Reform advocated by that gentleman, and therefore would not pretend to follow Mr. O'Brien on the present occasion. The subject he should commence with had just been determined by seeing a letter in the *Weekly Tribune*, which he himself had written in reference to the origin of the forty shillings freehold scheme. Cobden had stated that that idea had originated with a Mr. Walker, of Rochdale; whereas, the fact was, as he, (Mr. Campbell,) had clearly shown in the letter alluded to, that it had been suggested by himself so long ago as September, 1838, in a discussion which took place between him and Mr. W. P. Roberts, in the Guildhall, Bath. A report of that discussion had been printed; and the extracts cited proved that, not only was the forty shillings freehold plan put forth then, totally independent of Mr. Cobden, but that that gentleman, had at the time, positively refused to entertain the idea, repudiating it altogether. Mr. Campbell endeavoured to show that his plan for getting the freehold vote, was far superior to the pettifogging system advocated by Mr. Cobden and the Financial Reformers; inasmuch as it was proposed to unite labour and capital on a large form, giving to each proprietor the right of the franchise, at the same time enabling him to combine with it the advantages of co-operation with his fellows, by producing and consuming in common, and thereby escape all the evils resulting from competition and isolation. He contended that the end of all reform should be the elevation of humanity—to that grand object every reform should be subservient. It was of no use for the people to acquire political power, without acquiring at the same time the proper knowledge how to use it: power without knowledge was dangerous, and not desirable. In the course of some remarks upon the condition of the people of the United States, whom he said were only just awakening to a sense of their social rights, Mr. Campbell read a few extracts from the prospectus of the National Reform League: remarking that it was not only necessary to define principles on paper, but to take the proper measures for carrying them out in practice. The American declaration of indepence had enunciated the equality of all men, but, in practice, the government of that country acted in direct opposition to that doctrine. Mr. Campbell concluded by inviting discussion on what had been said.

Mr. M'Neill made a few remarks relative to the American Constitution and to the prospectus of the National Reform League: he considered the American Constitution defective, inasmuch as it had not enunciated the principle that the land should be held by the state, and not made individual property of, this principle was the main proposition of the National Reform League and Mr Campbell had prejudged the League, in supposing that it had not made provision for the laws and institutions adequate to carry out the principles it had propounded. To carry out the great principle of the nationalisation of land, the League had propounded a system of state credit for the people; and to enable the producers of wealth to exchange each other's produce without being cheated by the present system of shopkeeping, and the fluctuating prices caused by a gold standard of value, they had proposed a system of equitable exchange, similar to that formerly advocated by Mr. Owen; and they had also proposed a just system of general currency, together with national education, and financial economy.

Mr. Campbell briefly replied, and said the evening had too far advanced to admit of the discussion being further continued at that time, and the meeting separated.

STANDARD THEATRE.

We have been favoured with the plot of the new Christmas pantomime which will be produced at this theatre next week, entitled "*Harlequin and the Magic Teapot; or the King of the Golden Pagodas,*" and much regret that want of room prevents our giving it insertion this week. For the information of our readers, we may say that the distressed needlewomen of the metropolis form the principal feature of the plot. The comic business is crowded with tricks. Among the best of the mechanical effects, which are very elaborate, may be mentioned a Central Californian Railway, which changes to a view of the "Diggings" in the Gold Country—a Coal Shed, which is transformed into the Coal Exchange, and a grand pictorial and accurate Tableau of the Civic Procession by water—and last (though not least). the Interior of a Coffee-house, which changes to two streets, with upwards of twenty shops lighted with real gas. The pantomime is very splendidly produced, and embraces upwards of twenty-four new scenes. Its success is certain.

Bradford, Friday.—Mr. Cobden, last night, paid a visit to his constituents in the Bradford district, facilities being afforded by special railway trains for parties coming to the town from Skipton, Bingley, and the surrounding polling districts. In the evening a meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, the largest and most capacious edifice in the borough. Notwithstanding a price was charged for admission, the hall was filled to its utmost limits, and the proceedings passed off with great spirit and enthusiasm. Henry Forbes, Esq., the present mayor of Bradford, presided.

