

MY DEAR FRIENDS, This week I publish your triumph and mine, openly and fairly obtained over our avowed and concealed enemies; and surely, when the world, and every newspaper at the command of every faction, is attacking me, you at least will not consider it a waste of time to read, not my defence, for I need none, but your protection, which consists not so much in reliance upon the law as in reliance upon my honour.

Working men, who have been so often choused, juggled, deceived, and cheated, and then persecuted for complaining of your grievances, have you heard, or is there upon record, a single instance of the affairs of a Company, established for the benefit of the Poor alone, being conducted, managed, and accounted for, as the affairs of your Company have been conducted, managed, and accounted for? Now, come over to observe this fact—that had I been a Whig lickspittle, and had I destroyed popular confidence, by robbing the People's Exchequer, every attack upon me would have been met by a volley of material abuse, and I should have been told by my "Right Honourable Friends below me" not to answer the impertinent questions; and, if a committee was asked for, to inquire into the affair, the front rank of Whiggery would have bristled up like a porcupine, and repudiated the notion of devolving upon the House the duty of inquiring into the PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF A GENTLEMAN. But, however, as I mean to take a week's reflection as to the course which I shall now pursue, and which has been left open to me by the resolutions of the committee, either to wind up the affairs of the Company, or to apply, under the sanction of their resolution, to Parliament for some new measure for the purpose of carrying out the expectations and objects of the promoters of the Company, I shall confine my present observations to portions of the evidence, after I have made a passing commentary upon the bearing and import of the resolutions of the committee; and, in order to do so, I must explain the grounds upon which the resolution was passed, which leaves it optional with us to wind up the affairs or prosecute the operations of the Company.

Mr Henley, the Member for Oxfordshire, and than whom there is not a more shrewd, more honourable, or more dignified member in the British Parliament, was the proposer of that resolution, upon the grounds, as stated in his speech, that he would not consent to 250 persons having the plan, which he proposed, seen the means of securing the advantages for them; and that, therefore, as no measure had been submitted to the committee which would embrace the objects of the Company, as at present formed, that he was not prepared to sacrifice the interest of those 69,750, or to say, after hearing the evidence of Mr Finlayson, that the scheme was impracticable; but, on the contrary, he thought that every opportunity ought to be afforded to the promoters of the Company, to realise, as far as possible, the hopes of those who had not yet derived any benefit; and it was admitted that neither the Friendly Societies Act, or the Bill proposed by Mr O'Connor, would embrace the present objects of the promoters, it was his decided opinion that they should be allowed to apply to Parliament for some measure which would test the practicability of the scheme; and, by assenting to the "wind up," it, by no means, imposed the necessity of doing so upon the Company, but left it optional with them to do so, or to prosecute their operations under an Act framed to embrace them.

Mr George Thompson said that he fully agreed in the spirit of the resolution, and that every opportunity should be afforded to the promoters of the Company to realise the ardent wish and very desirable feelings of the poor who chose to invest their savings in a plot of ground; and he, too, thought that it would be a great hardship—nay, a great act of oppression, especially after the evidence of Mr Finlayson, to close the door against the 69,750 members who had not been located; and, seeing that it was the unanimous opinion of that committee, after the most jealous and searching inquiry into every transaction connected with the management of the Company, that the whole affair had been conducted with the strictest honour, with great spirit, and with the most perfect good faith, he would not vote for any resolution which would act as a barrier to the hopes of 69,750 of his countrymen, who he thought had a just right to invest their monies as they pleased.

Mr Feargus O'Connor said, that the resolution of the honourable member for Oxfordshire, gratified and perplexed him; it gratified him, because he understood its spirit and meaning as intended by the proposer, but the words—"to wind up," although optional, would be seized by the enemies of the Company, as an imperative. ("No, no.") He (Mr O'Connor) could perfectly understand the meaning and intention of the honourable gentleman and the committee, but he begged to assure them that the Press would make a handle of the term.

Sir Benjamin Hall could not at all see the question in that light, or how the Press could so view it, as he presumed that the course would be to consult the shareholders, leaving it optional with them whether they would wind up the Company, or prosecute their operations under some new powers which Parliament may be inclined to grant.

Lord Ingestre certainly would not vote for the resolution if it had not been for the very satisfactory explanation that had been given of its import by the previous speakers, as in the present infant state of the Company he, for one, had no notion of saying, that under altered provisions, the plan was impracticable; but, on the contrary, the evidence of Mr Finlayson went to show that under an altered state of things it was practicable, and, therefore, as in his opinion the resolution left it open with the promoters, either to wind the affairs of the Company up, or to prosecute the operations, he hoped the resolution could be carried by the unanimous concurrence of the committee.

Mr Walpole could well understand the difficult position in which the committee had placed itself, it having passed the third resolution, which declared the illegality of the Company in its present shape, and he thought that he could meet the objections of Mr O'Connor to the term "wind up," by adding the following words to the resolution of the honourable member for Oxfordshire; and as the committee had declared the illegality of the Company as at present constituted, and as Mr O'Connor himself very frankly admitted the fact, he thought it but justice to frame the resolution so that the parties concerned may be enabled so to construct the Company as to justify Parliament in protecting it in its altered position.

