THE LEAGUE.

THE EXPONENT OF THE PRINCIPLES

OF

FREE TRADE,

AND THE ORGAN

OF THE

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

"Surely as much food as a man can buy, with as much wages as a man can get, for as much work as a man can do, is not more than the natural inalienable birth-right of every man whom God has created with strength to labour and with hands to work."—Mrs. LOUDON's *Philanthropic Economy*.

VOLUME THE FIRST.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 1.] SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1843. [3*d*.

THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League having rendered an account of its proceedings and expenditure, now appeals to you for co-operation and support in its future efforts. Some ground has been laid for your confidence in its earnestness, its diligence, and, we cannot hesitate to add, in its success. The present state of the agitation *is* success. From a provincial movement, it has become metropolitan and national. The scientific conclusions of able writers, on Free-Trade topics, have grown into the principles of enthusiastic multitudes. The controversy of our towns has passed into the counties, almost ceasing there, already, to be a controversy, by the failure or the flight of the champions of monopoly. Political men raised to office for the purpose of perpetuating commercial restrictions, have practically confessed, though only in a succession of comparatively inefficient and useless measures, the justice of principles which their elevation was intended to counteract and to crush; and, above all, the struggle has now become an electoral conflict; the extent of the grievance has been rendered plain to a considerable proportion of those whom the franchise endows with the ultimate power of redress. In one memorable instance, in the City of Durham, a competent knowledge of the subject has been found too strong for sinister influence, party spirit, or even the boasted money power, "the long purse that carries elections;" and there is every indication that, were a dissolution to take place, the great and primary question, absorbing all party distinctions as obsolete or of minor importance, would be, with all honest voters, whether there shall, or shall not, be a Free-Trade Parliament. And this change has been effected at less pecuniary outlay than has often constituted the cost of a single election for a county. Tracts, lectures, and discussions at public meetings, have been the simple means; simple, but mighty, because they were directed to the truth, and used with sincerity. Our arguments have prevailed because they were in accordance with the experience of those to whom they were addressed; with the wretchedness which so many have witnessed, and so many more endured; with the difficulties and embarrassments pressing heavily upon all the industrial classes of society; and with a growing perception of the cause of their calamities in the selfish, short-sighted, unjust, and ruinous policy of Monopolist Legislation.

Our projected measures are, like the past, as simple, fair, and open—as peaceful, legal, and honourable—as the ends for which their adoption is recommended are just, beneficent, and patriotic. What we desire that you should either enable us to do, or should yourselves accomplish, is soon and plainly told. It has been shaped by the course of events, which distinctly opens to us the prospect of ultimate and complete success.

We propose to continue the distribution of publications upon the Corn Laws amongst the possessors of the franchise, until every elector, in every borough and county throughout the kingdom, is supplied with the materials for forming a deliberate, enlightened, and sound opinion on the subject. It shall not be our fault if a single vote, in any district whatever, be given ignorantly; and, when it is made quite apparent how much even the poorest are plundered by the existing laws, the chances will be greatly increased against votes being given corruptly. Even the unprincipled voter may be induced to count the cost; and, balancing the exactions of monopoly against the temptations of the bribe or the threatened injuries of sinister influence, may discover that, in the use of the franchise as in other things, honesty is the best policy.

Not that we hold it needful, in the great majority of instances, to appeal to this direct personal interest in the question. It is mentioned to show the strength of our case, and the prospect of success, even upon the most selfish grounds, when once the subject is clearly understood. The great body of electors we believe to be capable of acting upon much higher principles. They reverence that divine charter of the rights of labour which entitles man to the bread he earns in the sweat of his brow. They recoil from the wrong by which the poor man's loaf is diminished that the rich man's rents may be augmented. When once they perceive its real character, they will not, by their votes, support the system which virtually denies employment to those who live by toil, and thereby reduces them to pauperism and starvation. They feel for those to whom taxed food becomes inaccessible food, by whose reduced diet the frame is debilitated beyond the power to work, and who are consigned, with their families, to want, disease, and premature mortality. They sympathize in the hard struggle of those whose trade is limited by law—the law which, by obstructing commercial interchange, impoverishes the customers both for manufacturing and agricultural products, and who are held, until they drop, over the yawning and ever-widening gulf of bankruptcy. They condemn the cruelty that, neither to the enterprising manufacturer, nor to the tenant farmer, allows that fair prospect of reward for industry which would be afforded by steady prices and open markets. They deprecate the policy that denies the means of increased supplies of food to a rapidly-increasing population, and thus threatens, for the temporary profit of a class, to disorganize society; and they feel, we hope, the deep moral responsibility which attends the exercise of a privilege probably not possessed by more than one in eight of the adult male population of the kingdom. The limitation renders it a sacred trust. They act for millions whose daily bread is affected by the votes they give; they hold a power which, in its results, extends not only to prosperity and adversity, but to life and death. To them have been confided the dearest interests of humanity and justice; and we conjure them to show themselves true to that trust, true to the less privileged multitudes whom *they* represent in their choice of representatives, and true to the voice of God within their souls, which only pronounces its blessing upon integrity, justice, and patriotism in the discharge of social duties, and the exercise of social rights.

Publications will also continue to be distributed, and lectures encouraged, as extensively as possible amongst all classes of society, without reference to the division into electoral and non-electoral. We keep the former class distinctly in view, because its privilege enables it, on the first emergency, to decide the great question at issue. The franchise constitutes its possessors a national jury for the trial of the Corn Laws. We submit to its consideration, specifically, the evidence for its verdict. Our appeal, however, is not to power, but to opinion. We trust for success to the action of opinion upon power; and the elements of opinion are in the universal intelligence of the country. For the practical establishment of Free-Trade principles, the privilege of thought is above the privilege of voting. We ask attention, and seek the co-operation of every rational being. Electors cannot be isolated in darkness when the light of knowledge streams over the land. We seek an universal condemnation of monopoly. Let all voices be raised in its reprobation. The reaction upon privilege will be a substitute for direct political power. The course of elections has often been influenced by the interference of the waltby or the titled, by local or party objects, and by factious or sordid considerations; and it cannot be inaccessible to the common sense of the country, its manifest interests, and its enlightened determination.

Our efforts will, therefore, be directed to harmonize the results of the next election with the industrial rights, the matured opinions, and the well-being and prospects of the entire community. This can only be achieved through the intelligence, the sympathy, and the voluntary agency of the electors. For efficiently embodying their co-operation, the following means are contemplated, as the principal:—

1. Copies will be obtained of the registration lists of all boroughs and counties throughout the kingdom, and the collection lodged at the Metropolitan Office of the League, as a central place of deposit, to be consulted as occasion may require.

2. An extensive correspondence, by means of the post, and of stamped publications, will be kept up with electors, in all districts, upon matters connected with the progress and success of our cause.

3. It is intended that every borough in the kingdom shall be visited by deputations of the League, and meetings held, which the electors will be specially invited to attend.

4. Prompt measures will be taken to ascertain the opinions of each elector, in every borough, with the view of obtaining an obvious and decided majority in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

5. Every constituency, whose representatives have not hitherto supported Mr. Villiers's motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws, will be invited to memorialise its members to vote for such motion when next brought forward.

6. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the representation of any borough, the electors will be recommended to put a Free-Trade Candidate in nomination; and the League pledges itself to give such candidate every possible support, by deputations, lectures, and the distribution of publications.

7. In the event of any borough being unable to procure a suitable candidate, the League pledges itself to bring forward candidates, so as to afford every elector an opportunity of recording his vote in favour of Free Trade, until the question be decided.

The principles and purposes of the League entirely preclude its interference with the general politics of the electors in any locality. It exists but for one object, but it regards that one object as, at present, paramount to all others. To that alone will its support or hostility have reference. From any parties or persons, it is willing to receive a great act of national justice; from no parties or persons will it bear the continuance of public wrong. Nor will the League patiently suffer the honest opinions of electors in favour of its object to be overborne by unfair means. If bribery and intimidation be employed as heretofore, it will make experiment of the power afforded by its own resources and by the laws of the land, for the protection of the injured and the punishment of the guilty. No effort will be omitted to strip from electoral crime, whether of oppression or corruption, the impunity in which it has revelled, to the degradation of national character, the perversion of legislative power, and the obstruction of most necessary measures of improvement and reform.

Last year, amid many incredulous taunts, we asked for, and obtained from the public, the sum of Fifty Thousand Pounds. The mere fact of our obtaining it struck cold on the heart of monopoly, and was felt as a presage that the end is at hand. The expenditure, consisting of the items that have been reported, and superintended by a Council, the constitution of which makes all subscribers of £50 and upwards its members, has not only proved satisfactory, but has brought us up to the point at which the great and decisive struggle is to be made. The outline has been described to you of our plan for the successful completion of this agitation, as we believe and hope no further appeal to the public for pecuniary aid will, after the present, be necessary. And for strength to strike our final and triumphant blow, we now ask, and ask in the confidence that it will be zealously contributed, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds.

We cannot recommend more petitioning to the present Parliament. Let electors now speak by their votes, and by their instructions to their present members; non-electors by their resolutions and their earnest representations to those who possess the franchise; and all classes by enrolment as members of the League, contributions to its funds, and co-operation with its movements. The Council will announce the fitting time, and endeavour by every means in their power to expedite its arrival, when the will of the nation can best be declared, neither by petitions nor resolutions, but by memorial to the Queen, for the dissolution of a Parliament demonstrably at variance with the opinions and interests not only of the people at large, but even of that particular section of them by whose voices it was made a parliament. Such an appeal cannot be disregarded. No interposing party or administration between the people and the Queen could sustain the awful responsibility of refusing its prayer. And its success will be the lawful and peaceful abolition of the most impolitic and iniquitous impost ever levied by the rapacious few upon the suffering many. To arrive in sight of this grand result has been the toil of years; and now, People of Great Britain, in the power which you will give us, we prepare to move onwards towards its full accomplishment in the immediate, total, and final overthrow of the monopoly in human food.

By Order of the Council of the League,
GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.
Covent-Garden Theatre, London,
September 28, 1843.

WHY IS TRADE IMPROVING?

"Land and trade," says the celebrated Sir Josiah Child, "are twins, they wax and wane together;" and so they would, if nature's laws were not interfered with by landowners' laws. An act of parliament to regulate the seasons, would be called the work of a lunatic legislature; but is it not equally insane to attempt to regulate by similar means the supply and price of corn or any other article? Nevertheless, the British Parliament has tried its hand at regulating nature, and let us see the result. Do land and trade wax and wane together? Is there anything in *nature* to prevent it? And yet do we ever find the farmers and manufacturers thriving at

the same time? No, never. The farmers and manufacturers may be likened to two buckets in a draw-well, as one goes up the other goes down. When in seasons of famine we repair to church to offer up prayers to Almighty God, that "the scarcity and dearth may be mercifully turned into cheapness and plenty," the farmers' bucket goes up and the manufacturers' down; but when the cheapness and plenty are mercifully sent, and we again repair to church to "return humble thanks for this special bounty," then the movements of the buckets are reversed—down goes the farmers and up goes the manufacturers. This is just the situation of the manufacturers at the present time. During the last five years their bucket has been at the bottom of the well. The average price of wheat during that period will sufficiently explain the cause: viz.—

In 1838	64s.	4d.	per quarter.
1839	70s.	6d.	do.
1840	66s.	4d.	do.
1841	64s.	5d.	do.
1842	57s.	5d.	do.