Markets, &c.

CORN.

Mark Lane, Monday, Dec. 17.—We had a very middling supply of wheat to-day from Essex and Kent, but a fair arrival of foreign since this day se'nnight. The best dry qualities of both English and foreign were taken off pretty readily at fully last Monday's prices, but secondary and inferior sorts met very few buyers. Malting barley firm, but foreign grinding or distilling dull, and 1s cheaper. In malt but little doing. White peas sold heavily and fully 1s cheaper, owing to the large foreign arrivals, and grey were rather lower. New beans were more plentiful, and sold at 1s to 2s decline. The oat trade was not brisk, but good qualities maintained last week's prices. Rye dull sale. Good fresh flour, both French and American, was held more firmly. Linseed cakes slow sale. In cloverseed not much doing. The current prices as under:—

British.—Wheat.—Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, red, new 38s to 42s, ditto white 40s to 48s, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Yorkshire, red 35s to 39s, Northumberland and Scotch, white 32s to 37s, ditto red 34s to 38s, Devonshire and Somersetshire, red, —s to —s, ditto white — to —s, rye, 21s to 23s, barley, 26s to 30s, Scotch 22s to 24s, Angus—s to —s, Malt ordinary, —s to —s, pale 50s to 54s, peas, grey, new 25s to 27s, maple 27s to 29s, white 23s to 24s, boilers new 26s to 29s, beans, large, new 23s to 24s, ticks 24s to 26s, harrow, 25s to 26s, pigeon, 28s to 30s, oats, Lincoln and Yorkshire feed, 15s to 19s, ditto Poland and potato, 17s to 20s, Berwick and Scotch, 17s to 21s, Scotch feed, 17s to 22s, Irish feed, and black 15s to 20s, ditto potato, 17s to 23s, linseed (sowing) 50s to 52s, rapeseed, Essex, new £27 to £30 per last, carraway seed, Essex, new 26s to 30s per cwt, rape cake, £4 to £4 10s per ton, linseed, £9 10s to £10 10s. per 1,000, flour, per sack of 280lbs, ship, 28s to 30s, town, 38s to 40s.

Foreign.—Wheat. — Dantzig, 44s to 50s, Anhalt and Marks, 38 to 40s, ditto white, 40s to 42s, Pomeranian red, 40s to 42s, Rostock 44s to 46s, Danish, Holstein, and Friesland, 30s to 34s, Petersburgh, Archangel, and Riga, 32s to 34s, Polish Odessa, 32s to 34s, Marianopoli, and Berdianski, 32s to 35s, Taganrog, 32s to 34s, Brabant and French, 34s to 36s, ditto white, 38s to 42s, Salonica, 30s to 33s, Egyptian, 23s to 26s, rye, 20s to 22s, barley, Wismar and Rostock, 18s to 21s, Danish, 18s to 23s, Saal, 20s to 24s, East Friesland, 16s to 18s, Egyptian, 14s to 15s, Danube, 14s to 15s, peas, white, 23s to 26s, new boilers, 26s to 27s, beans, horse, 22s to 24s, pigeon, 25s to 26s, Egyptian, 22s to 24s, oats, Groningen, Danish, Bremen, and Friesland, feed and black, 11s to 15s, ditto, thick and brew, 15s to 22s, Riga, Petersburgh, Archangel, and Swedish, 14s to 16s, flour, United States, per 196lbs., 22s to 24s, Hamburg 20s to 22s, Dantzig and Stettin, 20s to 23s, French per 280lbs., 32s to 34s.

Wednesday, Dec. 19.—Since Monday there is scarcely any grain up by a vessel; and having a slight improvement in some of our country and provincial markets, the trade here may be considered as tending to improved prices.

Mark-lane, Friday, December 21.—The arrival of both English and foreign wheat have been moderate since Monday. English barley was the turn dearer, whilst Foreign could not be purchased cheaper than at the beginning of the week. Notwithstanding small arrivals of oats, former prices could not be exceeded. Beans dull. Peas more inquired for, at late rates. Flour unaltered in value and demand.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 320 quarters; foreign, 1,720 quarters. Barley—English, 140 quarters; foreign, 2,930 quarters. Oats—English, 540 quarters; Flour—410 sacks.