Capt. Bechell said, that he would never consent to the terms "wind up" being inserted in the resolution, had it not been for the very satisfactory explanation given of those terms, by the several speakers who preceded him, but as in its present shape it left the matter optional with the promoters and the members, he could see no possible objection to it, with the addition proposed by the honourable member for Midhurst, Mr Walpole.

Mr Mossell thought he had framed a resolution which would meet the views of the honourable member for Oxfordshire, and the wish of the honourable member for Nottingham. The honourable member then read the resolution, which, not meeting with the concurrence of the committee, was not put. The Chairman thought that the best course would be to wind up the affairs of the Company, selling the Estates, and repaying the amounts subscribed to those who had not yet been located, and that under such an arrangement he had no doubt that Parliament would give indemnity to the promoters, for the several penalties they had incurred.

The Northern Star, AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

VOL. XI. No 563.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1848.

PRICE FIVEPENCE OF Five Shillings and Sixpence per Quarter

Mr O'Connor said, that the very sly and soothing speech of the chairman, reminded him of the very courteous appeal of the judge to the prisoner in the dock, when he asked him if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him; but he told the committee that, as great stress had been laid upon indemnity for him, in order to secure his acquiescence in the winding up of the affair, that he did not care one straw for indemnity for himself, as compared with the indemnity for those who had confided in him, and he could assure the committee, that he would not only hand over all the property of the Company to trustees appointed by them, at a minute's notice, but that he would give 1,000l. out of his own pocket, and forgive all that was due to him, to any professional gentleman that would frame such a Bill as would realise the object of the members, and that he would be sufficiently rewarded by still remaining their unpaid servant. But, in answer to the Chairman's very gratifying assurance, of being able to sell the Estates not yet converted, he would remind the committee of this fact, that he knew no market to which he could take the joiners' work now completed for eighty-five houses, at Bromsgrove; he knew no market to which he could take 600,000 bricks, burnt upon that Estate; he knew no market in which he could sell that Estate, the hedges being every one levelled, the Estate now intersected with roads, and the cottages in course of erection; so that the kindly and impartial opinion of the chairman would go to the deterioration of that Estate, to the amount of several thousand pounds, while the completion of that Estate, under his management, would realise several thousand pounds profit for the Company, and as he (Mr O'Connor) was the person most likely to be sued for penalties, he begged to state, that if the committee had not recommended that indemnity should be extended to him, that he would much rather pay every one of these penalties than be a party consenting to the winding up of the affairs, and which he felt himself bound to tell the committee that he never would consent to. He certainly not only felt puzzled, but felt it impossible to draw up a better resolution than that proposed by the honourable member for Oxfordshire, after the satisfactory explanation given by every member of the committee, of the term "wind up," and, therefore, he did not see how he could oppose it.

Mr Henley said that his reason for proposing an act of indemnity for any legal penalties that might have been incurred, was that that committee had published to the world that which might invite informers to sue for those penalties, and he, therefore, thought that as the most open confessions had been made by Mr O'Connor himself, and as every facility was afforded to the committee to arrive at those conclusions upon which the evidence would be published, and as there was not a shadow of suspicion to be cast upon the promoters, but, on the contrary, that all had been conducted upon the most perfect good faith, he thought, under those circumstances, that the parties in this case were equally entitled to that protection which had been extended to other companies similarly circumstanced; and, again, he begged to assure the committee that from the outset his object had been to protect the interests of his poorer countrymen, who had invested their little savings in this speculation, and that the hon. member for Nottingham must see that the resolution proposed by him left it quite optional with the promoters, as to whether they would wind up or keep the Company open until the present members had all paid up their subscriptions.

The fourth and fifth resolutions were then put and carried unanimously, and were reported to the House on Tuesday evening; the conversation on which will be found in another part of the paper, together with a short comment upon it.

Here follow the whole of the resolutions as passed by the committee:—

1. That the proposed additional provisions to the Friendly Societies Act which are incorporated in the Bill entitled "A Bill to alter and amend an act of the 26th and 27th of the present Majesty for the amendment of the law relating to Friendly Societies," will not constitute the National Land Company.

2. That the National Land Company is not consistent with the general principles upon which the Friendly Societies are founded.

3. That the National Land Company, as at present constituted, is an illegal scheme, and will not fulfil the expectations held out by the directors to the shareholders.

4. That it appearing to this committee, by the evidence of several witnesses, that the books of proceedings of the National Land Company, as well as the accounts of the Company, have been most imperfectly kept, and that the original balances signed by the auditors of the Company have been destroyed, and only three of the balance sheets for the quarter ending the 29th of September, and the 29th of December, 1847, and the 5th of March, 1848, respectively, have been produced; and Mr O'Connor having expressed an opinion that an impression had been abroad that the monies subscribed by the National Land Company had been applied to his own benefit;—this committee is clearly of opinion, that although the accounts have not been kept with strict regularity, yet that irregularity has been against Mr O'Connor's interest, and not in his favour; and that, as appears by Mr Grey's account, there is due to Mr P. O'Connor the sum of 23,285 5s 3d, and by Mr Finlayson's account the sum of 23,400.

5. That considering the great number of persons interested in the scheme, and the benefits which it appears to have been carried on, it is the opinion of this committee, that powers might be granted to the parties concerned, if they so desire, to wind up the undertaking, and to relieve them from the penalties to which they may have incurably subjected themselves.

