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"United you stand,
Divided you fall."

The Northern Star,
AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

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TO THE SLAVES OF ENGLAND.

My Friends,

In little more than a month after you have read this letter Parliament will meet, and I see no possible means of enforcing your rights from that Parliament, except by UNION; and I do hope and trust that, however some of your professing leaders may squabble, wrangle, and fight, that you will look not to their sordid interest, but to the means of elevating your own order.

I attended a meeting, a very large meeting, on Sunday night, at Manchester, and however some people may wish to impress you with the idea that the men of Manchester are either disunited, and a mere nullity, let me assure you that the men of Manchester were never more united and energetic than they are at present. Mr. Sutton, one of your old and staunch friends, was in the chair. Daniel Donovan, James Leach, Mr. Roberts, Solicitor, and the celebrated Manchester Packer, (Dickenson) and your humble servant, addressed the meeting, and it is my pride and pleasure to tell you that I never heard more sensible speeches, or saw a more united meeting. The speech of the Manchester Packer was one of the most powerful, eloquent, enthusiastic speeches I ever heard in my life. That meeting decided, almost unanimously, to hold a Conference in Manchester on the 27th of January. Mr. Mantle again proposed an amendment, to hold it in London, and was very unfavourably received, and very roughly handled. I was to have attended a meeting at Leeds, on Tuesday, but my friends who invited me, having found it impossible to procure a place of meeting, they were obliged to put it off to the end of this month.

I attended a meeting at Bradford on Monday night; it was a bumper, although it was not known till Saturday that I would be there. It was one of the most harmonious meetings I ever attended. Every man was allowed to express his own sentiments and opinions without the slightest interruption. I was received with the same enthusiasm and kindness that I have ever met with from the men of Bradford. They proposed a resolution that a Conference should be held in Manchester on the 27th of January, and one in London in June. However, as the Executive had decided upon holding the Conference in London in March, I requested, in order to harmonise all parties, that the Conference should be held in Manchester on the 27th of January, and in London in March. It was adopted, and the following resolution was nearly unanimously carried:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, there ought to be a Conference in Manchester in January, and one in London during the month of March."—Edward Smith, Thomas Wilcock, Joseph Alderson.

After the meeting broke up, sixteen or seventeen members were enrolled, and many working men in the body of the hall made most able and eloquent speeches, showing the necessity of creating union amongst their order.

My friends, I assure you that I was never more delighted than I was by the feeling and the union which I saw manifested in Manchester and Bradford; and I cannot tell you the amount of pleasure it would give me if all other towns were as well united.

The members of the Land Company presented me with the following address; and, at the close of the meeting, the Chairman (Mr. Brown), who was a candidate—a Chartist candidate—for the Town Council, who performed his duty most ably, proposed that a subscription should be made to defray Bradshaw's costs. This, however, I objected to, as it was not my wish to appear on the platform as a beggarman. This is the address from the Land Company:—

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

Sir,—We, the members of the Land Company of Bradford, held a meeting on Sunday, the 29th day of December, 1850, and it was resolved—"That we should return you thanks for the philanthropic spirit which you have displayed towards us in striving to get us on the land, which is our birth right." Sir, we, seeing that the plan has failed—not through you, sir, but through the government, its agents, and the unprincipled men that were located upon the land. Now, sir, we hope that when you get this affair settled that you will be spared a little longer to come out and show the government, its agents, Roebuck, Bradshaw, and the world, that you will leave it better than when you found it; and that when the time will come when nature fails, that you will be able for to lie down upon your couch, and that you can say that you have fulfilled the will of him whom you are now about to appear before. Sir, and this is our prayer, and wish that the Supreme Power will re-pay you for the labour which you have had whilst travelling through this wilderness of trouble.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,
James Connell, Joseph Alderson, Thomas Hirst.

Now, my friends, when I attended the Chartist Executive Committee on Wednesday night last, I proposed the resolution passed by the men of Bradford, and I stated most coolly and calmly the necessity of acquiescing in that proposition, for the purpose of once more uniting your order; however, as I could not procure a seconder, my resolution fell to the ground. I suppose you are aware that no man can stand antagonism better than I can, and that no man is less inclined to create antagonism amongst your order. But, after deep and mature consideration, I now tell you that, as in 1839, 1842, and 1848, now your professing leaders are struggling for popularity and gain, while I am struggling—not as your leader, but as your friend—to unite you and weld your minds together. It disgusts me, and makes my blood run cold, when I think of some of your order placing confidence in men because they oppose men that you dislike—because they are violent, mad, and enthusiastic, while they know nothing of your principles, and care not a straw for you, but merely think of themselves.

I have frequently told you that England would witness such antagonism in the ensuing session of Parliament as never occurred before. Ireland has been stated to be England's greatest difficulty, but since the revolution of 1848, England has looked to France as its crutch; and, if you read French news, you will find that the National Assembly of France is a house divided against itself, and that the special constable President is now beginning to totter upon his crutch; and I cannot give you a better proof of the fact that he feels the crutch tottering, than the following extract from the *Morning Chronicle* of Thursday last, and that will prove to you the truth of my former predictions.

Here is the extract:—

EXPRESS FROM PARIS.

Paris, Wednesday.—Last night the official reception of the Legislative Assembly took place at the Palace of the Elysée on the occasion of the new year. M. Dupin headed the deputation, which was very numerous. The President, in his answer, made evident allusion to the bickerings between the goverenment and the Assembly. Among other things, when replying to M. Dupin, who had stated "that all the acts of the Assembly, as well as those of its bureau, were inspired by a profound attachment for the person of the President, and a warm desire to preserve a good understanding betwen the two powers of the State," the President said, "I am willing to believe it, M. le President, since you say it. You and I, each in the limits of our attributes, must endeavour to enforce respect for the laws of the country and the authority which is given to us by the constitution, without encroachment by the one power on the other. I do not insist on the prorogation of my powers, but I do insist, when I shall restore to the people the power which I have received from it, to restore it intact and respected. My conviction is, that France wishes for peace and order, and it would blame the one of the two powers which would attack the other."

Now this will give you the strongest definition of the present state of France, and the effect that it would have upon the governmental mind of England, if the English people were united, whereas it will have no effect whatever, so long as you are disunited.

You see that the Tenant League in Ireland is now creating a tremendous sensation, although, perhaps, you never hear anything about it. Sharman Crawford is one of the wealthiest landlords in Ireland, and is the best landlord in all Ireland. Thank God, he is an Irishman though an English member of Parliament, and has always seconded my motion for the Charter. His tenants adore him, his labourers and servants adore him, and all the money in the Exchequer would not extract a vote from him that was repugnant to his feelings; and although this movement of the Tenant League desires, and properly, to reduce rents, and, although, as I stated, Sharman Crawford is one of the most extensive landlords, I give you the letter of this independent representative as the strongest proof, that he feels more for the poor than for himself. Here it is, and I request of you not only to read it but to reflect upon it, and then you will come to the conclusion as to what your position would be if you were represented by such members:—

Crawfordsburn, Dec. 27.

Gentlemen,—I thank you for the honour you have done me, in inviting me to the tenant-right meeting and dinner, which are appointed to take place at Newtownards on Monday next; and I regret much, that it will not be in my power to be present with you on that occasion.

On referring to the published requisition by which your meeting is called, I find the main object specified is, "to petition Parliament for the legalisation of the rights of tenant industry." In this demand I most heartily concur with you. There may be differences of opinion with regard to the details of the measures by which this object is to be effected, but you have well expressed, in these words, the true principle on which the tenant-right of Ulster is founded; and, resting on this basis, your claim is irresistible on every ground of justice and policy. If we take a review of the three great classes into which society is divided, namely, the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial, we find that the prosperity and happiness, not only of these classes taken separately, but of the whole community, in all its relations, collectively, depend on the exercise of industry; and it is impossible that this great agent, in advancing the interests of mankind, can be brought into action unless a just proportion of the products of industry be appropriated to the producer.

It is the boasted object of British laws to secure to the industrious creators of individual and nationl wealth, the full right to make use of, and to sell, the productions of their own labour; but, whilst the rights of property have been thus secured to other interests, the land is still left under all the trammels invented to sustain the system of feudal lordship, and tenant servitude; and the tenant class, unable to obtain land otherwise, must take it under the power of extortion which that system undeservedly confers upon the owners of the soil; and it therefore follows, that if that power be not exercised injuriously to the tenant, it arises from the feeling of justice and mercy in the landlord's breast, and not from any means which the law gives to the tenant to protect himself from oppression. I wish to see this state of things altered; I wish to have your tenant-right custom defined and confirmed by legislative enactment; I desire that no man shall hold his rights as a boon from any other man, but that he shall be enabled to maintain them as a freeman, resting on the firm security of his country's laws.

The tenants of Ireland are told that they may pay high rents by *high farming*. I have no doubt that improved agriculture would give greatly increased profits; but it is impossible that improved systems can be carried into effect without a large investment of sunk capital in the improvement of the soil, and the increased number and size of agricultural offices. I would ask, then, can the tenant be expected to do this until he has legal security for the capital expended? Under existing circumstances every improvement made adds to his slavish dependence on his landlord's will and power. No man ought to place himself in this position; therefore it appears to me a vain attempt to improve the agriculture of Ireland till that be obtained which you seek for—" the legalisation of the rights of tenant industry."

I do not think it proper, at present, to enter into a consideration of the provisions by which this great object is to be effected, or into any examination of the propositions of the Irish Tenant League, which are referred to in your requisition. I do not wish, as a member of Parliament, to pledge myself to any details until I am enabled to consider them in the form of a bill, to be submitted to the Legislature. But I hope it is unnecessary for me to assure you that you may rely upon my most strenuous exertions in support of any measure which shall, in my judgement, give a just security to the tenant's interests; and I willingly join my voice with yours in the watchword with which your requisition concludes, — 'Tenant-right and public justice,'

I am, gentlemen, yours faithfully,
W. Sharman Crawford.

To the Rev. J. M'Cullough, and
Mr. John M'Kittrick, secretaries.

Now, my friends, however useless and ineffective my advice may be, I would recommend you—and most urgently—to abolish, and for ever, that antagonism and dissension which now exists amongst your order; adhere steadfastly to your principles—the principles of THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER WHOLE AND ENTIRE; and scout from your ranks any man, or any body of men, who create disunion for the mere purpose of elevating themselves, and living upon your disunion and credulity. I do hope and trust, that the working classes will not lose confidence in me, so long as I devote my property and my time, abandon friends and relatives, and defy tyranny and persecution, with a view of making your order happy, and leaving the world better than I found it.

Your Faithful and Uncompromising Advocate,
Feargus O'Connor.

THE METROPOLITAN DELEGATE COUNCIL TO THE CHARTISTS OF LONDON.

Brothers,—We are all aware that when a principle for the good of the public is set on foot it requires support; and to make that principle popular and successful it is always necessary that the supporters should be numerous, and, above all, united; thus we see the necessity of a brotherly union among the silent approvers of the principle of the People's Charter, which, would they but organise, they would soon increase, and become strong, powerful, and successful supporters of this cause. We have been organised and united, though, perhaps, to a small degree; but we are aware that persecution, inflicted by the cunning aristocratic power of the time, led the unionists to disunion and slumber, if we may so speak, and thus came the present disunited, unorganised state of the exponents of true political liberty. But, brothers, let us leave the past with the past, and step in the bright path of the future; experience it is said makes perfect, and what has been done stands as a guard for our protection, then let us try again; we can organise, we can unite, if each mind determines upon it, and acts accordingly, in a true and determined spirit, to obtain this union for the establishment of the People's Charter.

Then, brothers of London, strengthen your localities; commence your visitings from house to house; where you think of obtaining converts bring them to your halls, and from among your own bodies, in such localities wherein you may reside; select real sterling exponents of our principles as your representatives, and send them to the Metropolitan Delegate Council meeting on Sunday, 12th January, 1851, at three o'clock, at 26, Golden-lane, Barbican, and then, by the united efforts of all, we will raise the standard of the People's Charter in this great metropolis with such firmness and stability that it shall not fall till the wants of the people are achieved. Hoping those localities that have not sent delegates will do so,

I remain,
On behalf of the Delegate Council,
William Alexander Fletcher.
Little Portland-street, Regent-street,
Cavendish-square, Dec. 28th, 1850.

MR. O'CONNOR AND THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—Will you permit me to offer a few remarks to your numerous readers, in relation to Chartism, and its great advocate—and may I not add, originator—Feargus O'Connor. With respect to the principles of Chartism, like all other great principles, they met, for a considerable period, with the bitterest opposition, the most determined persecution, the vilest calumny and misrepresentation. Nearly the whole of the public press of this country is banded together to blacken its advocates, and cry down, and hunt down Chartism to the death. The "pulpit drum ecclesiastic" emitted a profound and continuous roll, a kind of devil's tattoo, under the fistic and lingual operations of the alarmed episcopacy, against the new spirit of liberty abroad; whilst government espionage, and governmental prosecution, endeavoured to crush out the germ of life from the fair body of Chartism, then infantile in appearance, and somewhat unseemly, from the foul filth with which its enemies had bespattered it, but possessing a giant-like eye, a god-like strength, a germ of truth and immortality, which neither the overflowing muddy waters of falsehood, nor the Marah-like ones of hatred could extinguish, nor the devouring fires of raging bigotry and persecution annihilate and destroy. No, gentlemen, Chartism stood the test of persecution, of malign aspersion, of foul imputation, and, like the flower exposed to an unclouded and continuous burst of sunshine, its head somewhat drooped for a time, its petals closed, but its root was unscathed; the germ of life was intact; and by the might of its inner life, its divine truth, it up-rose from its down-trodden position, and presented to the world a stem of greater strength, a flower of sublimer beauty than heretofore, gladdening the rejoicing eyes of its secret worshippers. Aye, and the foul spots that had been cast upon its pearly cups, "flew off fuligineus," and stained its enemies deeper still; snail-like they had crawled over the surface of its fair fame, and left their reptile slime behind them, but the ever flowing stream of truth swept away the pollution, or rather carried it back to the foul and unholy fountain whence it emanated, and many of the worst enemies of Chartism are become its best friends, and ablest advocates. The name of Chartist is no longer a bye-word and a scorn, and the principles of Chartism are more or less advocated by every Liberal newspaper throughout the entire kingdom. Amongst its supporters—if not in name, in reality—are to be found some of our best and greatest men within and without the Legislative arena, and the triumph of its principles over factious opposition, governmental persecution, general incredulity, and almost universal scorn, is amply demonstrative of the power of truth to uproot error, right might, good evil, God the devil, and should yet give us hope of a bright millennium in the future,—a political, moral, and social regeneration for our yet unenfranchised, and despoiled, and crushed, and down-trodden world. The history of Chartism is the history of every glorious principle which the world has witnessed, scorned, reviled, persecuted, damned, praised, raised, affirmated, and glorified. Through this circle has every great principle, every divine truth, to revolve, from which fact—based on the unswerving testimony of eventful history, till its very utterance may see a platitude—we may gather nerve to endure in our advocacy of the same, and hope of an ovation which neither men can prevent, nor the powers of evil retard. Truth must and will ultimately triumph, despite the pretended friendship of its secret foes, or the open attacks of its declared enemies. And as the principles of truth emerge from beneath the heap of rubbish with which their enemies have covered them, the advocates and supporters also share in their triumph, and have reflected on their all-worthy-heads the radiant glory of the ovation which divine ideas receive from the hands of a rejoicing world. And so is it with the great originator of Chartism.

"Feargus O'Connor—he—the great O'Connor—
Whom future ages will delight to honour.
Who gave his name, his talent, manhood's prime,
His hopes, his heart, his money, and his time,
His reputation dearer than his blood,
Who gave all these and for his country's good."

He who sowed the seeds of great principles in much tribulation—who watered them with tears of affliction and bitter misery—who toiled early and late, in season and out of season—who bore the angry "winter of discontent" and persecution, the storms of foul abuse and malignant contumely, and the summer blaze of scorching vindictiveness, legal penalty, and shameless and inhuman prosecution; yes, so it is now with him. For "in the "highest places of the synagogue"—one of the morning papers—the name of O'Connor stands out conspicuously and legibly as worthy of regard. A niche in the temple of fame has been awarded to him, though reluctantly, and his greatest enemies are now compelled to acknowledge that some "good has come out of Nazareth;" that the great and happy idea of the formation of Land Societies emanated from the fertile and clever brain of Feargus O'Connor, whilst as the advocate of the principles of the Charter, scarcely one of the papers raises its voice against him, and cries, "mew," or attempts to depreciate his great exertions in the cause of the people. It is true, a few opposition Free Trade and Land Society journalists still harp away on a string completely threadbare, and which, like unskilful instrumentalists, they only play to please themselves, extracting no music that can please anybody else, because they are jealous of his fame as the originator of the latter, and provoked at his non-advocacy of the former; but let them trump away; editors, like everybody else, must have some hobby-horse to ride; and, in the name of Heaven, as the jingle they make is more ludicrous than discordant, let them enjoy it to their heart's content. Their *argumentum ad absurdum* about O'Connor's Scheme has been repeatedly answered; and it is to be hoped that the winding-up of the latter may complete the winding-up of the awfully long yarns which, Penelope-like, they have been spinning and unspinning till their heads are like teetotums, much to the confusion and entire botheration of all common sense individuals. In conclusion, sir, I must tell you that once upon a time, believing in the "wise saws" contained in that very ponderous and revered book, yclept—*The Wisdom of our Ancestors*, I was mightily prejudiced against O'Connor and his Land Scheme, and the principles of the Charter were my utmost abhorrence. And why? Because, like many others, I was contented to pin my political faith on the sleeve of the old lady—a Tory periodical—for whom I then scribbled. I refused, like too many even now a days, to examine both sides of the question, and wrapping myself up in a mantle of darkness, conceit, and ignorance, crept into my mole-hole, and remained there, lest emerging into the blessed sunlight of truth I should be blinded by its glorious irradiations. Finally, however, an explanation of the principles of Chartism first apprised me of my stupidity, I examined and listened, and read for myself, and the result was, my donkeyfied prejudice left me, my ears grew gradually shorter, my eyes became more enlightened, and I found ultimately, that what I had regarded with horror, and scribbled against with all my might and main, was by no means the hobgobblin I had imagined, and that Mr. O'Connor himself was not in every deed the Ram Head and Bloody Bones which universal journalism had politely represented him. Well, what could I do, as an honest man, but sign my recantation to the public, and try to amend my error? My present letter is a part of the redemption price I am paying for the injury which I may have inflicted on "the Man of the People,"—the cause he so worthily advocates—and my fellow progressionists generally. Its insertion, therefore, will greatly oblige,

Yours truly,
Thomas Bardel Brindley.
Birmingham, December 30th.

Progress of the Panama Railroad.—The Panama Railroad Company are collecting materials and labourers, with a view to commence operations as soon as the dry season sets in; 400 men, exclusive of officers and engineers, have gone out from the United States, and vessels laden with timber and other materials, are leaving almost daily. No less than twenty-eight sail, comprising vessels of all classes, have left for the general depot of the company at Navy Bay; also six steam pile drivers. These have all gone out since the 1st of October; fourteen vessels were loading for this company at one time. The steamer Gorgona sailed on the 5th ult. for the same destination. She is designed to run on the Chagres river, for the delivery and transportation of materials at various points on the line of the road, as they may be needed.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

Black Doll at Old Store Shops.—Is it not probable that the black doll was an image of the Virgin sold at the Reformation with a lot of church vestments, and other "rags of Popery," as the Puritans called the surplus, and first hung up by some Puritan or Hebrew dealer.—*Notes and Queries.*

MR. OCONNOR AT MANCHESTER.

A meeting, announcing by placard that the unflinching advocate of the people's rights, Feargus O'Connor, Esq., would deliver an address in the People's Institute, Heywood-street, Ancoats, was held on Sunday, December 29th, 1850.

On the platform we noticed Feargus O'Connor, W. P. Roberts, and T. Roberts, Esqs.; also Messrs. Leach, Donovan, Sutton, Clarke, Nuttall and Dickenson; on the side of the platform we also noticed G. Mantle.

The chair was occupied by that sterling democrat John Sutton, who opened the meeting in his usual good, tempered and sensible style; after which Messrs. Leach and Donovan made splendid speeches.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. O'Connor, who was received with tremendous applause. When the cheering had subsided, Mr. O'Connor made the following remarks:—My friends, I hope and trust that those dissensions which have been lately created in your ranks, will be done away with. (Cheers.) I am here for that purpose, and also to prepare your minds for the coming struggle. Nothing gives me greater pain than to see antagonism in your order—it makes my blood run cold when I reflect upon it. It is upon that antagonism the government base their strength; only think that no more 1,800 persons in all England thought it worth their while to take part in the election of an executive—about one-twentieth of the electors of the West Riding of Yorkshire. Government will take advantage of our disunion, and will consider they are perfectly justified in refusing our demands; therefore, I am here amongst you, requesting you to persevere in holding a Conference in Manchester; and, if elected as a delegate, I will cheerfully sit in that Conference and abide by its decisions, and will visit every large town promulgating those views. I attended last Thursday, evening the executive meeting; and there Ernest Jones* moved:—"That a Conference be held in Manchester," which I seconded, but it was lost by a majority of five—two voted for it, and seven against it. I never give a single vote, either in the House of Commons or out of it, against my conscience: I would rather beg my bread than give up my principles. My uncle is now in the fifty-second year of his banishment, and he refused wealth and titles rather than abandon his principles. If I had offered me a million a year and all the titles you could heap upon me, I would refuse them, rather than abandon my principles. (Great cheering.) I know the men of Manchester have respect for me. (Cheers.) I am going to Bradford to-morrow evening, and there I will tell the men of Yorkshire that the men of Manchester are resolvedto hold a Conference in Manchester, on the 27th of January next. (Cheers.) The men of London are not as united as the men of Manchester. The latter are closely connected with, and understand one another. In the opening of Parliament such antagonism will be witnessed as was rarely ever seen. Ministers always looked to the Irish members for support. John O'Connell had proposed to hold a Conference in Dublin, before the opening of Parliament. Now Sir Robert Peel is dead, greater contention in parties will be created. If the lickspittles looking for power were Whigs for £5,000 per annum, they would become Tories for £5,100 per annum. I have advocated your cause upwards of thirty years, and I have often told you, that the press of England is your greatest enemy. If this splendid meeting had been called by the Financial Reformers, a host of reporters would have been present, but not a single reporter is here, and you will never hear it beyond your own ears, except in the *Northern Star.* (Cheers.) In conclusion, let me again implore of you to persevere in holding your Conference in Manchester.

W. P. Roberts, Esq., the People's Attorney-General, made a neat speech, replete in sound reasoning and good sense, and was loudly applauded. After which

Mr. G. Mantle requested to offer a few observations on what had been said that evening. Mr. Mantle protested against the Manchester Council calling a Conference; he denied their right to do so. (Confusion in the meeting.) He (Mr. Mantle) had several reasons for so doing. The first was, that an Executive had been elected by universal suffrage; and secondly, that if a Conference was requisite, London was the place for holding such Conference, as London was the seat of government, and as the Conference was supposed to counteract the doings of Parliament, which could not be done elsewhere. Allusions had been made to the small number that had voted for an Executive. If the numbers were small, it was five times as many as voted for the Executive in 1847. He (Mr. Mantle) was one of those who formerly would have turned out with his pike or gun, but would not do so now. He thought the persons who went about lecturing and agitating were not the wisest of men, but those who staid at home with their wives and families; and the man who endangered his situation and family comforts, was a fool for so doing. Here Mr. Mantle diverged from the question, and endeavoured to introduce some of the London men's names, but the meeting reminded him of the question. Another scene of confusion arose, the chairman using great exertions on behalf of Mr. Mantle, who proposed a resolution to the following effect:—"That it was not expedient that a Conference should be held in Manchester."

Mr. Edward Houson seconded the proposition.

Mr. James Leach rose to reply amidst loud applause. He was sorry to say that Mr. Mantle and Mr. Houson had misrepresented the Manchester Council. They were well aware the Manchester Council had higher views than quarreling about electing an Executive, or holding a Conference—they cared not where a Conference was held, so that it was not held in London. It was the aim of the Manchester Council to place the Chartist agitation in a more healthy position, and they were determined to do so as far as their own locality was concerned. Were they not frequently asked what proof they had that their present system of agitation would ever accomplish the enactment of the People's Charter? Was it not a lamentable fact, that the present system of agitation was ridiculed and scoffed at in nearly every workshop? It is also evident, from what has lately transpired, that the last ten years of folly, with all its platform braggadocio, and its private cowardice, was to be re-enacted. He could, if he thought fit, lift the curtain, and give them a peep behind the scene, but he would not. Mr. Mantle talked about majorities and minorities of the people; it was all moonshine. He also talked about being in prison. He (Mr. Leach) had been in prison, but who could say that he ever was sent there on his own account—(cheers)—but through the mad folly of others. (Cheers.) He was determined, as one of the Council, not to allow such conduct for the future, and would propose an amendment—"That this meeting negative Mr. Mantle's motion."

Mr. Donovan seconded the amendment, and in support of it he would just observe, that Mr. Mantle had said that the Executive was elected by eighteen hundred persons; whereas, the last time Mr. O'Connor was in this hall, a public meeting of nearly three thousand persons had voted for holding a Conference in Manchester, and pledged themselves to support the same. (Cheers.) The Chairman was going to put the motion to the meeting, when he was interrupted by Mr. Mantle, who was determined to reply, which caused another uproar; a stout man on the platform caught hold of Mr. Mantle, and was about taking him from the platform, when Mr. O'Connor manfully rescued Mr. Mantle, and kept him covered with his body from the attacks of others, while Mr. Roberts was engaged in keeping off others. We noticed one man in particular, who leaped out of the body of the hall on to the platform, and who Mr. O'Connor kept at bay, still holding Mr. Mantle by his side.

Silence being restored, the Chairman put Mr. Leach's amendment, which was carried by a forest of hands and acclamation. The Chairman then put Mr. Mantle's resolution, when six hands were held up for it.

Mr. Leach then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. O'Connor for his presence, which was seconded by Mr. Dickenson, who said, if ever a man deserved the gratitude of the working classes of England Mr. O'Connor was the man. He (Mr. O'Connor) had sacrificed family connexion, wealth, and profession, to promote the interest of the working classes—he had made sacrifices which no man ever made before; and he asked would the working classes see their best friend sacrificed—would they allow him to do a nation's work, and pay its expenses? Mr. O'Connor was only one man, they were many, and by a little exertion on their part they would rescue him from the sharks of the law. He (Mr. Dickenson) knew little of the dispute about the Conference, but what he had heard that night he most cordially approved of; he had long seen the necessity of a renewed system of agitation. When Mr. O'Connor first came amongst them how did he find them? He had to meet about a dozen persons in a cockloft—how different now. If he had staid at home they would not have had such a large assembly of persons here to-day. If he had not started the *Northern Star*—(cheers)—the people of Yorkshire and Lancashire would have been ignorant of each others proceedings, and would not have had the star light to guide them in the political wilderness. (Great cheering.) Mr. Dickenson concluded by seconding the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. O'Connor having replied, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, not only for his impartial conduct that evening, but for his general good conduct in the agitation of Chartism. He (Mr. O'Connor) had known him many years ago, and had always found him consistent, and at his post.

Mr. Henry Nuttall seconded the vote, which was carried unanimously.

* We think this must be an error of the reporter, but we are not in possession of the information requisite for an authorative correction.—Ed. *N.S.*

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

On Monday evening the weekly meeting of the council took place in the large ante-room of the People's Institute. After transacting local business the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—"That the election of delegates to the Manchester Conference commence on Monday, January 6th, 1851, and remain open till the day of its meeting, to suit the convenience of the district." "That all towns in Great Britain, with a population of one hundred thousand persons, be requested to send two delegates, if not more, in the same proportion, and those of less to send one." "That all co-operative societies, numbering one hundred persons, be requested to send one; and that all political bodies, having for their object the regeneration of the masses of society, be specially invited to send their representatives, to agree to a general organisation of the democratic body throughout the empire." "That each delegate be requested to bring with him five shillings, as a guarantee for the expenses of the Conference; the sum that each shall pay to be regulated according to the number of constituents each delegate represents."

(Signed by the Manchester Council,)
James Leach, Daniel Donovan, Henry Nuttall, William Foster, James Wainwright, Joseph Entwistle, James Moody, Samuel Jones; John Sutton, Chairman; Joshua Gutteridge, Financial Secretary; James Alcock, Corresponding Secretary, 12, Byrom-street, Upper Duke-street, Hulme, Manchester.

FESTIVAL OF THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS.

The annual festival was held on Tuesday evening, December 30th, at the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square. About seven o'clock a very respectable party sat down to an excellent tea. After the repast was concluded G. J. Harney was called to the chair, and commenced the proceedings by giving a *resumè* of the business and leading events connected with the Society during the twelve months which had elapsed since their last festival. In European politics they had but little cause for encouragement—nowhere had the people become possessed of those institutions which could alone ensure them prosperity in return for their toil. In England the chief incidents in connexion with their society were the four days' debate, in the House of Commons, on Lord Palmerston's Foreign Policy; the chastisement of Haynau by Barclay's draymen, and the liberation of their lately imprisoned brother, Ernest Jones. In reference to the policy of Lord Palmerston, the speaker showed the fallacy of his boast, that the rights and liberties of Englishmen had been duly protected abroad, and instanced the case of Mr. Baker, who had edited a publication called the *Radical*, in Vienna, during the year 1848, and who had been put to death within twenty-four hours after the heroic Blum, and for whose murder Lord Palmerston had never demanded satisfaction of the cowardly, butchering, Austrian government. Notwithstanding his professed liberality, Lord Palmerston was as great an enemy to true democracy as was the Tory Aberdeen. The lynch-law, applied to Haynau by Barclay's draymen, and the meetings called by their society to defend the conduct of those men, had drawn down upon them the condemnation of a portion of the press; but it had attracted public attention to them, and extended their sphere of operations. A correspondence had lately taken place between the Austrian and English governments relative to the treatment of Haynau, in which the latter denounced the conduct of his castigators; but this would weigh but little compared with the approval stamped upon it by the British public. Mr. Harney then dwelt upon the services of Ernest Jones; apologised for his absence on the ground of the illness of his wife; and denounced the conduct of those who were endeavouring to injure him in the public estimation. He then reviewed the progress of events in Schleswig-Holstein, Hesse Cassel, and the larger Germanic States, and denounced, in eloquent terms, the slavish doctrine of non-intervention, which was only adhered to when the people's liberties were endangered, and ever broken when monarchy was threatened. The policy of the Fraternal Democrats was war to all tyrants. The same feeling which actuated an individual to assist his fellow-man when menaced with destruction, should actuate a nation to support another nation menaced with political death. He then called upon their continental brethren present to unite with each other, if no question of principle hindered, and show one undivided and gallant front to the unholy alliance of their monarchical and aristocratic opponents, until all Europe resounded with the cry of "the Republic, Democratic and Social. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. J. Holyoake responded to the first sentiment—"The Sovereignty of the People, the Fraternity of Nations, and prosperity to the Society of Fraternal Democrats." The sentiment of fraternity was a new and hopeful cry amid the language of nations, and promised to be productive of much good; it was a sign of progress. Mankind had been enemies because they had been taught to consider each other as such. If this doctrine had been carried out, our foreign policy would not have been open to the just animadversion of the last speaker, but would have been founded on the just instincts of a generous people. The agitation for the Charter was meant to include in its operation, when accomplished, the majority of the male population of the United Kingdom. When the principle of fraternity became more familiar to their minds, they would include in their demands the people of the colonies, and would thereby gain an accession of power and sympathy. The colonies, by a few well managed displays of their power, had frightened the government into concessions, and set the people of this country an example they ought not to be slow to follow. Mr. Holyoake then alluded to the dissensions in the Chartist ranks, which he attributed to a want of a thorough understanding of the principle of Democracy, which caused them to look to men instead of principles for their guidance. The materials for the attainment of liberty were abundant, but they needed to learn the art of unity, and to have a thorough knowledge of the principles of democracy.

D. W. Ruffy responded to the following:—"Our Democratic brethren of all countries, and the speedy establishment of the *Republique Democratique et Sociale.*" Many of their brethren had sealed their fidelity to the cause of democracy by their death in its defence; others were lingering in dungeons; and some few were present in that room exiles from the land they would have died to benefit, probably leaving their families destitute of those necessaries which nature so bountifully supplied, but which tyrants fattened on, whilst they pined for want. How long was such a deplorable state of things to exist? How long was the tyrant's crown to be gemmed with the tears of a nation, and set with the heart's blood of the people? He trusted the day would soon come when the spirit of fraternity would be widely diffused, and tyranny and oppression for ever cease. The Fraternal Democrats were the pioneers in the grand march of social progression in this country; their object was to show that the interest of the whole people of the earth was one and undivided; and he hoped to see the day when the blood shed in defence of that great principle would be so avenged as to give peace to the *manes* of those who had died for the world's good. (Loud cheers.)

M. Engles, (who, with Carl Shapper, attended as a deputation from the German Society,) also responded to this sentiment, thanked them in the name of his brethren for their sympathy, and expressed his best wishes for the prosperity of the English people. He then entered into a long and elaborate statement of the causes of the failures abroad, and the consequent reaction, showing that it equally arose from the ignorance of the people and the treachery of their leaders.

Mr. Pettie responded to the next sentiment,—"The Martyrs of Democracy." It was common to reckon as martyrs only those whose hearts were cold in death—those who had fallen by the tyrant's sword, or the headsman's axe: but they had martyrs even more to be pitied than those whose sufferings and whose breath ceased together—they had martyrs among them who died each day a death of agony, in knowing that their efforts to benefit their country had ended only in failure, and in increased oppression, which reaction ever produced. They had martyrs bleeding in exile, whose sufferings were far greater than those whose death they deplored. They had nations that were martyrs as well as individuals; foremost among whom was, heroic Poland, whose gallant sons, even in exile, were to be found fighting in liberty's ranks. Neither must they forget the glorious people of France; though pointed at as the centre of reaction, they were not to be blamed for the acts of their legislators. The odium cast upon them for overthrowing the liberty of Rome was a greater martyrdom to all true and noble hearted Frenchmen than death or imprisonment; and when the cry of free Italy was again raised, the hands of Frenchmen would be the first to raise the glorious banner, and relieve themselves from the stigma their tyrants had cast upon them. It was their duty to cheer the martyrs in their exile, and pour the oil of consolation upon their galling wounds. They had struggled, not for the freedom of one nation alone, but for the emancipation of their common humanity.

Mr. Collet responded to the sentiment of "The Democratic Journals of Europe and America, may Tyranny be overthrown by the Press, which it seeks to enslave."

Mr. D. W. Ruffy gave the toast of "The Ladies," and a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, who duly acknowledged the same.

Dancing and singing then commenced, which was kept up to an early hour, and all seemed to enjoy the festive scene.

Deputations from the German, Hungarian, Polish, and other Societies, were in attendance, and the Apollonic Society, connected with the Institution, sang many spirited choruses between the various sentiments.

THE O'CONNOR DEFENCE FUND.

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

Honoured and Respected Sir,—We, the members of the Norwich Charter Association, feel grieved to see the position you are placed in through advocating the political and social rights of the people. We also deplore, in common with you and every well wisher of his country, the political prostration of the great mass of the people, but, at the same time, we are sick of the folly, antagonism, and bickerings which are taking place in our own order. It appears to us to be done for the purpose of carrying on an endless agitation; but we think it would be more just and honourable to unite and assist in paying the debt due to you, than to be cavilling as to who should have the power of calling a Conference, or anything else. Sir, while such folly is persevered in, we trust that you will consult your own interest, and have nothing to do with it, for such conduct always ends in persecution and confusion; and in that case you would be the victim. Dear sir, enclosed is a Post Office Order for £2, made payable to you—£1 2s. 9d. for the winding-up the Land Company, and 17s. 3d. to assist you in paying the law expenses. We trust you will not again enter into any of the English Law Courts, as you will never get justice done. Let the Press, and your, and our enemies, say what they please, our confidence in you remains the same, and we recognise no other leader. Trusting that you will yet triumph over all your enemies, and live to see your principles carried out, We remain,

(Signed on behalf of the members,)
Conrad Springall.
St. Martins-at-Oak, Norwich.

P.S.—I am instructed by the subscribers of the above sum to say that they will do all they can to assist you in paying the debt which you have subjected yourself to; but should anything else occur through the folly of any individual, they hope you will have nothing to do with it (at least not till you are paid), for it is only a few that will pay for anything, and they say it is a tax upon those who do pay. C. S.

TO THE MEN OF MANCHESTER AND THE MANCHESTER COUNCIL.

I beg most respectfully to acquaint the men of Manchester, and I hereby inform the Manchester Council, that in reply to the personal attack of the latter body, as contained in the *Star* of Saturday last, I shall attend at the People's Institute, Heyrod-street, Manchester, on Sunday evening next, at nine o'clock; that being the earliest train (after noon) by which I can reach Manchester from Yorkshire. I therefore request those who have assailed me to make the necessary arrangements, and challenge every one to step forward, who has any thing toadvance against me.

Ernest Jones.
Hardwick Lodge, 2nd Jan., 1851.

CHRISTMAS AT O'CONNORVILLE.

On Thursday, December 26th, the whole of the allottees, with their wives and families, met together at the School-room, and partook of tea and other refreshments. After the repast Mr. H. Ratcliffe was called to the chair, and the following sentiments were spoken to by Messrs. T. M. Wheeler, G. Wheeler, Griffith, Sturgeon, and Paris:—"The People's Charter;" "F. O'Connor, Esq., the People's Champion;" "Kossuth, Mazzini, and the Democrats of all nations;" "the *Northern Star* and the Democratic Press generally;" "the Land Plan" and "the Ladies." The following address was then moved by Mr. Sturgeon, seconded by T. M. Wheeler, and unanimously adopted by the meeting, who, in proof of their earnestness, entered into a subscription, which realised the sum of £1 1s. 8d, this being the second time they have liberally subscribed for this object.

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

"Respected Sir,—We, the allottees of O'Connorville, in public meeting assembled, hereby express our indignation at the unjust decision given against you, in the case of Bradshaw, of Nottingham, and assure you, that however you may be abandoned by those whose duty and interest it is to render you support and encouragement to bear up under this system of unjust persecution, that we, who are in a more special manner interested in this great undertaking, will never follow their example, but will endeavour, by precept and practice, to assist our true-hearted brethren in their endeavours to remedy, by national support, that injustice which the ruling powers have been long endeavouring to inflict upon you. Through a long life it has been your constant endeavour to improve the condition of the labouring people of this empire, and though every obstacle has been thrown in the way, yet enough has been done to prove that if you had been properly assisted, the people of this country would have been placed in a far higher position than that which they now occupy, and honour, as well as justice, demands that such a man should not be allowed to fall beneath the tyranny of a vindictive government, aided and assisted by an ungrateful people. That such may not be the result is the earnest wish of your fellow-labourers in the cause of human emancipation.

"Henry Ratcliffe, Chairman."
"December 26th, 1850."

At the conclusion of the meeting a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and a round of cheers for Mr. O'Connor. Dancing, singing, and other Christmas amusements were then heartily indulged in until an early hour of the morning, when all retired to their homes, conscious of having performed a pleasing duty.

NATIONAL REFORM LEAGUE.

At a Council meeting of this body on Monday evening last, some gratifying proofs of the spread of Social Reform principles were brought to its notice. A forthcoming monthly periodical, *The English Republic*, edited by Mr. W. J. Linton, would embrace, it was stated, most of the views of the League, and a vote of support was therefore passed in its favour. The address of the new Executive Committee of the National Charter Association was discussed; and much satisfaction was expressed at that portion of it which emphatically urged the necessity of the people being instructed in their social rights, in order to ensure their taking permanent interest in any political agitation for the Charter: a resolution was unanimously agreed to, recommending the members of the League to co-operate with the Executive Committee, and with all other bodies advocating similar views, in any practical measures that may be adopted for propagating such information among the people.

The British Mediterranean Fleet.—We have intelligence from Malta by the French mail to the 22nd of December, which brings accounts that the fleet under Sir William Parker sailed from Port Mahon on the 2nd, and anchored on the 5th at Barcelona, whence, however, they were compelled by a gale of wind to take a sudden departure on the 11th, leaving the Scourge to pick up some thirty officers from the different ships who happened to be on shore, and were unable to get on board. The Scourge conveyed them all to Malta, where she arrived on the 14th December, in company with the Terrible; and the rest of the fleet was looked for daily, though it is possible that Sir William Parker, to avoid the hubbub of a Christmas-day in port, will manage to keep out until the 26th. The Dragon will repair to Naples to relieve the Spiteful.

Cotton Seed.—Several recent small arrivals of the cotton seed from the East Indies [illegible] followed by an importation to a much [illegible] from the United States of America. A vessel [illegible] has arrived from New Orleans, has brought 122 packages of this seed, as a portion of her cargo, consigned to order, and the importation, on account of its greatly increased extent, and the nature of the acticle, is of considerable interest.

