

Sir,—I was naturally very anxious that the discussion to which you challenged me upon the Repeal of the Corn Laws should have taken place. I was anxious, because I felt convinced that out of that discussion much good would arise. My acceptance of your challenge was not couched in offensive or forbidding terms; and therefore I had at least a right to expect an answer, giving me your own reasons for having changed your mind. Such remarks would have been a more creditable course, than the secondary aid that you have received from what is called the "liberal" section of the press; a support, which while it professes to justify your refusal, must have the inevitable tendency of lessening your influence. However, Sir, as my anxiety for the discussion was really founded upon the desire to have a popular verdict upon your refusal, I do not deem my triumph at your refusal to meet me of that importance attached to it by some of my own party. In fact, those unsubstantial advantages occasionally gained by leaders of particular parties, have been magnified into an undue importance. I would much rather have had the discussion; but I learn from your speech at Aberdeen, that you have declined the controversy. I think I shall best serve my purpose by urging upon you some of my principal reasons for opposing that agitation in which you have been singularly active.

Had we met in discussion, I take it for granted that arrangements would have been made to confine the speakers to those topics upon which the two parties were most at variance; and out of what I shall suppose would have been the prescribed limits, I shall not now travel. There is one other subject, however, of so entirely a personal nature, that I cannot, upon any account, allow you to shrink from the promised exposure. I mean your unequivocal assertion that I was in the pay of the Tories, and that you were in possession of evidence which would incontrovertibly establish that charge. I therefore now call upon you either to adopt means for establishing this charge, or to retract it. Believe me, Sir, you will have to do either one or the other; and as I find that the "liberal" press has made personal injury to health, by attending open-air meetings at this inclement season of the year, and personal inconvenience, an excuse for you, I shall as far as possible, remove those objections in the case in which I am personally concerned. I only conformed to the terms of your own challenge by requiring an open-air meeting for our discussion upon the Corn Laws, because I thought that so large a question demanded a very extensive audience. But as I hold it impossible to pack a jury of Englishmen upon a point of honour and matter of fact, I am ready to relieve you of danger, trouble, and inconvenience, by offering to submit the *litter question* to the decision of an in-door meeting, either in your Free Trade Hall, at Manchester, or in the Crown and Anchor, in London, during your attendance upon your Parliamentary duties, or at any other place. All that I stipulate for is "free admission."

I believe you will admit that it is the duty of a party to turn all questions of great public interest to the advancement of their own principles; indeed in this respect you have been most unscrupulous; and let us then see how that object could be achieved by the working classes, by either of your modes of accomplishing your purpose, that is by squeezing a Repeal of the Corn Laws out of the Tories—or by squeezing the Whigs into office to carry it. As you "eschew all politics" in your society, I will presume you are actuated by the first mode; what then! what essential benefit beyond the mere Repeal of the law will that confer upon the people? I find that even you are of opinion that the people do not imagine that Repeal would confer much benefit, is clear and manifest from your refusal to meet me before those parties whose advantage you profess to seek, and over a large portion of whom your party has such unmitigated control. I verily think, that the enforcement of the measure from the Tories would be of no practical benefit; while, as it is possible for your party to force the Whigs once more into office, upon the simple pledge of repealing the Corn Laws, I would recognize the multiplication of such difficulties thrown in the way of the achievement of the triumph of labour as would make its boldest advocates pause, if not retreat from the struggle. Yes; yet get a House of Commons with my consent whose business it would be to supply details for the practical carrying out the principle of Free Trade, and the right of buying labour in the cheapest market, first having dragged it by uncontrolled machinery with unbridled beggars and bigging slaves, and then the right to sell their produce in the dearest market, which means to make it so cheap that it will establish throughout the world a slave labor standard, where the representative of English labor must stand side by side in the competitive market with the unbridled labour of other countries.