In submitting these resolutions to the House, it is the opinion of your committee that it should be explained to the expectations and objects of the promoters of the Company.

Now, my friends, I should state that on Friday week the chairman submitted a voluminous report for the consideration of the committee, and as I intend to give the evidence at great length you shall see that report hereafter. It would occupy more than sixteen columns of the Star, but when you read it you will be able to judge of the animus of the official receiving 2,000l. a year of your money. It is a tissue of nonsense from the beginning to the end, and artfully commences by attempting to show that the object of the company was of a political nature; and then he seizes hold of every unconnected sentence printed in the several prospectuses and in the several rules; he selects garbled extracts from his own witnesses, and the committee having had three days to consider it, on Monday last were prepared to reject it unanimously, when the chairman was compelled to withdraw it altogether; and had it been submitted, I was prepared to propose the following Report as an amendment:—

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY. DRAFT REPORT.

The Select Committee appointed to inquire into the National Land Company, have examined and considered the matters referred to them, and have agreed upon the following Report:—

That, in the month of April 1848, Mr Feargus O'Connor proposed certain rules for the formation of a National Land Company to delegates, from different parts of the country, assembled in London for that purpose; the object being to raise a sufficient amount of object being in sums, varying from threepence to one shilling, and upwards, per week, to locate the members of the Company upon allotments of two, three, and four acres, with a cottage upon each allotment; and the sum of £7 10s per acre to be given to the occupants of the respective allotments as aid money to assist them in the cultivation of the land, and the purchase of seeds and implements.

The objects of this Association, as stated by the proposer, were—

Firstly.—To open a wide channel for the beneficial employment of the surplus population of the country.

Secondly.—To establish a better standard of wages in the free labour market than the distress and destitution arising from the non-employment of a large competitive idle reserve afforded.

Thirdly.—To open a profitable market for the small weekly savings of the industrious poor.

That, in the month of December, 1845, a Conference assembled at Manchester, consisting of delegates, elected by the several members in their respective districts, and at which Conference it was determined that the National Land Company should be enrolled under the Friendly Societies Act; and that in compliance with the resolution of the Conference, application was made to Mr Tidd Pratt on the 17th of January, 1846, with a view to having the National Land Company enrolled, but that officer seeing legal difficulties in the way refused acquiescence; and it further appears to your committee, that he was then entertained of securing protection for the National Land Company by embracing it in the provisions of a Bill introduced to Parliament by T. S. Duncombe, Esq., the honourable member for Finsbury; and it further appears to your committee that, about August, 1846, when it was understood that the bill of Mr Duncombe, as amended by Parliament, would not embrace the contemplated objects of the National Land Company that provisional registration was resorted to, and that heavy expense was incurred in preparing the necessary machinery for securing complete registration, it appearing to your committee that a sum of over two thousand pounds had been expended in the prosecution of the preliminary requirements.

Now, in the above Report, you will see that I have digressed nothing, and you will always bear these facts in mind.

Firstly.—That when I originated the Company my words were, that I would present you with "a miniature of the full-length portrait of what England might be made." I never contemplated the growth of the Company to that extent which would require legal protection. It was established upon good faith and was to have been so carried on; and when it promised to arrive at a monster growth you desired from my report, the several attempts for Nottingham to secure legal protection, and the manner in which I have been frustrated by the enemies of the poor, who had been established for your destruction, would have searched the musty archives of the world to find a precedent for its recognition.

I will now call your attention for a moment to the evidence of Mr Finlayson, the actuary of the Savings Banks—the actuary appointed by the Government under the Ecclesiastical Commission—the actuary of the principal Insurance Offices in the kingdom, and acknowledged to be the ablest and most finished accountant. The chairman, not content with having submitted my accounts to Mr Grey, who, as I am informed, holds a situation in the Foreign Office, has a son in the Home Office, and a son in the Post-office, and a son in Tidd Pratt's office, and who examined my accounts, not as if I was an insolvent, but as if I was a fraudulent insolvent; yet, after his minute investigation for more than three weeks, the chairman submitted those accounts to the further review of Mr Finlayson, and the result of which was that Mr Finlayson discovered that more than 100l. more was due to me than was stated by Mr Grey. But for this gentleman's evidence—which is most material—I should refer you to "Labourer," with this single comment:—Mr Grey was examined as to the period within which all the members could be located, upon the principle of mortgaging each estate for two-thirds of its value. Mr Finlayson was examined upon the question of mortgage, and was directed by the Chairman to leave the committee-room for the purpose of making his calculation as to the time it would take to locate all the members, in case the property was sold in mortgage, and the proceeds of the sale were applied to the mortgage of the cottages, Mr Finlayson taking two years as the standard of reproduction, allowing that only 230 cottages could be built and the property sold within that period; but the Chairman, not liking the previous portion of Mr Finlayson's evidence, gave him the trouble of going into this elaborate calculation, but never recalled him to examine him upon the point.