A better harvest last year, added to a large quantity of foreign corn released from bond, brought down prices in the autumn, and symptoms of an upward movement in the manufacturers' bucket soon began to manifest itself. During the present year that movement became decided; the average price of wheat for the first six months of the year having fallen from 67s. 1d., the average of 1839 to 1841, to 47s. 7d. per quarter; and the loud complaints of the poor farmers at once indicate that their bucket is now descending. But trade is improving!!

Nothing affects the condition of the people of any country so much as the price of food, because food is indispensable to our existence; and to obtain it we must, if needful, lay aside luxuries of every kind, and for a time even many necessaries. The consumption of grain in this country is estimated at 20 million quarters of wheat,* and 40 million quarters of all other kinds of grain. It appears from the *Gazette* returns of the average prices of grain, that the price of wheat during the four years, 1838 to 1841, was about 20s. per quarter above the average price of the first six months of the present year, and the price of all other kinds of grain was about 8s. a quarter higher; it follows, therefore, that the additional cost of *grain* in each of those years would be, say,

20,000,000	quarters of wheat at 20s. ..	£20,000,000
40,000,000	ditto all other grain at 8s. ..	16,000,000
on 60,000,000	qrs. total additional cost ..	£36,000,000

But it is also estimated that the consumption of potatoes, meat, cheese, and all other kinds of agricultural produce, is equal to the total quantity of grain consumed (say 60,000,000 quarters); and as the price of one is governed by the other, taking the advance in price in these as equal to 8s. per quarter, we have a further addition of £24,000,000 to make to the cost of grain, making a total of about £60,000,000 per annum paid by the people for *food* in each of the years 1838 to 1841 more than the same food cost during the first six months of the present year.

Here then is the secret of the present improvement in trade. During the first six months of this present year (1843), the people have paid £30,000,000 less for food than for the same period for five years past. The enormous sum of £5,000,000 a month has been left in their pockets to spend in other things; and this sufficiently accounts for an increased demand for cotton, linen, and woollen clothing, for stockings and shoes, for hats and bonnets, for mutton, beef, and bacon, for sugar, tea, and coffee. This accounts for the increased demand for labour for providing the clothing for home consumption, and also for divers manufactures to be exported to foreign countries in payment of the various commodities for which the demand has increased. This accounts for the increased demand for shipping, and for the increased traffic on our canals, roads, and railways, carrying to and fro goods imported and exported. This accounts for the increased demand for labour in the manufacturing districts, the advance in wages, and the consequent increase in the comforts of the people. This accounts for the increased demand for the thousands of empty houses, people quitting the workhouse to live at home, or from being huddled three or four families together, to live in decency, each in a house of their own. This, in short, accounts for that improvement of which all are partaking, from the highest to the lowest, each sharing more or less in the £5,000,000 a month saved by the decline in the price of food.

Can evidence be more conclusive of the truth of the principles for which we have been so long contending? We have always said that trade will prosper with abundance; and *free trade* is the only means to *secure* that abundance, and prevent those mischievous fluctuations which, by turns, ruin both manufacturers and farmers; and yet the monopolists are flattering themselves that, now trade is improving, the clamour for the repeal of the Corn Laws will die away. But what, we ask, has occurred to render the repeal of these iniquitous laws less necessary than before? *Do we owe the improvement in trade to the Corn Laws?* Had we not good trade in 1834, 1835, and 1836? Were not those years of unparalleled prosperity to the working classes as well as to manufacturers, and of equal distress to farmers? What was the *cause* of manufacturing prosperity and of agricultural distress during those years? *Was it not precisely the same as exists at this moment?* Was not the average price of wheat in 1834, 46s. 2d. per quarter; in 1835, 39s. 4d.; and in 1836, 48s. 8d. per quarter? And yet the very next year it rose to 55s. 10d. In 1838 it rose again to 64s. 4d.; here began the distress. In 1839, it rose still higher, to 70s. 6d.; distress increased. In 1840, the price was 66s. 4d.; distress was sore in the land. In 1841, the price was 64s. 5d.; distress almost beyond endurance, and why? Because the people in these four years had paid upwards of £200,000,000 more for their food than in the four preceding years!

Trade is improving; but what security have we that the respite from calamity will be more lasting than it was in 1834, 1835, and 1836? NONE, NONE! For, so long as infamous laws exist to limit our supplies of food, past experience shows us that both trade and agriculture move in constant but uncertain cycles of prosperity and distress; we know not the period when either will overtake us; no prudence can provide against the coming danger; there is no haven of shelter when the storm approaches; no alternative but submission to the sweeping hurricane.

If ever, then, there was a period when Free Traders were called upon for increased exertions to extirpate laws which have proved so productive of loss and misery, *it is now*, whilst a glimpse of prosperity gives them improved means of prosecuting the struggle to a successful termination. NOW IS THE TIME TO REDOUBLE EXERTION, AND TO RENEW THE DETERMINATION NEVER TO RELAX UNTIL SECURITY BE OBTAINED FOR THE FUTURE—till the impious laws of man be supplanted by the laws of nature, the whole world opened to our industry, and trade declared free as the winds of heaven.

* We believe Sir Robert Peel estimated the consumption of wheat at 24 million quarters; but our estimate is sufficiently accurate to show the drift of our argument.

GREAT LEAGUE MEETING AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday evening the Anti-Corn-Law League held its first monthly meeting, in Covent-garden Theatre. The vast space was crowded in every corner half an hour before the time for commencing the business. A great number of ladies were present. Among the gentlemen on the stage we noticed—George Wilson, Esq., chairman; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; Joshua Scholefield, Esq., M.P.; Dr. Bowring, M.P.; L. Heyworth, Esq., Liverpool; W. J. Fox, Esq.; R. R. R. Moore, Esq.; S. Lees, Esq., Manchester; A. W. Paulton, Esq.; James Pascall, Esq.; W. Tait, Esq., Edinburgh; R. Ricardo, Esq.; J. Porter, Esq.; M. Ricardo, Esq.; Duncan Maclaren, Esq., Edinburgh; Rev. J. Pulham, — Burnett, Esq.; W. Geesin, Esq.; J. Mason, Esq.; G. Scott, Esq.; G. Mew, Esq.; L. W. Arch, Esq.; — Gabriel, Esq.; J. Messer, Esq.; J. Messer, junior, Esq.; Z. T. Purday, Esq.; Dr. Hodgson; James Pattison, Esq.; Francis Place, Esq.; Dr. Cooke Taylor; — Clarke, Esq.; P. A. Taylor, Esq.; — Lucas, Esq.; J. Gosnell, Esq.; — Torkington, Esq.; C. Clarke, Esq.; — Lyon, Esq.; James Wilson, Esq.; Sir. W. Baynes; W. Wilson, Esq.; Sir James Anderson, Bart.; J. Andrews, Esq.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq.; D. E. Austin, Esq.; Rev. W. Walker; J. P. Burnard, Esq.; James Tyndall, Esq.; D. Price, Esq.; W. Hewitt, Esq.; Dr. Simpson; Joseph Phelps, Esq.; H. Patter, Esq.; Richard Holdgate, Esq., &c. &c.

The stage of the theatre was fitted up as a saloon; the sides and back having three tiers of seats for spectators, the one raised above the other, and the whole covered with crimson cloth. The chairman's seat was upon a raised platform or rostrum; and in the centre, immediately before the stage-lights, was a table to which the speakers advanced on addressing the audience. The whole body of the stage was supplied with seats ranged in a circular form, intended for the leading members of commercial freedom in the metropolis who were present; and the orchestra was set apart for the reporters the public press.

The doors of the theatre were opened at a few minutes after six o'clock; and in a very short time every seat was occupied, and before half-past six the lobbies and avenues were crowded by persons anxious to obtain admittance. The audience in the boxes numbered a great many ladies, who contributed to give increased effect to the magnificent *coup d'œil* presented by a house crowded to the ceiling in every part of the pit, galleries, and boxes, while the raised seats upon the stage, and every nook from which a glance could be be obtained, were fully occupied.

At seven o'clock George Wilson, Esq., chairman of the Council, appeared on the stage. He was accompanied by Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Dr. Bowring, M.P., Mr. Sholefield, M.P., Mr. Laurence Heyworth, of Liverpool, Mr. R. R. R. Moore, and Mr. A. W. Paulton.

The appearance of these gentlemen was the signal for a tumult of applause, which lasted several minutes. Every person rose simultaneously as they entered, and each appeared to vie with the other in doing honour to the exertions of those honourable members who have been so pre-eminently successful in bringing to its present position the struggle for commercial freedom. The Rev. W. J. Fox, who entered a few moments after Mr. Cobden, was greeted with reiterated and loud cheers.

The theatre, having been redecorated for the ensuing season by the lessee, presented an unusually brilliant appearance; and the thronged benches and avenues contributed to form a most inspiriting opening for the Anti-Corn-Law campaign in the metropolis during the ensuing season.

On Mr. WILSON advancing to open the proceedings, the most breathless silence prevailed in the theatre, and his allusions to the principal points in the report were received with tremendous cheering. At that portion which alluded to the impossibility of anything impeding, for a lengthened period, the total repeal of the Corn Law, the house again rose *en masse*, and shouted their applause in the most enthusiastic manner for several moments.

It is worthy of remark, that on the present occasion only two private boxes were unoccupied.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings. He said that when he came into the place he had felt disposed to animadvert somewhat strongly upon the conduct of the managers of another theatre, who had refused to allow the League to hold its meeting in their establishment; but now that he had beheld the vast and brilliant assemblage before him, and knew at the same time that Covent-garden Theatre held 700 or 800 more persons than the other theatre, he felt that the refusal which had been given in that quarter was in reality matter for rejoicing. (Hear, hear.) The Council of the League had called together this meeting for the purpose of giving the friends of Free Trade an account of the proceedings of the League throughout the year, and of the distribution of that national fund which the liberality of the advocates of Free Trade had placed at its disposal. (Hear.) The report about to be read would show the number of meetings which had been held, of lectures which had been delivered, of tracts which had been put in circulation, and other more general operations of the League; and it would be for the meeting to say how they regarded the efforts which had been made—efforts, he would boldly say, which even more than equalled the efforts made under any former agitation, and which, if firmly continued and well sustained by the people, must ere long put an end to a system which had now for so many years been a disgrace to the legislation of this country. (Cheers) They were aware that one main object with the League in raising the fund he had referred to, was to place in the hands of the constituents throughout the country, and more especially in the hands of the county electors, packets of tracts which the League deemed suitable for the instruction of all, and for the conversion of those who might be opposed to their views. Although this part of their plan had not yet been thoroughly completed, yet they had distributed these tracts in no fewer than twenty-six counties, containing nearly 300,000 electors, and in 187 boroughs, with nearly 400,000 electors (cheers); and when it was considered that in the counties the electors lie far apart, and in remote districts very many of them, yet that the agents appointed—500 of whom were engaged at different points—had visited every one of these electors at his home to deliver the tracts, some idea might be formed of the labour which had been expended in distributing the tracts in the counties alone. In addition to the tracts distributed among the electors, four millions had been circulated among the non-electors (cheers); so that the total number of publications, stamped and unstamped, distributed by the League, amounted to nine millions, the weight of which was nearly one hundred tons. (Hear.) The only other point in the address to which he would very briefly allude, was the subject of the agricultural meetings. (Hear, hear.) It had always been said: "Oh, of course the mill-owners, and manufacturers, and ship-owners, and shopkeepers, and so on, are in favour of Free Trade; but the great masses—those engaged in agriculture—are dead against you." In order to test the correctness of this statement, Mr. Cobden commenced his agricultural meetings (loud cheers), and what had been the result? (Cheers.) Mr. Cobden went among the agriculturists an entire stranger to them, except in name; the meetings he called together were *bonâ fide* public meetings of farmers—county meetings, open-air meetings, most if not all of them open to all who chose to attend them. (Cheers.) The first meeting was held—a second was held—a third was held. They met with some little opposition, but so little that their opponents actually disclaimed it. They were told that these meetings might do in Buckinghamshire and Herefordshire, and such outlandish places (a laugh); but they would not do in other places—in Essex, for instance, Sir John Tyrrell said. Why did not they try Essex? (Cheers and laughter.) They supposed that Mr. Cobden was afraid of Sir John Tyrrell. However, it was determined that Essex should be tried. (Cheers.) The monopolists exerted themselves to the utmost—they strained every nerve. The squires mounted their horses, and posted up and down the country, beating up for recruits to oppose Mr. Cobden and the Free Traders. The day came, the resolution was proposed, and Sir John Tyrrell, who, up to that time, had held the chief rule over the opinions of the constituency of that county for thirty years, found that, for once in his life, he had calculated wrongly; the principal resolution was put and carried in favour of Free Trade and a total abolition of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) And such had been the result in the twenty-six county meetings which had been held, with one exception, and that was the meeting in the county of Huntingdon, where the division had been so equal that, although the chairman had given it in favour of the monopolists, a number of gentlemen who were present, reporters and others, who were used to public meetings, had given it as their opinion that the decision of the meeting was the contrary way. Still, giving the monopolists the full benefit of their victory, if such they chose to call it, at Huntingdon, it would appear that at twenty-six different public