NEWSPAPER

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

In France the principal object exciting attention is the position of hostility assumed by the Assembly towards the Ministry and the President, as is indicated by the Assembly refusing to dismiss M. Yon, in compliance with the request of the Minister of the Interior—the liberation of M. Manguin by its order, and the affair of the Lungots d'or. This affair of the Lungots d'or was again the subject of a very animated scene in the Assembly, arising out of the last debate. M. Duprat, on that occasion, said, in the most positive manner, that M. Baroche had received a report, pointing out the illegality of the lottery. M. Baroche denied this in the 'Moniteur' on the following morning, and M. Duprat repeated his statement in the opposition papers. M. Baroche then called the attention of the Assembly to the matter, and made a very lame defence. Duprat still repeated his statement, and at last it was said, that there was no 'report' but only a 'letter' in the *bureau* of the Minister, answering to the description of M. Duprat. The Assembly showed its appreciation of this Jesuitical quibbling by passing to the order of the day by a large majority. These squabbles are very unfavourable to the passing of the new dotation, which Louis Napoleon will shortly be compelled to apply for.

PRUSSIA.

The Dresden Conference is the all-absorbing topic in Germany. As yet, however, no result has been come to up to the present time, having been occupied in the settlement of preliminary matters. Frequent conferences have taken place between M. de Manteuffel and Prince Schwarzenburg, and there can be no doubt that the settlement will be in accordance with the desire of Austria and Prussia, as it is not the people of Germany, but the princes, who are represented in the Conference.

INDIA.

India continues perfectly tranquil throughout its whole extent. The subjugation of the Punjab is now considered so complete, that the Court of Directors have thrown open the ranks of the army to all classes of population, Sikhs, Hindoos, and Musselmans. The regiments stationed in the country of the five rivers are ordered henceforth to be recruited wholly from the Punjab, and the measure is generally considered a politic one.

CHINA.

The China mails arrived in Bombay on the 24th of November. The rebellion in the vicinity of China had not as yet produced any serious results, but her Majesty's ship Phlegethon and the United States man-of-war Marion have been moored off the factories for their protection, if required. The reports on this subject are very contradictory; nothing seems certain concerning the acts or intentions of the rebels, excepting that they levy a tax on the tea-boats and other produce of the interior on its way to the Customs. It is, however, stated, and generally believed, that the Commissioner Seu had attempted to effect a pacification by distributing money (100,000 dollars) amongst them, and that 3,000 troops he had sent against the insurgents had fraternised with them.

UNITED STATES.

Nothing of interest has taken place in Congress. Trade seems to be in a very satisfactory condition throughout the States generally.

Foreign Miscellany.

The Elector arrived at Hesse Cassel by special train from Frankfort on the 27th ult. He entered a carriage and drove into the town. The silence which prevailed was profound. Not a shout was mixed with the peal of the trumpeters who preceded the Elector. His carriage was also preceded and followed by two squadrons of the Electorel Hussars. As the procession entered the gates there were a few feeble cheers and a large allowance of hissing.

A very important decision was given on Friday week by the President of the Civil Tribunal in France as regards the liability to arrest for debt of representatives of the people, M. Manguin having been arrested for a sum of 1,093 fr. 50c., urged his non-liability to arrest as a member of the National Assembly, and demanded to be taken *en refere* before the President of the Tribunal. The President declared that the arrest was legal, the constitution of 1848 not having reproduced the provision of the charter of 1830, by which members of the Legislative body were protected from arrest during the session, and for six weeks preceding and following it. This decision caused great excitement in the Assembly, and M. de Larochejaquelin put questions to the Minister of Justice respecting the arrest of M. Mauguin, and announced that he would propose to the Assembly to order his immediate liberty. He considered that the arrest in question was a violation of the constitution, which declared all members of the Legislature inviolable.

M. Rouher, Minister of Justice, declared that the Assembly might make a new law to regulate such a matter in future, but could not now interfere in the decision of a judge without establishing a dangerous precedent.

The motion was carried by a large majority.

A court-martial for the trial of Commodore Jones was organised at Washington, on the 16th ult. He is charged with fraud, in speculating with the public money in gold dust; with scandalous conduct towards his subordinates, on the Pacific station; and with oppression, in hanging two men under an illegal sentence by a court-martial, the penalty of death not being allowed on board a ship beyond the limits of the United States. Commodore Jones in his answers, expressed his willingness to stand his trial on all the charges, but took exceptions to the last-mentioned. He urged that the Attorney-General had given an opinion in his favour, California having become part of the union; and that if he had exceeded his jurisdiction his offence was not oppression but murder. He rested the justification of his conduct as Commodore of the Pacific fleet, on the ground of the frequent attempts at mutiny, in consequence of the temptations of the mines.

The President of the United States has issued a proclamation declaring that the act of Congress fixing the Texas boundary is in full force and effect. This shows that Texas acquiesces in the slavery compromise of last session. On the contrary, the Legislature of South Carolina has emitted a note of warlike preparation, the Senate having passed a bill for a convention, and giving 300,000 dollars for military purposes. It is not likely, however, that anything will come of this, for all the forts in the harbour of Charleston are fully manned with the troops of the central government.

The recent Papal aggression is sympathised in by the great bulk of the American people, and it is said that it is extremely likely that the Protestant feeling will be excited in America.

Very few educated people belong to the American Romish church. It is almost exclusively composed of servant women and ordinary labourers. There are some who attend mass who have means and standing, but they are generally those who have acquired their property in very low occupations. A few genteel families of French and Irish descent may be found at the Roman Catholic churches, but it is from habit or family pride that they continue there. They do not any of them respect the Sabbath, as do the Protestants, and usually the afternoon and evening of the day are spent in amusements. The American people, the Anglo-Saxons, are sound to the core on this point; and while from policy, principle, and kind feelings they allow perfect toleration, they are not the least backward in commenting upon clerical absurdities, and making them the laughing-stock of the public.

At a short conference which took place on the 24th ult. it is believed the choice of a President was discussed. A great desire to avoid all acrimony and to cultivate a reciprocal good understanding is said to prevail. The greatest secresy is observed in everything relating to the proceedings; the usual attendance in the ante-chamber being dispensed with for fear of accidents. The total result will be given to the world at the close of the conferences.

The rumoured pregnancy of the Queen of Spain is not confirmed.

The trial of Allais, the police-agent of the Assembly, who has gained notoriety of late by his pretended revelation of a Buonaprrtist plot to assassinate General Changarnier and M. Dupin, President of the National assembly, has been brought to a conclusion. The charge against him was that of having made a calumnious accusation against the persons he had falsely indicated as having been concerned in the alleged plot. The case excited extraordinary interest, and a vast crowd assembled at the doors of the court; but only a number sufficient to fill the court was admitted. Several representatives were present, and among them MM. de Maleville, Piscatory, de Charencey, Wolowski, and Taschereau. Numerous witnesses were examined. The tribunal, after an hour's deliberation, declared Allais guilty of having made a calumnious complaint, and condemned him to a year's imprisonment, 300 francs fine, and the costs.

On Sunday the President, vice-presidents, secretaries, and questors of the Assembly held a meeting to consider the letter addressed to them by the Minister of the Interior, in which he demanded the dismissal of M. Yon, the special commissary of police of the Assembly. The sitting was a long one, and the proceedings are kept secret, but the result has been announced. The meeting determined, by a majority of eight to six, that M. Yon should not be dismissed, and a letter was at once drawn up informing the Minister of the Interior of the result.

A case has been exciting great indignation in India, which has just terminated. The following are the facts: It appears that Lieut. Shelton and his wife had family disagreements, and that the father of Mrs. Shelton requested a major Bartleman to see that Lieut. Shelton did not ill treat his wife. Lieut. Shelton submitted to this strange species of guardianship, considering that the age of the major, who was forty-eight years old, was a guarantee that nothing improper would take place between him and his wife. In this he was mistaken, however, for he discovered a letter in the handwriting of the major to his wife of the most extravagant nature, calling her his life, soul, &c. Lieut. Shelton consequently charged him, before a court-martial, with conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and some other things. The court have sentenced the major to be cashiered—recommending him to the mercy of the commander-in-chief, however. Sir C. Napier has very properly refused to entertain the recommendation, and the sentence will consequently be carried into effect.

At Bombay there has been some extraordinary exhibitions of the disregard of the natives for human life. There has been no less than nineteen deaths from violence recorded during the last month in the mortality tables, amongst which poisoning, stifling, strangling, and hacking to pieces from religious intolerance stand in awful and bold relief.

The Belgian Senate on Saturday adopted, by twenty-three votes to eight, the bill for putting gold money out of circulation. On Monday the bill was promulgated in the 'Moniteur,' with the King's sanction.

The cholera is prevalent on the Mississippi river, nearly every steamer having lost a number of passengers. The mortality is chiefly among the emigrants, who, moving in crowds, and evincing little regard to cleanliness, pay the penalty of their incaution.

A number of the United States have already adopted the policy of the Homestead Exemption Law. Vermont has passed an act which exempts from execution, not only the dwelling and the land, but the produce of the land. This is a step beyond anything yet. The principle is working well. It is reclaiming a large class of persons from idle and worthless habits, who, for fear of continued persecution from old creditors, abandoned themselves to despair.

In Hesse Cassel, the principal organ of the popular party, the 'New Hessian,' and the ultra-democratic 'Hornet,' have been suspended, and the editors have left Cassel. But it is probable that the former will again establish itself at Gotha, and re-appear in the course of a few days.

There appeared within the last few days in Geneva a specimen number of a journal entitled 'La Vile Multitude,' the special mission which is to spread in Savoy the benefit of Socialist doctrines. The chief editor of this ultra-demagogical journal was formerly editor of the 'Peuple Souveraine' of Lyons. We learn that, at the demand of the Sardinian counsel, the authorities have placed their seals on the offices of 'La Vile Multitude.' The publication of it is thus adjourned.

The circumference of Madrid, as shown by the walls which, however, include the Retiro, the royal possession of the Casino and its gardens, and many other large open spaces, it is stated to be 47,197 feet. Its diameter (north and south,) from the gate of Santa Barbara to that of Toledo, is 9,760 feet; and that east and west, from the gate of Alcala to the Portilla de la Vega (now removed,) is 8.637 feet. The actual population is computed at 240,000. The Plaza del Oriente contains 580,000 square feet; that before the main entrance of the palace, 223,000; and the Plaza Mayor, now Plaza de la Constitution, 149,000. The largest market-place, the Plaza de la Cebada, contains 140,000 square feet.

Another dreadful steamboat explosion and loss of life has taken place on the Mississippi. On Friday, the 27th ult., while the Anglo-Norman was proceeding up the river from New Orleans, on a pleasure excursion, with between two and three hundred persons on board, most of them respectable citizens, her boiler exploded, and, horrible to relate, from eighty to a hundred persons were killed, wounded or missing.

The Bombay and the Bengal Railways are both progressing satisfactorily; contracts have been concluded for the construction of forty miles of the latter, and tenders are about to be invited for from sixty to eighty miles more.

Sir Jemsetjee Jeejeebhoy has offered to erect a lying-in hospital at his own cost, and on ground he also gives for the purpose, immediately adjoining his noble institution the Jemsetjee Hospital. Sir Jemsetjee's contributions to charitable objects during the last ten years have probably more than quadrupled those of any other of the Queen's subjects.

The Austrian Ambassador at Frankfort has announced to the Electoral Minister that a Hessian named Becker is acting as chief of a revolutionary association in Switzerland with 3,000 members, the committee of which furnishes them with passports, which are not only recognised by the police of Geneva, Freiburg, and Neufchatel, but receive the official *visa* in order to give them authority in other cantons.

The German governments have arranged to furnish travellers with cards in lieu of passports, which shall serve as legitimation for a stated period in all German states, thus obviating the necessity of obtaining a new *visa* on passing from one police district to another.

The tyrannical measures of the Prussian ministers, in last June, burked no less than one hundred and thirty-seven journals.

Poland is frequently subjected to a devastating plague amongst its horned cattle. This scourge is now raging here, and has caused a loss of 200,000 beasts. Prussia keeps up a rigid quarantine with regard to cattle passing its eastern confines.

A sad story of the disasters of war is told. A Holstein peasant, hearing that his son lay wounded in the military hospital, sought him out, and found that one of his arms had been amputated; though grieved at the discovery, he sought consolation in saying, 'Well, my boy, it is a sad loss, but not so hard for you as for one who depended on his hands for subsistence.' 'Ah, father,' replied the son, 'that's not the worst of it;' whereupon, lifting the coverlet, he showed that both his legs were gone, at which sight the old man fell down dead, and the younger one only survived the shock a few minutes.

The newly-organised preventive service on the Polish confines consists entirely of Russians, all the Poles having been dismissed.

The Prussian Minister of the Home Department has decided that actors and other public performers have duties not only towards the managers with whom they make contracts, but also towards the public, which may become turbulent if wantonly disappointed in its amusements; wherefore the police are authorised to employ coercion where performers capriciously refuse to fulfil their engagements.

By a postal convention between Belgium and Sardinia, which has just been concluded, the postage of a simple letter between the two countries is fixed at 60c. The period at which the convention is to come into operation has, however, not yet been fixed.

It is reported that the Polish nobility will be exempted from the duty of military service, to which it had been rigorously subjected since the Revolution of 1831; and that the property of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland will be confiscated by the Russian government, which will pay the priests' salaries out of the public revenue.

The Queen of Spain has placed a sum of 40,000 dollars of her private property at the disposal of the Home Department for the expenses of the opera, an act of lavish generosity which has been severely censured by the King Consort and Queen Christina.

In Sweden what has been long foreseen has taken place. The equestrian order has rejected, by a majority of 316 votes to 80, the governmental project relative to the representation of the people, and the order of peasants has rejected it by a majority of eighty-seven to eighteen. The discussion on the measure was very animated, and frequently very warm. The Hartmannsdorff pretended that the bill would undermine the constitutional monarchy, formally declared that it would never admit the principle of general elections, although it admitted that the present representative system required reforms, and promised to bring in a new bill which would be more satisfactory. The order of peasants, in adhering to the opinion of the clergy and of the equestrian order, has completely separated itself from its old ally the order of the burgeoise, and appears to wish to prolong the rupture by proposing to revise the privileges of the towns.

The 'Osservatore Dalmato' quotes letters from Vergoras of the 13th, stating that a week before the insurgents of Mostar attacked Rustan Bey, the son of Ali Pacha, who still defended the citidel within the town, called Saraj, armed with twelve guns. It adds that the assailants were repulsed with loss. The chiefs of the insurrection are three rich Turks, named Passa Bey, Agomirovic, and Cississic. Ali Bey had marched from Vizina to meet the troops of the Sultan, and prepared everywhere for their accommodation; but having reached the fort of Gliubuski, which is in the hands of the insurgents, he could proceed no farther.

The new Vizir of Bosnia having sent his secretary to Mostar, in order to inquire whether he might pass through that town on his way to Bosnia, with a suite of only sixty persons, the insurgents refused, unless he was furnished with full powers to treat with them, and to remove their grievances, in which case they promised not only to receive him well, but to obey him also. The resolution of the Vizir was not known, but it is certain that he has proceeded to Buna, to confer with Ali Pacha.

The news from the Italian provinces is anything but favourable. Conspiracies having been discovered, and numerous arrests having been made in consequence, it is feared that the publication of the new organic laws will be delayed. Whether all those who are executed are simply highway robbers and murderers, or whether they are guerillas, it is out of our power to say; but it cannot be denied that powder and ball and the hangman's rope are committing fearful ravages in Lombardy and Venice.

It appears that the governor of the prison in Paris who released M. Mauguin on the order of M. Dupin, conveyed through one of the questors, has been suspended from his functions by the Court which decreed the arrest for eight days.

According to the advices by the Cherokee steamer, arrived at New York, with over 2,000,000 of gold-dust, and a fortnight's later intelligence from California, the cholera was raging with great violence. The deaths at Sacramento city averaged about eighty a day. The disease also prevails at San Francisco, causing great stagnation to business. The steamer Tennessee, which left San Francisco on the 15th of November, had arrived at Panama, with 1,500,000 dols; and the Antelope with 150,000 dols in gold-dust, and a large amount in the hands of passengers, was at the port.

Business in San Francisco is stated to be at a stand-still, and that the prices of provisions are very high. Miners, it is said, have done very little all the dams having been carried away. Improvements are proceeding rapidly. The California papers mention the fact that agriculturists were flourishing, and that many persons had begun to cultivate in consequence. The rainy season had not commenced.

The Neapolitan government at the present moment is in a state of alarm, knowing that a considerable number of 'addresses' have entered the kingdom, which papers are supposed to emanate from Mazzini. They appear to be similar to that circulated in Leghorn, Genoa, and Rome. Some arrests have taken place on this account, and the activity of the police is, if possible, greater than ever.

The state trials in Naples have occupied much public attention during the last few days. The court has presented a scene of excitement hitherto unknown, owing to the dignified tone of the lawyers who are now defending the prisoners, and placing the narative of the government anti-constitutional intrigue in categorical form, which presents a picture of immorality on the part of the executive which is truly deplorable.

Letters from Belogna state that on the 18th ult. a party of Austrian soldiers had a skirmish with nine banditti, headed by Il Passatore himself. A soldier was killed, and another wounded in the contest; the benditti were, however, put to flight, after the loss of one man, named Lami, on whose body articles of value were found.

A Leghorn letter of the 24th ult. announces the arrival there of a large number of Swiss recruits, on their way to Naples. Upwards of 2,000 are said to have passed in the course of November. A rumour being current at Pisa that the constitutional party intended to make a demonstration, the authorities have thought proper to cause numerous piquets of soldiers to parade the town daily.

The government of Munich has by its blind zeal against the press incurred a serious defeat. The editor of the 'Eilboten,' who was prosecuted for an attack on the Diet, which was construed into contempt of the Bavarian government, has been acquitted. The law of the press makes not the slightest allusion to the Diet, or of offences against its authority. The defeat of the government is the more keenly felt, inasmuch as it has identified itself ostensibly, in this instance, with the Echenheimgassen Club. The jury who acquitted the accused was, as indeed all our juries are, composed of the high tax paying and conservative class.

In the 'Stutgardt Anzeiger' of the 28th ult. there is a royal ordinance against the liberty of the press. The chief clauses of this ordinance are:—Every paper or publication must be signed by the editor, who must be a citizen, of twenty-five years of age at least, and have his permanent residence in the country. Any one who has been condemned to any punishment cannot be an editor. And, after any penal sentence has been passed on an editor as such, he cannot again assume editorial functions before the expiration of six months.

According to the latest intelligence it appears that M. Ton, the special commissary of police of the Assembly of France, has voluntarily resigned his post.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—A great number of workmen are busily engaged in preparing the Conference-room and Library of the New Houses of Parliament. The Conference-room, where an appointed number of the Lords and Commons meet to settle any matter which may be in dispute betwixt the two Houses, is an elegant chamber of splendid proportions, with a roof richly carved. In the compartments between the raised carved work ornamental paper of various patterns and colours has been put up, in order to enable Mr. Barry and his assistants to determine what colours and designs shall eventually be adopted in ornamenting the chamber. Proceeding from the Conference-room through three other rooms attached to the House of Lords, the Library of the House of Commons, consisting of a suit of three rooms, is entered. These apartments are fitted up with great taste and simplicity. The lower shelves are closed ones, slightly ornamented, and the others are subdivided into compartments capable of holding from five to ten volumes each. The floor of the rooms is of old English oak, laid down in squares of from one to two feet, and the two rooms are to be warmed by pipes placed in the recesses of the windows, and are constructed after the mode adopted in steam engines, in which the greatest possible amount of heat can be distributed from an apparatus occupying the smallest space. The Committee-rooms attached to the House of Lords are also in a state of great forwardness, and when finished will present a very elegant and graceful appearance. Mr. Barry has, as we are informed, given strict injunctions to the workmen not to admit strangers until the chambers are completely finished; but the curious in such matters manage, notwithstanding, to have a peep at the preparations which are being executed. In the course of a couple of months it is expected that most of the committee-rooms of the Lords, the library of the Commons, and the Conference-room will be finished. There are two doors leading into the Conference-room, the one being for the entrance of the Lords and the other for the Commons; and during the conference their lordships stand on one side and the Commons on the other side of the room. In a few days additional hands are to be engaged in preparing the House of Lords and the chambers attached to it, for the opening of Parliament, which is expected to be done by her Majesty in person.—*Globe.*

REDUCTION OF INCOME TAX—IMPORTANT TO TENANT FARMERS.—An application has been made by the Income Tax Commissioners for the Yeovil division to the Board of Inland Revenue, to ascertain whether they ought to make any reduction in the amount of income tax assessed on tenant farmers in cases where their rents had been reduced; and the answer received from the Board is to the effect that, in all cases where there has been a *bona fide* reduction of rent, there might be a reduction of the income tax in the same relative proportion. The tax must be assessed on the net amount of rent actually paid, or for which the tenant is really liable, and not on the nominal amounts at which the farm is rented. It is highly important to the tenant farmers of the kingdom that this should be widely known, for that which is done in one district is of course applicable to the country at large. We hope, therefore, that our contemporaries generally will take cognizance of this circumstance and make it known to their readers.—*Sherborne Journal.*

THERAPEUTICS.—The history of medicine is by no means flattering to science. It is questionable whether more is known of diseases, their cause, and their cure, at this moment, than in the time of Galen; it is certain that diseases are quite as numerous, and in the aggregate as fatal. Every age has produced some new system of artificial therapeutics which the next age has banished; each has boasted in its turn of cures, and they, in their turn, have been condemned as failures. Medicines themselves are the subjects unsettled; in fact, that it has no established principles, that it is little more than conjectural? 'At this moment,' says Mr. Pinny, 'the opinions on the subject of treatment are almost as numerous as the practitioners themselves. Witness the mass of contradiction on the treatment of even one disease, namely, consumption. Stroll attributes its frequency to the introduction of bark. Morton considers bark an effectual cure. Reid ascribes the frequency of the disease to the use of mercury. Brillonet asserts that it is curable by mercury only. Ruse says that consumption is an inflammatory disease—should be treated by bleeding, purging, cooling medicines, and starvation. Salvadori says it is a disease of debility, and should be treated by tonics, stimulating remedies, and a generous diet. Galen recommended vinegar as the best preventative of consumption. Dessault and others assert that consumption is often brought on by taking vinegar to prevent obesity. Beddoes recommended foxglove as a specific. Dr. Parr found foxglove more injurious in his practice than beneficial. Such are the contradictory statements of medical men!' And yet there can be but one true theory of disease. Of the fallibility and inefficiency of medicine, none have been more conscious than medical men themselves, many of whom have been honest enough to avow their conviction, and now recommend MESSRS. DU BARRY'S REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD, a farina, which careful analysis has shown to be derived from the root of an African plant, somewhat similar to our honeysuckle. 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Smyth, Esq., 37 Lower Abbey-street, Dublin; Cornelius O'Sullivan, M.D., F.R.C.S., Dublin, a perfect cure of thirty years' indescribable agony from aneurism, which had resisted all other remedies; and 10,000 other well known individuals, who have sent the discoverers and importers, DU BARRY and Co., 197 New Bond-street, London, testimonials of the extraordinary manner in which their health has been restored by this useful and economical diet, after all other remedies had been tried in vain for many years and all hopes of recovery abandoned. 'A full report of important cures of the above and many other complaints, and testimonials from parties of the highest respectability, is, we find, sent gratis by DU BARRY and Co.'—*Morning Chronicle.* DU BARRY and Co., 127 New Bond-street, London; also of Barclay, Edwards, Sutton, Sanger, and Hannay, and through all grocers, chemists, medicine vendors, and booksellers in the Kingdom. CAUTION.—The name of Messrs. 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Cure of a Case of Weakness and Debility, of Four Years' Standing.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Smith, of No. 5, Little Thomas-street, Gibson-street, Lambeth, dated the 12th December, 1849.

SIR,—I beg to inform you that for nearly five years I hardly knew what it was to have a day's health, suffering from extreme weakness and debility, with constant nervous headaches, giddiness, and sickness of the stomach, together with a great depression of spirits. I used to think that nothing could benefit me, as I had been to many medical men, some of whom, after doing all that was in their power, informed me, that they considered that I had some spinal complaint beyond the reach of cure, together with a very disordered state of the stomach and liver, making my case so complicated that nothing could be done for me. One day, being unusually ill and in a dejected state, I saw your pills advertised, and resolved to give them a trial, more perhaps with curiosity than with a hope of being cured, however I soon found myself better by taking them, and so I went on persevering in their use for six months, when I am happy to say they effected a perfect cure.—(Signed) WILLIAM SMITH, (frequently called EDWARD.)—To Professor HOLLOWAY.

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Extract of a Letter from Mr. J. K. Heydon, 78, King-street, Sydney, dated 10th of November, 1849.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that many extraordinary cures of Asthma have been effected here by means of your pills. One is that of a lady residing near the 'Razorback,' who after having for twenty years been unable to make the slightest exertion, suffering very fearfully from shortness of breath, coughing, and spitting, but is now, to use her own expression, able to run up to the top of that mountain. Another case is that of Mr. Caton, tailor Hutchinson's-buildings, Clarence-street, who was so dread fully bad that he was confined entirely to his bed-room for six months prior to his commencing with your pills, and attended regularly by his medical man, who pronounced him to be in a dying state, yet he, likewise, to my knowledge, has been restored to perfect health by the use of your pills, and rubbing your ointment night and morning into his chest.—(Signed) J. K. HEYDON.—To Professor HOLLOWAY.

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

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

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'THE MEDICAL ADVISER is indeed a boon to the public, as it has the two-fold advantage of plainness, and being written by a skilful and duly qualified man, who evidently well understands his subject.'—*Times.*

'Many a man, who unmarried and miserable, is now enduring in silent sorrow the penalties of former folly (perhaps committed in ignorance,) had he possessed such a book as this, would have been a happy husband, a honoured parent and useful member of society.'—*Dispatch.*

The diffidence and fear of exposure, consequent on these affections, frequently prevent persons applying for assistance, until great mischief has been inflicted on the constitution and powers of life. It is hoped the perusal of this work will teach such persons the evil of delay, and lead them at once to seek that assistance which alone can save them from the horrors of an existence protracted amidst long enduring wretchedness, both mental and physical.

Lasting benefit can only be reasonably expected at the hands of the intelligent and practical physician, who, departing from the routine of *general* practice, devotes the whole of his studies to this class of diseases, the lamentable neglect of which by ordinary medical men, and their futile attempts at cure by mercury and other equally dangerous medicines, have produced the most alarming results.

From the great extent of DR. DE ROOS's practice for many years, and his former connexion with the various institutions, both in London and Paris, for the relief of those afflicted with Debility, Syphilis, Secondary Symptoms, Strictures, Gleet, Veneral and Scorbutic eruptions, &c. of the face and body; he has had perhaps unusual facilities for observing the peculiarities and consequences of each particular stage. Hence he is enabled confidently and conscientiously to undertake the removal of every symptom (not excepting the most inveterate or long standing) in as short a time as is consistent with safety or return of money.

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From its properties in removing barrenness and all disorders of FEMALES, such as leucorrhœa, or "the whites," head-ache, giddiness, indigestion, palpitation of the heart, dry cough, lowness of spirits, &c., &c. It is admirably adapted to that class of sufferers, as it creates new, pure and rich blood, (thereby purifying and strengthening the whole system,) and soon restores the invalid to sound health even after all other remedies (which have usually a depressing tendency) have failed; hence its almost unparalelled success.

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Poetry.

WHO MADE THE POOR?

Who made the poor?
Not He whose throne is heaven,
God: by whom earth was given,
And all that therein is, seed, herb, and tree;
And fowl that cleave the air, and fish that swim the sea;
And beast that range the field to man for food;
Not God the great and good,
Whose bounty's scattered o'er
The earth like grain on garner'd floor—
He did not make the poor!

But God made man.
Who bade the planets roll,
And formed the wond'rous plan
That girds the eternal pole
Of Heaven, with world's illuming space;
He who to each assigned a place,
Gave man a reasoning soul,
And bade him stand on this terrestrial ball
Sublime in his own form—erect, and lord of all.

Some traitors to their kind,
Whose tongues almost persuade
That night were day—have bent their mind
God gave them, to degrade
Their equals lower than the brute,
And threaten those who dare dispute
Their power, with dungeon gloom;
Yet, like a spirit from the tomb,
The voice of Nature rises still,
And while *one* good man lingers here,
Yet as it hath, it ever will;
And they who dread it shall revere
The sound of its eternal truth,
As in the earliness of youth
Ere Avarice lured the soul astray,
Or mad Ambition led the way
Through paths, whose ruggedness increase
To domes that never sheltered Peace.

Yes, yes, it shall be so;
The tyrant and the slave
In mutual hate, shall cease to go
On grappling to the grave.
Mind, wakening o'er the world,
Uplifts the mental dart
Which, sudden as the lightning hurled,
Strikes to the trembling heart
Of pale oppression—deeper far
Than all the brands and bolts of war.
Let Reason give the word,
Be that by millions spoken;
What, though the soldier grasp his sword
But as a weapon broken?
'Twould idle in his hand remain—
Pure bloodless battles Mind must gain.

Man hath been taught to bow
To Cunning's traitorous sway;
But 'tis not as it hath been. Now
Behold the sturdy toiler's brow—
There beams a calmer ray
Of purer intellectual fire,
Than lit the aspect of his sire;
A prouder glance that seems to say,
"The worse, our mental bounds are riven,
And soon shall dawn the glorious day,
We shall resume the gifts of Heaven."
For well he knows a sceptered King,
Or coronetted Lord
To be a vain, unwanted thing,
Less worshipped than abhorred—
To be the enemy of toil,
All locost, like a thing of spoil';
And passing by the guarded door,
Where stalks the well-lashed sentinel,
Need not be told "Who made the Poor;"
The fears of those within who dwell,
If 'twere not known, the tale would tell.

The day will come, it must advance;
But not at point of sword or lance,
'Mid pealing shot nor spreading flame
And deeds of dread too dark to name—
Intelligence shall in its might,
And not in vain assert the right
Of labour by its toil to live,
Enjoying more than tyrants give.
Labour creates the wealth it craves,
Enweaves the cradles, shapes the graves;
Erects the palace, rears the tomb
Where despots live or lie in gloom.
God's handmaid Labour yet shall learn,
All power usurped by Pride to spurn;
To wish and have, to *will* and make
Oppression yield for Justice sake:
She asks but that: her ceaseless cry,
In hut or hall, on heath or moor,
Is Justice—ere her children die
Through want—from those who made the Poor.

C. COLE.

Reviews.

London Labour and the London Poor. By HENRY MAYHEW. Nos. I., II., III.

TO THE intrepid, honest, and able author of these papers we are indebted for the idea, and partly for the realisation, of one of the greatest and most important ideas ever given to the public. Political economists and statisticians are so commonly led astray by deceptive "averages," that however correct their postulates may be, their conclusions no more square with actual facts than those of the ingenious Professors in the College of Laputa—they *ought* to be correct, but *are* not. We hailed the inquiry into the state of "Labour and the Poor," by the *Morning Chronicle*, as the commencement of a new era in journalism, providing that inquiry was faithfully and impartially carried out. It proposed to supply what was one of the great wants of the age—an accurate anatomy of society; to depict the actual condition of the labouring classes—the sources from whence they drew their living—the modes in which their earnings were expended—the general circumstances by which they were surrounded—and the reacting influence of these conditions on their minds, habits, dispositions, and physicial well-being. Never was there a more important or imperative task undertaken—we will not say by any journalist, but by any government. To prosecute it successfully, required not merely the command of large funds by those who instituted the investigation, but what was far more valuable, and more difficult to obtain—intellectual and moral qualities on the part of those engaged in it, which are rarely met with in combination.

Of the gentlemen who embarked in this inquiry, Mr. Mayhew, from the commencement, showed himself possessed in a high degree of the peculiar combination of faculties requisite for the task. He had the educated eye and quick perception, which enabled him to grasp the whole of any single group of facts, their relative position and bearing to other groups—the faculty of patiently analysing these facts in detail, and tracing them to their source, and, above all, of, as it were, Daguerrotyping the mental and moral phenomena of Labour Life in the very words of the parties themselves. It was his letters which excited the true and genuine sympathy of the public with the suffering and toiling masses—a sympathy which evinced itself in an earnest, if not philosophical manner, by the pouring in of subscriptions, to be applied to at least the temporary relief of those whose toils, whose poverty and misery he so graphically portrayed. The other "Commissioners" were able men, but throughout their productions there was evidently a pervading bias in favour of the fashionable generalism, and received canons of Political Economy. They went about their work far more with a view to make facts square with pregone conclusions than to state facts exactly as they found them, and leave social philosophers to build up a sound societarian system out of these facts afterwards. This tendency was especially observable in their early letters. Subsequently the excitement and admiration created by the lively, life-like and striking pictures of the condition of the labouring classes, presented in Mr. Mayhew's letters, led his colleagues in the manufacturing and agricultural districts to copy his example, and let the people speak for themselves. This was, however, done under careful limitations, and the tendency in favour of capital and things as they are, was always sufficiently apparent.

Mr. Mayhew, on the contrary, began without prepossession or prejudice—he recorded the phenomena that presented themselves to his observation, simply and truthfully; but, ere long, what he saw and heard, produced on an honest, but warm-hearted man, their natural effects. It has been to us not the least remarkable thing connected with this remarkable investigation, that a gentleman like Mr. Mayhew, whose previous associations and habits were so unlikely to lead him to such conclusions, should have been driven by the force of facts and his own investigations, to the adoption of precisely the same socio-economical creed as that held by the most thoughtful and intelligent of the working classes themselves.

The result we all know. Honesty of purpose, and strict adherence to the maxim—"Tell the truth and shame the devil," are not the qualities which most certainly conduce to honour and emolument in the region of orthodox journalism. Mr. Mayhew was *too truthful*. He did not act on the advice of Burns to his young friend:—

Aye, free off hand ye're story tell,
When wi a bosom crony:
But yet keep something to yersel
Ye'll scarcely tell to ony.

He told all—and, alas! that all, somehow or other, came into collision with the worship of the golden calf and the gospel of the Economists—and the consequence was, being an infidel to these "sacred" things, he was made a martyr. The *Morning Chronicle* did not want impartial truth-telling "Commissioners," but clever sharp fellows, who could see just as much as was convenient, and, when necessary, "run with the hare and hold with the hounds."

We have allowed Mr. Mayhew, in a previous number of the *Star*, to tell for himself the circumstances under which he left that paper, and we now heartily welcome the first three numbers of his new work, in which he presents faithfully and ably the results of his researches into the "Mysteries of London Life." The first section of the inhabitants treated of by him, is that designated by him "The street folk;" and as far as he has yet proceeded, the new series contains an account of the numerous and varied occupations, recreations, and habits of the class usually termed coster-mongers, which is not more valuable for its accuracy than it is surprising in its revelations of the actual life of this nomadic tribe in the midst of our dense and settled city population. We may say, however, to those who have read the letters in the *Chronicle*, that Mr. Mayhew's new periodical is by no means a reprint of these letters. The valuable material he collected in the course of his inquiries is here systematised, classified, and presented in all its fullness, breadth, and variety, under appropriate headings, and in a thoroughly artistic style. This, while it does not detract from the merely popular interest of the work, adds largely to its value as one of reference and for literary purposes. The engravings from Daguerrotypes, by Beard, are wonderfully minute, and yet forcible; though whether it is owing to the sun by whom the portraits are painted in the first instance, or to some other cause, we know not, but the costermongers depicted to us have rather a holiday look about them, which does not exactly agree with our recollections of the class as a whole.

The low price at which this important work is published—its bearing on all the great questions of social progress—and the thrilling interest which readers of every class in society must feel in the revelations it makes, will, we hope, combine to give it the enlarged circulation it deserves. It excells the most imaginative romance in the strangeness of its incidents; while the question it raises will, for the next generation or two, occupy the best energies and highest faculties of our greatest statesmen.

Premising that Mr. Mayhew estimates the number of costermongers in London at 30,000 persons, and informs us they are all Chartists, a fact of which we have considerable doubt, we shall give one quotation, because it is appropriate to the present holiday season:—

VIC. GALLERY.

On a good attractive night, the rush of costers to the threepenny gallery of the Coburg (better known as "the Vic") is peculiar and almost awful.

The long zig-zag staircase that leads to the pay-box is crowded to suffocation, at least an hour before the theatre is opened; but on the occasion of a piece with a good murder in it, the crowd will frequently collect as early as three o'clock in the afternoon. Lads stand upon the broad wooden banisters about 50 feet from the ground, and jump on each others' backs, or adopt any expedient they can think of to obtain a good place.

The walls of the well staircase having a remarkably fine echo, and the wooden floor of the steps serving as a sounding board, the shouting whistling, and quarrelling of the impatient young costers is increased tenfold. If, as sometimes happens, a song with a chorus is started, the ears positively ache with the din, and when the chant has finished it seems as though a sudden silence had fallen on the people. To the centre of the road, and all round the door, the mob is in a ferment of excitement, and no sooner is the money-taker at his post than the most frightful rush takes place, every one heaving with his shoulder at the back of the person immediately in front of him. The girls shriek, men shout, and a nervous fear is felt lest the massive staircase should fall in with the weight of the throng, as it lately did with the most terrible results. If a hat tumbles from the top of the staircase, a hundred hands snatch at it has it descends. When it is caught a voice roars above the tumult, "All right, Bill, I've got it"—for they all seem to know one another—"Keep us a pitch and I'll bring it."

To any one unaccustomed to be pressed flat it would be impossible to enter with the mob. To see the sight in the gallery it is better to wait until the first piece is over, the ham-sandwich men and pig-trotter women will give you notice when the time is come, for with the first clatter of the descending footsteps they commence their cries.

There are few grown up men that go to the "Vic" gallery. The generality of the visitors are lads from about twelve to three-and-twenty, and though a few black-faced sweeps or whitey-brown dustmen may be among the throng, the gallery audience consists mainly of costermongers. Young girls, too are very plentiful, only one third of whom now take their babies, owing to the new regulation of charging half-price for infants. At the foot of the staircase stands a group of boys begging for the return checks, which they sell again for 1½*d.* or 1*d.*, according to the lateness of the hour.

At each step up the well-staircase the warmth and stench increase, until by the time one reaches the gallery doorway, a furnace-heat rushes out through the entrance that seems to force you backwards, whilst the odour positively prevents respiration. The mob on the landing, standing on tiptoe and closely wedged together, resists any civil attempt at gaining a glimpse of the stage, and yet a coster lad will rush up, elbow his way into the crowd, then jump up on to the shoulders of those before him, and suddenly disappear into the body of the gallery.

The gallery at "the Vic" is one of the largest in London. It will hold from 1,500 to 2,000 people, and runs back to so great a distance, that the end of it is lost in shadow, excepting where the little gas-jets, against the wall, light up the two or three faces around them. When the gallery is well packed, it is usual to see piles of boys on each others shoulders at the back; while on the partition boards, dividing off the slips, lads will pitch themselves despite the spikes.

As you look up the vast slanting mass of heads from the upper boxes, each one appears on the move. The huge black heap, dotted with faces, and spotted with white shirt sleeves, almost pains the eye to look at, and should a clapping of hands commence, the twinkling nearly blinds you. It is the fashion with the mob to take off their coats; and the cross-braces on the backs of some, and the bare shoulders peeping out of the ragged shirts of others, are the only variety to be found. The bonnets of the "ladies" are hung over the iron railing in front, their numbers nearly hiding the panels, and one of the amusements of the lads in the back seats consists in pitching orange peel or nutshells into them, a good aim being rewarded with a shout of laughter.

When the orchestra begins playing, before "the gods" have settled into their seats, it is impossible to hear a note of music. The puffed-out cheeks of the trumpeters, and the raised drum-sticks tell you that the overture has commenced, but no tune is to be heard. An occasional burst of the full band being caught by gushes, as if a high wind were raging. Recognitions take place every moment, and "Bill Smith" is called to in a loud voice from one side, and a shout in answer from the other asks "What's up?" Or family secrets are revealed, and "Bob Triller" is asked where "Sal" is, and replies amid a roar of laughter, that she is "a-larning the pynanney."

By-and-by a youngster, who has come in late, jumps up over the shoulders at the door, and doubling himself into a ball, rolls down over the heads in front, leaving a trail of commotion, for each one as he passes aims a blow at the fellow. Presently a fight is sure to begin, and then every one rises from his seat whistling and shouting; three or four pairs of arms fall to, the audience waving their hands till the moving mass seems like microscopic eels in paste. But the commotion ceases suddenly on the rising of the curtain, and then the cries of "Silence!" "Ord-a-a-r!" "Ord-a-a-r!" make more noise than ever.