Now, you will observe the bearing that this trick would have if any calculation was based upon it. I showed the committee that, in the first instance, I commenced operations, measured them by the funds I had in hand; and the chairman would have limited my future operations—that is, if I received 250,000l. in arrears in two years, that my operations are to be measured by the same scale for every future two years, when I commenced my third year with my whole reproduced capital of 250,000l. Now, let me explain this to you. When cramped for means it took me from May, 1846, to May, 1847, to complete thirty-five houses and one school-house at O'Connorville—twelve months; while, from March, 1847, to June, 1848, I built 216 houses, and three school-houses—that is, in seven months; but you will see by Mr Finlayson's evidence, that the reproductive system mainly depends upon the legal value which shall be stamped upon the Company's property as security to money lenders. And now, what I undertake to say is this—and I defy contradiction from all the actuaries in the world—that if the Company had been carried on in my own name, and vested in trustees approved of by the members themselves, and without any reference whatever to law that I would locate the 70,000 members in less than seven years; and if that legal protection was extended to the savings of the poor, that is extended to the rough speculations of the rich, I would locate them in a still shorter period; and above all, I wish you to bear in mind that, with the means at my command, I would as easily build 20,000 as 100 cottages within the same period.

I think, as the chairman gave the House of Commons the benefit of Mr Grey's calculation, in reply to a gentleman who sits on the second Whig bench, that it is necessary you should state a few particulars in your examination upon this point, before you, Mr Grey said, that if two-thirds of the property of the Company was mortgaged, that the property would vanish altogether upon the eighteenth mortgage, and both his and Mr Finlayson's calculation of the expense of location, was made upon the presumption that only 230 cottages had been built; and it was also stated by Mr Grey, that as 6,000l. in Exchequer Bills was in the hands of the broker, and not in the hands of the manager of the Bank, that, therefore, he had taken that 6,000l. as a loan from the Bank to the Land Company. Now, this was my comment upon the dissolving view taken of houses, rent, and Exchequer Bills, by the accountants.

Firstly.—Twenty-two-thirds of the value of an estate being mortgaged at four per cent,

Your committee does not feel itself called upon to refer to the several Acts of Parliament—the Lottery Acts and Banking Acts—the provisions of which Mr O'Connor has confessed to have violated; and for which violation your committee would not have recommended an exemption from the stipulated punishment, had it not been for the perfect good faith with which the funds have been administered.

Your committee cannot conclude its Report without again drawing the attention of Parliament to the subject which constitutes its chief difficulty—namely, the protection of the interests of those who have subscribed their monies, and have as yet derived no benefit from the scheme; and your committee must make a wide distinction between penalties incurred with the avowed intention of committing fraud, and penalties incurred from violation of the law where no fraud has been committed; and further, by calling the attention of Parliament to the fact, that two acts of intemperance were passed to protect the promoters of the Art-Union against penalties to which they had subjected themselves for repeated acts of illegality, while the same society is now legalised, in its former illegal constitution, with a view to the encouragement of art.

Your committee is of opinion that the Bill introduced into Parliament by the Honourable Member for Nottingham, would not extend such protection to the members of the National Land Company as was contemplated; and therefore your committee, although appointed for the purpose of considering the provisions of that Bill, leave it altogether out of consideration, and would recommend the adoption of some measure that would secure the property of the Company to its members, and the realisation, as far as practicable, of those objects for which the Company was established.

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Your committee cannot conclude its Report without again drawing the attention of Parliament to the subject which constitutes its chief difficulty—namely, the protection of the interests of those who have subscribed their monies, and have as yet derived no benefit from the scheme; and your committee must make a wide distinction between penalties incurred with the avowed intention of committing fraud, and penalties incurred from violation of the law where no fraud has been committed; and further, by calling the attention of Parliament to the fact, that two acts of intemperance were passed to protect the promoters of the Art-Union against penalties to which they had subjected themselves for repeated acts of illegality, while the same society is now legalised, in its former illegal constitution, with a view to the encouragement of art.

Your committee is of opinion that the Bill introduced into Parliament by the Honourable Member for Nottingham, would not extend such protection to the members of the National Land Company as was contemplated; and therefore your committee, although appointed for the purpose of considering the provisions of that Bill, leave it altogether out of consideration, and would recommend the adoption of some measure that would secure the property of the Company to its members, and the realisation, as far as practicable, of those objects for which the Company was established.

Now, in the above Report, you will see that I have digressed nothing, and you will always bear these facts in mind.

Firstly.—That when I originated the Company my words were, that I would present you with "a miniature of the full-length portrait of what England might be made." I never contemplated the growth of the Company to that extent which would require legal protection. It was established upon good faith and was to have been so carried on; and when it promised to arrive at a monster growth you desired from my report, the several attempts for Nottingham to secure legal protection, and the manner in which I have been frustrated by the enemies of the poor, who had been established for your destruction, would have searched the musty archives of the world to find a precedent for its recognition.