meetings, called under every variety of circumstances, in places purely and strictly agricultural, whether they had been convened by the League, or county meetings called by the High-Sheriff, or convened by requisition from the farmers, the same unvarying success had everywhere attended them. Go where they would they had found no party in the country out of Parliament which had argued in support of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) Not all the political influence of monopolist landlords—not all the influence of the highest rank, drawn from the ashes of the brightest names in our history—was sufficient to array effectual opposition to the banners raised by the opponents of monopoly on this question. (Cheers.) Wherever that had been done, the people, whether manufacturers or farmers, had invariably declared in favour of the right of Free Trade, and had ranged themselves under the banners on their side of the question. (Cheers.) It was in Parliament, and in Parliament alone, that the question had to be discussed and decided. There was no great party out of Parliament that was in favour of monopoly; and their future plan of proceeding, which it was intended that Mr. Cobden should bring under their notice that night (cheers), had especial reference to that portion of the subject. Of course that plan would meet with severe animadversion from the supporters of monopoly, but they cared not what might be the opinion of the monopolists on the subject. (Cheers.) They had never shaped their course to please them, and they proposed to abide by the consequences, whatever those might be, of their hostility. (Loud cheers.) Perhaps their opposition might assume the same shape this year that it had done the last. They might accuse them of foully abetting assassination. (Cheers, and cries of "Oh! oh!" and laughter.) The Prime Minister might get up a scene in the House of Commons on the subject of personal responsibility (cheers, and laughter); a noble lord in the other House of Parliament might "play fantastic tricks before high heaven" (cheers, and laughter); and the *Quarterly Review* might publish 700 pages, instead of 70, for the purpose of endeavouring to show that they had been getting up a strike; but neither the pages of *Quarterly Reviews* nor the tricks of noble lords, nor the scenes of prime ministers, could divert the League from the fulfilment of the duty which they had undertaken, of bringing about the final settlement of this question. (Cheers.) It had the blessing of Heaven upon it (loud cheers), and its accomplishment rested in the hands of Omnipotence.

Mr. PAULTON then read the following report:—

"In presenting a report of the proceedings of the past year, the Council offer a brief statement of the means which have been adopted to give effect to that plan of procedure which, at the commencement of the year, was submitted to, and received the sanction of, the great body of the friends of free trade throughout the country. The widely-extended field of operations contemplated in that plan rendered large and increased pecuniary resources necessary. The Council, relying with perfect confidence on the spirit and determination of those who had so liberally contributed the means of carrying on the struggle for commercial freedom, issued an appeal to the country, asking for the sum of £50,000.

"The great work of the past year—the one on which the largest amount of labour, time, and money has been employed—was the printing and systematic distribution of an immense number of tracts to the electors in the counties and boroughs. The superintendence of this important department was entrusted to a sub-committee of members of the Council.

"During a very considerable portion of the year there were employed in the printing and making up of the Electoral Packets of Tracts upwards of 300 persons, while more than 500 other persons were employed in distributing them from house to house among the constituencies. To the Parliamentary electors alone of England and Scotland there have been distributed, in this manner, of tracts and stamped publications, 5,000,000.

"Besides these, there has been a large general distribution among the working classes and others, who are not electors, to the number of 3,600,000. In addition, 426,000 tracts have been stitched up with the monthly magazines and other periodicals, thus making altogether, the whole number of tracts and stamped publications issued by the Council during the year, to amount to 9,026,000, or in weight upwards of one hundred tons.

"The following are the county constituencies in which the distribution of packets has been made to each elector:—

Ayrshire	Gloucestershire	Renfrewshire
Bedfordshire	Hampshire (Sth.)	Ross and Cromartyshire
Buckinghamshire	Huntingdonshire	Somersetshire
Cheshire	Lancashire (North)	Stirlingshire
Clackmannanshire	Ditto (South)	Wiltshire
Derbyshire (Nth.)	Leicestershire	Worcestershire
Devonshire	Northamptonshire	Yorkshire (N. and part of W. Riding)
Dorsetshire	Nottinghamshire	
Dumbartonshire	Perthshire	

"The following are the borough sin which the packets have been distributed:—

Abingdon	Gloucester	Poole
Andover	Glasgow	Portsmouth
Arundel	Grantham	Reading
Ashburton	Greenock	Reigate
Aylesbury	Guildford	Retford (East)
Ayr	Haddington	Richmond
Banbury	Halifax	Ripon
Barnstaple	Hastings	Rochester
Bath	Haverfordwest	Rye
Bedford	Helstone	Salisbury
Berwick	Hertford	Sandwich
Beverley	Honiton	Scarborough
Bewdley	Horsham	Shaftesbury
Birmingham	Huddersfield	Sheffield
Blackburn	Hull	Shoreham
Bodmin	Huntingdon	Shrewsbury
Bolton	Ipswich	Southampton
Boston	Kendal	South Shields
Bradford (Yorks.)	Kidderminster	Stirling
Bridgenorth	Kilmarnock	St. Ive's
Bridgewater	Knaresborough	Stockport
Bridport	Lancaster	Stoke-upon-Trent
Brighton	Launceston	Stroud
Bristol	Leeds	Sudbury
Buckingham	Leicester	Sunderland
Bury	Leith	Swansea
Bury St. Edmunds	Lewes	Tamworth
Calne	Lichfield	Taunton
Cambridge	Lincoln	Tavistock
Ditto University	Liskeard	Tewkesbury
Canterbury	Ludlow	Thetford
Cardiff	Lyme Regis	Thirsk
Carlisle	Lymington	Tiverton
Chatham	Lynn Regis	Totness
Cheltenham	Macclesfield	Truro
Chester	Maidstone	Tynemouth
Chichester	Malmesbury	Wakefield
Chippenham	Malton	Wallingford
Christchurch	Marlborough	Walsall
Cirencester	Marlow	Wareham
Clithero	Marylebone	Warrington
Cockermouth	Midhurst	Warwick
Colchester	Montrose	Wells
Coventry	Morpeth	Wenlock
Cricklade	Newark	Westbury
Dartmouth	Newcas.-un-Lyme	Weymouth
Derby	Newcas.-on-Tyne	Whitby
Devizes	Newport	Whitehaven
Devonport	Northallerton	Wigan
Dorchester	Northampton	Wight, Isle of
Droitwich	Norwich	Wilton
Dudley	Nottingham	Winchester
Edinburgh	Oldham	Windsor
Evesham	Oxford	Woodstock
Exeter	Paisley	Worcester
Eye	Peterborough	Wycombe
Falkirk	Petersfield	Yarmouth
Frome	Plymouth	York
Gateshead	Pontefract	

"Thus, the distribution has been made in twenty-four counties, containing about 237,000 electors, and in 187 boroughs, containing 259,226 electors, making in boroughs and counties together, the whole number of electors supplied 496,226. There are twenty-three boroughs and forty-seven counties in Great Britain in which the distribution has yet to be made.

"The number of Lecturers employed during the year has been 14; their time has been chiefly devoted to the giving of lectures; but occasionally they have superintended the distribution of the Electoral Packets, and assisted in the Parliamentary and League Registration. Their labours have been spread over fifty-nine counties in England, Wales, and Scotland, and they have delivered about 650 lectures during the year.

"A large number of meetings have been held during the year in the cities and boroughs, which have been attended by deputations of members of the Council. Exclusive of the metropolis, 140 towns have been thus visited, many of them twice and three times. Such, indeed, has been the feeling existing in all parts of the kingdom, that there is scarcely a town which has not urged its claim to be visited by a deputation from the Council of the League. The following are the principal places at which deputations have attended:—

Macclesfield	Chesterfield	Bridport
Coventry	Bury	Wakefield
Sheffield	Bilston	York
Halifax	Dudley	Ashton
Huddersfield	Ironbridge	Durham
Leeds	Wolverhampton	Alnwick
Accrington	Coalbrookdale	Darlington
Liverpool	Stourbridge	Bridgewater
Congleton	Warrington	High Wycombe
Sandbach	Colne	Worcester
Northwich	Bolton	Oldham
Nantwich	Halshaw Moor	Doncaster
Chester	Walsall	Bristol
Padiham	Birmingham	Barnsley
Wilmslow	Ulverstone	Southampton
Sunderland	Burnley	Stroud
Middlewich	Todmorden	Leicester
Mottram	Newcas.-on-Tyne	Yarmouth
Cheadle	Glasgow	Gloucester
Rochdale	Stirling	Cheltenham
Kendal	Perth	Tiverton
Bradford	Dundee	Great Torrington
Blackburn	Edinburgh	Exeter
South Shields	Leith	Barnstaple
Ormskirk	Hawick	Middleton
Holmfirth	Dunfermline	North Shields
Preston	Kelso	Norwich
Cleckheaton	Lancaster	Plymouth
Derby	Shiffnal	Liskeard
Bacup	Skipton	Cambridge
Newcastle, Staffd.	Holywell	Stockton
Belper	Swansea	Merthyr Tydvil
Nottingham	Taunton	Devonport
Stafford. Potteries	Tavistock	Ipswich

"One of the most remarkable features in the movement of the year will be found in the numerous meetings which have been held in the agricultural districts, and which were attended and addressed by deputations from the Council. The results of this mode of agitating the question of Free Trade afford abundant evidence of the progress it has already made among the farmers. There have been twenty-five of these meeting held, namely, in

COUNTIES.	PLACE OF MEETING.
Bedfordshire	Bedford
Berkshire	Reading
Bucks	Aylesbury
Cambridgeshire	Cambridge
Cheshire	Knutsford
Dorsetshire	Dorchester
Essex (two meetings)	Colchester and Chelmsford
Hampshire	Winchester
Herefordshire	Hereford
Hertfordshire	Hertford
Huntingdonshire	Huntingdon
Kent (two meetings)	Penenden Heath & Canterb.
Lancashire	Lancaster
Lincolnshire	Lincoln
Middlesex	Uxbridge
Norfolk	Norwich
Oxfordshire	Oxford
Suffolk	Bury St. Edmund's
Surrey (two meetings)	Guildford and Croydon
Sussex (two meetings)	Rye and Lewes
Wiltshire	Salisbury.