The "Vic" gallery is not to be moved by touching sentiment. They prefer vigorous exercise to any emotional speech. "The Child of the Storm's" declaration that she would share her father's "death or imprisonment as her duty," had no effect at all, compared with the split in the hornpipe. The shrill whistling and brayvos that followed the tar's performance showed how highly it was relished, and one "god" went so far as to ask "how it was done." The comic actor kicking a dozen Polish peasants was encored, but the grand banquet of the Czar of all the Russias only produced merriment, and a request that he would "give them a bit" was made directly the Emperor took the willow-patterned plate in his hand. All affecting situations were sure to be interrupted by cries of "ord-a-a-r;" and the lady begging for her father's life was told to "speak up old gal;" though when the heroine of the "dummestic dreamer" (as they call it) told the general of all the Cossack forces "not to be a fool," the uproar of approbation grew greater than ever—and when the lady turned up her swan's-down cuffs, and seizing four Russian soldiers shook them successively by the collar, then the enthusiasm knew no bounds, and the cries of "Bray-vo Vincent! Go it my tulip!" resounded from every throat.

Altogether, the gallery audience do not seem to be of a gentle nature. One poor little lad shouted out in a crying tone "that he couldn't see," and instantly a dozen voices demanded "that he should be thrown over."

Whilst the pieces are going on, brown, flat bottles are frequently raised to the mouth, and between the acts a man with a tin can, glittering in the gas-light, goes round crying, "Port-a-a-a-r! who's for port-a-a-a-r." As the heat increased the faces grew bright red, every bonnet was taken off, and ladies could be seen wiping the perspiration from their cheeks with the play-bills.

No delay between the pieces will be allowed, and should the interval appear too long, some one will shout out—referring to the curtain—"Pull up that there winder blind!" or they will call to the orchestra, saying, "Now then you catgut-scrapers! Let's have a ha-purth of liveliness." Neither will they suffer a play to proceed until they have a good view of the stage, and "Higher the blue," is constantly shouted, when the sky is too low, or "Light up the moon," when the transparency is rather dim.

The dances and comic songs, between the pieces, are liked better than anything else. A highland fling is certain to be repeated, and a stamping of feet will accompany the tune, and a shrill whistling, keep time through the entire performance.

But the grand hit of the evening is always when a song is sung to which the entire gallery can join in chorus. Then a deep silence prevails all through the stanzas. Should any burst in before his time, a shout of "orda-a-r" is raised, and the intruder put down by a thousand indignant cries. At the proper time, however, the throats of the mob burst forth in all their strength. The most deafening noise breaks out suddenly, while the cat-calls keep up the tune, and an imitation of a dozen Mr. Punches squeak out the words. Some actors at the minor theatres make a great point of this, and in the bill upon the night of my visit, under the title of "There's a good time coming, boys," there was printed, "assisted by the most numerous and effective chorus in the metropolis"—meaning the whole of the gallery. The singer himself started the mob, saying, "Now then, the Exeter Hall touch if you please gentlemen," and beat time with his hand, parodying M. Jullien with his *baton*. An "angcore" on such occasions is always demanded, and dispite a few murmers of "change to Duck-legged Dick" invariably insisted upon.

Tait's Edinburgh Magazine. January, 1851. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

THE opening article in this number is entitled to the careful perusal of all who wish to understand the essential difference between Continental and English Government. It is an examination of the "Bureaucracy and Military Systems of France and Germany," based on Mr. Laing's recent valuable book on "the Social and Political State of the European People in 1848 and 1849." The writer says, *bureaucracy* is one of those peculiar features which pre-eminently distinguish the social structure of continental countries. "Mr. Laing," he adds,—

Calls it *functionarism*, which is perhaps, a better name. This is a difference which, even more than that connected with the partition of the soil, pervades the daily and domestic life of the nation, and modifies its whole aspect as presented to the eye of the passing stranger. In England the civil servants of the Government are few, unconnected, and unobtrusive; on the Continent, they are innumerable, omnipresent, and constitute a separate, organised, and powerful class. In England they confine themselves to absolute necessary functions; on the Continent they interfere in every transaction and event of life. In England, as a general rule, a man is only reminded of their existence by the annual visit of the tax-gatherer, unless, indeed, he has to appeal to the law, or has rendered himself amenable to it; on the Continent scarcely a day passes, scarcely an operation can be concluded, without coming into contact or collision with one or other of their number. Many of the duties performed by officials on the Continent are here performed by elected parish or municipal functionaries; many are left to individual discretion; many more are not performed at all. With us a man's free will is limited only by his neighbour's free will, or his neighbour's rights; in France and Austria it can be exercised only subject to Government permission previously obtained. Restriction is the exception here, it is the rule there. Throughout the Continent a citizen cannot engage in business, build a house, or take a journey, without leave; and leave is only obtained through an established routine of tedious and annoying formalities. "In France, Switzerland, Belgium, and the constitutional States of Germany," says Mr. Laing, "people call themselves free, because they enjoy more or less of the forms of representative government, and have more or less political liberty; but they have no more civil liberty, and no more sense or feeling of it, than when they had no constitutions at all. They live, act, and have their being under a system of interference in every man's movements and doings, precisely as in Austria, Prussia, and States without any constitutions or political liberty. * * The reality of civil liberty in the free use of time, industry, and capital, and in the free action of the individual, is unknown to the continental man. It is amusing to hear a German or a Frenchman discussing constitutional forms of government, universal suffrage, the qualifications of representatives, the equal rights of citizens; and, when he has settled all these points to his satisfaction, in a theory which proves very clearly that we enjoy no real liberty in England, and do not understand its first principles, to ask him to take a jaunt with you to Tours or Marseilles, Cologne or Leipsic. 'Oh,' says he, 'I must run to the bureau for our passports. I must get them signed by the proper authorities, countersigned by other proper authorities, *visèed* by the proper authorities in every town we stop at on our journey, in order to prevent trouble with the police; and I must get this done before the bureaux are shut for the day, or we shall have to wait till to-morrow.' To be free and independent in the sense that the common man in England is free and independent, seems not to be a want in the mind of the continental man, even of fortune and education. The English traveller in France or Germany who has gone himself to the Hotel de Ville, or the passport office, to have his passport *visèed* and signed, instead of leaving it to his *valet de place*, and who has seen the crowd of tradesmen, country dealers, travelling artisans, and peasants from the neighbouring villages, who have been at the fair, standing for hours to have their papers examined and signed, will return with a pretty distinct idea of the difference between political and civil freedom, between the mind, spirit, character, and social state of the English, and of the continental people."

The working of this system, in its various phases, is very ably analysed by the writer, though we are not quite certain that both he and Mr. Laing are somewhat one-sided in their estimate of it. Seeing so clearly as they do all its defects and mischievous results, they have unconsciously forgotten what might be urged on the other side. It would, we think, not be a very difficult matter for an advocate of *functionarism* to gather a host of facts, relative to the sanitary, social, domestic, and moral operation of our local and municipal system of self-government, which would make a formidable show in favour of the other side. On the whole, however, we agree with the following statement of the essential difference and comparative results of the two systems:—

The different ideas which lie at the root of the two systems may be thus stated: a certain amount of wisdom is required for the conduct of affairs, and the management of associated life. This requisite wisdom is supposed by functionarism to reside in the rulers, and by municipality to reside in the people. In England and America we assume that every man understands his own interest, and can direct his own business better than any government can do it for him. In France and Germany they assume that the people are unknowing and incompetent, and will mismanage both their own private affairs, and all associated business unless supervised and directed by the superior knowledge and experience of a trained and educated class of rulers. The fundamental notion on which the superstructure of continental bureaucracy is built, is—not only that the government is wiser than its subjects, but—that the wisdom of its subjects is inadequate to the ordinary cases of individual or social action.

Now, it is evident that this assumption has an alarming tendency to realise and justify itself. The incapacity which is presumed will sooner or later be created. A people that is always regarded as in a state of pupillage, and kept in leading-strings, can never emerge into mature manhood. It is undoubtedly true, that trained functionaries may often be able to manage each individual department better than municipal or parochial amateurs could do. It is probable that they may give useful advice, and that they will often avoid those multitudinous failures, those abortive experiments, and those monstrous and costly blunders, through which a self-governing people struggle onward to sensible and wise results at last; but, in the first place, that invaluable national education which is carried on during the progress of these efforts, and the elimination of these errors, is entirely lost under the bureaucratic system; and, in the second place, the plans adopted not being wrought out by the people, but being forced upon them from without, will seldom either be well adapted to their wants, or have so strong a hold on their affections. The incapacity for self-government which bureaucracy has engendered among the continental nations was strongly shown in 1848. They threw off their sovereigns, they proclaimed republics, or substituted other dynasties; but they had no ability to organise new institutions, they could not emancipate themselves from the old army of civil functionaries, *because they were unable to dispense with them;* and thus, one by one, they gradually fell back under the old *régime*. Whereas in California, peopled by a sudden influx of emigrants, wild in their tempers, lawless in their habits, greedy for gold, thirsty for sudden opulence, without chiefs, without guidance, without control, the innate and ineffaceable genius of a race of men long accustomed to govern and to guide themselves, has enabled them, with an almost miraculous rapidity, to educe order out of the chaos, and to establish something like a civilised and legal community, without the smallest assistance or interference on the part of the central authority. In England, were our complicated government of King, Lords, and Commons, swept away to-morrow, we could soon re-organise the ruling hierarchy, perhaps on a better footing than before, because every town, and almost every village, could afford us most of the materials, and much of the experience, required. But, in 1848 and 1849, all the collective wisdom of the bureaucratic countries of Germany and France, with a clear field before them, were able to strike out little that was sensible, and nothing that was new.

One thing is, however, abundantly evident—that *bureaucracy* creates a class numerous and powerful, which, though nominally the servants of the nation, become, to a great extent, its masters. It is perfectly alarming to think of the swarm of official locusts, who eat up the substance, and interfere with the business of the people; and there being little doubt that much of the system is kept up exclusively for their benefit, the difficulty of changing it will be proportionally great. We have an example at hand which will strike all parties who have made a run across the Channel for a few days' ramble in France. The passport system is an unmitigated nuisance—a source of official extortion for no possible public purpose; and yet, when the Government lately endeavoured to abolish it, the functionaries were too powerful for them. The nuisance still exists in all the plenitude of its abomination. A glance at the comparative number of functionaries on the continent and in this country, will explain why this has occurred:—

In Prussia we have no means of ascertaining the truth. In Austria, with a population of thirty-six millions, they are stated at 120,000. In France, also, with a population of thirty-six millions, they are variously given by different authorities, according as these take in only the regular and permanent paid officials, or add to these the unpaid, the occasionally paid, and the retired; but the lowest estimate exceeds 350,000. We believe the following will be nearly an exact list of the actual *employes* under each department, who are paid in some shape or other, leaving out the pensioners and the municipal authorities. It is taken from a recent report to the Legislative Assembly:—

Ministry of the Interior	344,000
" of Justice	11,100
" Worship and Instruction	50,000
" Public Works, Commerce, and Agriculture	10,000
" Foreign Affairs	632
" War and Marine	43,633
" Finance, Customs, & Excise	76,000
	535,365

Compare this enormous army of paid officials with the modest government provision in Great Britain, which has a population of thirty millions. In 1835 the whole civil service of the State was conducted by 23,578 persons; and since that period, we believe, the number has rather diminished than increased.

The exposition of "The Military Organisation of France and Germany, and its social consequences," will amply repay perusal; and although we do not come to the same general conclusions as the writer, we cannot but commend this instructive paper to the thoughtful consideration of all, who are desirous of studying social science, by the light of the experience derived from varied and differing social institutions. From a sketch entitled "Places I have Seen," we take the following brief glance at the present condition of the late Daniel O'Connell's residence:—

Darrynane nestles in a thick wood which springs luxuriantly up, sheltered from the Atlantic by a stalwart arm of the mountain, which encircles and seems to clasp it to its rugged bosom. A medow of the most vivid green lies in front of the building, and stretches down towards a bright strip of sandy beach (a beautiful object on a rock-bound coast), which shoots out towards the little island on which stand the fragments of the abbey. The mountains close round the bay on the land side, and the fantastic forms of Scara and Hog Island seem to guard it to seaward like two gigantic sentinels.

"The last jintleman" [car-driver, interlocutor] "as I druv to Derrynane before the Liberator died—rest his soule!—was a mighty grate inimy of the Liberator up in Dublin; only he came down here to see him on some law business. 'Don't take the horse out,' says he, 'I'll ounly be stopping a quarther of an hour.' 'Very well, sir,' says I. Well, sir, the Liberator wouldn't hear of it: first he must see the hounds, or he couldn't talk to him at all; and thin he must see a hunt, aud shure he couldn't do that till the nexth day? and thin there was Misther Maurice's yacht, the same ye see yender; and thin, beyunt and above all, there was the champain and the clar't as must be dhrunk. And so, to make short work of it, bedad he stopped there three days, an' myself with him; an' sure it was little himself and the Liberator were inimies afther that. Ah, sir, there's a change since those times!"

A change indeed! The very bridge over which the mighty of the land, by genius, learning, birth, and wealth, flocked to the presence of him who was then mightiest among them, over which the bare-footed post-boy, with his tin horn dangling from his nek, bore those missives, dated "Darrynane Abbey," which shook the kingdom from Cape Clear to Fair Head—that very bridge is broken down, and lies in fragments in the bed of the stream it spanned.

"Webster's Duchess of Malfi," is a genial and admirably-told prose version of the tragedy, which has recently been revived at Sadler's Wells, and carries the sympathies and the interest of the reader along with it throughout. "What is it all about," treats of the Papal question in a deprecatory and depreciatory tone, declares that there is no ground whatever for the alarm and indignation which has been so universally expressed; and concludes thus:—

Dr. Wiseman's documents are no *new* manifestations of the nature of Popery, and his appointments confer upon it no *new* power. Still more—and here again we approach the root of all the mischief done out-of-doors, and rumoured as likely to be done in the Cabinet and Legislature—you ought not, and you *cannot legislate against influences.* We ought not—it is persecution: if we, as Liberals think Romanism has a despotic tendency, Tories think Protestant dissent has a democratic tendency; and if legislation, or attempts at it, had a beginning, where would be the end? We *cannot*—all history shows in letters of blood that these things are too subtle for laws and penalties: in the present case, to forbid the *names* would be paltry—to forbid the thing would be persecution; but both are practically *impossible.* The check and cure for bad influences is the application of good ones. We say with Milton, "Let Truth and Falsehood grapple" and perish all force and "protection" as puerilities and poltrooneries.

A similar view is enforced in "A Speech of Oliver Cromwell, in opening Parliament," in which the manner both of Carlyle and the Great Protector is happily imitated. The other articles are of average merit and interest.

Public Amusements.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

After three years' absence Mr. Walter Lacy has returned to the London stage. He made his *rentrée* on Saturday evening last, at Drury-lane Theatre, in the character of Wildrake in the *Love Chase*, which he had never before sustained in London. The novelty of a new part was not necessary as a stimulus to the many admirers of Mr. Walter Lacy's acting. He had left behind him a reputation as being one of the very few gentlemanly light comedians of whom we can boast, while he had also shown, in some few characters, a large amount of histrionic aptitude, and no little originality in his conception and grasp of characters. We need scarcely say that Mr. W. Lacy received a warm and cheering welcome. His Wildrake is a highly intelligent and humorous embodiment of the quaint fancy of Sheridan Knowles's muse. The sheepish shyness and the love-taught cunning are artistically blended, not forced into violent contrast. The great scene, where he frightens Constance out of coquetry, by announcing his intended marriage, was a striking instance of this artistic intelligence. Mr. Lacy is not an actor content to raise a vulgar laugh at the expense of the consistency of the character he is for the time embodying. Of Mrs. Nisbett's Neighbour Constance what can we say that has not been said a thousand times by a thousand admirers? It is one of the richest, raciest, and most buoyant outbursts of unforced, flowing humour of which our stage can boast. Who that has ever heard her joyous, ringing laugh, as she chuckles over her tormented cousin but feels the same sensation of springing pleasure as when last he was under its magical influence? Mrs. Nisbett probably never played this, her favourite character, with more elaboration and finish than on this occasion. She seemed on her mettle, and therefore carried her audience in triumph. A new comer, Mrs. Parker, sustained the part of the Widow Green with much tact and humour. This is the lady who made a hit in a small part, that of a cynical American Puritan, in Mrs. Mowatt's comedy of *Fashion*, at the Olympic Theatre. The piece was well acted. Miss F. Vining played with much delicacy, dignity and feeling as Lydia.

The new pantomime, entitled *Harlequin and Humpty Dumpty, or Robbin de Bobbin and the First Lord Mayor of Lun'on*, is eminently successful, and the principal pantomimic personages are ably represented by Mr. Duelin (Harlequin), Mdlle. Theodore (Columbine), Mr. J. Duelin (Pantaloon), Signor Parkini (Sprite), and Mr. Seymour (Clown.)

On Tuesday night Mr. Barratt made his *debut* in the character of Falstaff, in *Henry the Fourth.* His *physique* is decidedly in his favour; but he is also an actor of intelligence and discrimination, and of no little humour. He was very successful; and, if his performance in other characters be at all equal to his Falstaff, he will prove an acquisition to the stage. The play was well acted and well mounted; Mr. Vandenhoff sustained the part of Percy, and Mr. Anderson that of the Prince.

STANDARD THEATHE.

This elegant house, which has been greatly enlarged and newly decorated, still continues to attract crowded audiences. The new drama of *Pride and Patience* commences the evening's performances. Mr. Lyon, as Sir Robert Marston, shows, in a strong light, the baneful effects of ancestral pride. Mrs. Honnor, as Lady Marston, gives great effect to a well conceived character; and the acting of Mr. Cowle, as a returned convict, burning under a sense of treachery and injustice, was true to nature, and well received by the audience. Mr. G. Nelson, as a wily lawyer, and Mr. H. Lewis, as a sharper, made the most of their respective parts. Miss E. Terry and Mrs. Cowle also contributed greatly to the success of the piece, nor must we omit Mr. Gaston, who, as the meddling servant, and the treacherous friend, had a wide scope for his well known abilities.

The performance concluded with a new pantomime, entitled *Harlequin Buttercups and Daisies; or, Great A, Little A, Bouncing B, the Cat's in the Cupboard and she can't see.*" The plot, trifling and insignificant in itself, by judicious acting and well-timed hits at the events of the day, kept the audience convulsed with laughter. The scenery and decorations were most magnificent. Mr. H. Saunders, as Harlequin, M. Silvani, as Silver Sprite, and Messrs. Buck and Doughty, as Clowns, maintained their well-earned fame, and contributed greatly to the hilarity of the audience; whilst an Elfin band of fifty children, as Buttercups and Daisies, and their various transformations, gave great delight to the juvenile portion of the audience. The whole concluded with a novel moving Panorama of the principal shops in Shoreditch, and the curtain fell upon a crowded house, amid great applause.

ASTLEY'S.

The performances during the holidays commence with the grand historical drama of *Kenilworth.* We have already noticed this piece, and can only say that, independent of the plot and dialogue, which are excellent, the dresses, scenery, decorations and properties cannot be surpassed, and are but seldom equalled in any theatre in the Kingdom. The scenes in the circle are more than usually attractive owing to the introduction of M. Plasche "the great barrel equilibrist" to an English audience, whose daring ascent from the circle to the top of the stage on a small beer barrel, propelled by his feet along a carriage-way of plank not a foot in breadth, which is raised several feet in heigth, and forms a very steep incline, excited intense interest. Some singular gymnastic feats were exhibited by the Francisco family, which riveted the attention of the house, and elicited hearty expressions of approbation. Mr. John Bridges went through an astonishing act of horsemanship as the *Bounding springer of the Alps.* A dance was then performed with singular accuracy by two horses, under the guidance of M. Ghelia, and the "Scenes of the Circle" wound up with a variety of dances on horseback by Miss A Bridges. The entertainments of the evening were concluded with the new and original grand, historical, equestrian, Christmas Pantomime," entitled *Harlequin and O'Donaghue; or, the White Horse of Killarney*, which entirely succeeded in attracting the attention of the audience. Dermot Astore, betrethed to Kathleen, is entrapped by an emissary of the evil spirit of Ireland into drunkenness and gambling. A series of adventures succeed, in which the Fairy Prince of Killarney, ycleped O'Donaghue—a splendid looking personage, whose white horse plays a prominent part—appears as the supernatural champion of temperance, and rescues poor Dermot Astore and Kathleen from all their difficulties, to be changed into Harlequin and Columbine, and the entertainment closes with a succession of amusing pantomimic transformations. Among the most ramarkable hits are, the Great Exhibition of 1851—the Sweedish nightingale at New York—and Jim Crow, (both represented as birds, pursued by American managers, with salt boxes, sprinkling salt upon their tails,)—the American sea serpent—clown's balloon ascent on a real donkey—Batty's menagerie—Haynau at the Bankside brewery, and the bedchamber scene. The pantomime concludes with a grand allegorical tableau. This house is nightly crowded to the ceiling.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.

An interesting drama in two acts, written by Miss Mellon, and entitled *The Witch of Vesuvius*, has been produced this week. This piece possesses more than ordinary merit; the plot is good, and the language abounds with sparkling wit and thrilling narrative. The principal parts are well sustained by Mr. E. Green, the Misses F. Hamilton, E. Farrell, C. Gibson, Rivers, and Mrs. C. Boyce. It would not be good taste on our parts to particularize the acting of the above *artistes*, whose talents have deservedly gained for them the appellation of favourites. The pantomime, by Mr. C. S. James, of *Cinderella*, is of the most splendid description. Twenty new and gorgeous scenes have been painted by Mr. C. J. James, the spirited manager and lessee, and the whole is presented on a costly scale of grandeur. Mr. Ambrook appeared as Harlequin, Mr. Harrison as Clown, Mr. White as Pantaloon, and Miss C. Gibson as Columbine. The acting and singing of Miss E. Farrell, as the Fairy Fiction, and also of Miss Hamilton, who personated the Prince, deserves especial notice. Miss C. Gibson is a most graceful and agile Columbine, and the evolutions of the *corps de ballet* (her pupils) were loudly applauded. The pantomime is a decided hit; the actors endeavoured to outvie each other, and the house, which was crowded in every part, was kept in a continual roar of laughter and delight.

CHOLERA IN JAMAICA.—The memorials from the merchants and bankers of the City of London, praying the government interference for the relief of the sufferers from cholera in Jamaica, were on Saturday morning presented, through Mr. Masterman, M.P., by Mr. J. W. Dover, to the Lords of the Admiralty and Mr. Hawes, M.P., Under Secretary of State for the Colonies. The latter gave assurances that the subject of the memorials should receive his immediate attention.

Varieties.

RICHES ARE but ciphers—it is the mind that makes the sum.

QUESTION FOR DEBATING CLUBS.—Can a man while asleep in the day-time have the night-mare?

USE OF MONEY.—To some men it is indispensable to be worth money, for without it they would be worth nothing.

PLAIN QUESHTANS.—Did yo ivver naw onny boddy we creakin shoes, but wor suar allas to get ta plaices a wurship late?

Did yo ivver naw onny boddy go tut knife-box for a knife, but wot they allas gat houd ov a fork t'furst?—*Pogmoor Olmenack.*

WHAT EUROPEAN Capital denotes a patient who is always changing his medicine?—Constantinople (Constant to no pill.)

WHAT ARE the most unsociable things in the world?—Milestones—you never see two of them together.

WHY IS a vain young lady like a confirmed drunkard?—Because neither of them are satisfied with a moderate use of the glass.

MATRIMONIAL BLISS has been said to be something like butter; the thinner we spread it the further it goes.

A STUDENT in want of money sold his books and wrote home—"Father, rejoice, for I now derive my support from literature."

A SECRET is like silence, you cannot talk about it and keep it; it is like money, when once you know there is any concealed, it is half-discovered.

MIKE, SPEAKING of a celebrated musician, said: "He has led a very abandoned life."—"O, yes," replied Scaley, "the whole *tenor* of his life has been *base.*"

ROME.—An Irishman said that Rome had the most *laineant* government in the world. You might kill a man in the street, and nobody took the *laist* notice of it.

"YOU CHARGE me fifty sequins," said a Venetian gentleman to a sculptor, "for a bust that cost you only ten days' labour."—"You forgot," replied the artist, "that I was thirty years learning to make that bust in ten days!"

A RURAL poet, in describing his lady-love, says—she is as graceful as a water-lily, while her breath smells like an armful of clover. His case is certainly approaching a crisis.

LONDON CHARITIES.—These charities annually disburse in aid of their respective objects the amount of £1,764,733, of which upwards of £1,000,000 is raised annually by voluntary contributions; the remainder from funded property, sale of publications, &c.

"FIGGERS VONT lie, vill they?" muttered a cockney arithmetician, who had just reeled out of an anti-temperance resort, and was holding on to a lamp-post. "Vell, perhaps they vont," remarked an observer; "but I see a figger as vont stand any how!"

"WHY, SARAH, I am told that when you met your old flame, Mr. J., the other day, he treated you quite bearishly."—"Indeed he didn't (blushing); he seemed very glad to see me."—"That is what I mean. I understand he gave you a prodigious hugging."—Sarah scream

THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE.—The First Number of the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for 1851 is embellished with a Portrait of the late Thomas Amyot, Esq., Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries, accompanied with memoirs written by two of his most intimate friends. A second plate represents a very highly ornamented Roman Sword recently discovered near Mayence. This number also contains THE STORY OF NELL GWYN, Chapter I. by Peter Cunningham, Esq., F.S.A., being the commencement of an original Work, which will be continued periodically in the Magazine. Also, among other articles, The unpublished Diary of John first Earl of Egmont, Part III.; Faridon and Owen, the Divines of the Cavalier and Roundhead; Notes of an Antiquarian Tour on the Rhine, by C. Roach Smith, Esq., F.S.A.; Milton and the Adams Caduto of Salandra; the Barons of London and the Cinque Ports; Effigy of a Notary (with an engraving), &c., &c. Reviews of Miss Strickland's Lives of the Queens of Scotland; Vols. V. and VI. of Southey's Life: &c., &c. With Literary and Antiquarian Intelligence; Historical Chronicle; and Obituary, including Memoirs of the Marchioness Cornwallis, Lord Nugent, Rt. Hon. Sir W. H. Fremantle, Mr. Raphael, Mrs. Bell Martin, &c. &c.

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NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE hereby announce the following meetings:—

On Sunday Evening next at the Rock Tavern, Lissongrove—Princess Royal, Circus-street, Marylebone—King and Queen, Foley-street, Portland-place—Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road—Crown and Anchor, Cheshire-street, Waterloo Town—Globe and Friends, Morgan-street, Commercial-road-east—and New Eastern Literary and Scientific Institution, Morpeth-street, Green-street, Bethnal Green.

On the same evening the late Whittington and Cat Locality will meet in the large room at the Woodman Tavern, White-street, Waterloo Town, (where for the future this locality will meet.)

On the same evening Mr. Bronterre O'Brien will commence a course of lectures at the City Hall, 26, Golden-lane, Barbican, on 'Universal Suffrage, Currency, Capital, and Exchange.'

On Monday Evening, January 6th, 1851, Mr. Ernest Jones will deliver the first of his lectures on 'Canterbury *versus* Rome, and Christianity in relation to both,' at the National School Room, Cowper-street, City-road; to commence at Eight o'clock. Admission—Platform, Threepence; Hall, One Penny.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
JOHN ARNOTT, General Secretary.

THE LONDON CO-OPERATIVE STORES are now opened at
76, CHARLOTTE STREET, FITZROY SQUARE,

In connexion with the Society for Promoting Working Men's Associations.

1.—OBJECT OF THE STORES.

To enable members of the above-named Association, and other persons who may desire it, to obtain articles, of daily use perfectly free from adulteration, of the best quality, and the lowest charge, after defraying the necessary expense of management, distribution, and providing for a reserve fund.

Co-operative stores have been established with much success in different parts of the kingdom. The benefit to the subscribers may be judged of from the fact that the subscribers to the Pioneer Store in Rochdale, divided in the last year £800 after payment of all expenses, although the goods were charged considerably below the ordinary price.

2.—OPERATIONS OF THE STORES.

Wherever practicable, orders will be taken at the houses of customers, and goods will in all cases be promptly and carefully delivered.

The proprietors will act as agents on behalf of any parties who may order goods of usual consumption, even if not kept in stock.

3.—CAPITAL.

The necessary capital has been advanced in the first instance by some gentlemen favourable to the cause of association; the capital for subsequent operations will be furnished by subscribers to be repaid in goods.

Co-operative stores have usually been founded by a number of persons who have advanced the funds necessary to carry on the business, and who have applied to their own use whatever surplus remained. In the present instance the funds requisite for commencing the undertaking having been already advanced, the public have the opportunity of seeing the stores in operation before being called upon to subscribe.

4.—SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PROFITS

All the subscribers to the stores of not less than five shillings shall receive back at the end of each quarter of a year, as a bonus, the profits upon all purchases made by them during such quarter, subject to the necessary expense of distribution and a reserve fund.

The transactions of the stores will be for ready money, but subscribers will have credit to the amount of their subscriptions.

The proprietors also contemplate making arrangements for the benefit of the poorer class of their customers, by which part of the profits upon purchases made by them shall accumulate, for the purpose of enabling them to become subscribers.

MANAGEMENT.

A general meeting of the subscribers will be held once in every quarter, when all accounts relating to the Stores will be laid before them, and auditors will be appointed from the subscribers.

The books are to be at all times open to the inspection of the supervisor appointed on behalf of the Society for Promoting Working Men's Associations, who will also be consulted on the general business of the Store.

Subscriptions received at the office, 76, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, from 8 o'clock a.m. to 1 o'clock p.m.; on Saturday evenings till 11 o'clock, where prospectuses may be obtained; and also at the

Working Tailors' Association, 34, Castle-street, Oxford-street.

North London Needlewomen's Association, 31, Red Lion-square.

Working Shoemakers' Association:

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Boot and Shoemakers, 11 A, Tottenham-court-road.

Gentlemen's Boot and Shoe, and Strong Shoe Makers' 151, High Holborn. Branches: 21, Lower White-cross-street, City, and 5, Church-street, Chelsea.

West-end, Working Bootmakers, 8, Castle-street, Oxford-street.

Working Printers' Association, 4 A, Johnson's-court, Fleet-street.

Working Bakers' Association, 26, Clipstone-street, Fitzroy-square.

Working Builders' Association, 76, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square,

Pimlico Working Builders' Association, 2, Upper Dorset-street.

Orders for any of the above Associations will be received at the Central Office, where prospectuses of the Co-operative Stores may be obtained. For further particulars see Tracts on CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM, and also the CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST, a new weekly publication, the first number of which appeared on Saturday, Nov. 2nd, to be had at 76, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, where also communications for the editor are to be addressed. On behalf of the proprietors, LLOYD JONES, Manager.

TO TAILORS.

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

NOW READY.

THE LONDON and PARIS FASHIONS for AUTUMN and WINTER 1850-1, the most splendid and superbly-coloured PRINT ever before published by Messrs. Benjamin READ and Co., 12, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, London; and by G. BERGER, Holywell-street, Strand. This exquisitely engraved Print will be accompanied with Riding, Dress, Frock and Shooting Coat Patterns, all of the newest and most fashionable style, and every part fully illustrated both for Cutting and Making-up. Also the registered Cape and Cloak Paletot for persons of all nations, the most convenient garment ever before introduced, and will admit of great variety in cutting and making-up: every particular explained. Registered according to act of parliament by READ and Co., 28th August, 1850. All persons purchasing the Fashions are at liberty to make and sell the same; and all other persons not purchasing the Fashions, by sending 3s. for the Pattern and printed information, for that and all other particulars respecting Style and Fashion for the present season. The beautiful and richly coloured Print is exhibited in the Royal Exchange, London. Price, with all the Patterns and informations complete, 10s. Sold by READ and Co., 12, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, London; G. BERGER, Holywell-street, Strand; and all booksellers in the United Kingdom.

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Hundreds of other Testimonials might be added to the above if space permitted.

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LETTERS TO THE HIERARCHIES,

By ROBERT OWEN. Also to RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P., with observations on the means to well-place, well-employ, and well-educate the population; and other interesting matter, in

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TWO LECTURES,
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Of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-law.
Now publishing in four weekly numbers, price twopence.

No 1, will be published on Saturday, the 18th inst.

CONTENTS.—What is *really* the teaching of Christ?—How has he been obeyed?—How did the church perish?—The five taints exemplified: ambition, avarice, usury, insanity, blasphemy.

THE PAPAL CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—British—Saxon—Norman—Anglican—Old Coifi—The Devil's messenger—Church piracy—How the Charter was got, and what it was worth.—The Lollards—Ficketfields—The fiery pit—The price of wood—Luther's letter—The church property—Did the church help science, freedom, or learning?—Papist and state churchmen, Dissenters and democrats.

Published by Mr. Dipple, Holywell-street, Strand, London.

ERNEST JONES

will repeat the two lectures on the above subject at
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL-ROOMS, COWPER-STREET, CITY-ROAD,
On Monday, January the 6th,
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On Wednesday, January the 15th, 1851.
Admission:—Hall, 1d.; Platform, 3d.
To commence at eight o'clock precisely.

OPENING OF A NEW PEOPLE'S INSTITUTION.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Friends of NATIONAL REFORM will take place on TUESDAY, the 7th Instant, at the ECLECTIC INSTITUTE, 17 A, Denmark-street, Soho, at Eight o'clock in the Evening, on the occasion of opening this new Institution.

Mr. J. B. O'Brien will preside; and Messrs. Hart, Ernest Jones, Ellis, Leno, and other friends of the Working Classes, will address the audience on the objects of the Institute, and on the duties of the people in respect of the new year, and the approaching Session of Parliament.

Admission, 2d. each, to defray expenses.

N.B.—Lectures, in future, every Sunday and Friday Evenings, at Eight.

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Portraits of Patriots.

The readers of the "Northern Star," and the Democratic party generally, are informed, that there is now a re-issue of the various Steel engravings lately distributed with the "Northern Star." They consist of

KOSSUTH,	MEAGHER,
LOUIS BLANC,	MITCHEL,
ERNEST JONES,	SMITH O'BRIEN,
RICHARD OASTLER,	JOHN FROST.

These Engravings have excited the admiration of every one who has seen them. They are faithful portraits, and are executed in the most brilliant style. Price Fourpence each.

There has also been a reprint of the undermentioned portraits, which have been given away at different times with the "Northern Star," and which are striking likenesses, and executed in the most brilliant manner—

ANDREW MARVEL,	WILLIAM COBBETT,
ARTHUR O'CONNOR,	HENRY HUNT,
PATRICK O'HIGGINS,	F. O'CONNOR,
BRONTERRE O'BRIEN,	W. P. ROBERTS.
J. R. STEPHENS,	

There is also a re-issue of the two large prints,

"THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF 1839."
"THE PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PETITION, by MR. DUNCOMBE, in 1842."

To be had of J. PAVEY, Holywell-street.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

The galleries and lecture rooms of this establishment were crowded on Monday for many hours with visitors anxious to inspect the numerous models of ingenious inventions, and to hear the lectures on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy delivered by Professors Backoffner and Pepper. The former of these gentlemen explained the nature of voltaic electricity, and the latter lectured on fire and its antagonists. These lectures were illustrated by experiments, and were well adapted to a popular audience. A lecture, in which appropriate ballads were introduced, was given by Mr. G. Barker, entitled an "English Christmas." The great variety of models of railway carriages, machines used in the fabrication of various articles of commerce, and the numerous contributions of ingenious contrivances and inventions, render this institution amongst the best of the public institutions of the metropolis. The arrangements at this time are remarkably good; everything is numbered and placed in its respective class, so that by reference to the catalogue the visitor can comprehend and profit by what he sees. In addition to these things, there were for the amusement of the younger branches an exhibition of dissolving views, and a vast number of amusing recreations connected with science.

SECESSIONS.—A contemporary says that Mr. Serjeant Bellasis has been received into the Roman Catholic Church. The French papers announce likewise the conversion to that church of the Rev. Mr. Laprimandaye, who has made his profession at Marseilles.

To Correspondents.

NOTTINGHAM.—J. Sweet acknowledges the receipt of the following sums (sent herewith), viz:—FOR HONESTY FUND.—Messrs. Bulter 1s—Brooks 1s—Henson 1s—Hudson 2d—W. Clarkson 1s—Mrs. Perkins 1d—Seven Stars 10s.——MACNAMARA'S ACTION.—Mr. J. Wall 3d.——WINDING-UP FUND.—Messrs. W. Clarkson 1s—J. Thurman 6d—S. Gregory 6d—W. Goulder 1s—Chipindale 1s R. Whitley 1s—Francis Swan 1s—John Jacques 6d.——REFUGEE FUND.—From the Alderman Wood 2s 10d.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR HONESTY FUND from the allottees of O'Connorville.—Mrs. Dimmock 6d—Mrs. Gambell 6d—Mrs. Hoare 1s—Mrs. A. Bradford 6d—Mrs. Ford 6d—Mrs. Mead 6d—Mrs. Merrick 6d—Mrs. Barnett 6d—Mrs. Heaton 2d—Mrs. Smith 6d.—Messrs. R. Avison 1s—S. Blackbrough 1s—R. Smith 1s—Batts 1s—T. Sturgeon 1s—R. Wolstenholme 1s—W. Dimmock 6d—W. Gambell 6d—J. H., Bradford 6d—T. Heaton 6d—T. Bailey 1s—P. Ford 6d—J. Barnett 1s—T. Mead 6d—M. Fitzsimon 6d—Martin Griffiths 6d—E. Whitmore sen. 1s—G. Whitmore 1s—S. Cole 6d—G. W. Wheeler 6d—Small sums 1s.

ERNEST JONES'S LECTURES.—We learn that Mr. Jones, in compliance with a general request, intends publishing his two lectures entitled "Canterbury *versus* Rome," in four weekly numbers, as soon as he has ascertained that he will have readers enough to cover the expense. He is therefore, desirous that all localities or individuals intending to have the lectures, will write to him to that effect, stating the number of copies required. Seeing the torrent of invection and folly that is poured forth on occasion of this "Papal aggression," it is highly necessary the people should learn what they have to thank the Established Church for, and what they have to expect at its hands. These lectures draw the veil aside, and expose the huge deception. They come most opportunely as an antidote to the vertigo that is throwing the people once more towards the arms of a grasping and designing priestcraft. They unveil the whole history of our church, and give an exposure of its sins, its duplicity, its *income*, and its frauds, such as has not often been concentrated in one focus. Mr. Jones's address is Hardwicke Lodge, Moscow-road, Bayswater, London.

ERRATUM.—The 3s. 6d. announced in the last week's 'STAR' from Messrs. Brooker and Patnam, Pottery Field, Leeds, for the Refugees, was intended for the Honesty Fund.

S. H. H.—Write to Mr. P. M'Grath, 144, High Holborn, London.

Mr G. WILSON, Alloa.—Received.

PETERLOO.—Received 9s. 8d.

Mr. J. DUNN, Blue Quarries, Newcastle.—It is impossible for us to publish the names contained in every list.

THOS. C. INGRAM, ABERGAVENNY, begs to acknowledge as below (sent herewith.)—HONESTY FUND—C. Beams 2s 6d; T. C. Ingram 2s 6d; R. Thomas 6d; J. Folks 6d;—POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REFUGEES—W. Griffiths, Abergavenny, 6d; Tolio Lewy 6d; L. Berkley, Ross, 1s; J. Williams, Newcastle, 1s.

POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REFUGEE FUND.—Collected at the City locality, Golden-lane 4s 4d; Blyth, Burdge and Baughan 7d; Friends of democracy, Oriental Hotel, Southampton, £1. The committee meet till further notice, at 56, Golden-lane, every Tuesday evening, at nine o'clock, and at the Crown and Anchor every Saturday evening. Thomas Ferguson secretary, 3, Gays-buildings, Elizabeth-street, Hackney-road.

J. G.—As the time for holding a Conference is near at hand, as as the question has been so fully discussed, we must decline the insertion of all further communications on the subject.

JOSEPH PICKLES, GREENOCK, expresses his sympathy for Mr. O'Connor on the decision of the judges in the late libel case, and having sent a subscription for the Defence Fund, advises in in future to avoid all courts of law. As an eight, 'Four acre shareholder' he says that if all the members of the Company had been of his opinion, and had acted up to the rules, there would have been no need of govermental interference.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1851.

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY.

If the year which has just closed is remembered at all in history, it will be on account of its pre-eminent dullness. It was the antipodes of 1848. In that year the nations of Europe woke up into vigorous political action; in 1850 they went to sleep; the political pendulum swung to the other extreme. The ceaseless, insidious, and stealthy conspiracies and encroachments of the despots, who are forging new chains for Europe, has met with no resistance worthy of the name. Deep slumber has fallen upon the people.