I will now call your attention for a moment to the evidence of Mr Finlayson, the actuary of the Savings Banks—the actuary appointed by the Government under the Ecclesiastical Commission—the actuary of the principal Insurance Offices in the kingdom, and acknowledged to be the ablest and most finished accountant. The chairman, not content with having submitted my accounts to Mr Grey, who, as I am informed, holds a situation in the Foreign Office, has a son in the Home Office, and a son in the Post-office, and a son in Tidd Pratt's office, and who examined my accounts, not as if I was an insolvent, but as if I was a fraudulent insolvent; yet, after his minute investigation for more than three weeks, the chairman submitted those accounts to the further review of Mr Finlayson, and the result of which was that Mr Finlayson discovered that more than 100l. more was due to me than was stated by Mr Grey. But for this gentleman's evidence—which is most material—I should refer you to "Labourer," with this single comment:—Mr Grey was examined as to the period within which all the members could be located, upon the principle of mortgaging each estate for two-thirds of its value. Mr Finlayson was examined upon the question of mortgage, and was directed by the Chairman to leave the committee-room for the purpose of making his calculation as to the time it would take to locate all the members, in case the property was sold in mortgage, and the proceeds of the sale were applied to the mortgage of the cottages, Mr Finlayson taking two years as the standard of reproduction, allowing that only 230 cottages could be built and the property sold within that period; but the Chairman, not liking the previous portion of Mr Finlayson's evidence, gave him the trouble of going into this elaborate calculation, but never recalled him to examine him upon the point.

Now, you will observe the bearing that this trick would have if any calculation was based upon it. I showed the committee that, in the first instance, I commenced operations, measured them by the funds I had in hand; and the chairman would have limited my future operations—that is, if I received 250,000l. in arrears in two years, that my operations are to be measured by the same scale for every future two years, when I commenced my third year with my whole reproduced capital of 250,000l. Now, let me explain this to you. When cramped for means it took me from May, 1846, to May, 1847, to complete thirty-five houses and one school-house at O'Connorville—twelve months; while, from March, 1847, to June, 1848, I built 216 houses, and three school-houses—that is, in seven months; but you will see by Mr Finlayson's evidence, that the reproductive system mainly depends upon the legal value which shall be stamped upon the Company's property as security to money lenders. And now, what I undertake to say is this—and I defy contradiction from all the actuaries in the world—that if the Company had been carried on in my own name, and vested in trustees approved of by the members themselves, and without any reference whatever to law that I would locate the 70,000 members in less than seven years; and if that legal protection was extended to the savings of the poor, that is extended to the rough speculations of the rich, I would locate them in a still shorter period; and above all, I wish you to bear in mind that, with the means at my command, I would as easily build 20,000 as 100 cottages within the same period.

I think, as the chairman gave the House of Commons the benefit of Mr Grey's calculation, in reply to a gentleman who sits on the second Whig bench, that it is necessary you should state a few particulars in your examination upon this point, before you, Mr Grey said, that if two-thirds of the property of the Company was mortgaged, that the property would vanish altogether upon the eighteenth mortgage, and both his and Mr Finlayson's calculation of the expense of location, was made upon the presumption that only 230 cottages had been built; and it was also stated by Mr Grey, that as 6,000l. in Exchequer Bills was in the hands of the broker, and not in the hands of the manager of the Bank, that, therefore, he had taken that 6,000l. as a loan from the Bank to the Land Company. Now, this was my comment upon the dissolving view taken of houses, rent, and Exchequer Bills, by the accountants.

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William Hewitt, Publisher, 10 St. Andrew's Place, London.

CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT THE GLOBE.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

CURE OF PISTULOUS SORES AND PLEURISY.

Extract of a Letter from Robert C. Chemist, Stokely, dated September 23rd, 1847. To Professor Holloway.

Sir—Mr Thompson, National Schoolmaster of this town, desires me to send you a copy of a letter which he has been for three years and a half, and has received the greatest benefit by the use of your pills and ointment.

The ointment was used for the cure of a pleurisy, and the pills for the cure of a fistulous sore. The cure was complete.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Sir, We, the members of the Chartist Association, at a meeting held at the Colonel Hutchison, Nottingham, on July 29th, congratulate you on the wise pronouncement you have taken to keep your seat out of the meshes of the law, and hope that you will continue to do the same.

Signed on behalf of the members, by the Chairman, WILLIAM CUSTON.

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

RESPECTED SIR,—As the improved system of agriculture, proposed by you in your work on 'Small Farms' has been doubted almost as much as discussed, permit me, through the column of your valuable paper, to state a few of the important facts advanced in that work.

I am in possession of a small plot of ground, measuring thirty-two feet, part of which I have laid out in beds for wheat and potatoes, on the plan recommended by you.

I have planted your potatoes about thirty-two inches apart, and I have found that the result of dibbling in the grain, because I find in the adjoining broadcast bed, containing three times the amount of seed, I have not more than one-third the number of stalks.

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UNFOUNDED CALUMNY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—It having been reported that a young man, named G. Geer, is a traitor to our cause, and a government spy, I have felt it my duty to take the earliest opportunity of giving such reports the most positive contradiction.

I am personally acquainted with him, his business, and residence, and introduced him to our locality.

THE CHARTIST TRIALS.

YORK ASSIZES.

CHARGE OF UTTERING A SEDITIOUS SPEECH ON TOTTENHAM ROAD.

THE QUEEN V. TOMLINSON.—Mr Knowles, Q.C., and Mr Overend were for the prosecution; Mr J. Pollock for the defence.

Mr Overend stated the charge. The defendant was indicted, first, for uttering a seditious speech; secondly, for uttering a seditious libel; and thirdly, for being present at a tumultuous meeting.

Mr Knowles asked the witness if the defendant was charged with uttering seditious language, at a meeting which had been held on Monday, the 12th of June, at Tottenham road, near Bradford, which meeting was attended by between 7,000 and 8,000 persons.