"The Council cannot pass over without notice, the great meetings of the League, held during the week commencing on the 30th of January last, in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester. The number of persons attending these various gatherings could not have been less than 20,000; the number of deputies was 501, including members of Parliament, landowners, eminent agriculturists, farmers, merchants, manufacturers, and ministers of religion, from all parts of the country. Five days were devoted to the consideration of the question of Free Trade in relation to manufactures, agriculture, and the physical and moral condition of the people, each having its separate sectional committee of inquiry and arrangement. The Council believe that the information elicited, the discussions which took place, and the resolutions which were passed during this important week, gave a great impulse to the movement, and renewed spirit to all engaged in it. One of the resolutions passed, the Council is desirous of again placing upon record. It is as follows:—

"'That this meeting reiterates the declaration made by successive Annual Conferences in London and Manchester, that whilst it denounces, as unjust and impolitic, the restrictions on the trade in corn and provisions, intended for the protection of the landed interest, it repudiates all claim to protection and favour for manufactures and trade.'

"This resolution received the unanimous concurrence of all the deputies present.

"Not the least important of the recent operations of the League has been the effort to bring the question fully before the Metropolitan public. Immediately after the conclusion of the aggregate meetings in Manchester, and in accordance with a resolution passed at one of them, the Council adjourned its sittings to London. A series of weekly meetings were held, commencing on the 22nd of February, and continuing until the 10th of May. Of these seven were held, at Drury-lane Theatre. Besides the weekly meetings, a great number of League meetings were held in all the districts in and around London. The numbers and respectability of those who attended, and the spirit and enthusiasm which were manifested on all these occasions, induce the Council to believe that the foundation is laid for a still more active, vigorous, and sustained Metropolitan movement in aid of the objects of the League.

"At the Annual Conference of Deputies, held in May last, at Herbert's Hotel, Palace Yard, London, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"Resolved—'That this Conference, after a full and careful deliberation upon the present position and prospects of the cause of Corn-Law repeal, is of opinion that much good has already arisen from the memorials which many constituencies have presented to their representatives, requesting them to vote for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; and is most anxious that this mode of bringing public opinion to bear upon the Legislature should be continued with increased determination. This Conference would further bring under the notice of the Council of the League the propriety of immediately taking some steps to ensure the complete parliamentary registration of all Free Traders in the counties and boroughs of the United Kingdom, and to bring into united action the whole of the Free-Trade constituencies of the empire.'

"In pursuance of the latter part of that resolution, the Council proceeded at once to carry it into effect as extensively as could be done with respect to the registration for the present year. Circular letters were sent into the Boroughs and County Electoral Districts, asking for information on the state of the Register in each, and calling the attention of the Friends of Free Trade to the necessity of immediate action. The Council despatched its own agents to a large number of the Boroughs, who were enabled to obtain, more directly and on the spot, an estimate of the number and spirit of the Free-Trade Electors; to form committees to examine the old Register, and to use the necessary means for improving the new one; and in all cases to urge the importance of each constituency being prepared with Free-Trade Candidates whenever an election might occur. A striking instance of what may be effected by bringing the question of Free Trade before the view of the Electors, may be found in the result of the recent election for the city of Durham.

"From the foregoing statement it will be easily perceived, that as the object aimed at was important, so the labour has been most onerous. The Council asked for funds to teach the justice and policy of Free Trade to the people. They had much of ignorance and party feeling, and not a little of mistaken views of self-interest, to contend against. They have laboured perseveringly; and that they have laboured successfully there is abun-

dant evidence on every side. When they began they resolved to succeed; the truth and excellence of their principles led them on; the increasing confidence of the people sustained them; their principles remain unchanged, and now almost unchallenged; and they rely upon the continued confidence of their fellow-countrymen in their future efforts for the complete and final overthrow of all monopolies.

"By order of the Council.

"GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.

"67, Fleet-street, London,
Sept. 29, 1843.

"THE LEAGUE FUND.

"TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED, £50,290 14s.

"The heads of expenditure are as follow:—

Printing 9,026,000 Tracts, and Stamped Publications, and distributing the same.—Lecturers' Salaries, and Expenses of hiring Rooms, Printing, &c., for 651 lectures.—Expenses of Deputations to 156 Meetings in Counties and Boroughs.—Expenses of Agricultural Meetings, including Printing, Placarding, and Distributing Reports, &c.—Expenses of Deputations to Boroughs on Parliamentary Registration.—Expenses of Weekly Meetings of the League, and Metropolitan Meetings.—Rent, Taxes, Gas, and Office Expenses, in London and Manchester.—Advertising, including 426,000 Tracts in Magazines.—Wages, Stamps, Postages, and Incidental Expenses.—Local Expenses in Collecting the League Fund.

"TOTAL EXPENDITURE, £47,814 3s. 9d.

"BALANCE OF CASH IN HAND, Sept. 9th, 1843, £2,476 10s. 3d."

The report was heard with loud and repeated applause.

Mr. HEYWORTH, of Yew Tree, Liverpool, rose to move the adoption of the report. Some little disturbance took place, in consequence of a person in the gallery putting a question touching the outlay, which was not distinctly heard. The Chairman, however, interfered, and Mr. Heyworth proceeded to address the immense assemblage. He said he was fully sensible of the value of pounds, shillings, and pence, but there was a more momentous question immediately before the meeting: It was the wretchedness and destitution which prevailed all over England; thousands of families had been turned adrift without food or shelter, and that distress and destitution were still alarmingly on the increase. If proof of the assertion were wanted, it would be found in the diminution of £5,000,000 in the revenue. All knew and felt this depression. What, then, was the cause? The great cause was the dearness of food, a dearness which was not the work of Providence by the scantiness of the harvest. No; it was caused by a wicked and oppressive law, which laid down that scarcity should be perpetuated, in order that rents might be kept high. (Hear.) But he would beg more intimately to call attention to the report which they had heard read: £50,000 had been subscribed by numerous intellectual and liberal-minded persons in all parts of the United Kingdom, to abolish the obnoxious law which they had met to condemn. He considered that the meeting ought to feel deeply grateful to those subscribing to the fund. There were other parties likewise entitled to the thanks of the meeting; those who had taken upon themselves the laborious and important work of superintending the proper disposition of this money. These individuals had ably done their work. They had neither grudged their time nor their labour, as he had witnessed recently at Liverpool. (Hear.) When he reflected on these circumstances, he considered he was right in expressing a certain hope of obtaining the assent of the meeting to the resolution he held in his hand. (Hear.) If the League succeeded, and he was certain it would succeed, the country would get rid of the scarcity to which he had referred, and plenty would be substituted in its place—plenty, not only for ourselves, but for the whole human race and for generations yet to come. (Hear.) Let us, therefore, go on without relaxing until we have triumphantly succeeded; and he called upon every one who now heard him, when the meeting separated, to spread the sentiments expressed at it far and wide. (Hear.) He should, therefore, move that the report which had just been read be adopted, printed, and circulated throughout the country. (Hear.)

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD, M.P., seconded the resolution. He called upon the assembly to express its unanimous and cordial approval of the talent, energy, liberality, and perseverance of the gentlemen who had taken a prominent part in directing the proceedings of this noble League, who had so zealously co-operated in carrying out its great and holy object. (Loud cheers.) There was another class of individuals connected with the League to whom also the people owed a deep debt of gratitude—those excellent men in the provinces, who had not only given their money in aid of the cause, but had laboured most efficiently in distributing the convincing publications which had been issued by the League among the electors and non-electors in the remotest parts of the country. (Cheers.) He fervently believed that we had now a no distant prospect of getting rid of the most iniquitous tax ever laid upon a nation. (Hear, hear.) The proceedings in London had the greatest weight in forwarding what was done in the country: let but the enlightened people of the metropolis put their shoulders effectually to the wheel, and the time was not far distant when this odious monopoly would be destroyed. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously, amid great applause.