With the Movement Party in this country, there must ever be two considerations: the one, the alteration of the system, which should alone be the object of the industrious classes; the other, the improvement of the system, which should be the work of the resister governing force. Now, as between the parties for alteration and correction, these alterations having no positive political relation to, or sympathy with, any other political body. They are enlisted in a kind of double warfare; the one antagonistic, the other deliberative. They are in antagonism to the system, while they wisely and justly deliberate upon the various modes of correction proposed by the two accredited political parties. I have always given it as my opinion that the existence of three political parties in the state is incompatible with the existence of peace, law, and order; and the Movement Party not having any interest in common with either of the other parties, their duty becomes manifest. They must not only strengthen their own hands, but they are further bound to consider all means by which they can weaken those of both opposing parties. The time has arrived when open and unblushing practical tyranny will fail to derive protection from the most fascinating theories. I trust that in the very midst of the hurricane of abuse, I have firmness enough to give impartial judgment between the two parties, called Whigs and Tories; and while I go no further than to declare myself a Whig according to the improved theory of that party as propounded in the Reform Bill, or rather by Reformers in their speeches in support of that measure, I very much, as a whole, prefer the practice of their political opponents. Hence, while I continue my antagonism to both, I am bound to deliberate upon, and judge between, the several modes proposed by each for the correction of the evils under the system. I feel a thorough conviction, as well from natural causes, as from probable results, of the difficulty of overthrowing the Tory party without the help of the Whigs; while I feel as strongly the difficulty of eliciting the services of the latter party for the complete overthrow of Toryism, unless their co-operation is based upon self-interest; an interest which they imagine is at variance with the interest of the working classes, and therefore not likely to be the medium of a fair union. I have long ceased to attach any importance to a transfer of power under the present system from the hands of one party to those of another. It is that game that has ruined England. If, then, we judge between the two in our deliberative capacity, I would ask you, after ten years' trial of the Whig party, the three following questions:—Firstly, had the Whigs, or had they not, the power to carry all those measures upon the pledge to accomplish which they would now establish their claim to restoration? It will not do to answer me with "the opposition of the House of Lords." They were profuse in the legitimate mode, as it is called, of creating a majority in the Upper House; while their own adherents to their own principles, backed by their overwhelming majorities might have changed what from Whig imbecility, the House of Peers designated as a right properly used into a factious resistance to the principles of Reform. Secondly, did the Whigs, like in office, ever carry, or propose, any measure of Free Trade; or rather any measure approximating to Free Trade, of equal importance with the Tariff? This, I, whether do you imagine that a House of Commons representing the landed interest, or a House of Commons representing the

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1844.

PRICE FOURPENCE HALF-PENNY OR FIVE IN LONDON.

NEW WOOLLEN CLOTH AND TAILORS' TRIMMING ESTABLISHMENT, 57, BRIGGATE, LEEDS, AND MARKET PLACE, DARLINGTON.

M. H. DAVIS respectfully invites the attention of the Public to his VALUABLE AND EXTENSIVE STOCK OF WOOLLEN CLOTHS,

Which he has purchased for Cash, and is determined to sell for a very small amount of profit. The Goods are of first-rate Manufacture, and not made for sale only, but will have the good properties of wearing well, and ensuring future orders.

The Stock consists of DOUBLE-MILLED WATERPROOF TWEEDS, HEAVYWEAVERS, PILOTS, KERSEYS, CASSIMERES, SUPERFINE YORKSHIRE AND WEST OF ENGLAND CLOTHS, WOOLLEN AND COTTON CORDS, FUSTIANS, &c. &c. Waistcoatings from 1s. 6d. upwards, in endless variety.

M. H. D. takes this opportunity to thank the numerous body of TAILORS, who have patronized him since he dissolved Partnership with Mr. CULLINGWORTH, and begs to assure them that no House in the Trade shall undersell him in any one Article.