The object of that meeting was professedly political, and the defendant was one of the speakers. The defendant was charged with uttering seditious language, at a meeting which had been held on Monday, the 12th of June, at Tottenham road, near Bradford, which meeting was attended by between 7,000 and 8,000 persons.

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APPROHENSION OF CHARTISTS IN EDINBURGH.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WERE ANNOUNCED IN THE SECOND EDITION OF LAST SATURDAY'S STAR.

The following articles were announced in the second edition of last Saturday's Star. We now give the following additional particulars:

DEAR SIR.—I regret to have to state that Mr Manning and Henry Ranken (our late representatives to the National Assembly), and Archibald Walker, and Robert Cranston were apprehended this afternoon on a charge of seditious libel.

It is supposed to have been in consequence of a meeting held on Calton Hill on Monday night, of about 6,000 or 7,000, called without public intimation.

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Poetry.

THE HARP THAT ONCE THROUGH TABA'S HALLS.

BY THOMAS MOORE. The harp that once through Taba's halls...

Rebels.

ANALOGIES AND CONTRASTS, OR COMPARATIVE SKETCHES OF FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

BY THE AUTHOR OF 'THE REVOLUTIONS OF FRANCE.' London: T. C. Newby, 72, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.

The author of this work contends for the sound and generous policy of abstaining from interference in any political movement...

The memoirs of Maria Stella have been declared libellous and suppressed, but never confined.

It is well known that she claims to be the child of the late Duke of Devonshire...

The fact that there were at one time thirteen individuals, each claiming to be the Dauphin...

The utter dissimilitude of Louis Philippe in feature and character to Louis Philippe...

For those who have been accustomed to regard her claims as no better founded than the pretensions of the thirteen impostors...

In June, 1824, by a decree of the Episcopal court of France, to which Lady Newborough...

It is another of the harsh aphorisms which it is less doubtful that she uttered.

'Thiers,' bitterly observes an adversary—and his friends cannot gainsay the allegation...

It is not only in the words of Thiers, but in the words of his own countrymen...

There is, indeed, more of the severity of the vindictive pedagogue...

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quite in time the avowal of the miser to the money-lender's avidity.

LOUIS-PHILIPPE AND BENJAMIN CONSTANT. Benjamin Constant, inebriatedly addicted to gaming...

UNLIKE all the Bourbons, Louis-Philippe in person is said to resemble the family of Chappinelli...

His expression—if not flattered by the painter—was in former years more noble than at present...

Both are historians, both orators, both refusing to participate in the struggle of July...

Thiers, perfectly natural, is perhaps the only orator of the French chamber who speaks as he conceives...

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body. Abandoning constitutional theories as the price of office, he has become the willing and even zealous instrument...

After reaching and preaching for so many years the freedom of free government, only for its own sake he has been trampled on...

Hard, unimpassioned, and cold, Guizot seemed to have a bar of iron in his eye...

Thiers, the great apologist of Danton, the panegyrist of the reign of terror...

Neither Thiers nor Guizot are remarkable as orators, nor can either be termed positively elegant after such men as Barry the advocate...

Guizot, pedantic, starchy, and artificial—even in the incoherence of his efforts—would never secure a listener or move an auditor...

A knot of placemen and electors, dispensing or enjoying the ruinous patronage of the state...

Practical in views, without delusion to maintain them, wanting in forethought and confident in will...

It will be remembered that he conspired with Russia, Austria and Prussia in the suppression of Greece...

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The Paragony of Suicides. A Prison Rhyme in Ten Books. By THOMAS COOPER, the Charist. Second Edition. London: J. Watson, 3, Queen's-head-passag, Paternoster-row.

Our estimate of this remarkable work is so well known to the readers of this journal that anything like a review of this new edition would be superfluous.

Decidedly this is one of the most instructive publications we have seen for many a day.

PERIODICALS.

1.—The Reasoner. Part 27. London: J. Watson, 3, Queen's-head-passag, Paternoster-row.

2.—The English Patriot and Irish Repealer. No. 2. Manchester: J. Leach, 73, Roebuck-street.

3.—The Truth Teller. No. 1. Stalybridge: B. S. Treason, Melbourne-street.

Mr Holyoake has lately been 'lionising in the provinces,' delivering lectures in Lancashire and Yorkshire in illustration of his political views.

Mr Holyoake omits no opportunity of lauding the high Charist member for Oldham, or of having 'a slap' at the whole Charist member for Nottingham.

Speaking of the 'mountain breezes' familiar to all who are acquainted with the hills of his romantic neighbourhood, Mr H. says:—'I think the hidden virtues, O'Connor, or wind-blonde, belong to the late National Convention—thy blast; but tastes differ.'

The 'Moral Remains of the Bible,' and 'Rudiments of Rhetoric,' by the editor, and the accounts of the 'Rising and Progress of the Republic,' by the editor, will repay attentive perusal.

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Facts and Fancies.

HOW THE MOBBY GOES. We are paying thousands a year to the descendants of the demigods and Moll Fiesons...

THE LIBERTY OF THE SUBJECT INVADED. My lords, not only in our distant provinces, but at home, the people are loud in their complaints...

JOHN LITTLEJOHN. John Littlejohn was staunch and strong, Upright and downright, scarning wrong...

THE EDITORS OF THIS PUBLICATION seem determined to prove themselves 'bold enough to be honest and as bold as the truth.'