Chartism is not the only public movement which has exhibited languor and apathy during 1850. Every other question of Reform—Social, Education, or Financial—has been marked by the same characteristics. There was no "getting the steam up." The Protectionists became dumb. The Financial Reformers dozed over their figures. The voices of Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY and his co-agitators for the "little Charter," died into silence. Public agitation of all kinds was awfully uphill work, and disheartened every one who engaged in it. JOHN BULL was not in the humour. He wanted to be "let alone," and did not care a pin how much his pockets were picked, provided it was done quietly.

There was, and is, no want of real grievances requiring redress—of real abuses requiring to be removed. Six out of every seven adult males are excluded from participation in political rights, and endure all the consequences of political inferiority. They are plundered, in a thousand indirect forms, of the fruits of their industry, without having the power to resist the plunderers. In the midst of apparent freedom, they are really slaves. In the House of Representatives there is no representation of Labour. Capital speaks for itself in every shape. Land, Funds, Shares of every kind—Mills, Warehouses, Shops—all, have voices in Parliament, but the working man has none. When, occasionally, the one or two members who understand his wants, and sympathise with his views, give utterance to them in the so-called Council of the Nation, they are either listened to with contemptuous indifference, or cut short by insolent and impatient contumely. The House of Commons, that sits patiently for half a dozen hours three or four nights to discuss trumpery matters of detail, affecting monied interests, cut short, in ten or fifteen minutes, a debate on the People's Charter. There was no end of legislation for the benefit of capitalists. The introduction of a bill for improving the condition of Labour was scouted as Communistic, Red Republican, and subversive of all the best interests of society—in short, the wolves legislated for the sheep, and took good care there should be no impediments in the way of devouring them.

But the masses, who know all this, have been as supine and indifferent during the past year, as if the political atmosphere had been surcharged with chloroform. They left to a few men of principle the arduous task of keeping alive the embers of public spirit, which escaped extinguishing in the midst of this dreary and deplorable apathy, far more fatal to the cause of popular liberty than the fiercest persecution. Parliamentary Reform has nothing to thank 1850 for.

Neither has Financial Reform. The Whig CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER found himself in the strange and unwonted position of having a surplus; and, being ignorant what use to make of the money, he managed to squander it in a way which did the least possible good to anybody. The Economists in Parliament had no heart in their work. They allowed themselves to be beaten, when the slightest spirit and determination would have insured victory; and, out of doors, they allowed matters to sink into drowsy inertness. Yet in this department, too, all, or nearly all, the abuses which drew forth the tracts of the Liverpool Association, and gathered together large public meetings, yet remain untouched. The infamous window tax yet shuts out light and air from the dwellings of the industrious classes. The income tax continues its unjust and unequal pressure on poor clerks, and others who are caught within its net; while owners of real estates, shopkeepers, and tradesmen, whose actual profits cannot be ascertained, escape with a far smaller per centage on the real value of their income and its sources. Heavy taxes on tea, tobacco, and malt, limit the consumption of these articles in the households of the labouring classes; taxes on paper and newspapers create an artificial and injurious monopoly in favour of the capitalist, and prevent the diffusion of knowledge. We knew all this, and more, in 1850—but did nothing for the lightening of those burdens—nothing for the more equal distribution of taxation in proportion to the means of the various classes of society.

Educational Reform was equally unfortunate in 1850. As DICKENS, in his "Household Words," truly reminds us, we are, in Educational matters, on a par with Spain, Portugal, South Italy, Turkey, and Russia. In other words, we rank with the most ignorant and degraded nations, in the amount and nature of the public provision made for Education. Every other country pretending to be civilised, has recognised the importance of Education, and the duty of the State, in its corporate capacity, to provide the means for instructing the young in such a manner as to enable them to grow up useful and good citizens. *We* are too fond of "liberty," to impose any such restraints upon our untutored young barbarians; they are left to the glorious freedom of the gutters, or the almost worse fate of being crimped by sectarian fanatics, and having the errors of superstition added to the darkness of ignorance. Year after year workhouses, lunatic asylums, and jails, multiply and expand, in order to provide accommodation for the augmenting stream of poverty, madness, and crime, which flows from this poisonous fountain; yet we, who do not grudge millions spent in building useless ships of war, and then knocking them to pieces again, cannot afford the price of a single frigate yearly for the purpose of Educating the people!

On one subject only was any excitement manifested in 1850. A very fat priest presented himself among us with a red hat, rather large in the brim, a red cloak, and purple stockings; forthwith JOHN BULL was roused to a state of fury, almost bordering on madness. That the people should be excluded from their own House of Parliament—that those who usurped the functions of representatives should levy unjust, oppressive, and unequal taxes, and spend them for the benefit of the privileged classes—that the masses of the rising generation should be left either to grow up in savage ignorance, or to acquire erroneous and superstitious ideas, almost more adverse to their well-being than ignorance itself—all this mattered not: JOHN BULL was quite content to bear it all; but a red hat on a fat priest was too much for him; and so for the last two or three months of 1850, he spent his energies in frantic bellowings about "Papal aggression."

We repeat, that as far as actual improvements are concerned, we owe nothing to 1850.

Abroad, the retrospect is equally unsatisfactory. France groans under a terrible reaction. With a Republican form of Government, it is subject to a despotism as rigorous as that exercised by the Czar over the serfs of Russia. Liberty of speech, writing, and action are nearly as little known or respected in the one case as the other. The leading men are engaged in ceaseless intrigues and squabbles, for the retention or attainment of power—the liberty and welfare of the people at large is their last thought. A tyrannical and insolent majority makes popular representation a mockery and a sham.

In Germany, Russia, through the instrumentality of its bond-slave, bankrupt Austria, has gradually woven a net of despotism, which threatens to enmesh the whole of the states of the empire. The barriers which have heretofore interposed between Western Europe and its barbarian hordes are thus being craftily and insiduously removed; and the time approaches for the fulfilment of Napoleon's prediction at St. Helena:—"In fifty years Europe will become either Cossack or Republican." At present the odds are in favour of "Cossack." The nephew of the prophet, the nominal head of a Republic, is Cossack in his sympathies and policy; and the political tricksters, intrigues, and adventurers by whom he is surrounded, however they may hate or oppose him, are equally reactionist and despotic. Prussia, the natural leader of German Constitutionalism, has betrayed the cause, and basely negotiated terms with the Autocrat, the object of which is to give added power to the dynasty of Hohenzottern at the cost of the liberties of the people.

The moderate, constitutional, and brave people of Hesse Cassel, have already been crushed by the iron hoof of armed tyranny. and the policy of Russia appears as though it would speedily be triumphant in Holstein—Italy has been restored to the dominion of the priests—the press is silenced—liberty strangled—"order," as understood by tyrants, priests, and generals, is in the ascendancy. 1850 has indeed done little for the people anywhere.

The darkest hour, it is said, is near the dawn. May it prove so in this instance. In the year upon which we have just entered, may we witness the revival of public spirit and vitality at home and abroad. The seeds of a sound opinion on all the questions we have alluded to, have been widely sown; we trust, that under the influences of the coming year, they will spring up into a rich harvest of public good—and that 1851 will prove what we now cordially wish to all our readers—

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT, THE NEW EXECUTIVE AND THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

Those who will closely examine the antecedents of all organic changes in the constitution of this country, and analyse the elements by which they were ultimately brought about, must come to the conclusion, that no one class of the community can effect such changes. That they must, and do in almost all cases, originate with the struggling and suffering masses, is quite certain; but that they can succeed, unaided by the varied experience, the best qualities, and the avowed support of at least a portion of the other classes, is an assumption as yet unsupported by the facts of our past history.

One indispensable preliminary to this combination and blending of the varied powers and qualities of the different classes of society is, that the masses shall, in the first place, be thoroughly and universally in earnest. Whenever they are so on any subject, apart altogether from the power they can exert, they create a species of political magnetism which extends to and affects all the other portions of society. It is before the irresistible torrent of an all embracing and high-toned popular enthusiasm alone, that the weighty and firmly-constructed barriers to progress are finally swept away.

Apply this to the Chartist movement, and it indicates at once what ought to be aimed at by all professing Chartists. In some way or other a national and well organised party must be created. At present it does not exist. No one will pretend that an Executive, for the highest member of which less than *two thousand* votes were polled, can claim either national authority or respect. Argue the question as we may—turn and twist as we please—there is no getting rid of the fact, that for the Central Executive of the National Charter Association only some eighteen hundred votes could be mustered in the whole of the *nation*.

If any other party was to assume national authority, or claim to be the head of a National Movement, on such a slender basis, there is not a Democrat in the country who would not laugh to scorn such a preposterous assumption. Surely, then, we may ask Democrats to be consistent and act upon their own principles. It is quite clear that, *at present*, the people at large, from some cause or other, do not take any interest in the existing Chartist organisation. We must endeavour to find out what these causes are, and to remove them. It is well known that the working classes of this country are, almost to a man, Chartist in principle. How is it that we find them exhibit so lamentable and general an apathy on the subject?

That should, to every earnest and honest advocate of the People's Charter, become a paramount question, and one to which immediate attention should be given.

It cannot be too frequently repeated that, the only way to induce the ruling classes of this country to make any great, or radical change, is for the whole people to present such an united and determined front as to render it dangerous for them longer to resist the popular demand. The British Constitution is composed of stubborn, but yet elastic materials; however immoveable it may be when an insufficient force is applied, it will always give way when the requisite pressure is brought to bear upon it. Mere talk will not do it. The wild and foolish declamation about physical force, and violent revolutions, is as mischievous as it is contemptible. Whatever may be the case in other countries, there is with us no need for having recourse either to barricades, or bloodshed. If ever the necessity for them does arrive, they will be resorted to without previous babble or bluster about pikes, guns, or blunderbusses.

We can understand and sympathise, to a large extent, with the use of such revolutionary weapons in continental countries, because in them the patriots who struggle for political freedom, are in a position similar to the Californian gold seeker—they must work armed, or run the risk of being robbed and murdered. Force begets force; and where at the outset deliberation, discussion, free speech, and free writing are denied, blows are the natural, though melancholy alternative. But we have never yet met with an intelligent continental democrat who did not deprecate resort to force in this country. We have what they are endeavouring to obtain as the indispensable pre-requisites to self-government. There are ample powers given by the constitution of this country to enable us to form a legal and powerful organisation, for the purpose of amending whatever is defective in the constitution itself, or of extending its protection and its privileges to whatever class is at present excluded from both. If these means have not been, are not now, rightly appreciated and applied, the people have themselves to blame. Either they are ignorant of their existence, or are too apathetic and careless to use them. When we have done that to the utmost, and find them insufficient, it will be time enough to begin blaming other parties, and to look out for other weapons.

The result of the attempt to elect a new Executive must, we think, have convinced the most earnest and sincere supporters of that policy that it is a failure. To hold office under such circumstances can only entail ceaseless anxiety and difficulties, without any corresponding advantages, either personal or political. We presume that every Chartist is a Chartist primarily, because he wants to see the People's Charter become the law of the land. Whatever secondary and accidental, or personal motives may have subsequently crept in to influence him, that must be the great and crowning object of his efforts. We may also assume as a proposition needing no proof, that to gain the assent of Parliament to that measure there must, in some way or other, be organized a powerful and compact Peoples' Party. We must have the masses with us—we know they are so in heart and sentiment; but we must also have them in person and purse. How? That is the question to be discussed at the coming Manchester Conference.

Whatever weight, then, may have been in the reasons formerly urged against that Conference, they have lost it since the election of the new Executive, and the policy it has adopted.

The late Executive had the first trial to create a new movement. They appealed to the country to give a new Executive power to speak in the name of the Chartists of Great Britain, and to support that Executive while pressing forward the great object which, no one will doubt, every member of it has sincerely at heart.

To that appeal as many persons have responded as could be collected in an ordinary market town, to hear a lecture on vocal music, accompanied by illustrations, at sixpence a head. This cannot be accepted as a national response. The Executive themselves must be convinced that something else must be done, in order to organise and fairly represent the Democracy of this country. To hold office under such circumstances, except temporarily, can, in our opinion, only entail continual difficulties on those who are saddled with large responsibilities without having any means of meeting them.

Another reason why we think all opposition should be withdrawn to the Manchester Conference, on the part of the new Executive, is, that they have themselves abandoned the May Conference in London, upon which so much stress was laid by its advocates. Instead of that, it is now proposed to have a "*Convention*" in *March*. Why, when the change was made, not change to January at once? There is not a single reason that we can think of why March should be preferred to April, or February. Having once shifted their ground, and given up all that was so strenuously insisted upon as to the superior advantages to be derived from a London Conference in May, it would have been only a graceful and a brotherly act, for the New Executive to have removed all further cause for contention, by agreeing to meet, this month, in Manchester. There might have been something intelligible in the division that previously existed, but we confess ourselves totally unable to perceive any reason whatever now.

Of the tone of the address agreed to by the new Executive, at their first sitting, we have to express unqualified approval, in as far as it lays down a calm, constitutional, and argumentative policy. But we respectfully put it to them, whether the state of the Chartist body, as disclosed by the appeal of the late Executive to it, and the small number of persons by whom they have been elected to office, does not demonstrate that something more must be done to make Chartism a living reality?

We earnestly assure the Executive and the Chartist body, that we have but one feeling and wish in this matter:—We desire to see all the advocates of the Charter lay aside personal difference, make mutual concessions on minor points, and unite together cordially, to devise the means by which Chartism may be made commensurate with the magnitude of its objects. We really see nothing whatever of a serious nature that stands in the way of such an union; and we need not tell them how suicidal it is for them to be wasting their energies in squabbling with each other, when there is so much work to be done outside demanding all the powers they possess.

We respectfully suggest to the new Executive and the localities which support it, the propriety of sending delegates to the approaching Conference at Manchester, to consult with those who may there assemble earnestly and calmly how the movement can be made a national one. There is yet time to do this; and if all parties will but unite to pull together for the Charter, and discountenance any personal vanity, ambition, or ill-feeling which may stand in the way of that union, we may yet see, in the year which we have now entered, a resuscitation of Chartism, and brighter prospects for the People's Cause than any which shone on the year that has passed away.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

Nothing need be said at this time of day as to the iniquitous nature and injurious operation of these taxes. Argument and discussion is out of the question. They have been long since tried and sentenced. Execution has only been stayed because our Legislature and Government do not represent the people, or act in accordance with public opinion. To the able and masterly speech of Mr. MILNER GIBSON, last year, the Chancellor had literally no reply, except that he could not afford the money. As this year it is understood he will have a very considerable surplus, that excuse will not be a valid one. But, in fact, it never ought to have been accepted as valid. No Government ought to be permitted, on any ground whatever, to impose fiscal restrictions on the diffusion of knowledge. Tax anything but that.

It is of the utmost importance that any movement, having the repeal of these imposts, should be kept on the high ground of moral and political principle, and also that it should aim at a total and complete abolition. On Thursday night a meeting was held in the London Tavern, for the single object of repealing the paper duty, which, however desirable, *per se* is comparatively insignificant, compared with the repeal of the stamp duty on newspapers. It is true that the duty on paper largely increases the difficulty of providing cheap and good periodical literature; but the newspaper stamp has the wonderful effect of debarring the working classes from acquiring that particular species of knowledge for which they have the greatest taste, and in which they feel the deepest interest, because it it most nearly affects their condition and prospects.

When we contrast the supply of newspapers in this country with the proportion they bear to the population in the United States, the difference between a taxed and a fettered press, and an untaxed and free one, is immediately apparent. There is scarcely a little village of three or four hundred inhabitants that has not one, at least, paper of its own; there are few towns of an ordinary size that do not support several daily papers. To the English working men the daily paper is an unattainable luxury at his own fireside. He must read it at the public-house, the coffee shop, or the news-room, at a cost greater than he would be required to pay for a paper to himself in America. It is true, that in appearance, in getting up, in literary style, the British daily new

It is requested that you will immediately take steps to form a Committee in your town, to canvass for Subscriptions. It would be advisable to divide it into small districts, to appoint a collector to each, to announce that the Subscriptions will be collected simultaneously on a given day, thus showing, by one general and hearty effort, that the people will not allow their advocate and champion to be victimised by Legal Frauds and Governmental Chicanery.

Upon application to this office, *collecting books, and every information that may be necessary*, will be forthwith supplied to all who are desirous of assisting in this good work.

It is recommended that a per centage on the amount collected be allowed to all who undertake that duty; the amount of such per centage to be fixed by the local Committee.

The funds should be remitted immediately (per Post Office Order,) to Mr. William Rider, 16, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, with a list of Subscribers; and a due and full acknowledgement will appear in the "Northern Star" each Saturday.

"A long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether"—now or never.

WILLIAM RIDER.

MONIES RECEIVED

FOR THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 1851.

FOR THE

THE HONESTY FUND.

RECEIVED BY W. RIDER.

	£	s.	d.
J. Cooks, Shincliffe Colliery	0	0	2
J. Wilson, Shincliffe Colliery	0	0	2
Brighton Chartists, per W. John	1	0	0
From Gallatown—D. Morrison	0	0	6
J. Morrison	0	0	6
T. Phalp	0	0	6
W. Boyd	0	0	6
rom Highgate, Shotleybridge—T. Smith	0	0	6
J. Clarkson	0	0	6
R. Renwick	0	0	6
G. Rice, Torquay	0	1	3
Mansfield, a few Old Guards, per J. Linney	0	5	0
J. Roxby, Murton Colliery	0	2	0
Messrs. Collins, Meaden, and Rogers, Frome	0	1	6
H. Lester, Reading	0	1	0
R. Wells, Hope Town, Bethnal-green	0	2	0
Messrs. Merry and Swatsall, Hampstead	0	1	0
Kircaldy Chartist Association, per R. Henderson	1	0	0
Dalston, Cumberland, per Thos. Sowerby	0	12	11
W. Walley, South Stockton	0	2	6
E. Evans, Bilston	0	1	0
Norwich, per J. Collins	0	16	2
Norwich, per J. Lergen	0	1	1
W. Atkinson, Liverpool	0	1	0
J. Pickles and Friends, Greenock	1	3	0
T. R.	0	1	0
Hanley and Shelton, per E. Nixon	9	2	0
From Stockport—W. Potts and J. Rogers	0	2	6
T. Middleton and M. Seragg	0	8	5
W. Graham and J. Mather	0	6	4
T. Clews	0	2	10
J. M'Cawley and T. Broadhurst	0	5	11
O'Connorville, per T. M. Wheeler	1	1	8
A few Friends, Armitage Bridge and Berry Brow, near Huddersfield	0	11	3
Newark, per J. Saunders	0	15	6
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	0	14	3
From Wisbeach—T. Register	0	3	6
M. Stely	0	2	6
J. and W. Batterham	0	2	0
J. Byers	0	1	0
S. Sandall	0	1	0
J. Doubleday	0	1	0
A Friend	0	0	3
Stoke-under-Ham, per T. Taylor	0	2	6
T. Willey, Cheltenham	0	1	0
Bristol Chartists, per W. Hyatt	1	0	0
Mr. Newman, Clifton, Bristol	0	1	0
J. Jones, Cardiff	0	0	9
J. Samuels, Castle Precincts, Bristol	0	1	0
From London—S. Loveday	0	1	0
Mr. Frost	0	1	0
Mr. Hitchcock	0	2	0
Mr. Dixon	0	2	0
P. Down	0	1	0
E. Witney	0	0	6
J. Wrigley	0	0	6
J. Brooks	0	0	6
Two Comb-makers, Aberdeen	0	1	0
J. Firth, Hart's-hill	0	1	0
J. Newport, Hart's-hill	0	1	0
Mr. Hick, London	0	0	6
A Few Friends, Swansea, per J. Harris	0	3	6
J. Hunt, Oldbury	0	1	9
Abergavenny, per T. C. Ingram	0	6	0
Sheffield, per G. Cavill	0	14	0
A Few Friends, Torquay, per T. Hocker	0	5	9
J. Thompson and Friends, Glossop	0	8	8
Six Friends, Glossop (less, order & postage, 4d)	0	5	8
R. Aitchison, Dabry-road	0	1	0
J. Caird, St. Germains de Levit, per Lesieux, Calvados, France	0	10	0
W. Smith, Lyndon, Birmingham, per W. Peel	0	4	0
S. Hodgkins, Walsall	0	1	0
J. Webster, Walsall	8	1	0
RECEIVED BY JOHN ARNOTT.			
Lynn, per W. Twaits	0	7	6
A Few Working Men, in Dewey's shop, Gloucester	0	0	9
	£25	5	6

WINDING-UP OF THE LAND COMPANY.

RECEIVED BY W. RIDER.

	£	s.	d.
J. Rylands, Bolton	0	0	6
G. Rise and others, Torquay	0	10	9
Mansfield, per J. Linney	0	10	6
Messrs. Collins, Meaden, and Rogers, Frome	0	1	6
Messrs Smith, Clarkson, Renwick, and Temperley, Highgate, Shotleybridge	0	3	6
H. Lester, Reading	0	1	0
Dr. Greer, Glasgow	0	5	0
Messrs. Swatsall, Merry, and Allen, Hampstead	0	1	6
From Emley—W. Beckett	0	0	6
J. Bedford	0	0	6
J. Haigh	0	0	6
J. Kaye	0	0	6
T. Walley, South Stockton	0	10	0
E. Evans, Bilston	0	1	0
W. King, Bilston	0	0	6
J. Newitt and T. Case, Long Buckby	0	1	0
Norwich, per J. Collins	0	12	9
Norwich, Crook's-place, per Messrs. Wall and Scott	0	2	6
Molton, per J. Bennett	0	5	0
Aslacton, per U. Woodcraft	0	2	6
J. E. Moffatt, Wentworth-street, Whitechapel	0	1	0
Lower Warley, per D. Messenger	1	12	4
W. Atkinson, Liverpool	0	1	0
T. R.	0	3	0
From Huddersfield—G. Hargreaves	0	0	6
J. L. Bramwell	0	1	0
W. Dawson	0	1	0
W. Clay	0	0	3
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	0	6	6
Stoke-under-Ham, per T. Taylor	0	7	6
T. Wiley, Cheltenham	0	1	0
From Clifton, Bristol—Mr. Newman	0	1	0
A. Browning	0	0	6
C. Clark	0	0	6
A. C. Clark	0	0	6
C. W. Clark	0	0	6
Mr. Whites	0	2	0
J. Clarks	0	1	0
J. Allen	0	0	6
A. Jones, Cardiff	0	0	9
Mary Campbell, Cardiff	0	0	6
J. Samuels, Castle Precincts, Bristol	0	5	0
Towns, Blyth, North Shields	0	2	0
S. Loveday	0	1	0
Mr. Frost	0	1	0
J. Gibbon, O'Connorville	0	2	6
E. Witney, London	0	0	6
J. Wrigley, London	0	0	6
P. Sharp, Dunfermline	0	1	0
Stockport Branch, per T. Woodhouse	1	5	0
J. Firth, Hart's-hill	0	1	0
J. Farnell, Hanley	0	1	0
W. Brown, Chelmsford	0	0	6
H. Brewer, Chelmsford (2nd sub.)	0	0	6
Oldham, per J. Lord	0	14	0
W. Lees, Oldham	0	2	0
From Oldbury—J. Hunt	0	2	0
Messrs. T. and S. Page	0	2	0
Sarah Page	0	1	0
Messrs. G. and T. Hemmings, Tansley, Kent, Smith, and Garlic, Coventry	0	4	0
From Dewsbury—J. Fox	0	1	0
D. Healey	0	1	0
E. Newsome	0	1	0
C. Segrave, Norwich	0	1	0
S. and J. Mulholland, Mearns, by Glasgow	0	1	0
R. Aitchison, Dalry-road	0	0	8
From Edinburgh—G. Willis	0	1	0
W. Fraser	0	0	6
R. Henderson	0	0	6
D. Chesney	0	2	0
J. Clark	0	0	6
Callum	0	0	6
J. Gowan	0	1	0
G. Gall	0	1	0
W. Pringell	0	1	0
Mrs. Watson	0	0	6
J. Kevan	0	0	6
R. Rentoull	0	0	6
G. Alexander	0	0	6
A. Roberts, sen.	0	0	6
A. Roberts, jun.	0	0	6
J. Brown Smith	0	0	6
G. Douglas	0	0	6
J. Banner	0	0	6
From Walsall—S. Hodgkins	0	1	0
J. Webster	0	1	0
W. Greenway	0	1	0
J. Hodgkins	0	1	0
T. Urmson	0	1	0
RECEIVED AT LAND OFFICE.			
Mr. J. W. Pearce	0	1	0
W. Pearce	0	1	0
Jonathan Ramsden	0	1	0
Mountain, per J. Bates	0	11	0
RECEIVED BY JOHN ARNOTT.			
A. Porter, Lynn	0	1	0
	£11	19	0

AGITATION FOR THE CHARTER.

Received by W. RIDER.—Bristol, per W. Hyatt 1s 3d.—Received by JOHN ARNOTT.—Marylebone, per Mr. Goodwin [illegible]—J. Fen[illegible] [illegible]es 3d—J. Mewis 4d—A Friend, City-road, per Mr. Holyoak[illegible] 1s—Mr. T. Hunt per Mr. Holyoake 2s 5d—Mr. G. J. Hol[illegible]oake 1s—Lynn, per J. Twaits 7s 6d—Leicester per J. Johns[illegible] 10s—Mr. J. Smith, Whitechurch 1s—Hastings, per E. [illegible] 4s 9d.

FOR THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH REFUGEES.

Received by W. RIDER.—J. Cooks, Shincliffe colliery 1d—J. Wilson, Shincliff-colliery 1d—a few Friends, Newton, Huddersfield 2s—Nottingham, per J. Sweet 2s 10d—Abergavenny, per T. C. Ingram 3s.——Received by JOHN ARNOTT.—A few Apprentices, coppersmiths and brass-founders, Glasgow, per G. W. M. Reynolds 16s—Bradford, per A. Fowler 4s.

EXPENSE FUND.

Received by W. RIDER.—J. Gibbon, O'Connorville 2s 6d.

TRACT FUND.

Received by W. RIDER.—Mr. Bateman, Bristol, per W. Hyatt 6d.

DEFENCE FUND.

Received by W. RIDER.—Dundee, Convivial Meeting Committee, per J. Graham 1l.

FOR MACNAMARA'S ACTION.

Received by W. RIDER.—Nottingham, per J. Sweet 3d.

Chartist Intelligence.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION,

Held their usual weekly meeting at the Office, 14, Southampton-street, Strand, on Wednesday evening last—Mr. G. J. Holyoake in the chair.—The whole of the committee were present. Correspondence was received from Cheltenham, Hastings, Leicester, Lynn, Whitechurch, and Mr. Le Blond.

Mr. HARNEY moved, seconded by Mr. GRASSBY:—"That a delegate be sent to represent the Committee at the West Riding delegate meeting, to be held at Halifax on Sunday next, January 5th." Carried unanimously.

Mr. ERNEST JONES was unanimously appointed the said delegate.

Mr. HARNEY then moved, and Mr. JONES seconded, the following resolution:—"That this Committee, as the Executive head of the National Charter Association, feel it their duty to vindicate the principles of Democracy and the rules of the Association. They, therefore, repudiate all connexion with the Conference called to meet in Manchester on the 27th inst., by the local council of that town, such Council not being the head of the Chartist body, nor duly authorised to summons a national delegation. They further call on all true Chartists and good Democrats to abstain from any participation in the said Conference." Carried with one dissentient.

During the discussion on the above resolution, the following questions were, through the chairman, put to Mr. O'Connor by

Mr. REYNOLDS.—Do the Manchester Council intend to elect a new Executive?

Mr. O'CONNOR.—No! They have no such intention.

Mr. REYNOLDS.—Do they intend to act antagonistically to this Committee?

Mr. O'CONNOR.—No! If they did I would not act with them.

Mr. O'CONNOR then moved:—"That a Conference be held in Manchester on January the 27th, and that a Conference be also held in London, on Monday, March the 3rd;" but as no seconder appeared, the motion was not entertained.

Mr. DAVIS stated, that through the peculiar circumstances in which he was at present placed relative to his employment, it would be impossible for him to attend to his duties as one of the Executive Committee of the National Charter Association, and therefore, although it was with deep regret, he still felt it to be his duty to tender his resignation.

Mr. REYNOLDS moved, seconded by Mr. O'CONNOR:—"That Mr. Davis's resignation be accepted, with a vote of thanks for his services in the Chartist cause." The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. DAVIS returned thanks, and having said that he should also resign as a member of the Polish committee, then retired.

The following was moved by Mr. HARNEY, and seconded by Mr. GRASSBY:—"We, the undersigned members of the Chartist Executive, having read the Manchester Council's attack upon one of the Committee—Mr. Ernest Jones, published in the *Northern Star* of December the 28th—hereby declare their disgust and indignation at the authors of that tissue of abuse and falsehood, and brand its authors as detestable slanderers of a man, who, by his services, sufferings, and devotion to the people's cause, has entitled himself to the confidence and esteem of all true Democrats."

Signed by JOHN ARNOTT, JAMES GRASSBY, G. JULIAN HARNEY, JOHN MILNE.

The following was also agreed to by those whose names are appended thereto:—"Not being able to subscribe to the terms in which the foregoing minutes are expressed, we still wish to signify our accordance with its intention, and to observe, that the fact, that the Executive appointed Mr. Jones their delegate to Halifax after reading the attack referred to, indicates their confidence in Mr. Jones's integrity.

Signed by G. J. HOLYOAKE, FEARGUS O'CONNOR, G. W. M. REYNOLDS.

Mr. GRASSBY moved, seconded by Mr. MILNE:—"That the vacancy in the Executive caused by the resignation of Mr. Davis, be at once filled up, and that the Secretary be instructed to forthwith issue orders for that purpose." Carried unanimously.

In consequence of an unusual press of business, the consideration of the list of places to send delegates to the forthcoming Conference was postponed until next week. The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday Evening, January the 8th.

Notice is hereby given to all localities, and others who may feel an interest in the election, to proceed at once to nominate a fit and proper person to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. William Davis as one of the Executive Committee; such nominations must be forwarded, addressed to the General Secretary, at the office, 14, Southampton-street, Strand, on, or before, Wednesday, January the 15th, and as the same will be duly published, the votes thereon must be taken and transmitted as above stated, on, or before Wednesday, January the 29th, as all nominations, or votes, received after the above dates, will be null and void.

Notice is also given, that new cards of membership for 1851 are now ready, and all who desire the progress of Democracy, are most earnestly requested to at once apply for the same to the Secretary, to whom all communications must be addressed, and all Post-Office Orders must, for the future, be made payable to the Treasurer, Mr. Robert Le Blond, at the Post-Office, London.

Notice is further given, that as several localities have neglected to send in their returns of the number of cards issued, and the monies received thereon, and in order that time may be allowed them to comply with the notice previously given, it is deemed advisable to defer the printing of the financial statement until Wednesday, January 15th.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JOHN ARNOTT, General Secretary.

TODMORDEN.—At a meeting of members, the following resolution was adopted:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the reply of the Manchester Council to Ernest Jones, Esq., in the *Star* of the 28th ult., is an attack upon that gentleman's character, characterised by a total absence of justice, as far as regards his real merits, and that we believe him not only to be zealous but faithful to the principles of true democracy. And this meeting is further of opinion, that the object which they seek to attain, that is, to lessen his influence by attempting to destroy his character, will not only prove a failure, but an everlasting disgrace."

CLERKENWELL, 41, Turnmill-street.—On Sunday evening last Mr. T. Brown lectured (in the absence of Mr. Kydd, who was engaged on a very important matter,) on Church History, past and present. After which Mr. Brown, on behalf of the Refugees, returned thanks to the friends who had assisted them. They had lately received clothes from the country, for which they were grateful, but they required more clothing. He also stated, at the request of the refugees, the committee had given notice that they would give up the premises in March next, and he hoped that friends would assist them for a short time longer. A few pounds was owing for rent; the committee had not a farthing in hand, and they were frequently obliged to borrow to provide food for the men; that day they had not broken their fast, but the number of persons then present would be the means of supplying them with a little sustenance. He (the speaker) and Mr. Antill, at the request of the refugees, had waited upon five meetings of the shoemakers to thank them for their assistance. It was announced that a meeting would be held in the Harmonic Hall, on Tuesday, and thanks having been given to the chairman and lecturer, the meeting dispersed.

HANLEY AND SHELTON.—A social tea party and ball was held in the People's Hall, Brunswick-street, on Christmas Day, when 260 persons sat down to an excellent tea. The proceeds of the tea and ball—which amounted to the sum of £9 2s.—is sent herewith, in two Post-office orders, for the Honesty Fund. Arrangements are being made for the division of the township into districts, and parties are appointed to make collections. We are also getting subscribers for the disposal of a set of china ware, and two sets of ornaments, for the same object. All subscriptions must be sent to the secretary, at Mr. Yates' Temperance Hotel, Crown-bank, Shelton, who will give every information on the subject.—E. NIXON, Secretary.

REPEAL OF THE DUTY ON PAPER.

A meeting of paper manufacturers was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the Clarence Hotel, Spring Gardens, Manchester, in order to consider what steps could be taken to secure, in the course of the next session of parliament, the abolition of the paper duty.

Mr. T. B. CROMPTON was called to the chair, and said that at a meeting held about a month since, he was requested to ascertain, as far as possible, the probability of getting, in the next session of parliament, an abolition of the paper duty. With this view, he had had interviews with Lord John Russell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a great number of leading men, both in and out of parliament, and of all political sentiments. The result of those interviews was a conviction that on the exertions made by the public and the trade, but emanating from the latter, would entirely depend whether they were to succeed in getting this obnoxious tax repealed or not. The next step he took was to have a circular issued by the "Association for the Abolition of the Duty on Paper," which existed in London, and also himself to issue a pamphlet on the subject. He did this because he felt that they could never hope for success, unless they informed the public of the true nature of the paper tax, and the extent to which it affected almost every individual in the community. He had that day met with an individual who was consuming £1,000 worth of paper yearly, but who said he "had not the least idea that paper paid any very serious duty," and was perfectly astounded when he (the chairman) informed him that it paid not less than forty per cent. This was not all. Some descriptions of paper were taxed to the extent of 120 per cent. on the cost price. He believed that if the public, now almost ignorant on the subject, were made fully aware of the nature of the paper duty, not only would they be able to secure its speedy repeal, but, in fact, to make it a part of the next budget. They would find in the public press, he believed, a most powerful organ in aiding their movement; and through the newspapers and other channels, the association in London would take care that the bearings of the tax were fully exposed to the public. The paper manufacturers were, of course, the first to feel the effects of the tax. A man could not commence making paper without first applying to an excise officer to survey his premises, to number every room in them, and also to mark, by letter or by number, every implement which he (the manufacturer) proposed to use. The act now in force, as amended in committee, was called "A bill to consolidate and amend the laws for collecting and securing the duties of excise on paper made in the United Kingdom;" it was passed on the 5th of July, 1839, and contained sixty-nine clauses, a great number of which were penal. Section three required paper makers, before commencing business, to make "a true and particular entry in writing" of all their mills and premises, and every implement they used in the manufacture, &c., of paper of any description, or buttonboard, millboard, pasteboard or scaleboard, and to deliver the same to the excise officer in whose survey the mill and premises might be situated: in which entry every "engine, chest, machine, vat, and press shall be distinguished by a particular number or letter, or number and letter or letters;" in default of which, for every unentered mill or implement, the manufacturer shall forfeit £200; "together with all paper, buttonboard, millboard, pasteboard or scaleboard, and all materials found therein." A similar penalty was imposed in case the marks upon the several things mentioned did not agree with the entry given in, so that if the number or letters were erased by accident, the excise officer could declare the premises as unentered, and enforce the penalty of £200. The chairman proceeded to read and comment upon section nine, remarking that under it the labels issued by the commissioners of excise, to be used in the tying up of paper, were made equal in value to bank notes; as there was a fine of £10 imposed for every label delivered to any manufacturer, "and for which a receipt shall not be given, or which shall be cancelled, obliterated, or destroyed, sold or disposed of, or improperly used, or not produced or accounted for," when demanded by the excise officer. It was often necessary to entrust a working man with 1,000 of those notes at once (representing to the manufacturer £10,000), and the manufacturers were of course always in danger, as some of the labels might be destroyed or removed through malice, or even through the slightest negligence or inattention. By section 15, a period of eighty-four hours was consumed, after paper was ready for delivery into the market, before the manufacturer could send it out, in consequence of the notice required to be given prior to and to elapse after the weighing and charging of it with duty. This period, during which the paper was kept in the mill, was a longer one than was required for him to buy the raw materials in Manchester, send them to his mill, manufacture paper, and transport it to any part of the kingdom if he were not interfered with. This regulation crippled the consumption of paper to an almost incalculable extent. The chairman, after referring to other restrictive and penal clauses in the act, pointed out the extent to which, despite the vigilance of the excise, frauds were constantly being committed, and said that of this the government was fully aware, and acknowledged the difficulty of collecting the duty. Substitutes for paper were being continually produced so nearly identical in their nature that excisemen could not detect the difference until told of it; but all these were allowed to go duty free. He himself, within ten days had placed in the hands of a government officer a specimen of a new material, which the officer unhesitatingly pronounced to be pasteboard; but he would not, nevertheless, dare to seize three tons of it, although he (the chairman) told him where it was lying. The chairman next referred to the great number of persons who depended upon the manufacture of paper, either directly or indirectly, and urged the immense advantage which must result to them from the abolition of the paper duty.

Mr. BALDWIN described the injurious operation of the paper duty on the trade of Birmingham.

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. C. Potter and other gentlemen; and resolutions were agreed to for the commencement of a subscription, to aid the London association; directing the secretary to communicate with all similar associations in the country; and urging paper manufacturers to solicit subscriptions from their friends generally, and to endeavour to make known the injurious operation of the tax complained of. About £200 was subscribed by those present at the meeting.

REPEAL OF THE TAXES ON PAPER.

A public meeting on this important subject was held on Thursday evening at the London Tavern. The attendance of gentlemen connected with the Press were very numerous; there were also a good attendance of the active Chartists of the metropolis. About seven o'clock the room being particularly filled,

C. COWAN, Esq., M.P., was called to the chair, and opened the business of the meeting by stating that it was with reluctance he took the chair, being in a pecuniary manner interested in the abolition of the tax. Many in the paper trade thought that its abolition would be injurious to them; he was not, however, of that opinion. The Chairman then showed the injury the system of taxation inflicted on the manufacturer, and the great detention it caused in their business. The papermakers were a small body scattered over the whole country, and therefore their representations were not heeded. He then exhibited a specimen of paper made of straw, on which there was a duty of 14s. 9d. on a raw material that cost only 2s. The paper on which most of the London journals was printed on was made from the sweepings of the cotton mills; no duty on the raw material was charged to the cotton manufacturer, but on the very refuse, 1½d. per pound was charged to the paper maker. He trusted that the day would soon come when the Press would be really free in this country. (Loud cheers.) The Chairman then alluded to the Exhibition for 1851, and gave all honour to Prince Albert for projecting it. (This was received with hisses and laughter, amid which the speaker sat down.)

A letter favourable to the meeting was read from Mr. Hume.

Mr. KERSALL moved the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the duty on paper is emphatically a tax on skill and industry, and interfered with the employment of labour and capital by those engaged in its manufacture, and inflicted, though in a less degree, an injury upon the public at large, thereby injuring both manufacturer and consumer."—The asssociation who called the meeting based their opposition to the tax chiefly on commercial grounds; it kept thousands of working men idle, who would otherwise be employed. He also advocated its abolition on the ground of its affecting the brains as well as the stomachs of our population, and prevented that spread of knowledge so essential to the well-being of all classes. He then showed how it affected the interests of many trades in addition to the paper makers, who numbered about 40,000 persons. One merchant in the hardware line in Birmingham, used twenty tons of paper in wrapping goods which he exported to the United States; other trades were injured in a similar manner. He then passed some high eulogiums upon the intelligence and sincerity of the working classes, and declared his opinion that they only needed to have a free and cheap literature to rise still higher in the social scale of society.

Mr. P. BOSWICK seconded the resolution in an able speech, giving a history of the repeal of the duty on leather and glass, which, with paper, constituted the three grand things recommended by Sir H. Parnell for reduction in the year 1820. Paper, unlike all other articles, received its value from labour alone, the raw material being valueless. He counselled them to follow the example of the United States, and by abolishing the duty, give employment to 500,000 persons at home, instead of driving them to seek shelter in America. The stamp duty on newspapers, was likewise an injury—(great cheers)—but not equal in extent to that of the duty on paper. ("No, no.") He trusted they would keep to the one subject before them, and not attempt to divert the meeting from its one object.

Mr. D. W. RUFFY, prior to the resolution being put, requested to know whether the chairman would put any other resolution or amendment, if that were allowed to pass without addition or amendment?

The CHAIRMAN having assented, the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. BEDDOW moved a resolution, showing "that the tax, by increasing the price of books and newspapers, impeded the progress of knowledge and education."