Mr. COBDEN, M.P., on coming forward was received with enthusiasm and reiterated plaudits. He said it would be the disparagement of the nerves of the most practised [illegible] he felt a little daunted at such a meeting as this. He thought our last gathering at Drury-lane a most imposing one, but that could not be compared with the sublime spectacle which now presents itself before me. (Cheers.) My business to-night is purely of a practical nature, and I am glad it is so, for I am altogether a practical man. I do not know that I should have deemed it necessary to trouble you with one word of argument on the general question of the Corn Laws or Free Trade, but we meet at the present moment under rather different circumstances from those under which we last parted; and I will, therefore, detain you for a moment before I enter into the practical details which I have to bring before you. You will have observed in the monopolist newspapers that they place considerable reliance, in seeking to make out a case, upon the recent revival of trade and manufactures, and they tell you that this revival is not only to terminate our agitation, but that it is the best possible refutation of the truth of our principles. Now I tell them that it will not put an end to our agitation (hear, hear), and I am prepared to show them and you that it is a triumphant proof of the truth of our principles. (Cheers.) I admit the partial revival of trade and manufactures; I wish I could say it was a general revival. (Hear, hear.) I wish I could say it was half as extensive as the monopolist exaggerations represent it to be. (Hear, hear.) What is the cause of the revival? I am not in the habit of troubling such meetings as this with reading statistical documents—they are generally most inappropriate—but by way of showing you what the cause of the recent revival of trade is, as an illustration better than any other I could give you of the truth of our principles, I will just ask your attention to one short statistical statement. (Hear, hear.) The average price of wheat in the three years, 1839, 1840, and 1841, was 67s. 1d.; the price in 1839 being 70s. 6d., the price in 1840, 66s. 4d.; and the price in 1841, 64s. 5d. These three years were years of unparalleled suffering and distress in this country. Last autumn Providence blessed us with an abundant harvest, and this, in connexion with an importation of foreign corn to the extent of three millions, so reduced the price of wheat, that the average price of that article for the first six months of the present year was only 47s. 7d. Now, if there had been no revival of trade, under such circumstances, I should not have dared to appear before you. (Hear, hear.) I should have deserved, indeed, the character of an impostor, as to all that I have said on this subject, had there been no revival of trade under such circumstances. (Hear, hear.) You will have observed from what I have said, that wheat was about 20s. a quarter less for the first six months of the present year than for the three years, 1839, 1840, and 1841: and while there was this reduction in the price of wheat, there was, at the same time, a reduction in the price of all other kinds of grain of 8s. a quarter. In order to understand the magnitude and importance of the subject with which we have to deal—there are some who think we over-estimate that importance; I think that up to the present time we have under-estimated it (hear, hear)—in order to understand the matter better, I will mention, that the estimated consumption of grain per annum in this country is twenty million quarters of wheat, and forty millions of quarters of all other kinds of grain. It follows, therefore, that the additional cost of grain in each of the three years of distress was, say—twenty millions of quarters of wheat, at 20s. a quarter, twenty millions sterling; forty millions of quarters of all other kinds of grain at 8s., sixteen millions sterling, together; thirty-six millions sterling. (Hear, hear.) But grain is not the only article of agricultural produce, though grain governs the price of the other articles. (Hear, hear.) It is estimated that the consumption of potatoes, meat, cheese, and all other articles of agricultural produce, is equal to the same quantity of grain (sixty millions of quarters); and the price of the one being, as I have said, governed by the other, taking the advance in price as equal to 8s. a quarter, here is a further addition of twenty-four millions sterling, making a total of sixty millions sterling per annum, or thirty millions for the half year, or five millions per month. (Hear, hear.) All this difference in price was left in the pockets of the people the first six months of the present year; which saving, after supplying food and other articles of agricultural produce, they were thus able to spend in other ways, in buying articles of linen and cotton manufacture, hats, bonnets, and so forth. This accounts for the increased demand we have noticed for the labour of those who make linen and cotton goods, hats, bonnets, and so forth (hear, hear); and this accounts, too, for the people being able to buy an extra quantity of tea, sugar, and other articles in the cheap year, beyond what they consume in dear years, and which again accounts for the foreign trade in those articles also improving. (Hear, hear.) This, I say, accounts for the partial revival we have observed in our trade; but, then, this revival has been accompanied with a corresponding depression of the agricultural interest. (Hear, hear.) The agricultural and the manufacturing interests would seem to be like the two buckets in a draw-well, the one going down empty as the other comes up full. (Hear, hear.) In proportion as there is a revival of manufactures, consequent upon moderate prices in food, we hear the cry of agricultural distress. This has always been so much the case, that I challenge any one to point out an instance, ever since these Corn Laws were introduced, wherein the agriculturists and the manufacturers have had simultaneous prosperity. (Hear, hear.) Now, I ask, is this a natural state of things? (Hear.) Is this alternation of distress—this intermittent fever, now attacking the one great portion of the body politic, and then the other—this distress falling on the farmer at a time when Heaven has blessed him with an abundant harvest—is this a natural state of things? (No.) And yet in every instance where the farmers have been plunged in the greatest distress and suffering, it has been in the midst of the most bountiful harvest, and in the most genial seasons. Any man who takes these facts alone must have a very undue and irreverent notion of the great Creator of the world, if he supposes that this is a natural or a designed state of things. (Hear, hear.) No, there is an unnatural cause for this unnatural state of things, and that unnatural cause is the law which interposes with the wisdom of the Divine Providence, and substitutes the law of wicked men, for the law of nature. (Cheers.) During the three years to which I have been adverting, the owners of the soil might have expected to have suffered in consequence of the bad seasons; but what has been the fact? The landlords have been revelling in prosperity—a bloated and diseased prosperity—at the very time when the people have been suffering the greatest privations and want of food. Rents have been rising. I say it boldly—it cannot be denied—rents have been generally, if not universally, raised during the three years of which I have been speaking. How stands the case of the landowner during the years of short crops and suffering to the whole community? He then extorts his rents from the distress of the operative, the capital of the employer, or the savings of those who are living upon the accumulations of themselves or their forefathers. And when the season is favourable—when Heaven smiles upon the fields, and our harvests are again abundant—the landlord extorts his rent from the distress and the capital of the farmer. Nobody can deny that for a series of years the landowners have been raising their rents, not from the legitimate prosperity of the tillers of the soil, or the prosperity of the manufacturing classes, but they have been raising their rents from the capital and the labour of the trading community, or from the capital of their own deluded victims, the farmers. (Cheers.) The landowners—Oh, shame upon the order! (Cheers.) I say shame upon the landowners and their order, unless they shall speedily rescue themselves from this pitiable—if they deserved pity—this degrading dilemma. The landowners will very soon be ashamed to hold up their heads and own themselves to be English landowners and members of our aristocracy in any enlightened and civilized country in Europe. Do I seek to injure the landowners even pecuniarily? I have never owned it where I should have been most ready to tell them to their face my opinions—in the House of Commons. The landowners have nothing pecuniarily, they have nothing ultimately, to dread from a free trade in corn; but then, instead of extorting their rents from the distress of every class in the country, I say throw them back upon their own resources; and there are riches slumbering in the soil—if they employ their capital and their intelligence, as other classes are forced to do, in other pursuits—there are undeveloped bounties even on the surface of the earth, and there are ten times more beneath the surface, which would make them richer, happier, and better men if they would cast aside this monopoly. Last week, in addressing the farmers of Cheshire, I said I would bring a jury of Scotch agriculturists before the House of Commons—if their verdict could be taken there—who would state upon oath that the surface of Cheshire would, if properly cultivated, yield three times the amount of its present produce. If you were travelling by the railroad, and marked the country from Stafford to Whitmore, and then from Whitmore to Crewe, and thence the thirty miles to Manchester, I challenge all England to show such a disgraceful picture—three-fourths of the finest fields left to undisputed dominion of rushes—(a laugh)—not a shilling spent in draining, although it is now universally acknowledged that draining is the means of doubling the productions of such soils—hedge-rows of every imaginable shape but a straight line, and fields of every conceivable form but the right one. (A laugh.) And these are the men who content themselves with their sluggish indolence, and draw from the impoverishment of the people; pick the pockets of the handloom weavers rather than by a right application of their intellect and their capital, double the quantity of grain, or butter, or cheese, which the land is capable of providing. And then, if Free Trade did compel them to sell their articles at a less price, they would be the means of enabling the people of the country to have a double supply of food. They would have the home market doubled for food, and the landowner might be an honest politician. We are now told that the present state of the manufacturing and trading classes will put an end to the agitation for the repeal of the Corn Laws. Why, gentlemen, I think we have a few mementoes left yet to remind us that we have a Corn-Law monopoly in the shape of an income-tax; in our extra poors'-rates, extra county-rates, extra taxation for the five thousand troops that were added to the army in 1839, on the first outbreak consequent upon the famine which overspread the land. We have these, and other memorials of monopoly; and if some of us have survived the hurricane, can we forget the thousands and tens of thousands who fell victims to the distress of 1839, 1840, and 1841? Shall we forget that 500,000 of our countrymen have, since the August of 1838, expatriated themselves from their native soil, to seek in more hospitable lands the food denied them here? (Cheers.) Can we forget the hundreds who have dropped into a premature grave, famine-stricken, since that time? Can we forget the scores who, by the records of the coroners' courts, have died by their own hands, to escape a lingering death by starvation? No, if we were selfish enough—we, who have braved the storm and outlived the hurricane—ourselves to forget these things, we will think of these events; and that we are not going to forget them, and that we will make this the occasion for redoubling our exertions, the plan which I shall have the pleasure of laying before you, and submitting to your approbation as the plan of the League for future proceedings, will be sufficient to demonstrate. You have heard that we have distributed a vast amount of useful knowledge on the subject of the existing monopoly. We should be bad husbandmen if we