The Working Classes are invited to purchase Fustians, Cords, and Molesters, at the above Establishment; they will find it more advantageous to do so, and employ their own Tailors, than encourage the "Ready Made Clothes Selling Monopolists," who get rich at the expense of the Working Man, by paying him ONE HALF for a Garment that other Masters give.

OSSETT-STREET SIDE.—On Wednesday last, a public meeting of the colliers of Gawthorpe, &c., was held. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Swallow, and several resolutions were passed to the effect of the Union.

HECKNOLDWICK.—A meeting of the colliers of this neighbourhood was held on Thursday last, the 25th inst., in Dobson's School-room. A working collier was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by D. Swallow, at great length, on the necessity of general union.

CHURWELL.—On Saturday, the 27th, a meeting of the colliers was held at the Commercial Inn, at seven o'clock, Mr. Radford in the chair. D. Swallow addressed the meeting. Several new members were enrolled.

KEYWOOD AND MIDDLETON DISTRICT.—The coalminers of Captain-ford are at present on strike. Joseph Galt, the agent for the colliers, is sending men and letters into Yorkshire, to get men to supply the places of those on strike. Some few men have been inveigled here, but have determined to return home again.

BARNSLEY.—The Miners of Barnsley held their weekly meeting on Saturday evening last, in Mr. John Pickering's large room. The attendance was very numerous. A deputation from the men on strike at Blacker Hill came to consult with their fellow-workmen. Mr. Galt, the agent for the colliers, was present, and was asked to give his opinion on the matter. The men all assembled, and made known their wrongs. The masters seemed to be astonished at their state of mind, and the object of the meeting. They will be asked to work, they should be paid the same as the other men in the other works round about; that their other grievances should be redressed, and that they would stand between the men and the oppressors of their banks. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Galt, who said that the men should not go to work until the masters were turned out, and that parties be appointed to collect money for the men on their pay-days, for the support of the men on strike.

STRIKE.—The men at Mr. Jackson's pit struck work in the beginning of last week for an advance of wages. Their employer sent for them on Saturday, and agreed to make such arrangements as will be to the satisfaction of the men, as much as three or four shillings a week to some, and average two shillings to all. The men went to work on Monday morning.

PUBLIC MEETING.—A public meeting of the Miners was held on Tuesday evening last, at the Commercial Inn, at seven o'clock, Mr. Radford in the chair. D. Swallow addressed the meeting. Several new members were enrolled.

THE TURN-OUT AT ST. HELEN'S.—Since our last, there has been a good deal of feverish dissatisfaction manifested amongst the turn-out Coal Miners of St. Helen's, and the neighbourhood, and at times they have been almost driven to the verge of an outbreak; but we are happy to say that hitherto no serious disturbance of the public peace has occurred. It appears that there are some forty or fifty men who still continue their work, when they can get the work done, and the rest of the men are employed in the various police force of the district in escorting parties of these men to and from their respective homes and places of employment. These men, who are denominated "substitutes" by the turn-out, are of various kinds of character, and are not to be trusted, and though the unemployed men have refrained from interfering with them, they have not a very pleasant time of it. The Colliers' wives, children, and female friends all regularly assemble, and follow the substitutes to the pits, being dressed in their best gowns, caps, and shoes, and making a most hideous noise imaginable. These and other symptoms indicative of a probable resort to riotous conduct have been the cause of the present application to the court for a writ of habeas corpus. The application has been granted; and an extra number of men arrived in the town on Saturday, and are now employed in watching the colliers, and protecting the working hands.

The state of things has naturally produced a wish on the part of many of the respectable inhabitants, for an amicable settlement of the differences between the miners and men; and at the solicitation of a number of the latter, Peter Greenall, Esq., M.P., consented to a conference with them, for the purpose of bearing a friendly message to the strikers, and of settling the matter by a friendly investigation, however, Mr. Greenall came to the conclusion that any interference on his part, at the present moment, would be almost, if not entirely useless; but, at the same time, he was not without the hope that, should the strikers be allowed to persist in their obstinate refusal to work, he should be able to bring about a friendly settlement of the matter, and to the worthy magistrate for his exertions throughout the whole of this unpleasant business, and it is yet hoped that his efforts may shortly be crowned with success.