Mr. INGRAM, of the *Illustrated London News*, seconded the resolution.

Mr. G. J. HOLYOAKE moved an amendment, embodying the addition of the abolition of the one penny stamp on newspapers, and the advertisement duty. His amendment would better carry out the objects of the meeting; and he trusted the courtesy and penetration of the committee would cause them not to look upon him as creating an opposition. Every argument that applied to the resolution applied still stronger to his. If they meant to carry a national measure, they must adopt national means. Their present agitation was liable to be considered a trade question, and divested it of the dignity of a national movement. Dr. Johnson said, that "if a man meant well, the more he means the better." (Cheers.) He objected to that movement, as there was already a society, which had been two years in existence, which agitated for the reduction, not of the duty on paper alone, but also of the duty on newspapers and advertisements; and they were well aware that several parties struggling for the same object effected an injury upon each other. If the tax had been taken off newspapers, that meeting would have been unnecessary, as the tax on paper would speedily have followed the unstamped press. At present, they were compelled to import their politics from abroad, because they would not encourage their home growth and culture. Mr. Holyoake then showed that the government owed them the arrears of eighteen years of disappointment, since they had so gallantly struggled and suffered to obtain an unstamped press. They needed not only such works as those of Dickens and Knight's, but they wanted cheap newspapers, to give them political and social knowledge.

Mr. COLLETT seconded the amendment. As the Secretary to the Society for the Abolition of all Taxes on Knowledge, and having fifty branches in different parts of the country, whose members had numerously signed petitions in favour of that object, he was compelled to protest against any movement calculated to injure that cause. He wished the present committee success in getting the duty off paper, but the public mind must not be diverted from attaining the whole of their demands. Mr. Collett then went into the question of revenue, showing that, in a pecuniary view, the government would not suffer by abolishing the penny stamp, as an equal amount would be raised by the postage on unstamped newspapers. He also showed, by numerous instances, that the present law could not be carried out, and ended an argumentative and humorous speech by calling on Mr. Milner Gibson, the M.P. for Manchester, who was on the platform, and who moved the motion last session in the house, as to the course he would now adopt.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON, who was much applauded, stated, that he brought forward his motion for the abolition of all Taxes on Knowledge, upon the great principle that they were not a legitimate source of revenue; he had also found, by experience, that the course to adopt was to ask sufficient and take what they could get. Lytton Bulwer, when in parliament, had moved for the repeal of them as a whole, and he believed by so doing that they would receive a greater amount of sympathy and support. In his opinion, the stamp on newspapers was of the most importance to be repealed. He was for the cheap newspaper. If competition was good for the farmer it was good for the newspaper proprietor; and he believed that at the bottom of the government opposition, was a feeling of opposition to the spread of Political and Social Knowledge. They might talk of the Free Press of England, but they would never have a Free Press until the stamp duty was abolished. If compelled to give a vote he must vote for the amendment.

Mr. EDWARDS briefly addressed the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN expressed a desire that it would not be put as an amendment, but as an addition; this being assented to, the amendment and original resolution were put to the meeting, and the addition of Messrs. Holyoake and Collett carried with only one dissentient.

Mr. BROWN moved, and Mr. —— seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his very impartial conduct, and the meeting separated.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

MR. EDITOR,—I refrain from giving an opinion as to the most proper time and place for convening the intended Conference; that has been sufficiently expatiated upon, and it would have been well if all had restricted their observations to the question at issue. A very acrimonious spirit has pervaded some of the articles written upon the subject, and much extraneous and personal matter has been interwoven into the affair, calculated to injure the cause, and damage the People's Paper. I have this week received a number of letters showing that the writers think there has been more than enough of such matter, and expressing their determination to discontinue the *Star*, should its pages be thus disgraced by columns of articles evincing a lack of that unity and brotherly love, which ought to be manifest among our ranks. Let not the enemy point the finger of scorn at us, and exclaim, "See how they hate one another."

I implore the combatants to cease their strife; and I beg of you to close the door against such angry feelings. Yours truly,

WM. RIDER.

NATIONAL CHARTER LEAGUE.

On Monday evening last the usual meeting of the council of this body was held at the League rooms, when the president, Mr. M'Grath, occupied the chair. The ordinary general business having been accomplished, the president called attention to an able leading article, in the *Star* of the 21st ult. on the subject of the Manchester Conference, when it was unanimously resolved;—"That the secretary is instructed to transcribe said article in the minute book of the League, as it reflects the idea upon which the League itself is founded." Mr. Doyle then read from the *Northern Star* of the 28th ult., an address from the Manchester Council, containing a programme of business to be discussed at the approaching Conference; when the thanks of the Council of the League were unanimously voted to the Manchester Chartists for the pertinacity with which this latter body adheres to their resolution of calling a Conference together. It was resolved that Mr. Rendall be requested to deliver his intended lecture on Secular Education, on Sunday evening next, in these rooms—Talford coffee-house, Farringdon street—and that he commence at half-past seven o'clock.

THE *Indier*, Dutch paper, states that several members of the Lower Chamber of the Netherlands have formed themselves into an association to abolish slavery in the Netherlands Indies, East and West.

THE Marquis of Clanricarde has appointed his relative, Maurice O'Conner Morris, Esq., postmaster of Jamaica—salary, £1,000 a year.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

T. S. DUNCOMBE, Esq., M.P., President.

Established 1845.

"FIAT JUSTITIA."

"If it were possible for the working classes, by combining among themselves, to raise, or keep up the general rate of wages, it need hardly be said that this would be a thing not to be punished, but to be welcomed and rejoiced at."

STUART MILL.

The extraordinary termination of the dispute between the engine drivers of the northern division of the great North Western railway and their wealthy and powerful employers, is suggestive of the most earnest and serious reflection of that important body of operatives, and of the working classes generally.

Never was there a victory, by employers, more signal or perfect. Never was there a powerful body of men, locally organised in considerable strength, so completely unprepared to cope with their giant antagonists. Never was there a more perfect absence of anything like fixed principles of action, or of an organised executive, armed with discretionary powers to deal with so simple, and, after all, scarcely important question.

Here are the Railway Boards of Great Britain, the proprietors of the highways of the country, they have, as such, immense powers, and immense responsibilities. The public have a deep interest that the operations of railways should be conducted with steadiness and punctuality; and we think it cannot be reasonably supposed that one of the highways of the country could ever be permitted to be suddenly closed at the caprice of any board of directors, or of any body of operatives. It appears to us a matter, beyond question, that the passenger and goods traffic upon the principle highway, never can be permitted to be closed by any disputes between the proprietors of that highway and any portion of its operatives. We think if such a thing should ever happen *once* it will never happen again. Sticklers as we are, and are pretty well known to be for the rights of labour, we have never contemplated, even in imagination, so inconsiderate and violent an exercise of a public right.

It has struck us, from what we have seen or read of this affair, through the public press, that, had there been anything worthy of the name of an organisation existing among the engine drivers, that nothing could have been more easy than to have brought this dispute to a speedy and satisfactory arrangement, without the slightest angry feeling on either side, or without the slightest sacrifice of principle or interest. The national and common-sense compromise suggested by the men of the Camden Town station, if offered before a strike was threatened, and prepared for, would, we think, have been accepted by the railway authorities, and the men's position strengthened, rather than weakened by the arrangement.

It must be borne in mind that this was not a question of wages, although we can readily imagine that a lurking desire may have existed to introduce and mix up a not very unreasonable proposition, in which the public are very materially concerned, with other arrangements in which they are not so materially concerned, whereby a future reduction of wages might be more readily effected.

It appears to us to have been a capital blunder, on the part of the engine-drivers, not to have endeavoured to have separated the two questions. They were sure to have the public dead against them upon the one, and their full sympathies with them upon the other. It is not to be expected that the public will ever consent to have their power of locomotive upon the only roads which are now practically open to them to depend upon the caprice, either of a confederacy of railway proprietors or of railway operatives. Such a power would be denied, and properly so, to the government; but, on the other hand, we think, the public would be as little prone to trust their lives and property in the hands of a body of men, whose energies were enervated, or whose attention was distracted by domestic cares, created by the parsimony of any set of capitalists, however wealthy, or however powerful.

As a general principle, we have no faith in strikes as a means of settling trade difficulties; but if in any case we can conceive strikes to be dangerous, and by all means to be avoided, it surely is in such important operations as the railways of this country. But it may be asked by those who do not thoroughly understand us—"Would you leave the railway operatives at the mercy of such men as compose the railway shareholders of this country?" God forbid! for then would their position be, indeed, a hopeless one. But we would have the railway and all other classes of operatives as wise in their generation as their artful and unscrupulous employers.

We must again repeat our well worn argument—"Give us a National Organism of Labour, unmixed with any other 'ism,' and we will emancipate the working classes—first of all, industrially, and then, as a matter of course, and of necessity, socially and politically;" and it is our cool opinion, that general liberty in this country is obtainable by no other means. It strikes us the whole question lies in a nutshell. It is not simply Capital *v.* Labour; but it is organised capital against unorganised labour. It is immense confederacies and aggregations of capital against individualised, isolated unities of labour. It is the organism of a pack of artillery against a sand hill. Labour simply wants organising and disciplining. It is necessary it should take up a position, and entrench and fortify itself behind the panoply of its own native, inherent power. We say again, not only to the engine drivers, but to the engine makers, and all other trades who fancy themselves so powerful of themselves, all your trade aristocracies must follow the fortunes of birth and title aristocracies, outlive your strength and your glories, and sink to the position of the ancient *noblesse* of France. The *sans culotte* miners, weavers, and stockingers, who now in vain seek your alliance, may live to see you on the same level of wretchedness with themselves. Surely this is no very violent or improbable assumption. Who that reads the prophetic page of to-day, cannot from its pregnant signs foreshadow the offspring of the future. Who cannot see that the constantly accumulating aggregations of manufacturing capital acting constantly upon the popular shibboleth—"buy in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest"—is with true ogre-like appetite, devouring, as Mr. Muntz says, each its farmer a day, with a few hand-loom weavers and woolcombers, by way of desert; having made mince-meat of them, will presently fall tooth and nail upon the hitherto unapproachable favoured sons of toil, and thus give them a striking example of the law of natural equality. Yes! of a verity, this, and much more than this, will surely come to pass, unless the most intelligent and noblest of labour's sons imitate the chivalry of my Lord Grey, and vow in the face, of their countrymen, "to stand by their order." Let us imitate the example set us by our oppressors—let us also cherish that love of class—let us copy that *esprit du corps*, which makes an injury inflicted upon the meanest an injury to the highest, and to all.

Until this perfect unity of interest can be created it is in vain to look for labour's independence. Its future history as its past, will be a long catalogue of rashly conceived, badly conducted, and fatally terminating strikes, with nothing to send their remembrance down even to the next generation, but the enormous sums of money that were squandered, and the enormous mass of misery that was engendered in their progress, without the slightest benefit in the world to those who dared this so nobly, yet so unwisely, in defence of their rights. National Organisation, the one and only road to National Regeneration. That is the motto we will inscribe upon our banner; and to borrow Mr. Edward Perry's grand, eloquent swagger, "we will hoist our flag, and nail it to the mast." And we think poor Mr. Perry would as soon look upon a veritable ghost, as upon that imaginary faded piece of bunting, which, in the intoxication of his fancied power, he swore to us he never would strike. He has not struck it, and what remains of it flutters over the fallen fortune and honours of the family. The latest news from Wolverhampton will, we believe, be interesting to our friends and members.

On the 30th of December a meeting was held at the request of certain Frenchmen in the employ of the brothers, E. and G. Perry, at which Mr. Green, of the Central Committee, accompanied by their solicitor, Mr. Bartlett, and certain members of the Tinplate Workers' Society, attended to hear a statement from these deeply injured foreigners.

Sixteen out of nineteen of the French Tinmen (who had been imported for the purpose of enabling the Perrys to beat down British labour) attended, accompanied by Mr. Mayo, interpreter, who made the following statement on behalf of the unfortunate Frenchmen:—They set out by saying they had been most grossly deceived by Mr. G. Perry, that they found it impossible to live upon his terms, and that they hoped their English brethren would assist them in returning to their own country—that, if it were possible, they were resolved to leave to a man. They said that Mr. George Henry Perry came to a manufactory in France, and, through a Pole, who could speak a little English, told them that he wanted a number of men to get up work in the French stile, for exportation to the four quarters of the globe; and, in answer to a question, he assured them (of course, upon his honour) that there was no strike in the case. He subsequently engaged two gentlemen interpreters, with a view, we suppose, of a more animated and general conversation. By these persons the Perry's manufactory was represented as an English California. They were told they could earn 60s. per week, immediately, and that some of his men were earning £4 and £5 per week. Thus fascinated by false and artful cunning they were bit. Perry then, to bind the bargain, lent each of them some money to make little preparations for their journey; he then told them he had no security for the cash he had advanced; he was informed that they had no deposits they could make except their passports and their books—these latter being, it appears, to French workmen a thing of immense importance, containing their character, which they have to get signed by their last employer, and endorsed by the Prefect or Mayor of the arrondisement, before they can get any other employment. No doubt Perry had been put up to this by Messieurs—the gentlemen interpreters. He then took them to first-rate houses (?) and treated them with the best of everything. They, poor fellows, believed that all he had told them was true, and they came away with him, with light hearts, to the Wolverhampton tin diggins. But, on their arrival, their suspicions were soon awakened by the feverish anxiety he evinced to induce them to sign agreements. They asked for time to consider, but that was a rather dangerous request for him to accede to: they were compelled to sign, there and then, before they left the shop, each an agreement, as they understood, for six months, to have twenty-five shillings per week for the first three weeks, just to get their hand in, and then to go upon piece-work. The three weeks are expired, and they have had a fair trial at piece-work upon Mr. G. Perry's prices, and they complain they cannot get near a living, and beg to get released, if it is possible, from their engagements. The above particulars applies to the first eight that were imported. There are, however eleven more, a joint-stock venture between the two brothers, Edward and George, the twin ex-Town Councillors of St. John's and St. Paul's. This latter lot, on their arrival, were informed by their friends of the true position of affairs: they positively refused signing any agreement. They were to have twenty-five shillings a week until Christmas, and then to have all they would earn "at the diggins." But they have sent in notice, that from Christmas they shall require six shillings per day; to this the Perrys demur, and tell them to work, and pay half they owe, and then to go about their business. They have, by way of a rejoinder to this generous proposal, authorised a solicitor to try if they cannot compel Mr. Perry to restore to them their books and passports, and leave that person to sue them for any money he may have advanced in the French Courts, where the debt—if debt it be—was contracted. The eight poor fellows will also endeavour to get the magistrate to cancel their agreements *for covin and fraud*; and if that succeeds, they will, to a man, be glad to return to Paris, and leave the "Perryan" "diggins" and all their auriferous glories to the "rats," and such like vermin.

We hope that this is the last scene of the last act of a most disgraceful drama; but we trust that in this case the denouncement will show truth and right triumphant, chicanary and fraud discomfited and disgraced, and held up as a warning to future evil doers. WILLIAM PEEL, secretary.

259, Tottenham Court-road.

SURREY SESSIONS.

ROBBING RAILWAY PASSENGERS.—John Platt, 30, was indicted for stealing a purse containing six and sevenpence from Ann Barthop, and a purse containing 30s. from Mr. Rankin, on the platform of the Brighton Railway station, London Bridge terminus.—Mr. Charnock intimated to the court that the prisoner would throw himself on their mercy by pleading guilty to the offences. He was instructed to say that the prisoner had followed a respectable trade at Liverpool, prior to this unfortunate occurrence. He was a shipwright, and for many years belonged to the Liverpool Shipwrights Association, which could be proved by the card of membership found on him, and an authorized document signed by upwards of a hundred members of the society giving him an excellent character.—W. Castles, the superintendent of the railway-station, said that he saw the prisoner with a well-dressed lad on the platform just as the train came in. Having some suspicions about them, he watched them at a little distance, and saw the lad steal a purse from a lady and hand it to the prisoner. He instantly seized hold of the latter, and found two purses in his hand, and while securing him the youth escaped. The two ladies then came up, and told him they had been robbed, and identified the purses and contents as their property.—The chairman said the prisoner's conduct had been extremely bad in training up youths to thieve, consequently the court felt bound to pass a heavy sentence on him as an example to others. He having been in good circumstances made his case worse, as he ought to have known better; therefore the sentence of the court was that he be transported for ten years. Just as the sentence was passed considerable confusion took place in court, owing to two females (supposed to be the prisoner's mother and his wife) screaming in a dreadful manner, calling for mercy. It required the united exertions of several officers to remove them from the court, and the business was stopped for some time.

INTENDED HARBOUR AT BRIGHTON.—In our last number we noticed the intended floating harbour at Brighton, after the plan of Mr. W. H. Smith. We have received a letter from a gentleman who is well known to us, in which he informs us that he is the inventor of a floating breakwater, which in some important particulars bears a great resemblance to Mr. Smith's. He does not insinuate that his breakwater furnished Mr. Smith with the idea for his; though he regards it as possible that it may, as his (our correspondent's) became well known to several persons some four or five years ago, and about the same time he deposited a model of it at the Admiralty, where it has remained ever since, and where it may, possibly, have been seen by hundreds. At the time our correspondent submitted his breakwater to the Admiralty, it was understood that the government intended to erect floating breakwaters all round the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland; but a change of ministry taking place soon after, and it appearing that the new admistration did not mean to carry out the project of their predecessors, our correspondent gave himself no further trouble about his breakwater. The erection of floating breakwaters being, however, again talked of, he considers that he ought to draw public attention to his; believing that for efficiency, durability, and cheapness, it is vastly superior to any floating breakwater that either has been or will be thought of, and of that opinion are skillful and scientific friends of his; to say nothing of the favourable opinion the Admiralty seemed to entertain of it. If floating breakwaters are to be erected, either at Brighton or elsewhere, those who may be interested in them, must, of course, wish them to be on the best principle; as our correspondent's may possibly be the best, we deem it right to call public attention to it.

DOG TRAINING IN MUNICH.—One afternoon J. told me that she heard a tremendous noise, the shouts and screams of a man, and the terrific howling and yelling of a dog. Out darted the gentleman from the studio, and out rushed J., and there in the large adjoining field, through the mud—for there had been a heavy fall of snow—a man raced along, pursued by an enormous dog, the fiercest brute imaginable; it sprang upon him, it tore him, it shook him by the hair of his head, it dragged him along the ground, the man screaming and the dog howling! Then they were up again, and careering round and round the field, man and dog, like wild beasts. J. was horrified beyond words, and to J.'s indescribable indignation the gentleman looked quietly on and smiled. What could it mean? To her it seemed a fearful murder. But no! it was the only training of a watch-dog; and a very frightful business it must have been although very grand to witness, the gentleman declared. The man was all bound up, so that the dog could not possibly injure him materially; but his head and face, with their frightful bandages, suggested no other idea than that of wounds, which made him look all the more dreadful. These fierce dogs, thus trained, are necessary as security against robbers; many people keep them; there are two at the studio, but I have noticed nothing very ferocious about them. Here this mode of training dogs is not at all unusual, although the trade I should think is not particularly agreeable. —*Dickens's "Household Words."*

CURIOUS CUSTOM.—In 1833 the late Record Commissioners issued circular questions to the municipal corporations of England and Wales, requesting various information; among such questions was the following:—"Do any remarkable customs prevail, or have any remarkable customs prevailed within memory, in relation to the ceremonies accompanying the choice of corporate officers, annual processions, feasts, &c., not noticed in the printed histories or accounts of your borough? Describe them, if there be such." To this question the borough of Chippenham, Wilts, replied as follows:—"The corporation dine together twice a year, and *pay for it themselves!*"—*Notes and Queries.*

STEAM-BOAT BUILDING IN THE UNITED STATES.—The annual report of commerce and navigation gives the following aggregate of the number of steam-boats built in the United States since 1824, twenty-five years, in periods of five years each:—From 1824 to 1829, 194; from 1829 to 1834, 304; from 1834 to 1839, 504; from 1839 to 1844, 522; from 1844 to 1849, 969; total, 2,492. Two-thirds of these are built in the west, one-sixth of them in Ohio. The largest number of steamers built at one place are built in Pittsburg, and its neighbourhood. —*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

IT APPEARS from an official return that between six and seven thousand head of cattle were slaughtered in Liverpool for the supply of the Christmas market in that borough.

THE SPLENDID ROTTON PARK ESTATE, near Birmingham, for a long period the property of the Nools, of Worcestershire, has just been purchased by Mr. Gillot, the steel-pen maker, for £95,000.

The Metropolis.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The return for the week ending last Saturday shows that 1,196 deaths were registered in the metropolitan districts; in the first three weeks of December they were 1,004, 1,090, and 1,166. This increase is considerable, and must be attributable in part to the character of the weather, which has been unfavourable to the public health; but, as in the previous week, it is also due to some coroners' returns, which were not completed, as regards registration, when the inquests were held, but have been accumulating till the end of the quarter. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1840-9, the returns varied from 910 deaths in 1845, at a period of rather higher than the average temperature, to 1,403 in 1848, when scarlatina and typhus were rife, and cholera had begun. these epidemics have succeeded to the influenza of the former years. Amongst children, however, hooping cough, diarrhœa, and small-pox appear on the increase. The deaths from the first of these complaints were 61, from diarrhœa (principally amongst infants) 31; while 25 children and 5 adults died of small-pox. This disease still presses severely in Lisson Grove, where it was again fatal in seven cases between the 20th and 25th of December. Only one of the sufferers, six girls and a boy, had apparently been vaccinated. With reference to a death from small-pox, without vaccination, which occurred to a boy in High-street, Shadwell, Mr. Ross observes that "four other children are suffering from the same complaint in the family; the father refuses to give his children the protection of the cow-pox, and such is the result; but the mischief does not end here, for the deadly poison is disseminated through the neighbourhood." Another death from small-pox without vaccination, is recorded by the same registrar in a house at Elm-row, Shadwell, and here also "four other children are suffering under small-pox, the father entertaining objections to vaccination." The registrar of Haggerstone West mentions a family at Hoxton, in which the wife, son, daughter, and servant died of scarlet fever, all within a short period. A child in Chapel-street, Woolwich, died, according to the medical certificate, of "miasmatic poisoning." The class of "diseases of the respiratory organs," comprises laryngitis, bronchitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, asthma, and other diseases of the lungs, exclusive of phthisis, and numbers in this return 264 deaths, which is more than the average. From bronchitis there were 120, from pneumonia 90; the former showing an increase on the previous week, the latter a decrease. Three deaths are ascribed to privation of food or clothing, 11 amongst children to want of breast milk, 2 to neglect, and 2 to intemperance. The death of a girl, aged 7 years, is reported by the medical attendant as caused by "hydropericardium—fright produced by a boy wearing a mask." The births of 658 boys and 712 girls—in all 1,370 children—were registered in the week. The average of five corresponding weeks in 1845-9, was 1,128. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean daily reading of the barometer was about 30 in. on every day, except Wednesday. On Monday it rose to 30·064 in., and the mean of the week was 30·192 in. The mean temperature of the week was 38·3, which is nearly the average of the same week in seven years. On the first three days of the week, the mean temperature was below the average; during the remainder it was above it. The wind was principally in the south-west.

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Saturday evening Mr. Wakley, M.P., held an inquiry of several hours' duration at the Three Johns, White Lion-street, Pentonville, touching the death of John Berknell, aged sixty, who was starved to death. The parochial authorities and a large number of rate-payers attended the inquiry. The jury were horrified at the awful spectacle which the body presented. The body lay in a room at 49, White Lion-street, shrivelled and cramped up, on a heap of sacks. The shirt which deceased had on was purchased by a neighbour who sold a sheet to enable her to do so.—Sarah Debank stated that deceased had been out of work and getting but one meal of tea or weak gruel a week for some time. He had been sleeping about in carts and cellars until permitted to occupy the empty room in which he died. When in work his wages had been sixpence a day. He had been ill for some time.—Mr. Mann, the parish surgeon, said that he saw deceased on Christmas Day, on a parish order. He found him in a naked room, in an exhausted state, requiring not food but medicine. He wrote a certificate of the poor man's situation, and endorsed it "Urgent."—Mr. Crowder, overseer, said he was in the workhouse when the order came, but it was written so illegibly that he could not read it.—The Coroner said that the surgeon could have ordered nourishment at once had he so chosen.—Mr. Crowder said he sent deceased a shilling and a loaf.—The Coroner summed up, and the jury, after half an hour's deliberation, returned the following verdict:—"John Becknell died from exhaustion caused by the want of the common necessaries of life. And the jury beg to tell Mr. Mann that he is much to blame for not having acted with promptness and precision, and for not having seen performed what should have been done for deceased. And they hope that in all future similar cases he will act with more promptness, and immediately order admission to the house. The jury further expect that Mr. Mann will act upon these suggestions." After the inquest, the learned and worthy coroner endorsed the summonses of the several poor witnesses who gave evidence with a certificate of their being proper objects for parochial relief, which benevolent act was highly lauded by all present.

LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE.—On Saturday last Mr. H. M. Wakley held an inquest at the Duke of York, York-place, St. John's Wood, on William Ball, aged four years, the son of Mr. Ball, architect and land surveyor, 12, Elm Tree-road. Deceased was left for a short time by himself in the parlour, when he began playing with the fire, and he was quickly enveloped in flames. The nurse, attracted by his screams, soon extinguished the flames, but the little sufferer sustained such injuries that he only survived one day. Verdict, "Accidental Death."

DEATH OF A SPENDTHRIFT.—On Saturday last Mr. H. M. Wakley concluded, at the Old King's Arms, Short's-gardens, St. Giles's, an adjourned inquest on Samuel Townsend, aged fifty, son of the late Mr. Townsend, well known at Tattersall's and on the turf, and celebrated as a horsedealer.—James Drain, deceased's companion, stated that deceased was so destitute that he slept in cellars, doorways, or anywhere he could. On the night of his death he slept with witness on a bench of a taproom in an unoccupied beershop in Wyld-street, and before going to sleep complained of his condition, and declared that he would destroy himself. Missing him in the middle of the night, witness went in search of deceased, whom he found lying dead in the dusthole, his face buried in the dust.—It was further stated that in early life deceased drew a cheque for £8,000 on his father's bankers, which he soon spent in folly and dissipation in Paris, after which his family discarded him.—Mr. Bennett, surgeon to St. Giles's Workhouse, deposed that he performed a *post mortem* examination, and that deceased died of aneurism of the heart.—Verdict, "Natural death."

SUICIDE OF A PRISONER IN THE HOUSE OF DETENTION.—On Saturday last Mr. Wakley held an inquest at the House of Detention, Clerkenwell, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Christian Schmidt, aged fifty, a German merchant, who committed self-destruction by hanging himself in his cell in the above prison. The deceased was charged at the Marlborough-street Police-court, on the previous day, with obtaining valuable property from Mr. A. Marks, silversmith and jeweller, of Fargate, Sheffield, to the amount of £200, by means of forged Austrian Coupons. He was remanded for a week to the House of Detention, at which place he terminated his existence.—I. Lugenteen, a sub-warder, said that on Christmas morning he opened the cell door, and found the deceased hanging behind the door. He was suspended from the gas pipe by his scarf and some tape belonging to his drawers. His neck was close to the pipe, and his feet were about three inches from the ground. The deceased was quite cold, but his arms were warm. There was a chair close to him, from which he had thrown himself. The jury, who thought that some of the officials had been to blame, returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased destroyed himself, but in what state of mind there was no evidence."

SUICIDE IN THE MILLBANK PRISON.—On Monday an inquest was taken by Mr. Bedford, in the Millbank Prison, on the body of John Jones, aged twenty-two, who destroyed himself under very singular circumstances.—From the testimony of Capt. Gambier, R.N., the deputy-governor of the prison, and the wardens, it appeared that the deceased was a watchmaker by trade, and was received there on the 5th of July, having been sentenced at the Central Criminal Court to seven years' transportation after a previous conviction. On the 18th of October he was observed by Capt. Gambier to be in a desponding state, and at his recommendation he was taken into the infirmary. Here his conduct was at times very strange; he was exceedingly dirty in his habits, as some of the prisoners thought with a view to obtain his liberty, and he would occasionally refuse his food, so that it had to be given by the warder. On the 24th ult. one of the prisoners had his pardon sent, and before he went out a convict shaved him and put the razor in a desk. The deceased alluded to the other having got his liberty, and appeared to regret it was not his fate. He suddenly went to the water-closet, and it seemed he had taken the razor with him, for a minute or two after he was found with his throat dreadfully cut, from which he died on the 27th. When asked why he had committed the rash act, he wrote on a slate, "Can't eat, that is what I have done it for." Capt. Gambier stated that it was contrary to the express rules of the prison for one prisoner to shave another, and a report of this case would be made to the inspector of prisons.—The jury then returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."——A second inquest was held on the body of Reuben Nottingham, aged seventeen, a prisoner sentenced to seven years' transportation, and the jury returned a verdict of "Natural death."

DEATH OF A CHILD FROM DOVER'S POWDER.—On Saturday last Mr. Bedford held an inquest at the George Tavern, Brewer-street, Golden-square, on the body of Laura Abrahams, aged one week, who was poisoned through the mistake of the nurse, who administered a powder intended for the mother, to the infant. The jury returned a verdict, "That the child died from the effects of an opiate, administered in mistake."

DEATH FROM BURNING.—An inquest was held on Saturday last, before Mr. J. Payne, deputy coroner, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on view of the body of Harriet Smith, a poor woman, aged seventy-two, who received such frightful injuries from her dress catching fire, as to cause her death in a few hours afterwards. Philip Jenkins, a compositor, was passing through Luke-street, Paul-street, Finsbury, on the 24th ult., when he was startled by observing a strong glare of light in a room occupied by the deceased, at No. 11, in the said street. He looked through the window and saw that the table cloth on the table, and something under the window, were on fire. He immediately knocked at the door to alarm the inmates, and upon gaining an entrance, succeeded in extinguishing the table cloth which was on fire. Upon looking at the corner where the fire was raging, he was horrified to find a woman, burnt in a most shocking manner about the upper part of her person. She was put in a cab and driven to the above hospital, where she died within three hours of her admission. Evidence was given to show that the deceased was subject to fits. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

THE RECENT COLLISION ON THE EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—James Holfield, the driver of the Enfield express train on the night of the 23rd ult., when the accident occurred on the above line, was on Monday re-examined at Stratford, on a charge of negligent driving. Several porters, guards, drivers, station masters, signal men, and others were examined, and at the conclusion of the evidence defendant's solicitor called upon the magistrates to dismiss the charge on the ground that the accident had resulted from the want of proper arrangements on the line, and not by the fault of the accused.—The magistrates then retired, and after being absent about a quarter of an hour, they returned.—Mr. Colton (the chairman) said they had been anxious to elicit the whole facts of that very important case to the public, and he would give the company credit for their desire to assist in the fullest investigation and so arrive at a just and satisfactory conclusion. Although they did not entirely exonerate the defendant from some blame, yet they could not overlook the fact that express trains had been permitted to pass stations at a rapid rate without any notice being taken of them. And again the bench could not close their eyes to the irregular and rapid manner some of the trains were despatched, and at a time when punctuality ought to have been more observed than otherwise. It also appeared that there had been a laxity in carrying out the rules, and, indeed, it was stated that some of them could not be performed. He would not impute negligence to the company, but it was evident, from what had occurred, that there were other parties to blame as well as the defendant; and taking into consideration that an express train was following him, the signals given at the junction, and the fact that trains had been permitted to pass over the junction at a quicker rate than was sanctioned by the rules, they thought that the defendant might have done what he did for the best. He was not sorry for the time the investigation had occupied, and he trusted that the facts elicited would lead to some important advantages. He had the honour of knowing several of the directors, and he felt sure that they would be as anxious as themselves to adopt every possible precaution. They would not consider the question of despatching slow trains after express trains, but how far they were justified in sending express ones immediately after slow ones, and how far their efficient arrangements would permit such a traffic. He again repeated that the bench did not exculpate the defendant from some blame, but seeing that others were not free from neglect, they felt bound to dismiss the complaint, and the defendant was therefore discharged. (Some applause followed the announcement, but it was immediately suppressed.) The proceedings did not terminate till late.

DEATH OF MR. OSBALDISTON.—The death of Mr. D. W. Osbaldiston, the well-known theatrical manager, and till lately lessee of the Victoria theatre, took place somewhat unexpectedly on Sunday afternoon about one o'clock. Deceased, who was fifty-six years of age, had been ailing for three or four weeks, but hopes were entertained of his recovery until late on Saturday evening, when Mr. Roberts, his medical attendant, intimated to his family that the symptoms had assumed a fatal character. Mr. Osbaldiston has been manager of the Covent Garden, Sadler's Wells, Surrey, and City of London Theatres, and, as lessee of the Victoria, reproduced for the holidays the Christmas piece which had succeeded at the first mentioned theatre just fourteen years before. Miss Vincent, Mr. G. Osbaldiston, and Mr. Scarbrow, all of the Victoria Theatre, were with him in his last moments.

THE MARBLE ARCH.—On Saturday last a number of workmen commenced pulling down the railings and the lodge at Cumberland Gate, the entrance to Hyde Park from the top of Oxford-street. At the same time they began building a smith's forge and workshop, together with sheds for the accommodation of bricklayers and masons. On inquiry it was stated to be the intention to erect the marble arch which had been taken from the front of Buckingham Palace upon this site.—*Observer.*

FIRE AT ST. JOHN'S WOOD.—On Saturday afternoon last, shortly before five o'clock, the neighbourhood of St. John's Wood was painfully excited owing to a very alarming fire breaking out in the private residence belonging to S. B. Hodgkinson, Esq., No. 5, Hamilton-terrace. The disaster was occasioned by a brick having been left out of a flue of the adjoining house, which allowed the fire to rush into the second floor of Mr. Hodgkinson's residence. Owing to the firm hold the fire had obtained before it was discovered, but few minutes elapsed before the flames shot in a huge body through the roof, and for some time the surrounding houses were greatly jeopardised. An abundant supply of water having been obtained, the firemen by great perseverance succeeded in extinguishing the flames, but not until the upper part of the building was burned out, and the lower part, with its costly furniture, extensively damaged by fire and water and hasty removal. The property was insured in the Royal Farmers' Fire-office.

ACCIDENT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—On Saturday morning last an accident occurred at the building in Hyde Park. A man, named Smith, was at work at one of the gutters, when he fell to the ground, between fifty and sixty feet below. He was picked up in a senseless state, and conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where it was discovered that both his legs were fractured, and his head having come in contact with a projection of the ironwork, one of his eyeballs was dreadfully injured; but notwithstanding these and other injuries, great hopes are entertained of his recovery.

ROBBERY.—On Saturday night last some expert thieves effected an entrance, it is supposed by means of skeleton keys, into the premises, 28, Craven-street, Strand, and carried off a large iron chest, containing £65 in gold, £31 10s. in silver, and several Bank of England notes. Thy must have had some difficulty in removing the chest, as it weighed several hundred weight.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A POLICEMAN IN HOLBORN.—On Tuesday morning, shortly after one o'clock, an attempt to murder a policeman was made by a man in High Holborn, nearly opposite Warwick-court. It appears that Police-constable A 332 (of the reserve force), was on duty near the spot indicated, when he observed a man coming towards him apparently intoxicated. The next moment the fellow reeled up against the officer, who cautioned him to be careful, and admonished him that he did not believe he was so drunk as he appeared to be. The man instantly turned round and threatened the constable if he interfered with him he would do for him. On the officer advancing towards him he became more violent, and exclaimed, "I have a stiletto here which you know nothing about—your life is in my hands, and if you touch me I will have it;" at the same time brandishing his hands, and striking at the policeman. The conduct of the fellow was observed by two or three persons, and one of them, remarking that he had some bright weapon in his hand, warned the constable to be careful, and ran off to obtain additional assistance. Before he had gone many yards he met Police-constable 22 F, who, on learning the circumstance, hastened to the assistance of his comrade, who was still parrying with his assailant. Relying on their joint power they closed upon the fellow, and, during a violent struggle which ensued, the villain stabbed Police-constable 22 F, in the groin. The poor fellow cried out that he was stabbed, and the other constable, being assisted by two or three bystanders, succeeded in securing the prisoner, who was immediately taken to Bow-street police station. On being charged before Inspector Dodd, the prisoner first gave his name as Charles Dunn, and afterwards stated it to be Charles Smith. He refused to give any other account of himself, and behaved with great violence while the witnesses were giving their testimony. The names of the witnesses are George Crow, a sailor boy, of No. 4, George-yard, Whitechapel; and Mr. Alfred Brimble, of King-street, Holborn. The latter picked up and produced an open clasp knife, about five inches in length, which fell from the prisoner during his scuffle with the officers. The wounded policeman was conveyed in a cab to King's College Hospital, where, on a surgical examination, it was ascertained that he had received a wound in the groin, about an inch and a half long and two inches deep, from which the blood flowed profusely. The house surgeon stated that, had the knife entered an inch lower, it would have severed the femoral artery, and instant death must have ensued.——On Tuesday, at the Bow-street Police Court, Charles Durden, a respectably dressed young man, aged twenty-six, who gave the name of Dunn when at the station, and who said he was the landlord of the Somerset House beershop, No. 101, John-street, Tottenham-court Road, was charged with feloniously stabbing Calip Davis, Police-constable No. 22, F division, with a clasp knife, while in the execution of his duty. The evidence of the police, and other witnesses, corroborated the above statement, and the prisoner was remanded until Saturday (this day). The prisoner said he was so drunk that he could not tell what he did. It was stated that the policeman was so ill, that he would be unable to attend for some time.

MADNESS AND BANKRUPTCY.—On Saturday last Mr. Hamber, the messenger to the Court of Bankruptcy, reported to the Court that a bankrupt, named Ephraim Godbolt, had died raving mad that morning. Ephraim and George Godbolt were builders and carpenters, at 14 and 15, College-walk, Chelsea, and on Thursday last were made bankrupts, for a debt due to Mr. Joseph Lambert, merchant, of Pimlico-wharf. Notices of adjudication were served upon the bankrupts on Friday evening. The bankrupt, Ephraim Godbolt, had previously laboured under ill health; and the fact of having been made a bankrupt produced such a shock upon the nervous system, that he expired in a state of raving madness on Saturday morning. The first meeting appointed to be held, under the bankruptcy, for the choice of assignee and proof of debts, is the 11th instant.

DEATH FROM ALLEGED FRIGHT.—On Wednesday a long inquiry was taken by Mr. Bedford, the coroner, at the Anchor and Star Tavern, Warwick-street, Regent-street, as to the death of Mrs. Ann Wheeler, aged thirty-four, which was alleged to have been caused under very extraordinary and cruel circumstances. It appeared the deceased resided with her husband, who is in the employ of Messrs. D. and J. Nicoll, of Regent-street, in Leicester-street, Regent-street. The day before Christmas-day a hamper was sent to him, which he supposed to be from the country, and his wife, who was *enceinte*, opened it. At the top was straw, then shavings, two bricks, and at the bottom, a large dead black cat. She was much alarmed at the time, and called some one in to witness it. In the evening he mentioned the circumstance to a friend of his, when the deceased fainted, became very ill, and was put to bed. Delirium came on, and she was seen by Dr. Wegg, of Maddox-street, but it was found almost impossible to keep her in bed, from the strange nature of her madness, and she died on Saturday night. A *post mortem* examination of the body was made, and all the viscera of the stomach and chest were healthy, but on opening the head, matter was found to be formed on the arachnoid membrane of the brain, which clearly accounted for death. Dr. Wegg was of opinion that the time from the opening the basket to the period of her death, about seventy-six hours, was sufficient for the formation of the matter, but it was very difficult to say. Some evidence was gone into as to the sender of the hamper, but nothing positive was elicited. The coroner said he was not sure, if the party sending the hamper had really believed at the time that the fright at opening it would have produced death, he would not have been guilty of murder. There was no positive evidence what had produced the inflammation of the brain, and he must leave the case to the jury. An open verdict was returned, that the deceased died of inflammation of the arachnoid membrane of the brain.

LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE.—On Wednesday an inquest was held by Mr. Bedford, at St. George's Hospital, on the body of Anna Maria Taylor, aged six years, who resided with her mother, in the Kew-road; and on Christmas Day, at a party, one of the children threw a lighted piece of paper on the deceased's frock, which, being of muslin, soon ignited, and in a few seconds all her clothes were burnt from her. She was dreadfully injured about the face, neck, breast, and arms; and, being taken to the above hospital, died there the next day.