allowed the harvest which is ripening around us to be overspread by weeds or gathered by others than ourselves. The League proposes now to take another step in the direction of the legislative power of this country. They propose to draw the bonds more closely between the League and the electoral body of the country, by the course of proceedings which I shall submit to you. We regard the electors of the country as possessing in their own hands absolute dominion within these realms. The laws of the country, whether good or bad, are but as the breath of their nostrils. It is not our fault if the electoral body is not exactly as we should have wished to have found it—we must work with the instruments we have, unless others will find us better ones. We are not in fault if the electoral body is so distributed as to give by its scattered and detached fragments the greatest advantages to our enemies, and the enemies of the human race, in meeting us in the field of combat. We must make the best use we can of it as it is. The plan of the League is to bring the more powerful sections of the electoral body to a union with the more vulnerable portions. What is the use of Manchester and Birmingham, and Glasgow and Edinburgh, possessing an overwhelming majority—which no monopolist will dare to face at another election (cheers)—if their voices are to be counterbalanced—probably by the intriguers living in some small borough having for electoral purposes the same weight as Manchester or Birmingham. But we will bring the great majority of the electors in large boroughs into union with those in the smaller ones. Do you suppose that because the small boroughs have not always resisted the influences exercised upon them, they are without sympathising for the condition of other bodies of their countrymen? I have the means of knowing the reverse to be the case. I have been to your cathedral cities and to your rural boroughs, which are now represented by monopolists; and I have heard upon the best authority that three-fourths of the inhabitants are heart and soul Free Traders. We propose—we the League—and don't suppose that means a few men from Manchester. The League is composed, I hope, of this meeting to begin with. (Cheers.) It is composed of a great majority of the electors in the great towns and cities I have mentioned. This is the League, and before long I hope it will comprise every man in the country, unless he either believe that he has an interest in monopoly, or the marks of gullibility are so strongly imprinted on his countenance as to hold out a continual running invitation, "Come rob me." (A laugh.) We propose to provide a copy of every registration list for every borough and county in the United Kingdom, as soon as the present registration shall have been completed. We intend to bring these registers to a central office in London. We then propose to open a correspondence the most extensive that ever was contemplated, and that ever, I am sure, was undertaken. Those electors amount to 800,000; but I will take 300,000, excluding those in the already safe boroughs, as forming the number necessary to constitute the returns of a majority in the House of Commons. We propose to correspond with these 300,000 to begin with. (Cheers.) And when I say correspond, don't let any timid, cautious friends fancy that we are going to commit them by forming ourselves into a "Corresponding Society." I am going to tell you what we mean to correspond about. We propose to keep people well informed as to the progress of our question by means of the penny postage, which has not yet been sufficiently used. I may say, in a parenthesis, that the Duke of Buckingham presided at a public meeting at Salt Hill, to celebrate the defeat of the Great Western Railway. He was a sagacious man, for the railways and the penny postage will pull down his monopoly. We intend, then, to keep the constituencies well informed by means of the penny postage, enclosing the useful information connected with the question and tracts bearing the most recent illustrations of it together. What could be more desirable than to-morrow to send to those three million of electors copies of the newspapers containing the best reports of this meeting? (Cheers). But we propose to send them one letter a week, and that will cost twopence for the stamp and the enclosure. That will be £2,500. I mention this by way of illustration and preface to what I am going to tell you before I conclude. Besides this correspondence, we intend to visit every borough in the kingdom, not by agents, we will go ourselves, because we want the thing well done. (Continue echeering.) We will invite specially the electors to met such deputations without distinction of party—we know nothing of party in this agitation—and having met the electors, we shall have a little business to transact with them. In the first place we shall urge upon our friends to organize themselves, and to commence a canvass of their boroughs to ascertain the number of Free Traders, and in every case where it is possible to obtain a majority of the electors in favour of Free Trade; that majority to memorialize their members, where they have not voted rightly, to vote in favour of Mr. Villiers's motion, which will be brought on early next session. Besides that, the deputation will urge upon the electors to have a Free-Trade candidate ready to supplant every monopolist who still retains a seat for a borough; and the League will pledge itself, where a borough constituency finds itself at a loss for a candidate, to furnish it with one, and to give to every borough in which a vacancy occurs an opportunity for its electors to record their votes in favour of Free-Trade principles. (A voice: "The City.") We'll talk of that by-and-by. Now, it may be objected to us—and it has been objected—that by such means no good can be accomplished. If it cannot be accomplished by such means, it cannot be righteously accomplished at all. But it can be accomplished by such means, and we have hitherto been unfairly dealt with in our struggle with the constituencies. The last general election disclosed an amount of bribery, corruption, and intimidation, involving brutal violence, even to homicide; and the present Parliament is the creature of that vile system. And shall such a system be continued? (Cries of "No, no.") No; not against the League. Whenever we have a voice—and we will have one in every borough when an election takes place—we will see if we cannot put down this system of bribery, and I think we may manage effectually to muzzle the intimidators. The system itself got its death-blow at the last election. It was found, in the first place, too costly. The rents would not stand such an experiment again for either party. In the next place, Mr. Roebuck's exposure—and thanks to him for making it—shamed even shameless men in the House of Commons. In the next place, Lord John Russell's new law—I wonder they ever let him pass it—presents the means of putting down bribery, if fairly used; but beyond that we have a better and a wiser resort than any. Hitherto the bribers and the bribees have been suffered to escape with impunity. They have been brought before the House of Commons—a committee has decided upon the case—the petitioner has had the satisfaction of unseating the member, and was saddled with the same expense, and was at liberty to stand again; but the House of Commons took no steps to punish those by whose guilt the system was carried on. By that means they were accessaries after the fact; and little better, indeed, could be expected from such a House of Commons. Now, we will try the experiment of a criminal court against these gentry. (Cheers.) The man who bribes, or offers a bribe, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and liable to a heavy fine, and also liable to a severe imprisonment. I have heard an objection made that you cannot obtain a conviction in such a case. You cannot obtain a conviction!—Why not? Will a jury of our countrymen find a verdict of guilty against the hapless wretch who steals a morsel of bread for his famishing children, and will they not convict those whose guilt was of tenfold criminality—who would buy and sell that franchise upon which the bread of that poor creature depends? I say, yes. The juries of this country are precisely the class which will convict in such cases; and it is upon a jury of the country that we mainly rely for putting down bribery, and abating the flagrant system of intimidation for the future. Yes, a jury of our country saved our liberties in times past from a despotic monarchy, and again from corrupt and tyrannical administrations; and they will save us from the worse danger to our liberties—from the taint that has been eating into the electoral bodies of the kingdom. (Cheers). It is not the intention of the League to recommend any further petitioning to the House of Commons. (At this announcement the audience, almost in one mass, rose and burst into a series of the most enthusiastic cheers, which lasted for several minutes, accompanied by waving of hats and handkerchiefs, and other tokens of satisfaction.) So soon as the proceedings in reference to the electoral body to which I have alluded shall have reached such a point as to warrant the step the Council will recommend the electors,—not to petition Parliament—of that enough has been done already—but to memorialize the Queen (vehement cheering), that she will be pleased to dissolve the present Parliament (renewed cheers), which, like everything generated in corruption, must necessarily be short-lived, and to give to the electors an opportunity of sending men to make laws, with the advantages of the lights and experience which they have acquired, since, under a delusion, they were induced at the last election to return the majority of the present House of Commons. I have now told you the plan which we have to submit, and ask your sanction of to-night; and as a means of carrying on these proceedings, and to furnish the money for doing so, the Council are resolved to raise the sum of £100,000. (Cheers.) Yes, it may save a waste of ink to-morrow, by telling the monopolist scribes that the money will be raised, and that hereafter, as heretofore, the men who have taken the greatest amount of labour, and who will continue to do so in the cause, and who did so before they were ever heard of beyond the precincts of their own localities, will, as they did from the beginning, lead the van in the amount of their subscriptions for the great object which we have in view. We offer to every one the opportunity of registering his name, or her name, on this muster-roll of commercial freedom; and we do so with the perfect assurance that it is the last time we shall have to call upon our friends for a sacrifice in the cause. I feel bound, in making this statement, to take care that there shall be no misunderstanding in the minds of any party as to the money which shall be subscribed, or the conditions on which it shall be raised. We ask no one to give us money unless they are fully convinced that we are in earnest in the principles which we advocate. We ask none to contribute unless they believe that the characters, personal, private, and public, of the men who shall be hereafter taking the responsible part in this agitation are such as they can approve and trust; and we do not ask anybody to join us now who will not be prepared, when the time shall come, to give full effect to his opinions and convictions by standing firm to the principles upon which the League is founded. Let there be no misunderstanding as to that. This is not a party move, to serve any existing political party—we care nothing for political parties. As they at present stand, there is very little indeed to choose between the two great parties. (Laughter and cheers.) Let a statesman of established reputation—of whatever side in politics—take the step for perfect freedom of trade, he shall have the support of the League. We have given but a slight specimen of what we shall be able to do when a minister, whether Whig or Tory, shall adopt such a course. He shall have the support of the League to carry such a measure, whatever his other political opinions may be. We do not seek to interfere with any man's political opinions; there are no ulterior objects in the view of this Association. I say it solemnly, on behalf of the men with whom I am daily associating, that they have no second or collateral object in view that I am acquainted with. The single and undisguised object of the League is to put down commercial monopoly; but that cannot be done by saddling upon our backs a fixed duty on corn, which means a differential duty on sugar, on coffee, and monopoly in every other article. That is the great tree of monopoly, under whose baneful shadow every other restriction exists. Cut it down by the roots, and it will destroy the others in its fall. The sole object of the League is to put an end to and extinguish, at once and for ever, the principle of maintaining taxes for the benefit of a particular class. The object is to make the revenue what it ought to be—a stream flowing into the Queen's Exchequer, and not a penny of it intercepted by the Duke of Buckingham, or Sir E. Knatchbull, to pay off his endowments or his settlements; by Lord Mountcashel to discharge his burthens or his mortgages; or by any other party, or for the maintenance of any object. I have told you the object of the League; but it is no fault of ours if our enemies, by their opposition to our just demands, give rise to a struggle on other points with which this agitation has nothing to do. It is no fault of ours if with this agitation should be mixed up the question of rents, and should mingle in a degree that would render it difficult to separate the rights of property from the claims of those who labour under the grievance of these intolerable exactions. It is no fault of ours if the nobility of this country should become as much detested at their own baronial hall doors as were the noblesse of France previous to the revolution. We are responsible for none of these things. The fault lies with those who support monopoly, who are deaf to reason and justice, and who place themselves upon a pinnacle of injustice—a pedestal always liable to fall, and those who are upon it exposed to fall with it. Gentlemen, I have said my say. (Cries of "No, no.") There are others to follow me, and I will only say, unfeignedly, that we are engaged in an agitation which has no ulterior views, and that while so engaged, we are utterly regardless of the imputations that may be cast upon us by our opponents. I could spare the monopolist prints oceans of ink, and great midnight labour in preparing their vituperations, if I could only make them believe that their attacks upon me fall as harmless as the water drops from the sky. We have no desire to be politicians. I say it, without affectation, that there is not a man amongst us who aims at making a political life his profession. We are aware that this great question must be carried in Parliament, not by us, but by some statesman of established reputation; but while we possess the power that we do out of doors—and it is nothing to what it will be twelve months hence (cheers)—the cause shall never be surrendered to any minister, or to promote the purpose of any political party; and so far as the labour goes, so long as I am blessed with health, I shall give it cheerfully—nay, I consider it a privilege to labour in the cause. If I were not convinced that the question comprises a great moral principle, and involves the greatest moral world's revolution that was ever yet accomplished for mankind, I should not take the part I do in this agitation. Free Trade! What is it? Why, breaking down the barriers that separate nations—those barriers, behind which nestle the feelings of pride, revenge, hatred, and jealousy, which every now and then burst their bounds, and deluge whole countries with blood—(cheers)—those feelings which nourish the poison of war and conquest, thinking that without conquest we can have no trade—which fosters that lust for conquest and dominion which sends forth your warrior chiefs to scatter devastation through other lands, and then to return enthroned securely in your passions to harass and oppress you at home. (Loud cheers.) It is because I think I have a full apprehension of the moral bearing of this question, that I take a pride and gratification in forming one in the present agitation; and I invite you all to take a part in it, for there is room and glory and fame enough for all in the achievement of the great triumph of the downfal of the Corn Laws. (Loud and continued cheering.)

Mr. R. R. R. Moore then read, amidst much cheering, the address of the Council, which will be found in another page.

Mr. Bright, M.P., then stood forward, and was received with long and loud plaudits. He said it was a truly refreshing thing to look upon this vast assembly; and the sight was doubly agreeable when he remembered that, from influences not the most creditable to the parties concerned, they were some time ago prevented from holding weekly meetings of the League at another place. He was not sorry to discover more faults in monopoly, and in the abettors of monopoly. (Cheers.) Monopoly itself was of a miserable and paltry nature, and those who abetted it partook of that nature. (Cheers and laughter.) Monopoly would put down discussion—would be content that the twenty-seven millions of people of Great Britain and Ireland should suffer for ever from its exactions, and be for ever prevented from inquiring, discussing, and remonstrating. (Hear, hear.) This meeting was still more pleasant, as a proof of the progress of the great cause. But it was somewhat humiliating to think that an assembly of 4000 or 5000 people should be required to be called together at this time of day, to protest against a law so evidently bad and unjust as the Corn Law, and to assert a right so clear and evident as that which they wished to gain for the people—perfect freedom for their industry. (Loud cheers.) And when they were travelling about the country, he felt humbled when he reflected that his species had yet made so little progress—that so much must still be done to make them see and acknowledge their true interests, and pursue their real line of duty. (Cheers.) But still, when they were travelling to expose the hideousness and deformity of monopoly—to point the finger of scorn