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THE BATTLE OF BONNER'S FIELDS.

THE CHARTER AND NO SEPARATION. THE CHARTER, BY AN INVARIABLE PERFORMER. First Edition. London: J. Leach, 73, Roebuck-street.

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A GOOD FIT WARRANTED at the Great Western Emporium, 1 and 2, Oxford-street, London.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT, LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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Charities: The objects of this Society are to grant Assurances upon lives, with or without participation, for all immediate and deferred annuities and endowments.

Migration Considered: with special reference to the Colonies of South Australia and New Zealand.

The Appearance of this Journal is unavoidably postponed for the present, on account of the illness of the Editor.

Do You Suffer From Tooth Ache?—If so, use Dr. Ross's Toothache Remedy.

Caution: Mr. Trego, of 5, Coleman-street, London, having refused to allow his name to be used in connection with the sale of a certain medicine.

To Be Sold, Five Paid-up Four-acre Shares, eligible for the Ballot.

No More Pills For Indigestion: Constipation, Torpidity of the Liver, and the Abdominal Viscera.

Popular Treatise on Indigestion and Constipation: the main causes of Nervousness, Biliousness, Scour, Liver, and Bowel Complaints.

To Tailors: By approbation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and H. R. H. Prince Albert.

The London and Paris Fashioning and Summer Fashions for 1845, by Messrs. Benjamin Read and Co.

Read and Co's new scientific system of Cutting for 1845 is ready, and will supersede everything of the kind heretofore used.

National Land Company: Nottingham.—At a meeting of the Land members, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

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THE RIGHT OF PUBLIC MEETING A LETTER Addressed (before Sir Thomas Wilde, to Lord Chief Justice Sir Thomas Wilde, by Ernest Jones.

Also, price Three-pence, A VERDICT REPORT OF THE TRIALS OF ERNEST JONES AND THE OTHER CHARTIST LEADERS.

MR. O'CONNOR'S WORK ON SMALL FARMS. THE CHEAPEST EDITION EVER PUBLISHED. Price 1s. 6d.

PAINE'S POLITICAL WORKS. NO. XIX. OF "THE LABOURER," FOR AUGUST. Containing an Analysis of the Evidence given before the Committee appointed by the House of Commons to report on the National Land Company.

THE NORTHERN STAR, SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1845.

THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY. It is this week our pride to call the attention of the working classes to the result of the inquiry into the affairs of the National Land Company.

Perhaps there is not upon record a parallel for the abuse that has been heaped upon Mr. O'Connor, from his entrance into public life down to the recent investigation.

Let us now submit a list of witnesses, called by the Chairman of the Land Committee for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability or impracticability of the Land Plan.

Mr. Whitmarsh, Registrar; No. 2, Mr. Chinnery, Solicitor; No. 3, Mr. Lawes, Barrister, who had drawn up the Hereditary Tax Bill for the Government.

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any, as that was a vast, he said. The stock he has now less, three cows, one bull, two yearlings, and one hog bull, one heifer calf, and one bull calf.

He has forty seven sheep, and seventeen lambs; the lambs he kept still by giving them a feed on hay, which is all bought for them, as there is nothing growing on the estate.

Now, that does the reader think of the sentimentality and morality of a Poor-law commissioner, who could not let his bull out to improve the breed of cattle, because he had to go to court?

REBELLION AND PERSECUTION. We congratulate our readers—the British empire is safe! List! oh, list! to the Liverpool Times.

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less measure might have done, that the scheme is a total failure. Any mercantile company would undoubtedly so accommodate Mr. O'Connor as a debtor.

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rough, and not on account of their intrinsic importance. Among the measures proposed, and withdrawn on account of the opposition offered, have been Mr. Buller's batch of Poor Law Bills, the contents of which were merely re-echoing the provisions of Mr. Bokin's Act, respecting the removal of the poor, which expires in October, and a change in the management of vagrants. Broader and more comprehensive legislation is reserved for "next Session"—that legislative "to-morrow" which so seldom makes its appearance.

A debate on the State of Ireland, on a motion of Mr. Sharman Crawford, pledging the House to remedial measures, elicited from the Premier a long exposition of his Irish policy—a smart, effective, and damaging speech to the Ministry from Mr. B. Osborne, and caused a day's sitting on Saturday to dispose of the adjourned debate. The House sat from twelve to seven o'clock on that day. The usual topics were served up. Sir G. Grey and Sir W. Somerville—as usual with Whig officials—eat their own words, and turned their backs upon themselves, and, ultimately, a division took place, in which Ireland, of course, was left in a woful minority.