SUICIDE IN ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday, Mr. W. Payne held an inquest in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the body of David Spikesly, aged thirty-six, who committed suicide in that institution, under the following circumstances:—The deceased was admitted in October last, suffering from paralysis of the spine. He went on well, but was very low-spirited. On Monday morning, about half-past three o'clock, the night nurse heard a strange noise proceeding from deceased's bed, and, on going to learn the cause, she found that he had cut his throat in a frightful manner, with a pocket knife. The sister of the ward tried to stop the hemorrhage, when deceased attempted to get his hands up to pull open the wound. He lived only ten minutes after committing the act. The wife of the deceased, who resides at Hatfield, came up by railway on Tuesday to take her husband home, thinking he was cured, when, on her arrival at the hospital, she was made acquainted with his death. The jury, after consulting together, returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

DEATH OF MR. W. SEGUIN.—We regret to announce the death of this eminent singer, which took place on Sunday last, after a short illness. Mr. Seguin's professional attainments are well known to the musical world. Possessed of a fine base voice, he was a sound musician, of pure and cultivated taste, and especially distinguished as a performer of sacred music. His untimely death at the age of only six-and-thirty, will be much felt, as the loss of an accomplished artist, and a worthy and amiable man.

CARDINAL WISEMAN has received autograph letters of congratulation from their Majesties the Queens of Spain and Portugal, completing the number of the Catholic Sovereigns of Europe who have addressed his Eminence on occasion of his appointment.

The Provinces.

FORGED BANK NOTES.—A forgery has been committed on the £5 notes of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Banking Company. A number of these notes have been passed at Derby (where two persons are in custody on the charge), at Newark, and other places. The forgery is lithographed, and is exceedingly well done; but the paper is very inferior. None have yet been met with purporting to be issued from any of the branch banks; but they all bear the signature of "T. H. Smith" and "H. W. Wilcockson." Persons accustomed to the genuine note will easily detect the forgery.

DARING BURGLARIES.—Two men were apprehended on the 27th ult on suspicion of having committed, in the early part of the week, two burglaries on the borders of Essex and Herts, which, though not serious as regards the property carried off, were of a most daring character. The first was in the house of a person named Law, at Furneaux Pelham. Law is in the employ of a lady near by, and in consequence of the alarm of robbers which prevailed was staying at her house to help and protect it if attacked. At midnight his wife was called up and summoned to open the door for the gang, and on her refusal the window was smashed in and two men entered, who forced her to her bed, and nearly smothered her beneath the clothes and pillows, which they heaped on her to prevent her giving an alarm. They then ransacked the house, carrying off a quantity of food and apparel, and some money. On the night following they attacked the house of the farm bailiff on the estate of Mr. R. Dawson, at Allbury, openly smashing in the front door and ransacking the rooms. On their leaving the bailiff endeavoured to give an alarm from the window, when two guns were discharged at him.

THE RECTORY OF ST. MARY'S, SOUTHAMPTON.—This valuable living, recently vacated by the resignation of the Earl of Guilford, has been presented by the Bishop of the diocese to the Venerable Archdeacon Wigram (not Wragham, as stated by a contemporary last week), who will shortly enter on his duties. Arrangements are in progress for dividing the immense parish into four or five districts.

PAPAL AGGRESSION.—COUNTY MEETING AT HUNTINGTON.—On Saturday last, in pursuance of a requisition to the high sheriff signed by 150 of the principal laity and gentry of the county, a crowded meeting was held in the Sessions Court at the Town Hall, to consider an address to be presented to her Majesty on the late proceedings of the Bishop of Rome. J. Lawrence, Esq., under-sheriff, presided. The Earl of Sandwich, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Rev. W. M'Ghee, the Rev. Mr. Baines, Mr. Brighty (a Dissenter), took part in the proceedings, which resulted in the adoption of an anti-Papal address to the Queen.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER AT BRISTOL.—A man named Thomas King, an in-patient of the Royal Infirmary, died on Friday week under circumstances, which have induced suspicions that his death was the result of injuries inflicted on him by some lumpers on the quay. The deceased, who was a quay porter, had been, it is stated, so generally patronised in his business as to excite the jealousy of some of the men working in the same vocation. in the early part of last month he got into an altercation with some of these fellows, who attacked him, and much ill-used him, inflicting some injuries of the head. The poor man went on till the 17th ult., without applying for medical relief. Upon that day, however, he felt himself so unwell that he went into the infirmary, where he was carefully treated by the faculty, but died of delirium, which it was thought probable was induced by the injuries. The deceased stated to his father-in-law that he should die, and that his death would have been caused by the maltreatment he had received on the occasion in question.

PUSEYISM IN LEEDS.—The Bishop of Ripon is taking very decided measures for checking the prevalent Puseyism in his district. Some days ago the incumbent of Shadwell was ordered to desist from certain Papal practices within his church, and during the past week the still more notorious St. Saviour's Church, Leeds, has been specially under his lordship's consideration, and has led to severe measures against the priests. The bishop has ordered the Rev. Mr. Rooke to desist from taking any part in the performance of divine worship in any episcopal church within the diocese; and has threatened the Rev. Mr. Beckett (another of the curates) with the same sentence within fourteen days unless he can satisfactorily justify his conduct. The Rev. Mr. Minster, the vicar, has likewise received notice that further steps will be taken in reference to his church.

ANOTHER PLATE ROBBERY AT NOTTINGHAM.—On Monday last the neighbourhood of Goosegate, Nottingham, was excited in consequence of the shop of Mr. John Lamb, pawnbroker and general salesman, having been entered during the night and the following valuable property stolen:—Between forty and fifty gold and silver watches, some pieces of plate, a number of watch chains, brooches, and jewellery of every description; in fact, they cleared the place of almost everything valuable. This is the most extraordinary robbery that has taken place here lately. The thieves effected an entrance through the roof of the house, and as Mr. Lamb does not sleep on the premises, they had full play at everything. There was a large bull-dog in one of the rooms, which they cut and maimed in the most brutal manner, thereby silencing the animal and disabling him from biting them. The neighbours are quite alarmed, as there have been four robberies of this class within the last month.

THE YORK AND NORTH MIDLAND RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—The inquest over the bodies of the three men killed by the collision at the Old Milford Junction a week ago was held at South Milford before M. Pearson, Esq., of Selby, coroner, and a respectable jury, on the 27th ult. The jury could not agree, and after some deliberation were dismissed, on their own recognisances of £40 each, until Monday. On that day they re-assembled at the White Swan Inn, at noon, when they returned a verdict of manslaughter against the guard of the luggage train, part of which it will be remembered broke away on a strong incline, and came into collision with a passenger train, just emerging from a siding at the Old Milford Junction, the result being that the driver and stoker of the passenger train engine and a pointsman were killed upon the spot. The neglect of the guard was in not having brought his break-van with him, when the engine came back to fetch the second portion of the luggage train, which had been divided; and he also rode upon the engine, where he had no right to be.

SUICIDE IN THE MANCHESTER BOROUGH GAOL.—An inquest was held in the Manchester New Prison on Monday before Mr. Herford, coroner, upon the body of a man who was supposed to have committed suicide under the influence of the solitary system of confinement there practised. The name of the deceased was Obadiah Tunicliffe, aged twenty-one years, and he had been committed to prison in default of bail which he had been required to find on the 18th of December for assaulting his wife. On the 27th of December he was left in his cell, in solitary confinement, at ten o'clock in the morning by the warder, and in consequence of the sub-warder of the corridor in which his cell was situated being absent at the sessions court, there was no officer in attendance for upwards of two hours and a half in that corridor. On the return of the warder, he was passing by the door of the prisoner's cell, when he found the handplate of the door turned up, and thinking there was something remarkable in the circumstances he unlocked the door. He then found the unfortunate man suspended by the neck from a gas-pipe at a point where it is about three feet six inches from the floor, quite dead. The deceased had thrown himself into a partly recumbent position to effect his destruction. The jury made some inquiries to ascertain how far the system of punishment adopted in the gaol might account for the rash act, and with that view, Mr. Walker Golland, the official medical man, and the Rev. P. J. O'Leary, the gaol chaplain, were examined.—Mr. Golland said the deceased had been subject to epileptic fits, and had been attacked with one on the Monday before his death. He was of opinion that there was nothing in the system of discipline adopted in the gaol (the silent system), to lead to attempts at self-destruction, unless after a year and a half or two years' confinement, when, if it was found that despondency or disease ensued, it was a rule to relax the system.—The Rev. P. J. O'Leary said he had sometimes noticed despondency from compunctious visitings of conscience, which were more likely to operate in solitary confinement, and in such cases had reported it to the officers, that they might remove the means of self-destruction. An officer in the gaol named Andrews said he saw the prisoner that morning at twenty minutes past nine. The prisoner had rung his bell, and he (Andrews) had answered it. His object was to ask for work, and witness told him he would send an officer to supply it. The governor of the gaol was questioned by the coroner and jury as to how long the prisoner was out of his cell each day for recreation, and he replied that each prisoner was out of his cell three-quarters of an hour at chapel, and one hour for exercise, in the twenty-four hours of each day; but he was not allowed to communicate with other prisoners during those periods. He had since ascertained that the prisoner had not the use of a bible or other book in his cell. The jury, after being left alone to consult upon their verdict, handed a written paper to the coroner, in the following words:—"Self-destruction. As to the state of the prisoner's mind, there was no evidence to show; and the jury wish to express an opinion that solitary confinement seems unjust when a man is waiting bail for a common assault."

ATTACK UPON THE HON. AND REV. G. SPENCER.—On the 27th ult., whilst the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Spencer (Father Ignatius) was passing from St. Patrick's Chapel, Park-road, when opposite Albert-street, Liverpool, he was assaulted by two men, one of whom cast his his arms around his neck, whilst the other tripped him up. One of the party subsequently attempted to kick the rev. gentleman whilst he lay on the ground, but was prevented by a female, who struck him a severe blow with a basket across the head. A few blowes passed between the attacking party and some by-standers, but the arrival of the police put an end to this disgraceful scene. A constable accompanied Mr. Spencer from the spot to protect him from further violence.

THE INHABITANTS of Sunderland, at a meeting last Monday, determined to memoralise Lord Palmerston to use his influence with the French Government to effect an equalisation of the duties on coals imported into France, which impose a proportion of five times the amount on British coals, being seaborne, to what is imposed on Belgian coals, being inland borne.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A WIFE BY HER HUSBAND AND SUICIDE OF THE HUSBAND.—Very early on Monday morning, about three o'clock, the inhabitants of Upper North-street, Brighton, and its neighbourhood, were alarmed by piercing cries of "Murder" and "Police," and in a short time the police discovered at the spot whence the cries proceeded the dead but still bleeding body of a man, stretched on his back in the middle of the road. One of the neighbours, Wootton by name, was the first on the spot, and at his request, Mr. Richardson, surgeon, promptly made his appearance. His aid, however, was unavailing. The man had suffered from a fatal wound which severed the windpipe and principal arteries, and death must have been instantaneous, or nearly so. The deceased was named William Henry Marshall. He was a butler out of place. His last engagement was in the family of Captain Preston, a magistrate, where it appears he was not comfortable, and his wife states that he had several times stated his apprehension that he should in consequence take his own life. This service he had left about eighteen months, and ever since he had been in a low way. Within the last few days he had obtained temporary employment in the family of Mr. Lawrence. Here he had conducted himself remarkably well; he appeared elated at the circumstance of his having at length obtained employment, but Mr. Lawrence believes that he neither slept nor drank during the time he was in the house. He was as usual on Sunday night; and at eleven o'clock turned off the gas from the main. At three o'clock in the morning of Monday the wife of the deceased was awoke by a knocking at the door, and having descended the stairs and ascertained that her husband was at the door, she admitted him into the house. On opening the door she observed that her husband was almost in a state of nudity. He was even without his trowsers. "What did he return home for in that state?" she inquired. He replied, "To kill you;" and suiting the action to the word, he seized her by the shoulders, and then grasped her throat. Nearly naked as she was, she rushed into the street followed by her husband, who caught her in the middle of the road. They there struggled together till she fell, and he upon her. She raised the cry of "Police," and a lodger that of "Murder and thieves," and the wife then effected her escape. As she ran off she saw a razor in his hand, and he having raised himself, again fell. She then returned to him, and found the blood gushing from a large gash in his throat, and a razor lying beside him. By this time assistance came to the spot, and the surgeon was sent for, and soon arrived, as stated above; but death speedily followed the infliction of the wound. An inquest was held in the evening at the Windmill Tavern, before S.H. Gell, Esq., coroner for East Sussex, when the above facts having been elicited in evidence the jury returned a verdict of Temporary derangement.

POISONING AT SOUTHAMPTON.—On the 27th ult., a lad named William Wren was charged with attempting to murder the family of Mr. Clarrage, a gentleman residing at Millbrook, by mixing poison in some milk which he was intrusted to take round. It appeared that the milk was observed to be of a bluer cast than usual, which induced Mrs. Clarrage to send it back by Wren, and she told him to inquire whether skim milk had not been sent instead of new. He returned soon afterwards, and said the milk was quite fresh. Something was found floating on the surface, and, the lad appearing confused, he was given into custody. On the way he dropped a piece of paper, on which was written the word "Poison." The poison, it was subsequently found, had been mixed in the milk; and, from the fact of its being required to make a pudding, the whole family had evidently had a narrow escape. The prisoner was remanded.

THE CONDEMNED CONVICTS AT YORK.—The Governor of York Castle has received a reprieve from the Secretary of State for the two culprits, Goddard and Whitaker, who were left for execution by Mr. Justice Patteson, at the last assizes, for an abominable offence at Lockwood, near Huddersfield.

FALMOUTH.—On Friday last the Mayor and R. R. Broad, Esq., J. P., sat at the Guildhall, to hear the complaint of Mr. James Rodger, master of the ship Sobaon, against sixteen of the crew of his vessel. The master said that the seamen had been shipped on December 7, at Liverpool, to proceed in his vessel thence to Bombay, and back to England, the voyage not to exceed two years. From stress of weather, and having had the misfortune to suffer damage, she put into this port. On the 25th, and on the day following, the men refused in a body to do duty, and although it was not intended on the Christmas day to keep the men at work, yet they refused even to pump the ship out, and he was asked by some of them for their discharge. These men had received advance notes at Liverpool, of which, although one was dated payable ten days after sailing, and the other was payable sixty days after their departure, the sailors had had the advantage of both notes, by allowing a discount on the latter notes. To corroborate the master's complaint, David Low, the chief officer, was examined, when, after the kindest expostulation from the bench to the men to induce them to return to their duty, the following were committed to the borough gaol for thirty days:—Charles Moffatt, Alexander M'Farlane, James Sidmore, John Springham, and James Kelly. The following for twenty days:—George Coles, John Bursey, Hanse Rowett, Martino Brown, Henry Hanna. The following for fifteen days:—Charles M'Cave, Henry Manning, Peter Craft, Charles Appleby, and Arthur Harvey.

AFFRAY WITH POACHERS AT EASTWELL.—On the morning of Christmas-day, at about half-past two o'clock, as William Peach, head gamekeeper to Lord Winchilsea, with his son, Thomas Peach, accompanied by a young man named Scott, who was on a visit to Peach, were on the lookout in his lordship's preserves, Eastwell Park, they heard the firing of guns. They went in the direction where the shots were firing, and soon came up with a body of men, about nine in number, armed with guns. Young Peach seized one of them, who had a gun in his hand, upon which a scuffle ensued, the poachers endeavouring to rescue their comrade, whose name is George Ranes. The old man Peach, who is sixty years of age, endeavoured to keep the gang back, by intimidation, but to no purpose, and upon calling upon them to stand back several times, to which they paid no heed, Peach, who carried a bayonet on the end of a stick, stabbed two of the poachers, and threatened to shoot at the gang if they did not desist. This had the desired effect, and they decamped, leaving Ranes in custody. Superintendent Gifford soon received information of the affair, and in the course of the day apprehended a man named Darrell, at Wye, who was wounded in the hand, and who had in his possession a loaded gun. He also searched the house of a man named Edward Ranes, of Withersden, brother to George, and there found a smock frock, jacket, and trowsers smeared with blood, and fifteen wires used in snaring hares, also a powder flask containing powder. Ranes and Darrell were examined on Thursday, at Mr. Furley's office, before W. Burra, Esq. and the Rev. N. Toke, and sentenced to three months' hard labour, and at the expiration of that time to find securities to be of good behaviour for the following six months. From directions which the superintendent gave to the constables of Wye, they succeeded in apprehending the whole of the remainder of the gang, who were examined before Dr. Carter and W. Barra, Esq.; four of them were discharged on recognisances, and two of them, named Barham and Ranes, were remanded for further evidence. Ranes has a bayonet wound in his thigh. Some of the gang are noted poachers, and great credit is due to Superintendent Gifford, for the exertions which he has used in causing their apprehension, and for the assistance rendered by him to the constables.

PRIZE FIGHTING IN SURREY.—At the meeting of the Surrey magistrates on Tuesday, a lengthened discussion took place with reference to the conduct of the South Western Railway Company, in giving a special train for the use of the combatants and their friends on the occasion of the recent fight between the Tipton Slasher and Paddock. One of the magistrates, Mr. Scott, who is also a director of the company, on the part of that body stated that they had no knowledge of the purpose for which the train was used on the occasion referred to, and gave an assurance that no facility for a similar "demonstration" should be hereafter afforded by the railway authorities. On the faith of this assurance the indictment for a misdemeanour has been withdrawn.

NEW SYSTEM OF ROBBERY.—On Monday evening last, about five or six minutes before seven o'clock, as Mr. Barlow, who resides at Patricroft, was proceeding to the Victoria Railway-station, Manchester, in order to go by the seven o'clock train, while proceeding along Todd-street, on the opposite side of the street, and nearly opposite the Cathedral School, he perceived some one rapidly approaching him from behind, and immediately a right arm was flung round his neck, and tightly compressed by the thief's other hand grasping the right wrist. This is described as being most powerful in producing instantaneously the first symptoms of strangulation, stopping the breath, and inducing speechlessness and almost utter prostration of strength. Persevered in for a little time death would, doubtless ensue. In the present case, no sooner had this human bow-string been applied than two accomplices appeared in front of Mr. Barlow, one of whom snatched his watch from his vest pocket, and jerked the guard chain, a silver one, of more than ordinary strength, with such force as to break it, and possessed himself of the watch. The other took a sovereign from some cash in Mr. Barlow's pocket; but, fortunately, at this moment, before the robbery had been completed by rifling other pockets, Mr. M'Clure, who was about to proceed by the same railway train, came up, and the thieves hurled Mr. Barlow down, his head and face striking the wall with great force, and ran off in different directions. As Mr. M'Clure saw them throw Mr. Barlow down, he pursued and overtook one of them, but was unable to detain him, and all three escaped. Mr. Barlow has since been very ill from the effects of the outrage; he has not yet recovered his voice; his throat is much swollen and his head hurt, and he has suffered repeatedly from attacks of spasms, caused by the strangulation to which he was only for a few seconds subjected.

Scotland.

THE LATE DR. E'FADYEN, OF JAMAICA.—We observe that this gentleman is among those who have fallen victims to the appalling ravages which cholera has been making in Jamaica. Dr. M'Fadyen was a native of Glasgow, and son of the late Mr. J. M'Fadyen, well knwn as the oldest music-seller in Scotland. The doctor went to Jamaica in 1824. Having been highly respected by all classes, his death would have been deeply regretted under any circumstances; but falling, as he has done, under the heavy professional labours imposed on him by the prevalent epidemic, his removal has affected all with a feeling of peculiar sorrow. Dr. M'Fadyen was a member of the Linnæan Society of London, and had attained much distinction as a botanist. He was author of the well-known "Flora" of Jamaica, a new edition of which he was preparing for press when he was suddenly cut off.—*Daily Mail.*

EMPLOYMENT FOR THE BARRA HIGHLANDERS.—The poor Barra Highlanders, to whom the Edinburgh night asylum has afforded shelter and support for the last ten days, have been offered employment by Mr. William Dunn, contractor, East-Calder, who has undertaken the management of extensive drainage and trenching operations on waste land, on the estate of a nobleman in the north. From what we have learned of the contract there is reason to expect that the employment will continue for a very considerable time.—*Scotsman.*

THE BISHOPRIC OF MORAY AND ROSS.—We understand that the Right Rev. D. Low, L.L.D., Bishop of Moray and Ross, has intimated his resignation of that office—his advanced years and increased infirmities having rendered him unable for the due discharge of his duties.—*Elgin Courant.*

RIGHT OF WAY AT HAWICK.—Great excitement has prevailed at Hawick regarding proceedings connected with the shutting up of a path by William Laidlaw and Sons, which has been opened from time immemorial. Early on Saturday morning last, when the workpeople were passing by the usual way, they found that the road was boarded up, and that no path was provided for them. On ascertaining these proceedings, a band of workpeople armed themselves with sledge hammers and picks, and demolished the barrier. In consequence of these proceedings, fresh litigations are commenced.

THE LATE MR. RAPHAEL, M.P. — The *Dublin Evening Mail* contains the following:—"The late member for St. Albans died without signing the deed transferring the new churches at Kingston and St. Albans, as well as Prior-park, near Bath, to the Cardinal. The delay is said to have been caused by the Cardinal's objecting to Mr. Raphael naming the clergyman, and the result is that he has lost about £70,000 worth of property. Mr. Raphael's sister died on Sunday, so that his nephew comes in for all. The personal property has been sworn at £250,000 and the landed property is estimated at a larger figure.

Ireland.

PROSPECTS OF IMPROVEMENT.—The Christmas season has afforded a pretty accurate mode of testing the condition of the people, and of comparing the purchases of necessaries and luxuries with those of the preceding four years of unexampled suffering and depression. Doubtless a great deal of distress still prevails, which is fully shared with the humbler classes by the encumbered landed proprietors and many of their creditors; but it now appears to be admitted upon all hands, that the condition of the bulk of the town population is gradually and steadily improving. The *Cork Reporter* has an exceedingly gratifying statement of the symptoms of reviving prosperity exhibited at the Christmas markets. The accounts from Belfast are still more satisfactory, showing increasing prosperity in this fine commercial and manufacturing town, which had suffered comparatively little distress in the worst period of the famine. The *Banner of Ulster* states that "so extensive are the building speculations in Belfast and its vicinity for the next year, that much additional ground suitable for brick-making has already been broken. In one new line of street alone, building contracts to the amount of between £20,000 and £30,000 (including that for the new Corn Exchange) will be commenced early in spring."

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGES.—Comparatively little attention has latterly been given to the progress of the Queen's Colleges, in consequence of the excitement produced by the agitation now in progress in England; and which, it had been supposed, would prove detrimental to those institutions. No such effect, however, is yet apparent; on the contrary, the colleges are steadily proceeding, with an increase of Roman Catholic students, even at Galway, where the system of mixed education has received the most decided opposition.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF LIMERICK.—There is a chance that Mr. John O'Connell will not retire from Limerick after all. The *Limerick Reporter* has the following announcement:—"At this moment an active and energetic movement is on foot to enable Mr. O'Connell to go to Parliament and fight the good fight for the civil and religious liberties of his fellow-religionists menaced by an apostate and unprincipled Minister. That his pecuniary means are contracted is well known to all men. Many causes have conspired for some years to interfere with the proverbial generosity of our countrymen, and their ardent attachment to the memory of the great O'Connell; but we are certain that in Limerick the ever true and faithful citizens who stood by his father in the worst of times will remove every obstacle that may lie in the way of Mr. John O'Connell's taking his seat in Westminster on the opening of Parliament; and, in the language of Mr. Lisle Phillips, showing to the world that the spirit of Ireland is not asleep when the religious immunities which O'Connell wrested from the reluctant grasp of a hostile Cabinet are in peril."

REDUCTION OF RENTS.—The provincial journals announce further reductions of rent, which are described as quite satisfactory to the tenantry. The immense emigration which, even in mid-winter, is continued in some districts, has had a decided influence in bringing about a better understanding between the owners and occupiers of the soil. The landlords, in fact, find it necessary, by reasonable and prudent concessions, to encourage their tenants to remain in the country, and at the same time to deprive the Tenant League of their strongest arguments for agitation. Those reductions extend to most parts of the country, to the North as well as to the South.

THE LATE INSURRECTIONARY MOVEMENT.—It appears, by an official correspondence in the *Galway Vindicator*, that the Lord Lieutenant has relieved that district from a prohibitive proclamation, issued in 1848, under the Crime and Outrage Act, which rendered it penal for any person to carry arms without being duly licensed.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES.—The commissioners are proceeding with the new arrrangement of selling small lots of land and house property in the localities where they are situated. Sales of this kind have taken place in Limerick and Monaghan, and higher prices have been obtained than had been offered in Dublin.

THE NEW RATE IN AID.—The circular of the Poor-law Commissioners for another rate in aid of twopence in the pound on the valuations, to raise £99,362, for the relief of the "distressed unions;" has been received by all the boards of guardians. The only union that has yet objected is that of Ballinasloe and the South Dublin; and the ground set forth in the resolution of the guardians of the former union is the illegality of the proceedings, "inasmuch as the act is only entitled 'An act to make provision, until the 31st December, 1850, for a general rate in aid of certain distressed unions, and electoral divisions in Ireland;'" from which it is inferred that the time for legally levying such a rate has lapsed.

DECLARATION AGAINST NEW PENAL LAWS.—The *Freeman's Journal* states that a circular has been addressed to members of the House of Commons connected with Ireland, by Messrs. M'Cullagh, Devereux, and O'Flaherty, suggesting the propriety of adopting the following declaration:—"We, the undersigned, deem it our duty at the present juncture to declare our unalterable attachment to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and our determination to oppose, by every constitutional means, any measure tending to interfere by legislative enactment with the discipline or doctrine of any portion of the Queen's subjects." The *Freeman* adds—"We understand that a great number of signatures have been already affixed to this timely and important manifesto."

AGRARIAN CRIME IN ULSTER.—For some weeks past a spirit of insubordination has been apparent in some districts of the counties of Armagh and Donegal, and it is stated that the Ribbon system prevails to a considerable extent amongst the peasantry. On the application of the local magistrates, the government have proclaimed several electoral divisions of Donegal under the Crime and Outrage Act, and an increased police force has been placed in those districts. In one of the most remote parts of that county, the wild and mountainous region of Grosedore, where Lord George Hill has effected really wonderful improvements, at an expenditure of about £25,000, symptoms of agrarian disturbance have recently been manifested, and there has been some opposition to the payment of rents. During last week a constabulary force have proceeded to that quarter. In the county of Armagh the spirit of insubordination appears to be extending. On Friday week a numerous meeting of magistrates of that county took place at the Court-house of Ballybot, to consider the state of the baronies of Upper Orion and Upper Fews, and the expediency of recommending the Lord-Lieutenant to increase the constabulary in these districts, which, it is stated, "have become a hotbed of Ribbonism." It was resolved that a recommendation should be forwarded to his Excellency, through the lieutenant of the county, to have two new police stations erected, and the constabulary stations generally strengthened. In addressing the quarter sessions grand jury at Ballybot on the same day, the chairman of Armagh, Mr. Tickell, referred to the numerous cases of Whiteboy or tumultuary character. "He had (he said) looked through the informations in one of those cases, and he found that bodies of people went through the district, called at people's houses, and desired them *not to pay any rent;* he found that in that district threatening notices had been served; and a most atrocious murder had been committed within the last twelvemonths."

A gentleman in London, who, as the *Evening Mail* says, "possesses good means of information," writing in that journal, mentions the manifesto of the Irish members, to which we have already alluded. He says:—"Lord Castlereagh, and some others of keel Toryish tendencies, are said to have signed it." He adds:—"Lord Stanley takes his stand on the income tax renewal next session, which he intends to oppose; and as the government contemplates its extension to Ireland, which the Irish members will of course vote against, it is throught that that may be the field on which Whiggery may fall."

ABOLITION OF THE VICE ROYALTY.—A correspondence, upon the abolition of the Vice-Royalty, between Mr. G. A. Hamilton, M.P., and Colonel Dunne, M.P., has been published. After the opinions expressed by both, in their places in Parliament last session, upon the proposal, it can hardly be expected that their letters will exhibit much novelty. The Colonel announces his readiness to afford his humble co-operation *in any way* with a view of resisting the measure, if introduced next session; and Mr. Hamilton hopes that as its unpopularity is no longer doubtful the Government will abandon it.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The usual weekly meeting of the Association was held in Conciliation Hall on Tuesday, Mr. G. Spelman in the chair. Mr. John O'Connell said he would be happy if liberal Protestants joined in the movement which was proposed to be made against the contemplated revival of penal laws, and expressed a hope that the Roman Catholic members would be united in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would not be divided as to their interpretation of the Catholic oath. He maintained that that oath did not bind Catholic members to abstain from dealing with the revenues of the Protestant church. He also remarked that the subject of Catholic education was one with respect to which the Roman Catholic members ought to be agreed before they went over to Parliament. At the meeting of those members, to take place in January next, he (Mr. O'Connell) would himself propose that point, and the one as to the Catholic oath should be taken into consideration. With regard to the penal laws, if the same meeting of members should come to no conclusion on the subject, he would himself, on the opening of Parliament, move an amendment to the address to her Majesty, if the speech from the throne contained a single indication of the contem-

plated penal laws. Mr. O'Connell went on to complain of the burning of the effigies of the Pope and Cardinal Wiseman, which had taken place in London. Would it be believed, he said, that the Sisters of Charity, too, had been made the object of ribald representation in the streets of English towns. The Rev. Mr. Gilligan next addressed the meeting, and warned Lord John Russel not to make penal laws against Catholic religious liberty. He said he did not advocate warfare in a physical point of view, but he would remind the noble lord that out of the 150,000 of the British army, fully 50,000 were good fighting Catholics. He would also remind him that there were 6,000,000 of Catholics in Ireland, who would not permit themselves to be crushed to gratify the paltry trickery of Lord John Russell. The rent for the week was announced to be £8 6s. 5d., which sum included £3. the renewed subscription of Mr. John O'Connell and family. The meeting then adjourned.

The New Parliamentary Constituency.—The returns of the clerks of the peace, of the claimants under the new Franchise Act, are completed, with the lists of objections, which are to be heard at the revision before the assistant barristers. So far as can be judged by the materials at present available, the entire constituency of Ireland, will considerably exceed two hundred thousand. In the boroughs there will be no great augmentation, but in the counties generally the increase will be immense, as contrasted with the existing electoral bodies, which since the famine, had been in a rapid state of decay. In the City af Dublin the new constituency will not much exceed that originally established by the Reform Act. In the western counties the increase will be much less in proportion than in some of the midland counties. For instance, Roscommon, which had, after the first registry under the Reform Act, a constituency of nearly 3,000, will not now have more than 1,800 electors of all classes. But Meath, which had not under the Reform Act 2,000, and which has not now more than 400 electors, will have between 4,000 and 5,000 under the new Franchise Act.

Scene in a Church.—A Dunmore correspondent writes:—"On Sunday last whilst the Rev. Mr. Lyons was engaged in the celebration of divine service, Mr. Barrett (between whom and Mr. Lyons a dispute lately arose concerning the occupancy of certain pews, and which is still pending until the next quarter sessions of Tuam) came into the church, and forced his way, with the aid of a "pincers" into the forbidden pew; whereupon the officiating minister, in great excitement, divested himself of his sacred vestures, descended from the pulpit, and adjourned to his own house, to which the congregation, the cause of the disturbance excepted, immediately proceeded."—*Tuam Herald.*

Death from Destitution.—An inquest was held by T. T. Abbott, Esq., coroner, on Friday last, upon the body of a man named Walsh, who resided with his sister, a widow, near Newport. A verdict was returned that the deceased died of destitution. It appeared the unfortunate man allowed himself to starve sooner than enter the workhouse.—*Nenagh Guardian.*

Incendiarism.—Just as we were going to press, information reached us that the house and premises of a man named Michael O'Kelly, situate between Athlone and Ballinasloe, were set on fire and totally consumed. The act is supposed to be that of an incendiary.—*Westmeath Independent.*

The Proposed Meeting of Irish Members.—Mr. F. Scully, M.P., has added his name to the list of those who approve of Mr. John O'Connell's plan to hold a Conference of Roman Catholic members.

Tenant-right Meeting in Newtownards.—On Monday a Tenant-right meeting was held in Newtownards, County Down; Mr. John Greenfield, of Jackson Hall, in the chair. A "Southern deputation," consisting of the Rev. T. O'Shee, P.P. Callan, County Kilkenny; Very Rev. Archdeacon Fitzgerald, Rethkeale, County Limerick; and Mr. Lucas, proprietor of the *Tablet*, attended the meeting and spoke to resolutions, as did also the Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Comber, and the Rev. Mr. Killen, Presbyterian clergymen. The resolutions passed were similar to those adopted at previous Tenant-right meetings. A letter was read from Mr. Sharman Crawford, M.P., of which the following is an extract:—"The tenants of Ireland are told that they may pay high rents by high farming. I have no doubt that improved agriculture would give greatly increased profits; but it is impossible that improved systems can be carried into effect without a large investment of sunk capital in the improvement of the soil, and the increased number and size of agricultural offices. I would ask, then, can the tenant be expected to do this until he has legal security for the capital expended? Under existing circumstances, every improvement made adds to his slavish dependence on his landlord's will and power. No man ought to place himself in this position; therefore it appears to me a vain attempt to improve the agriculture of Ireland till that be obtained which you seek for—'The legalisation of the rights of tenant industry.' I do not think it proper at present to enter into a consideration of the provisions by which this great object is to be effected, or into any examination of the propositions of the Irish Tenant League, which are referred to in your requisition. I do not wish, as a Member of Parliament, to pledge myself to any details, until I am enabled to consider them in the form of a bill, to be submitted to the Legislature. But I hope it is unnecessary for me to assure you that you may rely upon my most strenuous exertions in support of any measure which shall, in my judgment, give a just security to the tenant's interests, and I willingly join my voice with yours in the watchword with which your requisition concludes—'Tenant right and public justice.'"

Encumbered Estates Sale.—The estate of Mr. Richard Ashe, of Ashegrove, in the county of Cork, was sold on Tuesday, in the city of Cork, pursuant to the order of the commissioners. The attendance was most respectable, and the competition very spirited. The sale of the property did not occupy half-an-hour, and the sum realised by the whole was £7,936; about £900 over what was bid in Dublin.

Murder in Tipperary.—The *Tipperary Vindicator* contains the following account of a barbarous murder committed in that county on Sunday:—"A frightful murder was perpetrated at Tyone, near Nenagh, on the night of Sunday. The murdered man was caretaker in the employment of Mr. F. Byron, and was much esteemed by that gentleman. The head of this poor victim of barbarity was almost severed from the body. An inquest has been held by T. T. Abbott, Esq., and a verdict of 'Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown' has been returned."

Tenant-Right in Ulster.—The *Newry Telegraph* contains a long statement in defence of the management of the estates of the Earl of Caledon from certain charges made by one of the journals of the Tenant League. It would appear from this statement that the market value of tenant-right (which had been most seriously reduced, and, in some cases, extirpated by the potato failures and the depreciation of agricultural products,) is again recovering. The *Newry Telegraph* states that "the tenant-right of fifty-five acres, Irish measure, on the Caledon estates, was recently sold for £500, and that of ten acres for £100." It is added that the sum of £150 was offered within the last week for the tenant-right of another farm on the same estate, for which not more than £50 could have been obtained some time since. The conduct of Lord Caledon as a landlord is highly praised. It is mentioned that from £60 to £70 are paid weekly as wages to his labourers, and there are upon the estate mills for grinding flour, scutching flax, &c., for the special accommodation of the farmers.

Van Amburgh and the Tiger.—The tiger scene described below occurred at Toronto a few days ago:—"An affair occurred at our exhibition on Tuesday last of the most intense, exciting, and terrific description, and which but for the intrepidity, daring, and presence of mind of Van Amburgh, would certainly have resulted in the horrible death of our old friend, Signor Hydralgo. The circumstances were as follow:—At nine o'clock Hydralgo went into a cage in which had been placed our largest panther, the Bengal tiger, the African lioness, and the spotted leopard, a cougar, and the hyena. The exhibition proceeded, and Hydralgo seemed to have the animals completely under his control, and the audience seemed to be both delighted and interested at the daring of the 'tamer.' The performance had progressed very nearly to its close when, from some unaccountable cause, the tiger became sulky, and refused to leap. Hydralgo struck him with a whip, which so enraged the furious beast that, breaking through all discipline, and with one bound, and a yell of fury that terrified the audience, he rushed upon him and brought him to the floor of the cage. He could do nothing; he had lost all control over the brute. Everything was in confusion; women fainted, others screamed in terror, children cried, and the men seemed paralysed. It would have been all up with poor Hydralgo, had not Van Amburgh, who was on the other side of the arena, rushed to the spot. In an instant he was in the cage, and in less time than it takes me to write it, he had the enraged animal under his feet in perfect subjection, and released his friend from his perilous situation, fortunately more frightened than hurt. Van Amburgh's presence of mind, his courage, and intrepidity, are deserving of all praise, which he received in three hearty cheers from the audience. For the time it lasted, about two or three minutes, it was the most exciting scene ever witnessed."—*New York Paper.*

Another Proof of the Efficacy of Holloway's Ointment and Pills for the Cure of Bad Legs.—Mrs. Manville, of Stretton, suffered for nearly three years with fearful sores on both legs. Notwithstanding the various medicines and treatment of which trial was made, the ulcerations grew worse and worse, and for some months she was unable to stand; at length it was decided that Holloway's Ointment and Pills should be used, and these excellent medicines soon worked wonders, for in a few weeks all the wounds were healed, and the use of her legs perfectly restored, that she is now able to walk several miles in a day with ease.

EXTRAORDINARY EXCESS OF DUTY BY A GAOL CHAPLAIN.

Manchester, Dec. 30.—A case is exciting public attention here, arising out of a charge made against the Rev. P. J. O'Leary, chaplain of the new Borough Gaol, which possesses an interest beyond this neighbourhood.

The case before the Court of Borough Sessions this morning was one in which Robert Burgess and Wm. Hewitt were charged with stealing, on the 27th of November last, a piece of wrappering, value 5s. The jury had some difficulty in agreeing upon their verdict, but after leaving the court for about ten minutes they found Hewitt guilty, and Burgess not guilty. On returning to court with these verdicts,

Mr. J. Pollock (counsel for the prisoners) rose and addressed the bench (on which were Mr. R. B. Armstrong, the recorder, and Mr. D. Maule, stipendiary magistrate), to the following effect:—I think it right to make a statement at this stage of these proceedings with reference to Burgess, who has just been acquitted, which I do solely in the discharge of a public duty, but which I confess I rise to make with great regret. I say with regret, because it reflects upon the character of a reverend gentleman whom I know personally, and a gentleman for whom I have great respect—I mean the chaplain of the Borough Gaol. The facts were communicated to me through the prisoner's attorney in the first place, and since then by the prisoner himself; and are to the effect that he (the prisoner) has been urged by the chaplain to plead guilty to this charge. And if this was the first occasion on which such a statement had been communicated I might have felt some difficulty in mentioning it, but I regret to say that it is not the first occasion. The learned counsel then read the following extract from the prisoner's deposition:—

The prisoner said—The chaplain came into my cell and said: "Now I want you to answer a question I am going to put to you, and to answer the truth. Let me tell you that your case is a very serious one, and I know all about it. You were employed by Mr. Hilton?" I answered, "Yes." He then said, "Ah, you see I know all about it." He then said that he came to me as a friend to advise me to confess all I knew, and where the property had been placed, as that was my only chance of obtaining mercy, because my case was a very serious one—robbery, for which the heaviest of punishment was inflicted, if found guilty, after pleading not guilty. He said, "There were four transported last sessions for the first offence. I do not say you will be transported; but mind, I do not say that you will not." I said I had never had had any of the property. He replied, "Oh, if that is the case I will bid you good morning." I asked him if he knew when the session were? He replied, "Yes, but as you refuse my advice and have taken your own, I may not answer any questions."

The Recorder.—If this is true, if all has been done that is here stated, the chaplain has been going beyond the line of his duty.

Mr. Pollock.—I sincerely trust it may turn out not to be correct, and that the chaplain has not exceeded his duty; but I should not have mentioned it had this been the first time a statement of this nature had been made; but it is not the first, nor the second, nor the third time.

Mr. Maude said the visiting justices would inquire into the charge.

Mr. Pollock said the whole statement was a very remarkable one, and no doubt it would be inquired into with proper care.

The Recorder.—Mr. Maule would inquire into the matter, and if it was found to be true the visiting jestices would apprise the chaplain that he had gone beyond his duty.

Here the depositions were handed up to Mr. Maule who immediately left the bench. An application was afterwards made to that gentleman by the press to be allowed to take an exact copy of the prisoner's depositions, but he stated that he had already parted with the document, though "no doubt they would hear more of it."

FINAL EXAMINATION AND COMMITTAL OF MR. SLOANE FOR TRIAL.

On Monday morning, at an early hour, and long before the usual time for commencing business at Guildhall, Mr. Sloane, the barrister, who stands charged with starving and otherwise ill-treating Jane Wilbred, was unexpectedly brought up in the custody of Mr. Roe, the warrant officer of the court, from Giltspur street Compter, and placed at the bar for final examination.