at this foul creature, generated in the slime of an unnatural selfishness—when they were working to direct the burning and indignant glance of a plundered people on this most foul and glaring injustice—they were compensated for all they did by the glad and cordial greetings which they met with from thousands on every hand (cheers); and were animated to pursue their labours—nay, to work, if necessary, and, if possible, ten times harder, by the consciousness that they were even now in anticipation of carrying happiness and comfort to thousands of desolated homes. (Cheers.) They asserted this principle—that every man had a right to the fruit of his own industry, and a right to exchange it with any other man—a right to dispose of it wherever he could get most for it. (Cheers.) They had asserted that an infringement of this great law brought with it great national calamity; that its infringement, with respect to food in especial, brought with it disasters to every interest. Their opponents denied this; but they asserted that the course of events since the hour when the League was first formed, had gone to accumulate fresh proofs in favour of the sentiments and doctrines of its members. (Cheers.) Their opponents stated that high prices in agricultural productions and national prosperity went together, and that low prices of agricultural produce were accompanied by national and commercial depression. But more than this—their opponents stated that the great cause of the distress which had prevailed for four years past, had been over-production. (Derisive laughter.) At the late meeting in the county of Oxford, a young man, who was called a representative of that county—and it was be a county in which there should be some knowledge of what was good for man both as to his temporal and eternal interests (laughter)—well, this young man, Lord Norreys (and that there should be such a person returned for such a county, with such notions of political economy, so profoundly ignorant of the great and vital questions affecting our commercial policy, was a disgrace which he trusted he should soon see brushed away from it)—this young man actually said that the Corn Laws had nothing to do with the existing distress. (Oh, oh.) He quite admitted that agriculture and commerce were bound up together; but he believed that it was over-production which had first ruined commerce, and was then reacting upon agriculture. ("Oh," and laughter.) He talked of over-production. The opposite of over-production was surely under-production; of greater production, less production: and what, then, did less production mean? Why, less of employment, less of wages, and less of everything that wages could purchase. (Cheers.) Their opponents boasted of the improvement in trade. Well, there was an improvement. They knew that an improvement would come, either when a bountiful Providence sent a good harvest, or their legislators chose to repeal the Corn Laws. The *Standard* (loud laughter and hisses) had promised that soon it would be able to bring before the public certain facts as to the state of carriage on the canals at Manchester and Liverpool, showing such an enormous increase of trade as would astonish all its readers. Now they did not dispute the great amount of carriage at present going on upon these canals. There had been considerable speculation in cotton lately; but even if such had not been the case, there was undoubtedly an increase of business. Yet, with all this, there was a time when the *Standard* said that England would be as prosperous as she now is, and that all useful Englishmen would be as happy as they now are, if the whole of the manufacturing districts of the empire were involved in one common ruin. (Loud hisses, and cries of shame.) But now the *Standard*, in attempting to prop up the administration to which it had sold itself—he would not say body and soul, for there was no soul connected with it—(cheers)—the *Standard*, he repeated, now turned to the manufacturing districts for the only atom of consolation it could find wherewith to administer comfort to the Government and to its partisans out of doors. (Cheers.) They had distinguished writers in England who sometimes treated them to some particulars of the conduct of the American press. He knew not whether the Americans retorted upon the conductors of our public press, but he defied any person to find in America, or in any other country, a man who had a more base and malignant spirit than the man who wrote the columns of the *Standard*. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Its dishonesty was apparent from the beginning to the end of every year. On this question it was always dishonest. (Hear.) It had calumniated and slandered that portion of the country from which he came, and the order to which he belonged—an order certainly not less respectable than that to which the person in question was attached. But this was not the time when public men were to sit down loaded with such calumnies and slanders as these. He need not think that the League would halt in their career or rest from their labours in consequence of any of the worthless slanders which he might hurl against them. But then this man and their other opponents flattered themselves that the improvement in trade was to stop them. That showed what these people were made of, but it showed that they knew little of what the League was made. (Cheers.) Would not bad harvests return again? Had there been any revelation from Heaven, saying that in future the earth should always yield abundantly? (Hear, hear.) Would not the return of bad harvests bring with it a return of all the calamities from which he trusted some portion of the people were now escaping? And if they have suffered so much for five years past—if honourable men had become bankrupt for no fault of theirs; and if multitudes of honest, industrious, and meritorious artisans had been driven into the degradation and suffering of pauperism, and not a few into crime, through the pressure of these laws: if it was so, was it to be thought that they, who had put their hands to the plough, would now turn back from the work? (Cheers.) No, he told them that the people in the north of England, who had subscribed most largely to the Anti-Corn-Law fund, are rejoicing deeply in the present improvement of trade, because they hope that in consequence of it they will be enabled to make a more gigantic effort than they otherwise could for the final overthrow of monopoly. (Loud cheers.) Did these men think that they had not examined the consequences, and detected much of the evil which must remain after the immediate and heavy pressure had passed away? Whatever prosperity of trade might ensue within the next two or three years, there would still be thousands of their countrymen pressed down to a lower state of existence than that in which they would otherwise move in consequence of the late depression. (Hear, hear) They knew that in consequence of that depression there still existed more of crime, more of suffering, more of loss of independence, more of what all men should shun and what all government should fear to see in any people over which they ruled, than there would otherwise have been. Was it not a singular thing that monopoly was now rejoicing in the state of the manufacturing districts? Last year its advocates trembled as they thought of them; now the Home Secretary could rub his hands, and say, "All will go right again; the storm has blown over." (A laugh.) Lancashire was the only part of the country on which, to the ministry, the sun seemed to shine with brilliancy, and cotton the only article on which these statesmen could find any repose. (A laugh.) But what had become of their arguments against machinery? Machinery, they said, did a vast deal of mischief, and even the Premier did not hesitate to insinuate that it had more to do with the general distress than the Corn Laws. (Oh, oh.) How came it, then, that where there was the best and the most machinery, the revival in trade was the most evident, and came the soonest? (Hear, hear.) They had a little sunshine in Lancashire. He fervently hoped that it might never again be overcast; but the monopolists had other prospects not quite so pleasant to look upon. They had a contest in Ireland, which bade fair to be unpleasant. (Hear, hear, hear.) He did not mean unpleasant as respected violence against the Government, or to secure the dismemberment of the empire, but unpleasant as against that portion of the community against whom they were now struggling—the landowners. (Hear.) Yes, the landowners of Ireland were now engaged in a contest with the people as to who should possess the land in future. ("Hear," and laughter.) They had not got so far as that in England; they wanted no man's estate; they would not object to landowners building high walls round their parks whenever they chose; they would not object to their having as large a quantity of game as they chose; all they wanted was, that if the landowners did what they liked with their own, that the people would be permitted to do what they chose with their own. (Loud cheers.) There was another portion of the kingdom, too, in which a little squabble of a similar character was going on. No deputation from the League was needed to visit the farmers of South Wales. (Hear, hear.) They had met more than once, and some few days ago, at a place with an unpronounceable name; and the chairman of that meeting (a man who, by the way, ought to be made an honorary member of the Council of the League, for the knowledge he displayed of the principles which guided them); the chairman, he repeated, boldly stated that the Corn Law was merely a landowners' law; that by it the landowners fixed the price of the farmers' produce before it went to market, and then fixed his rents by that price; but that it happened that when the produce was actually sold, the farmer very frequently got 8s. or 10s. less than the amount fixed by the landowner. The difference between which and that actually realized was so much paid from the farmers' capital. (Cheers.) The same gentleman mentions some other truths which they had frequently heard before; and which it was probable that the Welsh farmer had found out through great and long-continued suffering. (Hear, hear.) The landowners were being driven from Wales. Such was the state of matters there. They were not so bad in England yet. They did not want landowners to quit the country; they merely wanted that, having the land, they should not ask for anything else unless thay paid for it. (Cheers.) But the farmers of England were not contented. He was at Oxford the other day at a meeting, over which the Under Sheriff of the county presided. It was attended by the county members. Two lords were there. (Laughter.) He just mentioned this to show that some persons were there of whom the country sometimes heard the names. There was a large number of farmers there. Before the meeting, they dined with upwards of thirty farmers at the ordinary. One of these gentlemen, a large farmer, said that he would give a thousand pounds to any man who would go with him to his farm, and show him how to pay his rent. (Laughter.) Another respectable farmer assured them that not one farmer in ten in Oxfordshire had made anything more than the interest of his money for the last twenty years. (Hear, hear.) They had told the farmers that when they took stock in Lancashire, they crossed off five per cent. of interest before they began to calculate their profits; upon which the farmer rejoined, that if they in Oxfordshire did so, there would be nothing more left. (A laugh.) They told the farmers that they were placed in this position: they had capital, and all they got from their labour was not more than the interest of that capital which they might obtain by investing it in railways, mortgages, or in any other mode; and thus they sat down, and cultivated their farms, enduring much labour, undergoing many anxieties and many risks; and they did all this that they might get rent for their landlords, and nothing for themselves. (Loud cheers.) It put him in mind of what he had heard of a man working upon the conditions of nothing a day and finding himself. (Loud laughter.) Now the farmers admitted that this was the state of things in that county, and the same tale had been told them almost wherever they went. Now, if it were all true that they heard with respect to improvement of trade in Lancashire, did they think, knowing the state in which the farmers were, that they would sit down quietly and allow them to be ruined? (Hear.) The farmers had not injured them intentionally. No men were more honourable or more well meaning than were those very farmers by whose votes, mistakenly given, the Corn Laws were supported. (Hear, hear.) But they (the manufacturers) knew better: they had no plea of ignorance to shelter themselves under; and they would, indeed, be recreants to their principles if they were now to stay at home—if they were to refuse to come to the relief of the distressed agriculturist, and to ask the honest farmers to listen to the truths which they promulgated; to shake hands with them, and to entreat them to form one great fraternity with the manufacturers, to abolish a scourge destructive to one class as to the other. (Loud cheers.) But the farmers were powerless, without the town population. Most of their capital was absorbed, and they held land upon such tenures that they were entirely under the grasp of their landlords (hear, hear); and it required a power greater than that of the farmers to free them from the hard thraldom under which they suffer. But, if the monopolist papers boasted so much of returning prosperity, where were the proofs of prosperity among the landowners themselves? He heard everywhere, he sawt rumpeted forth in every newspaper, that my Lord This or Mr. Such-a-one had generously remitted from 10 to 25 per cent. of his tenant's rent. (Oh, oh). Yes, it was a very easy way of being generous, that of giving up what there was not the most remote possibility of obtaining. (Laughter and cheers.) But he did think it would be better for the agriculturist that he should be in such a condition, and that rent should be adjusted upon so fair and equitable a basis, that the landowner should be quite sure of obtaining his rent from year to year, and that the tenants should not be degraded and enthralled as they were by having 20 per cent. remitted to them—a pretended gift, too, which the landlord would take care to avail himself of at the next election. (Hear, hear.) What was the position of the English landowner? He might be great—titled—rich—learned—possessed of vast estates—but still his position was one of unmixed littleness. In Parliament the landowners had nothing to say for themselves; in the country they had just as little. Lord Norreys, indeed, said at the late Oxford meeting, that the great cause of mischief was over-production; and Mr. Henley, one of the members for the county, said, that all the manufacturers wanted was to reduce the wages of the people. (Oh, oh.) The monopolist landowners tried to keep their tenantry away from meetings where they might hear the Corn Laws discussed. And, why? For the same reason that they tried to shut up Drury-lane Theatre. (Cheers.) They did not wish to have the matter touched—they felt that it would not bear handling, that it would not bear to be examined. They knew that the pretences on which the Corn Laws were maintained were unfounded and dishonest. They wished their tenants, therefore, not to hear the matter discussed; but they were greatly deceived if they flattered themselves that the farmers would not make amends for their exclusion from hearing, by reading, for the report of this meeting shall be sent to nearly every occupying farmer in some one or more of the counties of England. (Loud and continued cheering.) They had a great deal to do to deliver this country from the tyranny of the landowners. Land was given them all to live upon; but certain men becoming possessors of it, usurped a power which the Creator never intended that they should possess. (Hear, hear.) Yet let them bear in mind that all landlords were not unjust. (Hear, hear.) Men might possess land, and be as good as those who possessed anything else, or nothing else; but he would like to see a broad line of demarcation drawn between those who were ready to do justice, and those who were ready and willing to continue injustice. The injustice which characterised one portion of the landowners was endangering the property and character of all. So it was in Ireland and Wales; and unless the evils of which they complained were remedied, they would see the same thing in England ere long. (Hear, hear.) They all knew that there were many men—members of the aristocracy—who had considerable sympathy with their operations; there were several who subscribed to their funds; why would not such men in greater numbers come boldly out and show what side they were really on—the just or the unjust? Let them rest assured that the time would soon come when they must so declare themselves. (Cheers.) They were not only Corn-Law Repealers, but Free Traders in the widest sense of the word. (Cheers.) They believed that Free Trade would bless the world, and would especially bless this country. As England was the greatest trading nation in the world, so Free Trade would benefit her the most. She was the most commercial country, because she possessed the greatest powers of production and consumption, and by production and consumption the trade of the world was carried on. (Cheers.) They wanted to have the question settled, for the world as well as for England. They were tired of what were called the natural divisions of empires. They wanted not that the Channel should separate this country from France—they hoped and wished that Frenchmen and Englishmen should no longer consider each other as naturally hostile nations. (Loud cheers.) It was common to speak of rivers, and mountains, and seas, as the natural divisions of countries, separating one nation from another from all time to all time; but there was no barrier which nature had reared which was a thousandth part so detrimental to the interest of man, or so much calculated to embitter the feelings and promote hostilities, as were those miserable and unnatural bar-