CATTLE.

Smithfield, Monday, Dec. 17.—The annual cattle show took place to-day, and both in quality and number exceeded almost any previous exhibition. Notwithstanding the extensive number of beasts brought forward, the beef trade, owing to the numerous attendance of buyers, and to Christmas-day falling early in next week, was steady. Comparatively speaking, however, prices were low; the top figure for the best Scots and Herefords, including a few of the shorthorns, being 4s 6d per 8lbs. We were tolerably well, but not to say heavily, supplied with sheep. Large heavy qualities, were a slow inquiry. In all other breeds of sheep a steady business was transacted at fully Friday's quotations, 10-stone Downs realising 4s 4d per 8lbs. without difficulty. Calves, the supply of which was small, were in moderate request, and last week's prices were well maintained. Prime small pigs supported late rates, otherwise the pork trade ruled dull.

Head of Cattle at Smithfield.—Friday.—Beasts, 2,300; sheep, 5,380; calves, 294; pigs, 260. Monday.—Beasts, 5,635; sheep, 24,193; calves, 103; pigs, 240.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal.)—Beef, 3s 4d to 4s 6d; mutton, 3s 2d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 0d; pork, 3s 4d to 4s 2d.

Smithfield, Friday, December 21.—There was a good supply of beasts, but an exceedingly small demand. There were very few sales effected, and those at lower rates: The number of sheep was by no means large, yet it was far greater than the demand. There was also no sale for calves and pigs at lower rates, indeed this may be almost termed a holiday market.

Newgate and Leadenhall, Monday, Dec. 17.—Inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; middling ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime large, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; prime small, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; large pork, 2s 6d to 3s 4d; inferior mutton, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; middling ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; veal, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; small pork, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; per 8lbs. by the carcase.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday, Dec. 17.—Our market during the past week has remained in a very languid state, and the few sales effected have been at about last week's quotations:—Sussex pockets, 126s to 135s, Weald of Kent, 140s to 160s, Mid and East Kent, 150s to 240s.

UNPARALLELED SUCCESS OF THE NEW MODE OF TREATMENT WHICH HAS NEVER FAILED.

DR. ALFRED BARKER, 108, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, London, (near the British Museum), having had a vast amount of practice at the various hospitals in London and on the Continent, is enabled to treat with the utmost certainty of cure, every variety of disease arising from solitary and sedentary habits, indiscriminate excesses, and infections, such as gonorrhœa, gleet, strictures, and syphilis, or venereal disease, in all its various forms and stages, whether primary or secondary, which, owing to neglect or improper treatment, invariably end in gout, rheumatism, skin diseases, gravel, pains in the kidneys, back, and loins, and finally, an agonising death! The lamentable neglect of this class of diseases by medical men in general is too well known, and their attempts to cure by means of such dangerous medicines, as mercury, copaiba cubebs, &c., have produced the most deplorable results. All sufferers are earnestly invited to apply at once to Dr. Barker, as he guarantees to all a speedy and perfect cure, and the eradication of every sympton, whether primary or secondary, without the use of any of the above dangerous medicines—thus preventing the possibility of any after symptoms. This truth has been borne out in thousands of cases, and as a further guarantee he undetakes to cure the most inveterate case in a few days, without hindrance from business, or any change of diet, &c. It will ever be found that real benefit can only be obtained from the duly qualified practitioner, who (departing from the ordinary routine of practice) devotes the whole of his time and studies to this much neglected class of diseases. Country patients must be minute in the detail of their cases, as that will render a personal visit unnecessary. Advice with medicines for ten shillings. Patients corresponded with till cured. Females may with the utmost safety confide themselves to the care of Dr. Barker, as the most honourable secresy and delicacy are observed in every case. At home daily for consultation from 10 till 1 in the morning, and 4 till 8 in the evening—Sundays excepted. Post-office orders to be made payable at the Bloomsbury Office, to Dr. Alfred Barker, 108, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, London. A cure effected or the money returned. All those deemed incurable are particularly invited, and the strictest secresy may be relied upon.

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