This course had been adopted at the suggestion of Alderman Humphery, a repetition of the scenes of Friday last being apprehended from the excited state of mind of the public, and the indignation felt against the accused, should the day and hour of his examination be suffered to transpire. The business was conducted with closed doors.

The depositions of Jane Hill and Jane Wilbred having been read over, the defendant said he should reserve his defence until his trial.

Mr. Alderman Humphery.—Then it is my duty to fully commit you for trial at the next sessions of the Central Criminal Court.

Mr. Phillips (defendant's solicitor).—I presume you will not refuse to accept bail.

Mr. Alderman Humphery.—It is understood that the same bail will be taken, two sureties in £250 each, and the defendant himself in £500, to appear and answer the charge at the next sessions.

The bail having been duly recorded and put in, the defendant entered into the required recognizances; they were Mr. Henry Phillips, of Size-lane, attorney, and Mr. Vass, of Pendenson-terrace, Bethnal-green, who acted as the defendant's solicitors.

Mrs. Sloane had not been apprehended, and Alderman Humphery directed the officer to hold the warrant, and to do all in his power to execute it.

Mr. Sloane then retired into an inner room, where he remained some short time debating with his friends upon the safest mode of leaving the court. The defendant himself proposed that a barber should be sent for to shave him before leaving, and, the more effectually to defeat detection, he said he would have all his beard and whiskers shaved off, but he suddenly changed his determination, and said he would leave without shaving. At this time he was excessively nervous, and appeared as if he were afraid to trust himself into the hands of a stranger, while the public mind was in such a state of excitement with regard to his recent conduct towards Jane Wilbred.

Shortly after Mr. Sloane left the court by a private entrance in Church-passage, and accompanied by Mr. Phillips, his solicitor, made his way rapidly into Gresham-street, where a cab, which had been previously stationed to receive him, conveyed him eastwards through the city, unobserved by many who were on their way to Guildhall to make inquiries respecting him. In fact, during the morning the court was regularly besieged by applicants wishing to know when Mr. Sloane would be coming up again. Notwithstanding the privacy of the proceedings, shortly after twelve o'clock a great number came to the court to ask if Mr. Sloane had gone, and for a long time they would not be satisfied that he had departed, vainly believing that it was only a *ruse* on the part of the officers to get rid of the crowd.

At Guildhall on Saturday last, Alderman Wilson said he had visited a young child that was at present in the hospital, in consequence of having been knocked down on Friday afternoon by the cab that was conveying Mr. Sloane from this court to the Compter, and he was happy to say that she had received no injuries of a serious nature.—Alderman Humphrey said he would take care that the subject of the necessity of a prison van for transmitting the prisoners from the Compter to this court and back should be brought before the notice of the next Court of Aldermen. The corporation had already a prison van, and the only question of consideration was the expense of a horse to work it and a man to drive. It was by far the safer mode for the transit of criminals, and he hoped the corporation would adopt it.—At the conclusion of the general business of the court, and as the alderman was about to leave the court, the cabman who had been engaged to drive Mr. Sloane to the Compter applied to know who was to pay him for the damage done to his vehicle by the violence of the infuriated mob. He stated that the plate glass windows were literally smashed, and the doors put completely out of order. The varnish and paint were grazed off all sides of the cab, in consequence of the policemen hanging on to it to keep off the people, who impeded him at everp step.—Mr. Roe, having communicated with Alderman Humphery, paid the man £1 for the damage and fare, and gave him 2s. 6d. for the loss of time he sustained in having to apply for the money. He appeared very glad on receiving the full amount of the damage he claimed, and expressed a determination never to run such risk again, if he knew it beforehand.

Meeting of the Board of Guardians of the West London Union.—On Tuesday afternoon a special general meeting of the board of guardians of the West London Union was held at their house in West-street, for the purpose of taking into consideration what steps should be adopted by the guardians (of whose union it will be recollected the unfortunate girl, Jane Wilbred, was formerly an inmate) to ensure the apprehension of Mrs. Sloane and Miss Louisa Devaux. There was a very full attendance of guardians present, and Mr. Bethell, of Farringdon-street, the chairman of the board, presided. On the motion of Mr. Herapath the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—1. "That this board do offer a reward of £20 for the apprehension of Mrs. Sloane, and that application be made to the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, requesting the government to increase the sum to £50."—2. "That the clerk be requested to consult with Mr. Huddlestone, the counsel for the prosecution, as to whether the board of guardians had better apply to the magistrates for a warrant for the apprehension of Miss Louisa Devaux." Instructions were given to the clerk to carry out the resolutions with all possibie despatch, and a vote of thanks having been awarded to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

THE QUARTER'S REVENUE.

There is every reason to expect that the quarter's revenue will show a very trifling decrease—if any—when compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, notwithstanding the reductions which the Chancellor of the Exchequer was able to make in the last session. The brick duties—£700,000 a year—were wholly abandoned, and yet we find the excise so prosperous, in the other items, as scarcely to miss the total loss in this. The buoyancy of the revenue of excise is one of the most convincing and conclusive proofs of the wide-spread prosperity and occupation of the great mass of the people. The stamps, although greatly reduced, will not exhibit the signs of that reduction in full in the present quarter, since a great increase of business, which was kept back for the change, will probably show its effect upon the present quarter, which to its full extent cannot be hoped for again. The Customs fluctuate, but will show well in spite of the great reductions that have taken place. These are the chief items which mark the state of the country. The others will probably vary very little, and will be shown by the tabular returns. In the meantime the large amount of public deposits exhibited in the weekly returns of the Bank of England, amounting to the sum of nearly half a million of increase weekly, shows that the debtor and creditor account of the Chancellor of the Exchequer stands well, and that his balance at the end of the financial year is more likely to increase than to be diminished, notwithstanding the taxes that he has relaxed or reduced, and the sums that are in course of expenditure in liquidation of the public debt.—*Observer.*

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE REV. MR. BENNETT.—IMPORTANT PROCEEDINGS.

On Saturday last the preliminary proceedings for depriving Mr. Bennett of the incumbency of St. Paul's Knightsbridge, and the chapelry of St. Barnabas, Pimlico, were commenced on behalf of the Bishop of London. Mr. Bennett, in a letter to the Bishop of London, stated that "if his lordship would not allow him time to make the desired alterations in his mode of conducting the services at his churches, he had no alternative but to place his living into his lordship's hands." This part of his letter the Bishop considered as a formal resignation, and intimated to Mr. Bennett that he accepted the resignation. A few days afterwards the bishop made arrangements for the future performance of the services in the churches, and informed Mr. Bennett of the nature of them. The reverend gentleman then declared that he had not resigned at all, and, moreover, that it was not his intention to do so. The bishop informed him that he had resigned, and that he should therefore, insist on his giving up the two churches. Mr. Bennett, however, stoutly refuses to do so, and the matter is now to be brought into the Ecclesiastical Court; and, from the nature of the evidence which will be brought forward, it is likely to be some years before it is finally settled, as Mr. Bennett and his friends are determined to appeal to every court open to them, should the bishop succeed in the first instance. In the mean time the services at St. Paul's and St. Barnabas will be performed by the curates. Both the churches of St. Paul and St. Barnabas were built and endowed by the Rev. Mr. Bennett, the former of which is worth £1,000 a year, and the latter £350. It is stated that the reverend gentleman has expended upwards of £100,000 in the building and endowing the churches and schools of the districts of St. Paul and St. Barnabas.

Serious Military Fracas at Malta.—On Saturday, the 21st of December, Lieutenant and Adjutant Colpoys, and Lieutenants Micklethwaite and Barchard, of the 44th Regiment, with Mr. Vaughan, a midshipman of the Powerful, were brought up before the police magistrate, Mr. Harper, charged with having, at eleven o'clock at night, on the Thursday preceding, waylaid and stopped the calesse, or carriage, of Mr. William Lamb Arrowsmith, the Superintendent of Government Works and Repairs, as he was going home, after the opera, to his residence at San Giuseppe, accompanied by his wife and daughter, and after smashing the windows of the calesse, abused, insulted, and struck this gentleman in a wanton manner. The parties, by the last accounts, stood remanded to Monday, the 23rd ult., and there seems to be an inclination on the part of the magistrate to commit the parties to stand their trial at the Criminal Court, since, from the evidence against them, the assault appears to have been a premeditated one, inasmuch as Mr. Arrowsmith has recently had to report the breaking, by officers of the 44th, of no less than sixteen lamps. In such case, the parties will peril their commissions. Mr. Vaughan, though sworn to as having been one of the party, does not appear to have struck any blow or taken any active part in the affray, so that hopes are entertained that he at least, will be set at liberty. The accused have secured the professional aid of the Hon. Dr. Adriano Dingli, the member for Gozo.

Murdered for his Clothes.—The *Messager du Nord* gives the following details of a crime just committed in France. The criminal, Lecennes, had been detained for ten years in the prison of Loos, when an attempt to assassinate caused his condemnation to perpetual hard labour. After receiving this sentence, he was led to prison, and contrived by his subsequent good conduct to secure the confidence of the turnkeys, and especially of the chief warden, whose domestic he eventually became. One day, after dinner, he called to a young man of eighteen, like himself a prisoner, and with whom he appeared to be on the best terms, and led him to a place called the Tour Noire. The younger prisoner was afterwards found dead on this spot. A *post mortem* examination proved that he died of strangulation. This crime consummated, Lecennes quietly took a hamper which stood near, climbed to the room of a turnkey, stole articles which he hid in the hamper, covered it with leaves, and proceeded to the spot where the keys of the prison were kept. By the aid of these, with which he was familiar, he arrived at the gate of the enclosure which serves as a cemetery for the prison. Arrived there, the prisoner divested himself of his prison dress, put on the ordinary dress which he had stolen, and put on a pair of spectacles. He had still to get out of the prison. He managed to get to the gate unperceived. Arrived thither he went up to the woman who keeps it and asked for the road to Sequedin and the dwelling of the curé of the commune. On the information being given he quietly took his way, and disappeared. Up to the present moment all attempts to discover the fugitive assassin have proved vain.

Mr. Joseph Hume on the Minority Church-rate.—The Brighton Anti-Church-Rate Committee have received the following letter from the veteran reformer, Mr. Joseph Hume:—"Burnley Hall, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, Dec. 21, 1850.—Gentlemen,—I have received your circular of the 3rd inst., and concur with you in the importance of resisting the proceedings that would give force to the minority at Vestries. I considered the decision in the Braintree case as disgraceful to the bench, and contrary to the spirit of all our public institutions, in which the majority alone sanction proceedings. Let them take the Houses of Lords and Commons, and many other public institutions, and the majority gives laws, and why not the vestries? If you had any report of the proceedings of the meeting on the 9th December, 1847, that you could spare, I should be pleased to receive it, to refresh my memory with the particulars. I must at the same time say, that the parties who are pushing the prosecution of Messrs. Bentley and Mighell, are not true friends of the church; and if they persevere in these unconstitutional proceedings, they will make many persons join the Anti-State Church Association, and thus by their foliy endanger the Established Church. I shall be ready to aid your efforts in parliament, and shall be pleased to be informed, from time to time, of your proceedings.—I remain, your obedient servant, Joseph Hume."

Mr. Lovi, an English engineer, inventor of a diving machine, by which a person can remain several hours under water, at a great depth, has been called from Scio in order to try his machine in the port of Constantinople, at the place where the Néiri-Chevket sunk. He experimented with the greatest success in the presence of TT. EF. Admiral Suleyman Pacha, and several of the superior officers of the Turkish navy. Mr. Lovi, furnished with his apparatus, descended on to the deck of the Néiri-Chevket, which vessel he found at the depth of about twenty fathoms, deeply embedded in the sand. The fore part of the vessel lay split open, and her boats overturned on the deck, which was covered with remnants of the rigging. It is expected that Mr. Lovi will be appointed to raise as much of the vessel and stores as can be recovered.—*Malta Mail.*

Non-Completion of the Building in Hyde-Park.—Although up to a few days ago the contractors felt confident that they would be able to perform the terms of their contract, as to the time of completion, they have found that the shortness of the days, and the multiplicity of details have mastered them; and, accordingly, they have been compelled to make an application to the Commissioners for an extension of time, which was readily granted. On New year's day the building formally passed into the hands of the Commissioners, who will henceforward have the exclusive control of the admission of visitors.

African Cotton.—We (*Liverpool Journal*) saw on the 27th ult., in the possession of Mr. Warburton, master of the Exchange-room, a specimen of the wild cotton plant, with full bolls, plucked within fifty yards of the sea, on the west coast of Africa, in August last. The quality is fine, and this specimen shows that there would be no difficulty in cultivating cotton where it was gathered.

THE DEATHS IN MINES DURING THE LAST YEAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Sir,—A reference to your weekly records shows that the loss of life in mines continues without much diminution. The following statement is extracted from your journal:—

	1850.	1849.	1848.
Killed by explosions	172	255	256
Killed by falls of the roof	194	154	163
Killed by accidents in shafts	101	90	70
Killed by other casualties	70	68	78
Total	537	567	567

Anticipating that your next paper will contain, at least, the average number of deaths, ten must be added to the first column, which will make the number of the miners killed during the present year amount to 547, just twenty less than in the two preceding years. There is some cause for congratulation in the diminished mortality caused by explosions, there being a difference of upwards of eighty deaths in favour of the last year. The number of explosions producing fatal consequences were sixty-nine in 1848, fifty-two in 1849, and 1850 there have been forty-three. We may fairly presume that this diminution in the number of accidents from this cause, and the decreased fatality which has resulted from those which have happened, is to be ascribed, in a great measure, to the increased attention which the ventilation of mines has received, and it is to be hoped that these indications of practical improvement will be confirmed and extended.

In devising remedies for these evils, the Government authorities and Parliamentary committees have confined their inquiries too exclusively to explosions, and have not attached sufficient importance to those less obtrusive but constantly occurring causes of sudden death which produce by far the greatest amount of suffering. It appears, from the above statement, that whilst the deaths from explosions have been considerably diminished, those arising from other causes have been very much augmented. During the last year, it appears that those killed by falls of the roof even exceed those destroyed by explosions, and that when compared with the two preceding years, deaths from this cause are on the increase. That very many of these shocking but too common accidents might be prevented, no one practically conversant with the subject can reasonably doubt. The evil is evidently forcing itself prominently on the attention of the public, and urgently demands the especial notice of the government inspectors. Many cases occur which are not reported in the local newspapers from which you compile your weekly obituary, and the number of deaths from this cause recorded in your columns are necessarily far short of the reality. Were the inspectors to attend the inquests held on the bodies of the unfortunate sufferers, examine the mine, and institute an impartial and searching inquiry into the real causes, there can be no doubt but that it would be followed by beneficial results, and be highly satisfactory to the colliers and miners.

There is also, unfortunately, an increase of the dreadful deaths arising from accidents in shafts. Several of these have arisen from the absence of fences round the top of disused and other shafts, and children and other persons unconnected with the mine have consequently fallen in and been killed. In cases like these it is very difficult to reconcile the "accidental death" verdicts of coroner's juries, with notions of justice, or even of common humanity. Leniency to one party is death to the other; and, although no one likes the invidious duty of informing against his neighbour, it is to be regretted that in many districts the laws in this matter are so utterly inoperative, notwithstanding the terrible consequences which ensue on their being disregarded.

Twelve of the deaths which have occurred in shafts have been caused by the fracture of the ropes or chains whilst the sufferers were ascending or descending the pit. Chains are most unsuited to such a purpose; and it is to be deeply regretted that in some districts there is such a prejudice in their favour, and that they should be so generally preferred to the flat rope. The unfitness of chains was instanced by Mr. John Evans and Mr. Clough, in their evidence to the coroner's jury which sat to inquire into the cause of the deaths of the three men who were lately killed by the breaking of a chain at Dowlais. "Mr. Evans spoke to the chain being in good repair; and Mr. Clough, the foreman of Messrs. Brown and Co., who had made the chain, testified that it had been proved in the usual manner before being sold to the Dowlais Iron Company." This evidence is perfectly consistent with the writer's experience, who has frequently witnessed the sudden breakage of chains on severe railway inclined planes, immediately after a strict examination of every link by competent persons. The high estimation in which the chains made by Messrs. Brown and Co. are deservedly held renders the evidence the more valuable, inasmuch as it shows that, however good the quality of the iron, and however faultless the manufacture, chains are not to be relied on, and are ill-calculated for such a purpose.

In connexion with this subject, it is deeply to be regretted that Mr. Fourdrinier's patent safety apparatus was not in use where these twelve men were killed, as, had such been the case, their lives would most probably have been saved. The expense of adopting it does not, we understand, under ordinary circumstances, exceed £10; and the annual payment for the patent right is from £5 to £20 per annum, according to the depth of the shaft—an expense totally incommensurate with the benefits obtained, and which would probably be saved to many times the amount by the prevention of accidents, which are destructive to property as well as to human life. This truly valuable invention is being generally adopted in the large collieries of the north of England—the number of the apparatus either at work, or ordered, being upwards of 100; and it is highly satisfactory to know that in every instance in which its capabilities have been tested, it has been most completely successful in accomplishing the object of its design.

With the commencement of the new year we may hope to see or hear of the administration of the Act for the Inspection of Mines, and trust that some good will result from it, not only in diminishing the loss of life, but also as a means of collecting statistical data regarding the mines and mining operations of the country.

Neath. J. Richardson, C.E.

PATENT LAWS REFORM.

The following letter, addressed to the Editor, appeared in the *Morning Chronicle*, of Wednesday:—

"Sir,—Knowing the interest which you take in the reform of the existing patent laws, I wish to call your attention to the following passage contained in the letter I had the honour to address to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, on the 22nd of April last, on the subject of the Exhibition of 1851: "If Government have the power, or her Majesty's prerogative could be used in friendly conjunction with foreign Governments in relaxing the stamp duties and office fees on certain patents, the difficulties of the Commissioners would be much lightened." Now, sir, as nothing has been done by Government in furtherance of that object, nor any particular notice been taken of it by the press, although the correspondence has been published in many newspapers both in town and country, I think my meaning could not have been understood. The subject is one of vast importance to inventors of all nations, as regards their having an equal chance in the universal social contest, and I believe that the success or failure of the Exhibition depends in a great degree upon the adoption of some such arrangement. I expected that the Commissioners, as men of business, would have made it their first object so to arrange with foreign Governments as to afford a clear stage to all exhibitors, and would have proposed to each the propriety of giving their patents to the successful competitors, no matter of what nation or clime they might belong. The effect of this would be, as I have said in another part of the letter referred to, "to bring out a larger field of genius and industry than the large prizes named by the commissioners," &c. What nobler prize, I would ask, could be given to a deserving inventor than the necessary patents to protect his just rights in all the assenting nations? The very thing he generally endeavours to obtain as the summit of his labours. No prize that the Government could give would please so well, or cost them so little; indeed it would cost them nothing but the trouble of signing and sealing. But if a money value be set on patents, they are merely nominal in most nations, except England, and that may have been the reason the plan has not been adopted; but if that be so, it is not supported by reason or policy, for the grant giving free patents would have the effect of bringing out all matured inventions unscrupulously, each inventor thinking his own the best; which policy would enable the Government to repeat the Exhibition annually if necessary, as the building, the most expensive item subscribed by the public, might be kept up for that purpose. As for the present plan of giving medals—things of no money value—it seems to have been the result of a sliding scale, dwindling down from prizes of £5,000, as first named, to medals to be bestowed by her Majesty herself. I believe that no inventor who has devoted his mental and bodily labours for years, and expended large sums in experiments to gain a certain advantage in mechanism, would, when he has so succeeded, run with it into the Park, place it in the Great Exhibition, and be content with a medal. I have been led more into detail than I at first anticipated, although the subject in my mind is far from being exhausted; but I trust its importance will be a sufficient excuse, particularly after the able support you have already given to the cause. "Your very obedient Servant,

"Richard Townley."

"6, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, Dec. 28."

CULTIVATION OF FLAX IN MUNSTER.

A meeting for the purpose of encouraging the growth and culture of flax in the Unions of Youghal, Dungarvan, and Lismore, was held in the Court-house, Lismore, last week. The meeting was a highly important one, inasmuch as nearly all the property of the three unions was represented. Among those present were—the Right Hon. Lord Stuart de Decies, Dromana Castle; Sir Richard Musgrave, Tourin; Sir Nugent Humble; Messrs. J. Keily, Strancally Castle; F. A. Curry, Lismore Castle; R. Usher, F. Kennedy, William O'Mahony, &c.

The chair was taken by Lord Stuart de Decies. His lordship proceeded to say, that ever since the year 1847 the attention of the landed proprietors and land occupiers of Ireland had been directed to an inquiry respecting the means by which the value of the land and the comfort and prosperity of its occupiers may be raised to the same level which was enjoyed previously to the partial failure of the potato crop in the year 1846; and, simultaneously with that inquiry on the part of the agriculturists of Ireland, an inquiry has arisen among the cotton spinners of the north of England as to the best means of supplying the substitute required through the deficiency in the cotton crops during the last ten or twelve years. And the reply to these inquiries has been one and the same in both instances, namely—that to the extended culture of the flax crop may both interests look for relief under the difficulties by which they have respectively been beset. (Hear.) But it is not merely the Irish agriculturists or the English cotton spinners who are interested in the promotion of flax culture, but the flax manufacturers of the north of Ireland are, if possible, still more desirous than those parties of giving an impulse to the growth of flax. (Hear, hear.) The flax manufacturers of the north of Ireland are desirous of doing so upon these grounds. They are now compelled to purchase, to the extent of many hundred thousand pounds, the flax grown upon the Continent, and which they are well aware could be grown better adapted to their purposes in this country. With the exception, perhaps, of a very small quantity of flax grown in a limited district of a particular part of Belgium, with this exception, all the flax required for such purposes might be grown to greater advantage in Ireland than upon the Continent, from which they draw such large supplies. But besides this object which the flax manufacturers of the north of Ireland have in promoting the culture of this plant they find that the linen manufacture may now be applied to a vast number of purposes to which, until lately, it was thought to be inapplicable. It is a fact, strange as it may appear, that within the last year a fabric has been manufactured from flax resembling, but exceeding in glossiness and beauty the very finest description of satin manufactured from silk. There are manufactured from it velvets and velveteens, corduroys, check dresses, such as are worn by children; it is made use of for furniture covers and carpet covers; and, under all these circumstances, the manufacture of flax in the north of Ireland is raised so much, that, even if it were not pushed beyond its present state, it would require upwards of 30,000 acres of additional land under flax, besides what is grown at the present moment in Ireland, for Irish consumption alone. Now, gentlemen, let us inquire whether there is any valid reason why the Irish farmer should not devote his land to the culture of flax. The northern Irish farmer has already answered the question. (Hear, hear, hear.) By rendering it one of the articles of staple growth he is enabled to keep down the poor-rates to a far lower level than they obtain, I regret to state, in the south or in the west of Ireland; and he is likewise enabled to support his family in a degree of comfort and prosperity far superior to anything which is enjoyed by the farmer in the south of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, let us inquire next whether there is any valid reason why the southern Irish farmer should not devote his land to the culture of that crop as well as the northern Irish farmer. And it must be admitted, that hitherto there have been very considerable obstacles in the way of his doing so. (Hear, hear.) Those obstacles, I think, may be described as resolving themselves mainly into the following considerations:—To the want of a market for the flax when raised—(hear, hear;)—in some degree to ignorance, perhaps, as to the best mode of managing the crop; and to the want of the opportunity for the division of labour which exists in the north of Ireland, and which the southern Irish farmer has not hitherto had the advantage of. (Hear, hear, hear.) Now, gentlemen, comes the question of a market, and I really do think that the whole question of the expediency of promoting flax culture hinges upon the question as to whether we can have the benefit of a market or not. (Hear, hear.) For, before anything can be done, we must undertake to get a market. (Hear, hear.) And, with respect to that part of the question, I beg leave to state to you that I have received a letter from a gentleman named Carleton, connected with Belfast, who has come down to Waterford, and who stated publicly the other day, before the board of guardians of Dungarvan, and on another occasion before several of the guardians of the Lismore board, that it was his intention, with all practicable speed, to establish a flax mill and steeping concerns at Bellake, in the neighbourhood of Waterford, and that he would be prepared to purchase any quantity of flax which might be grown by the farmers of these unions. (Hear, hear.) It only, therefore, remains for you, gentlemen, to consider whether, with these prospects of the establishment of a market, and a mill and steeping concerns in the neighbourhood of Waterford, and, as I am informed, with the prospect of a still larger concern in the neighbourhood of Rathcormac—whether, under those circumstances, you will consider that the time has come when we should form, as has been done in many other parts of the south of Ireland, an asssociation in connection with the Royal Flax Association of the North of Ireland. (His lordship then resumed his seat amid the acclamations of the assemblage.)

The following gentlemen were then appointed to act as a committeee:—Lord Stuart de Decies, Sir Richard Musgrave, Sir Nugent Humble, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Curry, Mr. Usher, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. O'Mahony, Mr. Kierman, Mr. Ronad, Mr. Davis, Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Power, with permission to add to their numbers.

After some conversation,

Mr. Kelly said he had communicated with his tenantry, and the reply was that they would grow the flax if they got a market. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Lee, of Tallow, said that in the neighbourhood of Tallow they would have no difficulty in growing 500 acres of flax, and he knew several farmers who would probably grown half that quantity if they had a mill established.

Sir Richard Musgrave then proposed a resolution to the effect that the committee should take steps to ascertain the extent of land which the farmers of the union would grow with flax if a mill be established, and report to the next general meeting.

The resolution was seconded and carried.

Thanks having been awarded to Lord Stuart de Decies, the proceedings terminated.—*Cork Examiner.*

The Quickest Voyage across the Atlantic.—The last trip of the Royal Mail Steam-ship Asia was the quickest one ever made between New York and Liverpool. Her run of last summer to the Mersey, on which occasion she steamed past the Rock Lighthouse at midnight on the Saturday, had previously stood unrivalled, being one hour and twenty minutes less than the finest passage of the United States mail-steamer Atlantic; but the Asia has now beaten even herself, fully justifyng her claim to be considered the fleetest existing ocean steam-ship. From New York on the 18th ult. she cleared precisely at midday, but shortly afterwards stopped her engines to repair damage received by her wheels, during a collision with the wharf. Fifty-five minutes were thus lost; and she finally started on her voyage shortly before 2 p. m. During her subsequent passage she experienced variable weather, with frequent strong breezes from the westward, and on Friday at 10 p. m., made Cape Clear, having steamed from land to land in little less than nine days. Holyhead was passed unobserved by the marine telegraph, at 4 p. m, on Saturday, and at half-past 9 o'clock her guns saluted the town, exciting general surprise and universal gratification as regards the celerity of her passage. On two days she steamed a distance seldom equalled hitherto in the annals of ocean steaming; running on the 25th 26th, and 27th ult. respectively 328, 321, and 300 miles. Her passage reckoned according to mean time, and deducting 45 minutes lost off New York repairing floats, may be recorded as ten days four hours five minutes, or two hours and fifty-five minutes less than her fastest summer passage, four hours and fifteen minutes less than the United States mail steamers' fastest passage eastward, and about five hours and twenty minutes less than the remarkable summer run of the Pacific out to New York.

Mr. Dodsworth has, it is stated, placed his resignation in the hands of the Bishop of London.

THE APPREHENDED STRIKE ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The strike apprehended amongst the engine-drivers and firemen on the line of the most important transit of railway communication throughout the kingdom, namely, the London and North-Western, bids fair, unless the men themselves come to a speedy and amicable arrangement, to terminate much in the same manner as the late unfortunate strike on the Eastern Counties Railway.

On Friday, the 27th ult., a copy of the following notice was placed in the hands of every engineman and fireman on the southern division of the Railway:—

"LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

"NOTICE TO THE ENGINE-DRIVERS AND FIREMEN ON THE SOUTHERN DIVISION.

"The present state of suspense as to a strike ought not longer to continue.

"If the men on the southern division, having no grievance of their own, elect to leave the company's service, the directors must at once carry out their plans of temporarily reducing the number of trains, and putting on the new hands, whose services are now available.

"The directors must of course continue to reserve to themselves the right to make, from time to time, any regulations necessary for the safe and certain working of the line, though they have no intention whatever, unless the men force them to do so by these threatened strikes, to alter the regulations now in force as respects the southern division.

"Each man is therefore called upon to state whether he wishes to remain in the service of the company, under the existing regulations; if he does, the directors hope to be able to retain him; if not, notice must be given to him that his services will not be required after fourteen days.

"The directors do not wish to act harshly, but the requirements of the public and the government service will not allow them longer to be subjected to the present state of uncertainty.

"The directors recognise the manly and straightforward course taken by a large number of the men; and they hope to show them that they have consulted their true interests by the conduct they have exhibited.

"Thomas Smith, Chairman of the Locomotive Committee, Southern Division.

(By order) "Mark Huish General Manager.

"General Manager's office, Euston-station, 27th Dec., 1850."

It appears that the men received their wages on Friday evening, and that the printed document referred to, containing the intentions of the directors, having been prepared, was placed in the hands of every man as he came up for his pay at the Camden-station. As each engine-driver or fireman arrived he had to present himself to Mr. M'Connell and Mr. E. Watkin, the Under-Secretary of the Company at the Camden-station. A printed copy of the notice was then handed to him, and some men were called upon to give an immediate decision upon the question, others had a quarter of an hour's consideration allowed them; others half an hour; and some were allowed until Monday to consider the matter. Anything like concert among the men under such circumstances was out of the question, and therefore each felt himself involved in great difficulty. Notwithstanding this unexpected proceeding, it is stated that there was but one man who signed a document to remain in the service of the company under the existing regulations, and that the person referred to subsequently requested that his name might be erased.

A meeting of enginemen and firemen was held at the Railway Tavern, Hampstead-road, on Saturday night last, which was adjourned for a few days in order to receive the expected replies from various districts on the line.

We are informed that the directors are prepared to accede to a proposition for a month's notice, should it be agreed to upon the whole of the line, and that in that event those men who have received notice to quit will, upon making the necessary submission, be reinstated.

We are also informed that the men, although they refused to sign the document above referred to, yet expressed themselves satisfied with their present position.

The notice referred to had, up to a late hour on Monday night, been handed to about 210 of the drivers, who were requested to state whether they were prepared to remain without strike in the company's service, and the satisfactory result was elicited that, with the exception of some twenty, the whole elected to remain in the employment of the company. At the Camden station there are fifty-three drivers and fifty-three stokers, including those engaged upon the Dock Junction line. The question of "content" or "non-content" had on Monday night been put to every man who was to be met with, and we are informed that without an exception they expressed themselves satisfied with their present position.

Upon the northern division also the men have almost universally consented to the proposal of their superintendent for a three months' notice. Upon the northern division of the line applications for the situation of driver have been received from no fewer than 230 men, and twenty-six new hands have actually been engaged, and are now employed in the workshops of the company. Upon the southern division applications have been received from 128 men, and forty-two have been already engaged.

Up to this period notices to quit have been given to thirteen or fourteen men only upon the southern division, and it is believed that it will not be necessary to extend them to beyond one or two more. These men, who are stated to be some of the most inefficient upon the line, have also received notice that they must give up their cottages in a week, but they have been informed that should not that prove time enough to enable them to remove their furniture, a longer interval will, upon representation, be permitted them.

The January time tables have been issued, and, with the exception of about a dozen trains, which are either stopped or altered, no change is perceptible. At the same time perfect arrangements have been made as to the stoppage of a large number of trains should the directors be placed in such a dilemma; and the following notice was on Monday posted at the station:—

"LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

"Notice.—The public are requested to take notice that the usual time bills for January, with the following alterations, will be issued on Monday, the 30th inst.; but the directors must upon the present occasion reserve to themselves the power of withdrawing such bills at any moment for the purpose of substituting another bill, showing a considerable reduction of trains, which has been prepared, and is ready for issue, should such a course become necessary."

The trains above mentioned were then specially referred to.

Up to Tuesday night it was stated that the authorities of the London and North Western Railway continued to receive assurances of the good feeling of the men from various portions of the line; and more particularly, it appears, does the spirit of concession prevail on the northern division, where the outbreak first took place.

It is said that the directors never contemplated the slightest alteration with reference to the men engaged in the locomotive department on the southern division of the line; but in reference to the northern they still adhere to the three months' notice; and with a view to bring the matter to a conclusion, so far as the engine drivers and firemen of that division are concerned, the following notice has been issued, and each man has been called upon to append his signature thereto:—

"London and North Western Railway, Northern Division, Engine Works, Crewe.

"Do you desire to continue in the service of the company, subject to the existing regulations; and do you withdraw your objections to the three months' notice, and in regard to all new enginemen and firemen?"

Nearly every man to whom the foregoing questions have been put on the northern division, it is stated, has subscribed his signature to the declaration of "I agree to the above;" and it is further added that so many of the old hands have subscribed to that form, that, of the twenty-six new men already employed, ten have been withdrawn, and have returned to their old employment on other lines, with the understanding that, should the company require their services, they should have the preference of selection.

In reference to the question of the three months' notice, the most singular part of the matter is the fact that it originated in a strike which took place on the Liverpool and Manchester line in the year 1836, and which is thus described in a paragraph inserted in the half yearly report of that company, dated Liverpool, 27th July, 1836.

Whilst matters have thus arrived at an amicable conclusion on the northern division, it is t obe very deeply regretted that they are not in so satisfactory a state on the southern or London division of the line. Up to Monday the directors had felt it ad-

visable to serve the present fourteen days' notice to quit on twelve of the men, and on Tuesday they also gave notices to quit to ten additional drivers and firemen. It appears that some of the men both at Rugby and Camden Town have reported themselves sick, and thus relieved themselves from duty, as the authorities believe, for the purpose of going to various places and agitating the men. The company still allege that many of these men have received their notices for incompetency and impertinence to their superior officers. Certain, however, it is that the men who have received these notices seem to be exasperated to the highest pitch, and, although nearly every man on the southern division has expressed his willingness to remain in the company's service under existing regulations, there is no knowing what influence the recent steps of the company, in dismissing so many men, may have, several being drivers of thirteen or fourteen years' standing on the line.

On the part of the men it is but just to state that there seems every disposition to conciliation, and they appear particularly anxious that the directors and the public should be assured that they altogether repudiate a "strike," or any attempt at a strike. They declare positively they never contemplated a strike; and in answer to a question put to a large body of drivers and firemen, at the Camden Station, on Tuesday evening, they declared "that if the wages of the northern men were reduced on that part of the line to 1s. per day, they would not strike in consequence; and that all the interference they adopted was to ask Mr. Glyn, M.P., as chairman of the company, to become the mediator between the authorities of the northern division and their men." In the face of this, however, it is stated that when the deputation of the southern division engine drivers waited on Mr. Glyn, they even to that gentleman's face intimated that a strike would take place unless the men's wishes were met.

The best spirit appears to prevail among the men, and it is to be hoped that their voluntary recommendation of adopting a month's notice on the southern division, in lieu of the present fortnight's notice, will be generally acted upon. Should it take place there can be no doubt but the directors will receive it as a concession, and that even the notices already served on the men may be withdrawn.

From our Second Edition of last week.)

On Thursday, the following document was issued by the authorities of the London and North Western Railway:—

"Notice, to be read to each man on the Northern Division (Driver, Turner, or Fireman) by the Foreman.—The directors, owing to the attitude assumed by some of the men who have threatened to quit their service without due notice, have arranged to reduce the number of trains, and have received into their employ new hands in the place of those thus proposing to desert their engines. This has been a matter of regret to the directors; but, compelled as they are to provide for the public service and safety, they cannot permit the present state of uncertainty to exist any longer. They therefore request that any man who, from any cause, desires to leave the company's service, will at once say so to his foreman, and a fourteen days' notice from the company will immediately be handed to him. The directors are glad to find that so many men have agreed to stand by them, and they fully appreciate such conduct.—Hardman Earle, Chairman of the Locomotive Committee, Northern Division.—By order, Mark Huish, General Manager.—General Manager's Office, Euston Station, December 26th, 1850."

On Thursday night a meeting of engine drivers and firemen in the employ of the London and North Western Railway, on the southern division of that line, took place at the Railway Tavern, Hampstead Road, when the following resolution was passed:— "That this meeting knowing the desire the enginemen and firemen engaged on the London and North Western Railway have to keep on friendly terms with their employers, and to avoid the inconvenience to the company and the public from sudden strikes, do recommend to their follow-workmen throughout the line to consent to the establishment of a month's notice, instead of a fortnight as before, if the directors, in accordance with their expressed intention of not interfering with the present rate of wages, will be pleased to pass a minute of the board guaranteeing the men now employed, or to be employed during three years from this time, from any reduction of wages, or increase in their daily labour. And that this meeting be adjourned to obtain the opinion of the men of the various districts, on this proposition." The meeting terminated at a late hour.

THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

2.—*The Revolution and the Present Condition of Parties and of the Nation.*

On the 19th of March, 1848, the King of Prussia proclaimed the election of a National Assembly, "on the largest Democratic basis." The Assembly was elected, and met in Berlin, "to enact the fundamental law of Prussia."

At the same time a National Assembly for Germany was elected on a similar basis, by the whole German nation, and met at Frankfort-on-the-Main. Each German Government, and even the Diet of Frankfort, professed to recognise "the supreme legislative power of that National Assembly."

Under the influence of the alarm occasioned by the simultaneous revolutionary movements of Europe, the King of Prussia, and other German Princes, professed to grant more than royalty could honestly intend permanently to concede; a premonitory symptom from the first of their subsequent perfidy, which is immorally defended and excused by some, but which cannot now be denied.

They granted more than their peoples were prepared wisely to use and to secure; for the revolution in Germany at first raised to popular power the only well-organised Liberal party, that constitutional party which neither originated nor sprang from the revolution, which was not imbued with its tendencies and principles, nor, consequently, capable of conducting it to success. The policy in which this party had been educated was that of extorting partial reforms by the fear of revolution. That policy was clearly only applicable to a time in which revolution, being still only in prospect, the Kings might be induced to concessions for the sake of avoiding it, and bound to the faithful observance of them by the same motive. The revolution having broken out, compromise might have been a rational policy, if the world's history had not long ago shown that the words of princes are no sufficient guarantee for the liberties of their subjects; but with the bad faith of the royal houses, of which a knowledge of human nature ought to have forewarned the constitutional party, compromise after revolution was to divest and destroy the revolution itself, and to secure nothing for the people; for the mere selfish policy of the Kings could no longer be to avoid a danger which had already arrived, but to defeat it.

This reasoning was not then understood by the Constitutional party. They obtained a majority in the assemblies of both Berlin and Frankfort. And one of the first resolutions of the Berlin Assembly, abandoning the principle of popular sovereignty, was to declare that the representatives of the people had not to enact of themselves the fundamental law of the country, but to make a compact, a bargain (eine verfassung zu vereinbaren) with the king.

The Frankfort National Assembly did, indeed, professedly proceed to enact the fundamental law for Germany, for it was hopeless to concoct a bargain with thirty-four royal and princely houses; but they chose an Austrian Archduke as provisional chief of the empire, and despatched the forces under their command against every popular movement in the smaller states.

From that moment a bitter feeling pervaded the nation. A new revolution became necessary to reconquer the rights professedly conceded under the influence of the first. The Democratic party, whose organisation and strength as a party had yielded to that of the Constitutionalists, began to unite and organise themselves more closely under the defeat which a policy of compromise was entailing on the people. They were obliged to accept the situation however hopeless, and to commence a struggle when the best chances of success were already gone. They ranged themselves in absolute hostility to the Constitutionalists; they obtained a majority in the Berlin Assembly and endeavoured, though unsuccessfully, there by legislative enactments, and in Frankfort and Vienna by insurrection, to defend the sovereignty of the people.

The party of concession, true to its policy, joined the princes. At the Gotha meeting, which took place shortly after the dissolution of the National Assembly at Stuttgardt in June, 1849, the Constitutional, *Gagern* or *Gotha* party, as they have been variously called, gave up the very constitution which they themselves had enacted as the majority in the Frankfort Assembly. Afterwards they joined Manteuffel and Radowitz at Erfurt in the attempt to form a Prussian Union. They deserted the revolution; they lost their political influence, their character, and almost their existence as a party.

The want of unity and organisation of the Democratic party in the first instance contributed to the success of the counter revolution. It was divided into *Royalist, Republican,* and *Social* Democrats. The words "Royalist Democrats" seem to imply a contradiction, and at least require explanation. The Royalist Democrats, existing only in Prussia, we should call Constitutionalists in England, for their theory was to deprive royalty of all real power and influence, and to govern, as in this country, by Parliamentary majorities. They were not called Constitutionalists in Prussia, because that title had already been bestowed upon a previously existing party, the Gotha party, whose constitutional scheme was not to govern by Parliaments under a monarchical form of government, but to effect a compromise in the division of real power between prince and people.