The everlasting Sugar Duties formed the staple of the business on Monday night, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in order to get rid of the difficulty in which he was placed by the "twenty-three errors" pointed out by Lord G. Beatinck, proposed a new scale altogether, the result of which, it was stated by the advocates of the West Indian interest, will be to violate all the premises of relief held out by the Government to that interest. Lord George ironically congratulated the Minister of Finance on "the debonaire air with which he came down to that House and announced that he was about to disappoint the expectations of the West Indies, the Mauritius, and the East India Indies, which he promised them no longer ago than Monday last"—and, above all, "it was edifying to observe the light and trivial way in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whilst affecting to speak of what he called an inaccuracy, had, in fact, made an admission of guilt" to all the twenty-three counts of the indictment of error, preferred by Lord George. We do not wonder at the quasi leader of the Protectionists expressing his wonder at the nonchalance of Sir C. Wood on the matter, as he experienced as he is in "the way of the world." It must even, in his eyes, "beat Bannagher." Sir Charles is not only unabashed by these damaging exposures, but seems to think the whole thing—if not an excellent joke—at least as most creditable to his financial genius! What a blessed thing it is to be brother-in-law to a powerful Whig Earl! As to those who suffer from his incapacity, his ignorance, and his temerity—why their ruin, or the paralysis of a large and important commercial market, is a mere bagatelle compared with the national calamity of possessing such an incomparable financial chief.

An attempt was made by Lord Stanley, Lord Ellenborough, Lord Glengall, and a few sympathising peers, to delay the passing of the emaciated Irish Encumbered Estates Bill, on the ground that they had not time enough to consider the amendments made by the Commons. Delay was, in fact, defeat, and for once Lord Lansdowne plucked up spirit enough to resist a landlord opposition, and refused to give way, notwithstanding Lord Glengall threatened him if the Bill passed, the landlords would all become repeaters. The loyalty of the landed interest is certainly of a very selfish and calculating character. We fear that if they were subject to one-hundredth part of the pressure which other men endure patiently, "rebellious routs and riots" would be much more plentiful than they are now.

A Bill with a useful object in view is passing through the House under the name of "Farmers' Estates Bill." In its main object it somewhat resembles the National Land Company, with this difference, that it does not aim at embracing so large a class of persons, and that the Company whose operations it will legalize, have a prudent eye to profit in their proposals to benefit their fellow men. Perhaps this latter part of the scheme may be one main reason why its other objects may be tolerated. The object of the promoters is to enable them, as a Land Company, to purchase freehold properties in Ireland, in order to sell them again in fee-farms of not less than thirty acres each, to small agricultural capitalists. It is calculated that the difference in price by buying Estates in the wholesale market, and selling them in the retail market, will yield sufficient profit on the capital embarked in the undertaking; thus substantially taking up the position so frequently maintained by Mr. O'Connor at that point. The measure will, undoubtedly, offer considerable facilities for the creation of a small yeoman class; but we see no reason whatever for the Legislature to fix the minimum size of the farms at thirty acres. It is trying up posterity to our comparatively crude notions on agriculture, and, unless carefully guarded against, may lead to wholesale evictions of the present occupants of the Estates purchased by the Company. If this be not prevented, the Bill, so far from improving the condition may seriously aggravate the evils of Ireland, and deprive thousands of tenants of homes, for the gain of a speculative company of profit-mongers.

Ed Readers & Correspondents. NOTICE.—All notices for the notice of Dr. Donald, under Lane; and no notice for other purposes, must be sent to Mr. Donald, at the office of the DEBEEZEE PRESS, must be sent to the DEBEEZEE PRESS.

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DEFENCE FUND.

Table with columns: Received by Wm. RIDER, £ s. d. Includes names like Blackburn, J. Lewis, Launty Verder, etc.

RECEIPTS OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1848.

Table with columns: PER MR O'CONNOR, £ s. d. Includes names like Dawley Green, Newfield, Cleator, etc.

EXPENSE FUND.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes names like Dawley Green, Westminster, Bermondsey, etc.

RECEIVED AT BANK.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes names like Kircaldy Assistant Bank, Worcester, per James Apps, etc.

RECEIPTS OF LIBERTY FUND.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes names like Kendal Town Branch, Francis Fisher, South London, etc.

FOR MRS MITCHEL.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes names like Hull, per G. Barnett, Mrs Dobson, etc.

FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE TOWNSHIP PRISONERS.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes names like Escarp, Holywell, etc.

FOR AGED VETERAN FUND.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Includes name like Brighton, per William Flower, etc.

THE VICTIMS.

I have received from the West End boot and shoe makers...

THE IRISH LEAGUE.

The greatest anxiety prevails among the Leaguers in this metropolis...

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

ELLOW COUNTRYMEN.—The reign of terror progresses, and grows searching and dreadful. Justice that hallowed word...

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

uninformed number of the electors and non-electors of the empire. The importance of the agricultural population to a really national movement cannot be over rated.

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

calling themselves Whig, Tory, or Radical, with the Times, Herald and Commercial, in their abuse and misrepresentation of the Irish people.

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

It is with no matter for regret, that all the newspapers published in England, this journal is, as usual, under all circumstances, in the hands of the rights of the Irish people.

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EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

I hope my friends will remit all monies for the Directors and for the Executive to the proper places. Mr Kydd and I have much trouble...

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

Men of active intelligence and noble enthusiasm spend their sleepless nights and melancholy days within the walls of prisons...

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Table with columns: RECEIVED BY W. RIDER, £ s. d. Includes names like Mrs Sides's book, Received from Hertford, etc.

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

Do you answer—we have no power over the House of Commons, it sits in London, whilst we reside in Manchester or Yorkshire...

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

Do I overrate English injustice? Look around! Behold among all classes and parts, with one eye, the most damning evidence...

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS.

It is enough to say that the Daily News, Globe, Advertiser, and Sun, fulminate against the Irish in the spirit of the Times...

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Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, possibly a page number or date.