We have received the following communication on this subject from a friend:—

"It is much to be regretted that those men who earn good wages, say from 2s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per week, and who are some hundreds of them, cannot see their own interest, and return to their work; but, being in the Union, we suppose their laws will not allow them to do so. We have seen the same men in the same neighbourhood, and they are distinguished for their grievances adjusted. To such an extent do these men work carry their resistance, that they will not allow their employers to serve the customers of these colliers, which are standing still, and to the great detriment of the general turn-out of St. Helen's. Mr. Evans sent his son-in-law, (who is a glass-maker), a few wagons of coals, and because the glass-manufacturers was a customer of a colliery where the men were out, all Mr. Evans's men, who were well contented with their wages, struck immediately on having the intelligence brought to them. Now this cannot be justified. 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THE DRESS-MAKERS OF LONDON.

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consequence of this want of consideration was an all-
 -sleeping night to the worn-out girls with w
 -yes, if the truth did not tell us that we
 -we, comforted scarcely by the fact that we
 -dress—our single dress, could not make much
 -"We could have ordered it two or three
 -before, but the weather was too hot or too cold
 -or, we were detained by visitors—or, at all eve
 -the dress or could not make much
 -little difference; and dressmakers are so
 -we were obliged to any we wanted it a day
 -than we really did. How very, very angry we
 -he, it told that, in saying we required it one day,
 -really we did not want it till another, we had been
 -our hearts would have burst had we
 -I asked if it was a case of cruelty?—and we
 -we were guilty of cruelty towards these help
 - whom we would have drawn wide our purse-
 -assist, whom we would have given to eat of our
 -and drink of our cup, if it had been told us
 -so doing would serve them, how indignant we sh
 -have felt! though, perhaps, at the same moment

and this is not attributable to any unhealthiness of the site of the prison—quite the reverse—for Mr. [redacted] informs us, in the observations upon Mr. Cray

men that ever lived in this country, the late Hon. William Pitt. I was deputed with Mr. Thorne, now living, to wait upon that gentleman: waited upon him, and in the course of conversation said: 'Has not the Chancellor of the Exchequer saying, that your wages must never be any

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spectable
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by the whole Irish bar, as a just tribute to his talent, and impartiality—we shall look forward to his ordinary interest. We anticipate that it will be a "summing-up" worthy of record, not only in the archives of legal absurdity, but one from which the advocates of justice may draw hope for the future, and contrast with the imbecility of the present. We said as much as our present space permitted, we hope to record a verdict of
 "ILLY."

use, No. 5, Market-street, Briggate;
Communication existing between the said
Market-street, and the said Nos. 12 and
Market-street, Briggate, thus constituting the
of the said Printing and Publishing Office
premises.

Communications must be addressed, Post-paid, to
MR. J. W. BEECHER, Northern Star Office, Leeds.
'Saturday, May 8, 1846.'

Malt we had not been doing. Rye was
 demand, at the rate of 10s. 6d. per bushel.
 on similar terms as last week. Flour met
 a limited sale.

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 O'CONNOR, Esq. of Hammersmith, Great
 Middlesex, by JOSHUA HOBSON, at his Print-
 ing Offices, Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, Brigate,
 and Published by the said JOSHUA HOBSON,
 (for the said FEARGUS O'CONNOR,) at his Dwel-
 ling-house, No. 5, Market-street, Brigate;
 and Internal Communication between the said
 No. 5, Market-street, and the said Nos. 12
 and 13, Market-street, Brigate, thus constituting
 the whole of the said Printing and Publishing Office,
 one Premises.

All Communications must be addressed, Post-paid, to
 Mr. HOBSON, Northern Star Office, Leeds.

Saturday, May 3, 1844.