In the month of October, 1848, the Democratic party, united as a majority at Berlin, voted Unruh into the chair as president, and Waldeck as vice-president of the Assembly. Waldeck and Unruh, with Jacoby, Reichenbach, Semme, and others, were the leaders of the Royalist Democrats who would have accorded to the King of Prussia a constitutional position similar to that of our monarchs. The king might have called them to power, they would have been supported by all German patriots, would have united the nation and realised its liberties; he chose a different course, and turned out the National Assembly by military force.

Thus the King of Prussia himself converted Royalists into Republicans, and Constitutionalists into Democrats, and ranged against the existence of his house a majority of three-fourths of the constituencies of the kingdom. The first electoral law of Prussia under the revolution had been that of equal and universal suffrage, a new electoral law, conferring unequal votes on different classes of the population, was now octroyed in the old form of a Cabinets *ordre*. The Democratic party, under the advice of their committee, abstained from voting; but they published the number of electors, thus abstaining from the vote in every part of the kingdom, and proved that they amounted to three-fourths of the population. The new Assembly was elected by the court party and the Constitutionalists alone, and was called the Minority's Chamber (Minoriäts-Kammer).

The tale of Prussia, repeated with more cruelty, more bloodshed, and more reckless perfidy, is essentially that of Austria. Throughout all Germany the effect is the same; the revolution of 1849, and the perfidy of the reigning houses has created and organised one great national democratic party; Germany has played its part in the great revolutionary game which was to resolve Europe into two great camps—Cossack and Republican.

It may be well to name some of the leading men of the German Democratic party at Frankfort, in Baden, and Saxony.

In the Frankfort Assembly the leading Democrats were, Blum (shot at Vienna), Ruge, Trützschler (shot), L. Simon von Trêves, Loewe von Calve, H. Simon von Breslau, Voigt, and Raveaux. The three last were elected to an executive committee of all Germany by the short-lived parliament at at Stuttgardt.

At the head of the Badish insurrection were—Hecker, Struve, Blind, Brentaux, Goegg, and others.

The leaders of the insurrection in Saxony were—Heubner (since imprisoned), Todt, Zschirner, and Bakuinne (a Russian emigrant, since imprisoned).

The Prussian opposition has the advantage of not being banished from the country.

Constitutionalists are now, as a popular party, no more; Royalist Democrats have surrendered their hopes of teaching real constitutionalism to Prussia's king, and are merged in the great Republican or Anti-Royalist Democratic party. The popular hopes which centered in Prussia are disappearing; she is bound hand foot to the new Holy Alliance of the kings. and that new Holy Alliance is no longer a union of independent monarchs for a common political object, but it is a league dominated and guided by the immense powers, the obstinate traditional policy of aggrandisement, and the secret and corrupt machinations of Russia. In Germany the people have become Republicans; the monarchs, whether they will or no, are being drawn within the toils of the Cossack.

To keep down their subjects, whom they have converted into their enemies, they have armed the people against the people. But they are on the horns of a dilemma; they cannot permanently keep up their enormous armaments, if they attempt it they hasten the period of a recommencement of revolution; if they disband their armies, they distribute amongst the masses of the people a disciplined and military and really hostile population, which it was most easy to control by keeping it under the discipline of army regulation. The Badish, the Hessian, the Hungarian, and even the Prussian and Austrian army, have their martyrs on the battle-field and the scaffold, and are penetrated by the influences and by the spirit of 1848. The former appear themselves to dread the results of a defensive policy, and to be uneasily anxious to engage in some armed action, or some aggressive policy.

Instead of the juvenile organisation of German Democracy in 1848, it is now united in its objects; it possesses chiefs of political experience and tried character; and it comprehends three-fourths of the nation. It is agreed in desiring the unity of the nation, and the destruction of the ruling dynasties. It is agreed in seeking to realise the sovereignty of the people, by the re-establishment of Universal Suffrage. Recognising the principle in this practical form, if it accomplished a revolution in Prussia, it would return to the National Assembly dismissed by the King by force of arms, in 1848; if in Germany, it would revert to the Parliament dissolved in Stuttgardt, in 1842, after the failure of the 13th of June at Paris.

The political question, national unity, popular liberty, and the Republic, is the question in Germany—Social theories differ, and are the origin of differing schools, as in France; with an instructed, a thinking, and a speculative and philosophizing people, it cannot be otherwise. But there is this great difference between the two countries, that Germany has thirty-four princes to overthrow, the national unity to accomplish, and the Republic to obtain; in fact, one stage of the political question to go through, before social theories can become anything but a subordinate question in the public mind.

The following appeared in our second edition of last week:—

COMMITTAL OF MR. SLOANE.

The re-examination of Mr. Sloane was proceeded with on Friday, at Guildhall, before Mr. Alderman Humphrey. When Sloane arrived he was received with a shout of execration from those who were assembled outside. The officer had been unable to serve the warrant upon Mrs. Sloane. The first witness called was

Eliza Randall, a nurse in the Royal Free Hospital, who deposed to the wounds and bruises she found on the body of Jane Wilbred.

Mr. T. Robinson, surgeon, gave similar evidence. He said she was first weighed on the 12th of December, when she weighed only 60 lbs. (Sensation.) On the 19th she was weighed again, and she weighed 66¾ lbs., and on Thursday she weighed 73½ lbs. She appears to be naturally of a healthy constitution; she had bruises on the lower part of her back, and there was a large bruise on her right arm; in three or four places the blood had been drawn, and scars had been formed. There were marks of vermin over her person. Some of the bruises were of recent date.

Great sensation was manifested on the appearance, and during the examination of Jane Wilbred. The principal statement she made, in addition to her former evidence was, that she had been awoke out of her sleep at night by Mr. Sloane, Mrs. Sloane, and the young lady; they made her get up in the night time in winter to clean the stairs. (Sensation.) I had not all my clothes on. Mrs. Sloane said she would not wait for me to put them all on. (Sensation.) After her examination she was removed to the magistrates' room, on reaching which she immediately fainted away, from the effects of the excitement of the scene. Mr. Robinson succeeded in restoring her without difficulty, and she was re-conveyed to the hospital in a cab.

It was agreed that the former amount of bail would be sufficient, but in consequence of one of his sureties being in Bristol, Sloane was remanded to the Compter for a week.

After the proceedings terminated a cab was sent for, and an officer was sent down to the Compter, with instructions to the governor to have the door open and every thing prepared to afford defendant a ready reception on arriving there. The cab-door was opened, and Mr. Sloane (who had only about three yards to go), accompanied by Springate, the gaoler, suddenly rushed out, and they were endeavouring to force their way into the cab, when the mob closed upon them, and had it not been for the able exertions of Mr. Superintendent Hodgeson, Mr. Roe, and about a dozen constables, Mr. Sloane must have been torn to pieces by the exasperated mob. One old woman was noticed in particular making most furious lounges at him with an immense umbrella. Such was the violence of the mob that both the plate glass windows of the vehicle were smashed to atoms, and mud, spittle, and all kinds of filth were showered upon him through both windows; in less than two minutes he was so bespattered, that it was next to impossible to discover which was the gaoler and which Mr. Sloane. About twenty constables surrounded the cab, and the driver lashed his horse to try and escape the mob, but they impeded his way so mnch, that he was unable to proceed at any but a rapid walking pace. After being safely lodged in the Compter the crowd loudly demanded that Mr. Sloane should be given up to them as often as any of the officers of the police were seen.

The Collision on the Eastern Counties Railway.—After the night charges had been disposed of at Worship-street, on Friday, William Lloyd, an engine driver employed upon the Eastern Counties Railway, was brought before Mr. Hammill, charged with having wilfully violated certain regulations of the company, by driving his engine in such a careless and negligent manner as to occasion a serious collision with the Colchester train, whereby several of the passengers had sustained injuries, and their lives had been placed in imminent danger. The prisoner received an excellent character for steadiness and sobriety, and was liberated on his own recognizance for his future appearance.

Police.

SOUTHWARK.—A Hard Case.—An elderly man, named Gale, living in Saunders-street, in the parish of Lambeth, applied for the magistrate's advice relative to his wife, who recently died in one of the Borough hospitals, and whose body, he being destitute, was unable to bury.—The applicant, who is seventy-four years of age, stated that his wife, who is one year older than himself, died in St. Thomas's Hospital a fortnight ago, and that he was made acquainted with the event, with directions at the same time to remove the body. He, however, owing to his poverty, having received relief from Lambeth parish, was unable to comply with the above directions, and he therefore called upon the parochial authorities, and explained to them that his wife was lying dead in the hospital, and applied to them either to bury the corpse, or to give him the means to enable him to do so. The parish officers, however, refused to help him in this emergency, and being afraid himself that the body of his poor wife, to whom he had been married upwards of half a century, would be used for anatomical purposes, to which he had a strong repugnance (the old man cried bitterly), if it was not brought speedily away from the hospital, he therefore called at this court, in order to have the magistrate's advice how to act upon an occasion which so concerned his peace of mind. He had applied at the Lambeth Police Court on the subject, but was referred to this court for information how to act on the occasion.—Mr. Edwin, the chief clerk, said that the applicant's wife having been removed from Lambeth to the hospital in which she died, he was of opinion that the parish was boudd to bury her, and not St. Olave's, in which parish the hospital is situated; that it would be an enormous expense on the latter parish if they were compelled to bury those patients that died in that institution, and whose bodies were not owned by relations, or who were unable to pay for their interment.—Mr. a'Beckett said that the woman having died a fortnight ago, it was quite time that measures should be adopted for depositing the body in a grave by one or the other of the parishes mentioned, instead of permitting the old man's feelings to be lacerated by the fear that the corpse would be disposed of in a very different way. The magistrate directed Guest, one of the summoning officers of the court, to proceed without loss of time to ascertain the cause of the refusal of the parish officers to have the body of the applicant's wife buried, in order that other steps might be taken if it was not speedily carried into effect.—The applicant, who expressed his gratitude for the magistrate's interference, then left the court with the officer for the above purpose.

MANSION-HOUSE.—Begging Imposters.—Two men, named Brown and Goldsmith, were brought before the Lord Mayor upon the charge of having attempted to impose upon a gentleman by a tale of fictitious distress. The complainant said the men walked into his counting-house, and Goldsmith, pointing to Brown, said the poor fellow was suffering from a severe injury caused by a fall from a scaffold, and many persons connected with the building trade were contributing to his support in consequence of his inability to work. Brown, who had hobbled into the counting-house, put on a look of misery corresponding with the statement; but the complainant had witnessed cases of imposition, and believing the present application to be of that character refused to give any contribution. "Only look over the list," said the pretended injured Brown, "and you will see the names of severa gentlemen whom you know." "I see there are," replied the complainant, "but I don't know that their writing is there, and I think more injury than good is done by giving money under these circumstances. Brown then made some insolent comments upon the illiberal treatment he had received, and both prisoners left the house, the lame one having, in the course of the short interview, completely recovered the use of his legs. Perceiving that the fellows were imposters of the most audacious description, the complainant followed and gave them both into custody. Goldsmith (who had a clean white apron upon him, and a rule in his hand as if he had just left his business to recommend Brown to the notice of the humane) made no resistanee, but the would-be cripple made a resolute but ineffectual attempt to escape from the grasp of the policeman.—The Lord Mayor: Are these men known by our officers? Horsford, one of the officers of the Mendicity Society, said he knew them both as most notorious imposters and cheats; that Brown, whose real name was Clare, belonged to the Westminster gang, who were constantly practising upon the generous and unsuspecting; and had not done a stroke of work for the last six years, and that Goldsmith generally accompanied him to detail the multitude of his grievances. Brown declared that he was really suffering from the consequences of a fall, as he had represented, and that he was willing to work.—Horsford: Where was the scaffold from which you fell? Brown was struck silent by the question. Several officers proved that the prisoners had been for a series of years sturdy and well-fed beggars, and that they generally dined in coffee-houses at fashionable hours after they had done business.—The Lord Mayor said he should, at all events, prevent the prisoners from pursuing their trade for some time, and sentenced each to be imprisoned for three months in Bridewell and to be kept at hard labour.

GUILDHALL.—Have your Coals Weighed.—Captain William Ray, coal and coke merchant, advertising as of 30, Robert-street, Hoxton, was summoned for delivering forty sacks of coals of less than the legal weight to Messrs. Cuthbert, tallow-melters, of Paternoster-row.—The summons had been served at the nominal address of the defendant when it was found that Captain Ray did not live there, but only had his letters directed at the house.—Mary Fawkes, of 30, Robert-street, Hoxton, said: I know nothing of Captain Ray. I received a summons against him, which is still lying at my house. A short gentleman always calls for orders and letters directed to Captain Ray. Sometimes he calls twice a day. I have taken in letters for Captain Ray about twelve months, for which I was to have been paid a share of the profits in the way of commission, or a few coals now and then. I have had only one ton of coals from him. On Saturday last the short gentleman came and told me to discontinue taking orders.—Mr. Cuthbert said that in consequence of an advertisement that appeared in the *Times*, offering the best Walls-End coals at 18s. per ton, he was induced to send an order for four tons. They were delivered, and he continued for about six weeks to have four tons every week from Captain Ray, which were always promptly delivered; but on weighing the sacks it was found that out of forty sacks of coal only fourteen contained their full weight of 224 lbs. He then produced a list of the sacks as they were taken out of the waggon on delivery, which showed a deficiency in the four tons of coal of 7cwt. 3qrs. 9lbs., or 4¼ sacks out of 40.—Alderman Lawrence said that there was no doubt but that some very extensive fraud was being carried on, and Mr. Cuthbert had rendered the public a very essential service in exposing Captain Ray and his coal company. He hoped that in the event of this appearing in the papers Captain Ray would call at the court and explain the transaction, and also that the public would not allow themselves, for the sake of a few shillings, to be defrauded.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—Indecent Assault.—Walter Greig, a tailor, living at No. 6, South-row, Great Marlborough-street, was charged with having indecently assaulted Sarah Heath, his servant. The girl, who stated her age to be thirteen, said she went to live at the defendant's house about a week ago. On Christmas-day, after dinner, her mistress went out, leaving her in the house with the defendant. She had occasion to go into the parlour for some purpose, when he laid hold of her, and placing her on his knee committed the first assault. Being desirous to get away from him, she told him her sister was outside. He called in her sister, who was younger than herself, gave her a penny, and then sent her home. As soon as her sister was gone he repeated the assault, and complainant at last getting out of the room by an excuse, went home and told her parents of her master's conduct towards her. The defendant denied the charge, and the case was sent to the sessions for trial.

Robbing a Master.—William Locock was charged with stealing three £5 Bank of England notes, the property of Mr. Henry Renaud, proprietor of Limmer's Hotel, Conduit-street, and Thomas Harper and George Hawkins were charged with being parties to the offence.—Mr. Henry Renaud said the prisoner Locock had been employed as under porter for about sixteen months. On the 3rd of September he gave the prisoner a letter directed to Miss Renaud, at the Bellevue Hotel, Bangor, and he told the prisoner to be careful of the letter, as it contained money. In the letter were three £5 Bank notes, the numbers of which he knew. The letter never reached its destination, and he then communicated with the police. The three notes were afterwards paid into the Bank of England.—Inspector Field, of the Detectives, said he took the prisoner into custody on the 23rd of December last, telling him that he was charged with stealing a letter which contained three £5 Bank of England notes. The prisoner voluntarily said, "I'll tell you all about it. I broke open the letter, and I took the notes out. The next day I met Hawkins, who was living with a newsvender named Hutton, in Catherine street. I told Hawkins I had stolen some notes, and I asked him if he would get them changed for me. He said he would, and I gave him two £5 notes, and he afterwards returned eight sovereigns to me, keeping two for himself. I kept the other £5 note for some time, and then I gave it to Harper, a cabman, to get changed. I only got 5s. out of the third note." Witness, on this statement, took the two other prisoners into custody.—Locock was committed, and the other prisoners were remanded.

Alleged Seduction and Desertion by a Romish Student.—A young country girl, of considerable personal attractions, presented the following letter to the sitting magistrate, Mr. Hardwick:—"Sir, I take the liberty of addressing you, as a magistrate and a gentleman, to inform you of my painful situation, and to implore your protection, and any assistance it may be in your power to afford me, until I am able to procure some situation to support myself by honest means. On the 15th November I was induced to leave my father's house, Mr. Simmons, late clerk in the goods department, Derby Railway Station, with Mr. Louis Leopold de la Pessez, a young Spaniard, to whom I have been known for twelve years, he promising to marry me on my arrival in London. I fondly and foolishly relied on his honour; and after living with him three days, he promised to marry me every day. He left me without any intimation, and I have never seen him since. I need hardly add he left me almost penniless, for all I had was 15s. 6d., on which, and on the produce of the sale of my clothes, I have continued to live ever since. I am anxious to redeem my lost character and honour as far as I can. I have written to my father, but received no answer. I have brought this letter myself, and wait the honour of seeing you, if it should be your pleasure, and to answer what questions you may think proper to ask me.—"I have the honour to be, sir, your humble servant,—M. A. Simmons."—Mr. Hardwick asked the young woman if the letter was her own writing.—The applicant replied that it was. She had been induced to take this step from having seen in the papers that assistance was occasionally granted to persons in her unfortunate position.—To questions, the applicant replied that the young gentleman with whom she came to London, was in the Roman catholic college at Derby, kept by an Irish Roman catholic priest named Sing. She lived at Derby with her friends, and this afforded the young gentleman an opportunity of keeping up the acquaintance with her. She was most anxious to get a situation abroad if possible to hide her shame and to retrieve her character. At present, however, she was wholly destitute of the means of even paying for a night's lodging.—Mr. Hardwick at first thought of sending the young woman to the House of Charity in Rose-street for a short time, but at the applicant's request consented to give the means of sending her to Derby, where she had relations living.—The applicant expressed herself very grateful for this seasonable assistance, and left the court in charge of an officer to make the requisite arrangements.

Assault.—William Wallace was placed at the bar before Mr. Bingham, charged with being drunk, begging, and assaulting Daniels, one of the constables belonging to the Mendicity Society.—The officer stated that, about nine o'clock on Wednesday night, he was in Regent-Street, when he saw the prisoner go up to several gentlemen and ask for money. Knowing him to be a most determined beggar witness took him into custody, and on his way to the station-house the prisoner kicked him violently about the legs.—Horsford said the prisoner had been convicted no less than six times for begging and assaulting the Society's officers.—The prisoner, who denied the charge, was committed to the House of Correction for three months, with hard labour.

BOW-STREET.—Case of Stabbing.—Dr. M'Carthy, an itinerant musician, was finally examined, charged with stabbing J. Clarke, with the intent to do him some grievous bodily harm.—The prosecutor, who has been confined to his bed since the occurrence, appeared very weak, and it was with some difficulty that he gave his evidence. He said he was a clerk, and had latterly lived with a friend, who kept an eating-house, at No. 12, Great Earl-street, Seven Dials. On Tuesday morning, the 10th ult., about two o'clock, the prisoner entered the house, and said he had lost his shoes and hat. He was desired to leave the house, when he commenced using most filthy language, in the presence of a female. Witness turned him out, and directly afterwards he rushed at witness with an open pocket knife in his hand, and stabbed him in the thigh. He bled very much, and had been confined to his bed twenty days from the effects of the injuries.—P. Connor was also stabbed in the mouth with the knife, while assisting the last witness in ejecting the prisoner from the house.—Other witnesses proved that the prisoner aimed the blow at the prosecutor's side, and in doing so fell, and stabbed him in the left thigh, causing a wound of three inches in depth. The prisoner pleaded drunkenness as an excuse to the charge, and Mr. Henry fully committed him for trial.

Furious Riding.—A young man, named Edward Baker, was charged with the following outrageous conduct:—A police constable stated that he was on duty on Wednesday afternoon, when he observed the prisoner furiously riding a young horse up and down Clement's-lane, *a la* Johnny Gilpin. After a good deal of trouble and much noise and confusion, the horse was stopped, and the prisoner taken into custody. He was quite drunk, and as children were in the habit of playing about the lane, it was a mercy some of them were not killed by his mad freak.—The prisoner said he was exercising the horse, which was young and spirited, and "bolted" a few minutes before the policeman caught sight of him.—Mr. Hall asked him what he was?—The prisoner said he was a boot-closer, and had been at work all day.—The owner said the horse was very high spirited, and he had therefore given strict directions that he should not be taken out of the stable. The prisoner, however, who lived over the stable, had done so in defiance of his orders, and the horse was much injured by the rough manner in which he had ridden him.—Mr. Hall fined the prisoner 20s., or ten days' imprisonment. The fine was paid.

Public-house Robbery.—J. Darling, a cab-driver, was charged with stealing a watch.—Mr. Whiting, the landlord of the Sun public-house, in Clare-market, invited a few friends to supper to see the old year out and the new year in, and amongst the parties present was Mr. Hill, the person whose watch was stolen. The year had scarcely dawned before Mr. Whiting and Mr. Hill commenced quarrelling, and while the former was struggling to turn the latter into the street, the prisoner, who happened to be at the Sun bar, coolly walked up to Mr. Hill and snatched the watch in question from his waistcoat pocket. Mrs. Whiting kept her eye upon the belligerents in the course of the scuffle, and saw the whole manœuvre of the prisoner, whom she at once accused of the robbery. He denied it, but immediately afterwards the watch was found at his feet; and as Mrs. Whiting had distinctly seen him take it from Mr. Hill's pocket and place it in his own, a policeman was called in, and he was given into custody.—The prisoner protested that he did it all out of a lark. He was drunk, and though he intended to assist Mr. Whiting in putting his friend out, he had not the remotest intention of appropriating his watch.—The police constable who apprehended the prisoner said he knew him as the associate of thieves.—The prisoner was accordingly fully committed for trial.

Robbing the Turncock.—Ann Murphy was charged with unlawfully possessing and offering for sale stolen property.—Ann Hymes stated that she kept a saleshop, in Great Queen-street, Lincoln's inn-fields, and that on the previous evening the prisoner offered for sale a crowbar and a turnkey, which witness immediately recognised as belonging to a turncock. Witness asked the prisoner where she had got the articles, and she replied that they been given her to dispose of by a person named Lynch, of Wild-street; but while witness was speaking to another party, prisoner went away. Witness followed her into Wild-street, and gave her in charge.—Thomas Middleton, a turncock to the New River Company, said that the articles were his.—Mr. Henry remanded her, and directed the articles to be given up to the turncock.

Caution to Bill Distributors and their Employers.—Lawrence Toomey, a ragged Irish boy, was charged before Mr. Henry with causing an obstruction in the Strand.—The prisoner was engaged by Messrs. Sheard and Brown, outfitters in the Strand, for the purpose of delivering bills to the passengers at 1s. per day. The prisoner stood in the centre of the pavement opposite the shop, and when any person passed he thrust out his hand with a bill. This caused much annoyance, and the pedestrians could scarcely pass without being struck by the prisoner, who offered one of his master's bills. The prisoner was desired to desist by the police, but he refused to obey their orders. The prisoner was then taken into custody by a policeman. Since the prisoner was taken into custody, Messrs. Sheard and Brown have placed a placard in their window, offering a reward to some persons who gave them some information of the brutality of the police towards a poor Irish boy if they will again come forward.—Mr. Henry issued a summons for the attendance of Mr. Sheard, but that person not being at home, Mr. Brown attended.—Mr. Henry said that the prisoner could not be allowed to distribute their bills upon the footpath. He was liable to be sent to prison for a month for causing the obstruction, and his employers were also liable to a penalty of 40s. every time they encouraged him to do it. He fined the prisoner 20s., and in default of payment he ordered him to be imprisoned for fourteen days.—Mr. Henry also said Messrs. Brown and Sheard were liable to be indicted for having a libellous placard in their window.

MARYLEBONE.—A Model Lodger.—Eliza Sidney Owen, a woman about thirty-five years of age, who said that her husband was an assistant to a surgeon in India, was charged under the circumstances below stated:—On Monday morning the prisoner engaged two rooms at the house of Mr. Bethell, Augustus-street, Regent's-park. At ten o'clock the same night she came very drunk with her goods in a van, bringing with her three children; but instead of going into her own apartments she sat herself down in one of the landlord's rooms. She was desired to quit, but she refused to do so, and abused Mrs. Bethell in the foulest manner imaginable. As it was impossible to pacify her she was given into custody, and when at the police station she struck a policeman several blows. For the assault on the officer she was sent for fourteen days to the House of Correction.

Charge of Forging Bills of Exchange.—Edward Smith, a chemist, residing in Upper Seymour-street, Euston-square, was charged with having forged and uttered two bills of exchange, one for £100 and the other for £96 16s., with intent to defraud Mr. Thomas Hicken, of Droitwitch. The prisoner was remanded.

WESTMINSTER.—Very Strange.—John Brothers, a labourer, of very decent appearance, was charged with stealing a watch and seal, value £6.—Mr. Francis Mackrory, a builder, residing at 4, Wilton-terrace, Vauxhall-bridge road, stated that at about twenty minutes to seven on Tuesday morning he was walking with a friend midway between St. Margaret's Church and Great George-street, Westminster, when he suddenly felt a jerk round his neck, and, putting his hand to his waistcoat pocket, found that his watch was gone. The India-rubber guard to which it had been attached was broken, and a portion of it remained round his neck. He turned round, and the only person to be seen, except his friend, was the prisoner, who was about twenty yards off, walking in a contrary direction. Witness then went after the prisoner, whom he had not observed until after he had missed his watch, which he knew was safe in his pocket a quarter of an hour previously. Upon overtaking the accused he tapped him upon the shoulder and said, "Stay, you have my watch." Prisoner's jacket pocket was open, and there, upon a handkerchief lay witness's watch, which he seized before the accused had time to make any reply to the observation addressed to him. Witness then inquired where the gold seal was which had been hanging upon the guard, when the accused replied that he had not got it. Witness told him he must come back with him and find it, and they both went back, and found it lying on the pavement. Witness asked the accused his name, and he replied, "Brothers," and stated that he worked for Mr. Chadwick at Messrs. Elliotts' brewery, and added, "I have a wife and family, and I hope you will say nothing about it, as I did not do it: I never robbed any one in my life; it must have been that your guard caught the buttons of my jacket, and that must have pulled the watch out of your pocket into mine." Witness then allowed the accused to walk away, but upon a police constable who had come up stating that he ought to give the accused into custody, witness went with the officer to Messrs. Elliotts', and found the prisoner, and gave him in charge. Upon his doing so, the accused said, "I am here, you see. I have not attempted to run away, for I never stole anything yet."—The accused, with much caaelessness and apparent sincerity, said that he was going to his work at Messrs. Elliotts', with his hands in his trousers pockets, when he accidentally came in contact with Mr. Macrory, and felt something dragging at the buttons of his jacket, but walked on, taking no further notice of it, and when he was stopped he still had his hands in his pockets, never having removed them. He (the accused) stopped when Mr. Macrory spoke to him, and did not know the watch was in his jacket pocket until told so by the prosecutor, and then he went to his work, where he was found.—The accused said he had worked eight years for Mr. Freeman, a stone merchant; and for some time for Mr. Chadwick, the contractor, by whom he was at present employed.—Mr. Broderip observed, that the account given by the prisoner in answer to the charge was within the verge of possibility, and might be true, but if true, it was one of the most improbable accidents that could occur in the course of a man's life. He would take bail, his own recognisance in £60, and two sureties in £30 each, for his appearance at the sessions.—The accused being unprepared with the necessary bail, was detained in custody.

Caution to Marine Store Dealers.—Thomas Hickman, a marine store dealer, carrying on business in Vauxhall-walk, was charged with having in his possession seventeen pounds weight of metal, of which he could give no satisfactory account.—Jourdan, a policeman, said that, having met the prisoner on that day, and observing something heavy in his pockets, and knowing also that he had been previously convited for having stolen property in his possession, he stopped him, and on searching him found seventeen pounds weight of pot metal mixed up with some solder, which he said he purchased as old metal and melted it down. On going to his shop he (witness) found an iron mould, into which the metal had been run. He asked the prisoner if he did not keep a book in which he entered the articles purchased, and he replied that he did not.—The prisoner, in reply to the charge, said he purchased the metal in the usual way of trade, and this was the only account he could give of it.—Mr. Elliott observed that there could be but little doubt that the whole of the metal found on him was the produce of publicans' pots melted down, and convicted him in a penalty of £3 or one month's imprisonment.

CLERKENWELL.—A Cruel Mother.—Mary Seales, a decently dressed middle-aged woman, was placed at the bar, charged with having violently assaulted Henry Seales, her own son, nine years of age.—It appeared from the evidence of the boy, whose face and mouth were cut, that on the previous day his mother was intoxicated, and seizing him round the neck attempted to choke him, and thrust her fingers down his throat. He was severely cut and scratched by her nails. She had ill-used him and her other children, four in number, in the same way, and his father, on returning from his work, finding him so much injured and herself intoxicated, caused her apprehension by an officer. The father of the boy confirmed his statement as to the prisoner's cruel treatment of her children, and her habits of intoxication.—The prisoner said the complainant was disobedient to her, and he was encouraged by his father, who was in the habit of treating her with violence.—She was fined 20s. for the assault on the boy, and bound over to keep the peace towards her husband and family. She had no money, and was accordingly locked up.

Serious Charge against a Dentist.—Mr. Samuel Rendall, dentist, &c., of 14, Brunswick-square, was charged by Elizabeth Reid, his servant, aged eighteen years, with having violated her.—The prosecutrix said that she entered the service of the prisoner in October last as servant of all work. On Friday morning last, about eleven, her mistress left home, she (witness) remaining with the prisoner's niece in the kitchen. The prisoner was in the upper part of the house. In about five minutes after her mistress had left witness heard the prisoner call "Henrietta," his niece, when she (witness) told him that she had gone out, and he then called her to come up stairs. She went up stairs to her mistress's bedroom to make the bed, and whilst doing so the prisoner entered the apartment and locked and bolted the door, on which he came up to her. Prosecutrix here described the prisoner's proceedings, which amounted to a perpetration of a capital crime, and went on to say that afterwards she felt faint and cold, and nearly lost her senses. She cried when the prisoner came towards her smiling. She turned her back upon him, on which he kissed her. When he was going out of the room she told him that she would leave her situation. She went to her room, sat down, and cried. She felt very weak, and on going down stairs she met the prisoner near the dining room, when he again kissed her, and she went to the kitchen. Her mistress shortly afterwards returned home, but she said nothing to her of what had taken place, as she (witness) intended to leave on the Saturday night and to inform Mrs. Henson, her only friend in London, with whom she now lodged. She did not communicate the affair to the prisoner's niece, who was twenty-seven years of age. Witness remained in the house at the request of the niece until Sunday, when she left, and informed Mrs. Henson of what had taken place.—Mr. William Denny Robertson, resident house-surgeon of the Royal Free Hospital, gave evidence as to the state of the prosecutrix—it was evident that the act had been committed.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said he had made up his mind to sent the case before a jury, but would take considerable bail for the prisoner's appearance at this court on a future day.—Mr. Jarman: You will not commit him on the capital charge, I suppose.—Mr. Tyrwhitt: Decidedly so? What else.—The surgeon's evidence and other circumstances warrant that course. I will take responsible bail for his appearance: two sureties in £200 each, and himself in double that amount. If the girl had made her complaint sooner, I would not accept bail at all, but send him at once for trial.—Bail not being forthcoming, the prisoner was locked up.

WORSHIP-STREET.—Compounding a Felony.—Mrs. Mary Verinder, the wife of an oil and colourman carrying on business in Crown-street, Finsbury, was charged with having compounded a felony. Eliza Harbidge stated that about a week since her daughter was taken into custody upon a charge of stealing some brushes belonging to the defendant's husband, for which she underwent an examination at this court and was ordered to be remanded. After her daughter had been locked up witness waited upon the defendant, and some conversation ensued between them, in the course of which the latter intimated that she had no wish to proceed harshly in the matter, and was willing to abandon the charge upon condition that she receive full compensation for the value of the brushes, which she fixed at half-a-crown. Witness accordingly handed her that amount and left the shop, having been previously assured by the defendant that the money would be returned to her in the event of the stolen property being recovered and restored. On the day appointed for the re-examination of her daughter, neither the defendant nor her husband appeared to prosecute the case any further, and the accused was accordingly discharged. In answer to the charge the defendant said that the witness had given a correct representation of the transaction, but that she had been solely influenced by her feelings of commiseration for the woman, on account of her daughter's position, and without being at all aware at the time that she was acting illegally.—Mr. Arnold said that the offence was one calculated altogether to defeat the ends of justice, and had rendered her liable to an indictment for misdemeanour, but, trusting that what had taken place would operate upon her as a warning for the future, and as he felt satisfied that she had been solely actuated by feelings of kindness in the matter, he should merely order her to refund the money she had received, and to pay the costs of the present proceedings.

Liability of Pawnbrokers.—E. Lisle summoned a pawnbroker named Kampf, of Shoreditch, for the value of a coat pledged. Complainant not long ago wanted three shillings to make up his club money, and sent his wife with a coat alleged to be worth £2 16s. to defendant's shop for that trifle; on seeking to redeem it at the expiration of a week, the coat could not be found. Complainant said the coat was at least worth £2.—Mr. Arnold ordered defendant to pay that amount with six shillings costs for complainant's loss of time.

LAMBETH.—A Dishonest Needlewoman.—Mary Probett was charged with illegally pawning a quantity of slop work, the property of Mr. John Sager Lundy, clothier, Hounsditch, which had been entrusted to her to make up. When taken into custody, no less than twenty-one duplicates, all relating to property which had been entrusted to the prisoner to make up, were found upon her person, and it was made quite apparent to the magistrate that extravagance alone, and a love of drink had caused the prisoner to pledge the things. The case of Mr. Lundy was, however, the only one entered on, and the magistrate convicted her in a penalty of £3, together with the value of the goods (£1 15s.), or, in default of payment, two months' imprisonment.

Stealing Two Loads of Hay.—George Griffs, G. Griffs, Thomas Higgs, and William Green, were re-examined on a charge of stealing two loads of hay entrusted to one of the prisoners to convey from the proprietor's premises to the yard of a customer. All were committed for trial.

WANDSWORTH.—Forging a Receipt to a Post-office Order.—Job Clapham, aged 44, a carpenter, and Anne, his wife, residing at 13, Bigg's-row, Putney, were charged with forging the name of Spencer to a post-office order, sent to a Mrs. Spencer, of Putney, and obtaining thereby the sum of £3 10s., the property of the Postmaster-General.—William Fillmore, an "auxiliary" postman, at Putney, stated that about a fortnight since he had a letter directed to a Mrs. Spencer or Spence, Bigg's-row, Putney, and he took it to the female prisoner, whom he had known as Mrs. Spence, who was residing at No. 13; he knew no other Mrs. Spence or Spencer in that row, and he said to her, "Are you sure it is for you?" and she answered, "I dare say it is for me;" and he gave it to her. He did not tell her to open it in his presence.—Mrs. Ellen Johnstone, postmistress at Putney, proved that she paid the money to the female prisoner as Mrs Spence.—The female prisoner here said in a whintng tone—"I didn't know but what it was for me; I would not injnre anyone."—Mr. Beadon said there was no doubt the husband must be committed for the forgery, and the wife for the secretion of the letter. He should remand them for the attendance of tee post-office authorities.

A Father Shot by his Son near Bristol.—A painful sensation was created at Bristol in consequence of its becoming known that Mr. Wooles, the landlord of the Blue Bowl Inn, near that city, had been shot by his son. The police seem to think that the homicide was unintentional, the young man by whom it was committed not having been aware that the fowling-piece with which it was perpetrated was loaded. Other statements, however, represent that they had been having words about some parties who had been invited to the house by the son, and of whom the father disapproved. The old man received the charge in his bowels, but lived from five o'clock in the evening till ten at night, during which interval he made his will and directed the disposal of his affairs.—An inquest was held on the body on Friday, when it was clearly proved that the death was accidental. The particulars, as given in evidence, were to this effect:—that Mr. Wooles, his wife, and son, were sitting in a small room, and the latter was in the act of toasting some bread for tea, which he happened to burn; his father then snatched it away from him, and threw it behind the fire, and said there should be no toast there. The mother said she would have toast, and was leaving the room to get some more bread, when the deceased struck her on the mouth. His son asked what that was for, when the father took up a stick to strike him; he seized hold of the gun to defend himself, and it unfortunately went off, but the gun was neither shouldered nor pointed, but held loosely in the hand. It was also distinctly shown that the young man did not know it was loaded, but had every reason to believe the contrary. The piece had been loaded in the morning by another son, and placed on one side in that state. To show the good feeling existing between the deceased and his son, the former in his will, which was made after the fatal shot had been fired, has left the whole of his property to be equally divided between his sons. When the fatal event took place, the son sent immediately for medical aid, and evinced the most unfeigned regret and distress at the accident. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

A Word for Mr. Bennett.—Whatever we may say about the conduct of Mr. St. Barnabas Bennett, there is, at any rate, no doubt that he is adverse to the display of one very great virtue—resignation.—*Punch.*

The Gazette.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of Friday, December 27.

John Barker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and North Shields, merchant—William Mitchell and William Binns, Barnsley, Yorkshire, ironfounders—Joshua Unwin, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff manufacturer—Frederick Young, North-place, Kingsland-road, and Silver-street, Golden square, cheesemonger.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

William Kent, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire, joiner—George MacLeod, Glasgow, wholesale druggist—David Reckie, Ferry-Port-on-Craig, grocer—John Stewart, jun., Glasgow, flesher.

From the Gazette of Tuesday, December 31st.

BANKRUPTS.

William Atkinson, jun., Goole, Yorkshire, shipwright—James Ginn, Sudbury, Suffolk, builder—Joseph Haley and William Thompson, Manchester, cotton manufacturers—John Hughes, Hacconby, Lincolnshire, beast jobber—Ebenezer Lake, Okehampton, Devonshire, druggist—James Simons, Wibtoft, Warwickshire and Leicestershire, horse dealer—Edwin Trent, Sherborne, Dorsetshire and Yeovil, Somersetshire, draper—Frederick Young, North-place, Kingsland-road, and Silver-street, Golden-square.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

Alexander Learmouth Cameron, Lonsdale and Glasgow, bleacher.

Markets, &c.

CORN.

Mark Lane, Wednesday, January 1.—The arrivals of all grain both English and foreign, and French flour, have increased considerably since Friday. At this morning's market the show of wheat samples from Essex and Kent was very short; but the quality being indifferent, the sale was slow at last Monday's prices. In foreign wheat there was little doing, though holders did not give way in price; but flour met with few buyers though offered upon lower terms. Barley dull sale at declining rates. In beans and peas little doing. We were better supplied with oats, principally from Scotland; the trade was languid, and prices 6d. lower than on Monday last. Some shipments of oats are making from French ports, but we do not think that this will be to any extent, for since the year 1826, when the import into London from France, for the year ending October, 1827, amounted to 71,000 qrs., we have not received in our port during any one year, more than 6,000 qrs. of French oats.

CATTLE.

Smithfield, Wednesday, January 1.—From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up to-day were but moderate, time of year considered; whilst their general quality was inferior. Owing to the small number of buyers in attendance, and to Newgate and Leadenhall being fairly supplied with country-killed meat, the beef trade ruled heavy, at last week's quotations, the general top figure for beef being 3s. 8d. per 8lbs. There was a moderate supply of sheep in the pens; but the condition of the stock was good. Prime old Downs moved off somewhat freely, at an advance in the currencies of Monday last of 2d. per 8lbs.—they having sold at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8lbs. These, however, must be considered extreme prices. All other breeds moved off steadily, and, in some instances, the quotations had an upward tendency. Notwithstanding that the numqer of calves was small, the veal trade ruled very inactive, at late rates. Prime small pigs sold steadily—other kinds of pigs slowly, at unaltered quotations.

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

Newgate and Leadenhall, Wednesday, Jan. 1.—Inferior beef, 2s 0d to 2s 2d; middling, ditto, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; prime large, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime small, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; large pork, 2s 4d to 3s 6d; inferior mutton, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; middling ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; veal, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; small pork, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; per 8lbs. by the carcase.

WOOL.

City, Monday, Dec. 30.—The imports of Wool into London last week was fifty-seven bales from Germany, five from Madras, and forty-five from France. The market for the raw staple is firm.

Liverpool, December 30.—Scotch.—There is rather more inquiry for Laid Highland Wool; still the sales have not been large, at about the quotations. White Highland is in fair request. Crossed and Cheviot Laid Wools are still neglected, and very little doing in them.

Foreign.—The public sales of last week having cleared out the stocks pretty well, there has been in consequence less doing this week.

Printed by WILLIAM RIDER, of No. 5, Macclesfield-street, in the parish of St. Anne, Westminster, at the Printing-office, 16, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, in the City of Westminster, for the Proprietor, FEARGUS O'CONNOR, Esq. M.P., and published by the said William Rider, at the Office in the same stre t and parish.—Saturday January 4th, 1851.