riers which restrictions in trade and lines of custom-house-officers had built up between nation and nation. (Loud cheers.) We want peace (continued the honourable gentleman)—we want peace for all the world. We do not want three-fourths of our available revenue to be expended in the support of an army and a navy. We want the products of the people's industry to remain in the people's pockets, to minister to their comforts and make happy the people's home. We want not that it should go to support hundreds of thousands of men in livery—(a laugh)—members of a cruel profession, and one which would be little required if the principles of Free Trade were once universally established. (Cheers.) We profess to be especially the friends of the children of toil. We see a vast proportion of the inhabitants of this country—the largest and most industrious, and not least deserving portion—suffering privations and miseries which no language can describe. We here know not what they suffer: it is too true that one-half the world knows not kow the other half lives. (Hear, hear.) Here they knew not the misery which surrounded them; they had vast streets and squares, and magnificent mansions and equipages; and they saw not the poverty which existed along with and in the midst of all these things. In his part of the country there was the same poverty, the same misery. In the United Kingdom there were four millions of paupers; it was terrible to think that the Queen, a lady who, from all they knew of her, possessed sympathies like the rest of her sex—sympathies that would love and bless all on whom she could pour blessings—should wield a sceptre, not over twenty-seven millions of happy, independent people, but over three or four and twenty millions, living as they best could, and four millions of absolute and hopeless paupers. (Loud cheers.) There are boasts of our glorious constitution in church and state; there are boasts of our three estates of the realm—Queen, Lords, and Commons. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) We are extremely fond of boasting of ourselves for everything; but it is a strange constitution—a strange perfection of human government—a strange illustration of the enlightenment of our system, that one-seventh of our people are in a condition of miserable and hopeless pauperism. (Loud cheers.) Well, we would stand between these helpless beings and their oppressors, between the heartless selfishness of monopolists and the victims they would relentlessly trample on. And we ask you whether you will stand by us in such a work; whether, as in the past year, we have your confidence? (Cries of "Yes, yes!") There will very shortly be an opportunity to test what you think of such matters. I have seen large placards, declaring James Pattison, Esq., for the city of London. (Loud and continued cheering.) I know very little personally of that gentleman. (Cries of "We do though.") I have seen him at our meetings on the platform of Drury-lane. I have seen him in the Universal Hall of Commerce, and I have seen his name as a subscriber to the National League funds. (Loud cheers.) I have heard him manfully declare that perfect justice should be done to the people in all matters connected with commercial policy, and that he should be content with no less. I know not what the electors of the city of London may do. I know not if they think that they at least have no interest in commercial prosperity, and that the world is wrong in supposing them to constitute the heart of our commercial enterprise; but I will tell them what their countrymen and the enlightened of all countries will say, if they should stultify themselves by voting for a monopolist, that, as many of them revel in wealth, they are the spoiled children of commercial success, and that they crouch before a miserable aristocracy that must despise them in their hearts. (Loud and long-continued cheering.) The Anti-Corn-Law League numbers 37,000 registered members in the metropolis; and there was no part in which adherents were so readily obtained as within the boundaries of the city. I know not what influence the offer may have, but on behalf of the Council of the League, I am ready to tender our co-operation—all influence—all honourable and moral support, in enabling the voice of the city of London to speak out in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) I was saying that we come to you for assistance, as we have done heretofore, and I promise you we shall have a good deal for you to do between this and next spring. We find throughout the world, even where mankind have only emerged a little from barbarism, that our agitation is watched, and we have paragraphs in newspapers respecting it from the furthest ends of the earth. The intelligent and virtuous everywhere hail the progress we are making, and cheer us on to the arduous conflict we have entered upon. (Cheers.) We have the poor around us as our clients. We know their industry, perseverance, and good character; we know something, though perhaps but little, of what they have endured. We have a perfect faith in the beauty, excellence, and perfection of the principles we promulgate; and we know that Heaven will prosper those who are working in a cause that shall bless the world; and we know that the promises of Omnipotence are to those whose works bless his creatures, and bring happiness to their hearts and their homes. (Cheers.) We shall go onward, then; we shall have no slackening in our ranks because cotton is a little dearer than it was. We did not buckle on our armour for a sham contest. We were not hungering; I never had a meal the less, however my countrymen suffered, and my business always yielded some profit. We have no other motive to action than the wish to do away with this cruel injustice. Our opponents know that they are unjust, and they now know also that we know it; we are resolved that the millions amongst whom we live shall no longer be trampled on by the iron hoof of monopoly; we have fought this battle confident of success, we know that success awaits us, for we remember in faith and gratitude that royal lips have declared, by the inspiration of the Eternal Spirit, that "the needy shall not alway be forgotten, the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever." (The hon. genleman sat down amid loud and long-continued cheering.)

Mr. W. J. Fox, on coming forward, was received with loud cheers; he said:—Ladies and gentlemen, in the able speeches of the mover and seconder of the address two points have been slightly passed over, or only incidentally mentioned, which I think tend very much to recommend that address to the adoption of the public, and the objects of its authors to their co-operation. One characteristic feature of the address is the plainness and frankness with which the plans of the League are told out. There are no claims of implicit confidence—there are no ambiguous promises—there is no endeavour to lead on the people towards results not specified; there is no saying, like a certain state physician, "Let me into office, give me the fee, and then you shall see my prescription." (Loud cheers and laughter.) But a succession of measures are distinctly marked out, all tending toward a definite point, which point gained, the objects of the League must needs be accomplished, and towards which a movement is made as distinct, and, I apprehend, as these measures in succession are realised, as resistless as the great operations of nature. They conduct us towards a result which no administration can resist, against which no law can stand, to that declaration of the will of the possessors of the political power of a great empire, which must be respected by all who aspire to minister its affairs, which cannot be resisted but in the dissolution of society, and before which any opposing power, any law, any institution even, however time-honoured, must pass away, as the leaves fall before the winds of autumn, or as snow vanishes in the sunshine of spring. (Loud cheers.) And the men who propose this course of measures are plainly as honest as they are earnest in that for which they ask your co-operation. They make themselves the largest sacrifices that are made; and the very fact which has been thrown in their teeth, that they have an interest in this object, is their best justification. (Hear, hear, hear.) The interests of honest industry are surely one of the objects of the policy of a great empire. They have an interest in it, so have you, so have we all. Who has not an interest in the repeal of the Bread-tax that lives by eating bread? (Hear, hear.) Who has not an interest in Free Trade that is endeavouring to support himself and his family by commerce?—who has not an interest in what advances the general prosperity of the country, even though his pursuits are artistical or intellectual, ministering to the spiritual rather than the material portions of our nature. For as one thrives will all thrive—they react the one upon the other; the starving do not encourage literature and art; they are bound together by the ties which Providence formed to uphold society; and it is because they and we have an interest in this matter that we are determined the question shall not drop until it is satisfactorily settled. (Loud cheers.) I say all classes have an interest in this matter; even they who are represented as the great opposing class—the landlord class. For what has made England the paradise of landowners but its being the workshop of the world? (Loud cheers.) In the progress of manufacture, if machinery has enabled one man to do the work of 200, it has also employed 200, and 2000, where one was employed, all bread eaters coming to the landowner for his produce. And while the manufacturers of this country have been thus advancing in the last century, its growth of wheat has been tripled every year, and the rents of the farmers have been in many cases quadrupled. The landlords gain by railways enhancing the worth of their property; they gain by the rich and flourishing community arising around them; and if for a while they should have to make some slight sacrifice—if at first their rents should fall in the change—why, they will still be gaining that which gold could never buy. By the graceful concession they would be gaining the good-will and gratitude of their fellow-countrymen; they would gain for themselves an exemption from the execration that pursues their class, from the infamy of their names in history, from the reprobation of their consciences, and the pollution of their souls. (Loud and continued cheering.) The confidence which the Council expresses in the successful operations of the measures they trace out is, I think, a well-founded one. For when have recognised principles failed of meeting with success—when in the world's history? Some affect to sneer at abstract principles, but abstract good is the real practical good, after all; the exceptions made to it are some little, dirty, contrivances of those who would have trade free for others, but would reserve the monopoly for themselves—would have Free Trade as to what they buy, but restrictions as to what they sell—and who tell us that those principles are sound and excellent things in reference to all other commodities whatever, but that there is some one exception left—the exception of that in which the exceptor deals; and each in turn will tell you that Free Trade is the noblest thing in the world, except for corn, except for sugar, except for coffee, and except for this, that, and the other, till once, even in the House of Commons, it came to an exception of second-hand glass bottles. (Loud cheers and laughter.) I say this is a principle recognised by all—recognised even by the Government in its measures of last year, however paltry their nature and limited their operation. Recognised in their Canada Corn Bill—recognised in their repeal of the laws against the exportation of machinery, the last rag of that form of monopoly: and the repeal of the duties on imports must follow that of restriction on exports. A principle thus recognised by foes practically, as well as by friends, is certain of success. Thus was it that the great principle of negro liberty was recognised, and thus eventually carried. And did not the recognition of a principle emancipate the Roman Catholics of Ireland? Ask Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington whether this was not the secret of the success of that measure. (Loud cheers.) I say this anticipation of triumph is well founded. For have we not the eternal power of truth—have we not the agency of a press that cannot be restricted in its advocacy of such principles? Have we not meetings like these: not only such meetings as these, but meetings held in the rural districts, where the opposing class is challenged to the combat; and have we not that power to which the address specially points—which with great propriety is introduced on such an occasion as this—that power which has ever been the cradle and is the bulwark of liberty—political and commercial—the power of great cities, the agency of civilization; of great towns and cities that first reared their towers as landmarks when the deluge of barbarism in the middle ages was beginning to subside—that in the civil wars of this country afforded the serf a refuge from his baronial oppressor, and gave him food and gave him freedom—towns and cities that won the rudiments of representation—that formed our parliaments—that asserted the people's power of self-taxation—that gained one step after another in the progress of order and of human rights and enjoyments—where commerce throve, where the arts have flourished, where the poor serfs of the soil that vainly struggled and shed their blood in the Jack Cade and Wat Tyler insurrections, at length had their emancipation achieved for them. (Loud cheers.) Cities in which flourish luxuries and arts which make it life to live, which are the heralds of progress as they have been the safeguards of the past, where congregated multitudes shout for justice and demand that the oppressed shall be emancipated—raising a cry at the sight of wrong which reverberates from earth to heaven, and makes the oppressive class, however strong in station and in power, quail as before the thunder of the day of retribution. (Loud cheers.) And this is the second point in the address upon which I wish to fix your attention—the importance that it assigns to towns and cities. It looks to them as the machinery by which this great question is to be wrought out to its final, satisfactory and triumphant decision. And well and rightly does it so; because it is in towns and cities that the wrong most deeply exists which it is the aim of the League in its noble efforts to redress. It is in cities that the pressure is felt most extensively—that the iron enters deeply into the soul. (Hear.) It is not merely in the expression and feeling of such an assemblage as this that I read the condemnation of the laws that uphold monopoly; it is in what you know—it is in what leads you here. It is something—it is much to many here, in this vast and brilliant assemblage—that from day to day the pressure upon their circumstances is rendered more and more hard by the artificial limitations of trade: it is something—it is much to many here—that from time to time one hostile tariff after another makes its appearance, shutting us out of markets on the Continent which had been open; it is something, it is much to many here, that in the most frequented thoroughfares of this great metropolis, house after house should be shut up, exhibiting a spectacle of desolation where once were thriving tradesmen and enjoying families; it is something, it is much to many here, that the pressure comes at each extremity, that the candle is burning at both ends, on one side they are exhausted by paying to the relief of the poor, and on the other side they are plundered by claims upon them for the income-tax. (Loud cheers.) It is something, it is much to many here, that through every station, in every rank of life, the pressure is felt—the demon seems to be omnipresent, and they cannot escape his pestiferous influence. (Cheers.) But even this is not the deadliest evil of the Corn Laws. Did one want to exhibit it in this great theatre, it might be done,—not by calling together such an audience as I now see here, but by going into the by-places, the alleys, dark courts, the garrets and cellars of this metropolis, and by bringing thence their wretched and famished inmates. O, we might crowd them here—boxes, pit, and galleries—with their shrunk and shrivelled forms, with their wan and pallid cheeks, with their distressful looks—perhaps with dark and bitter passions pictured in their countenances—and thus exhibit a scene that would appal the stoutest heart, and melt the hardest—a scene that we would wish to bring the Prime Minister of the country upon the stage to see—(immense cheering); and we would say to him, "There, delegate of majesty! leader of legislators, conservator of institutions, look upon that mass of misery! That is what your laws and power, if they did not create, have failed to prevent, have failed to cure or mitigate." (Loud and long-continued cheering.) And supposing this to be done—could this scene be realised—we know what would be said. We should be told, "There has always been poverty in the world; that there are numerous ills that laws can neither make nor cure; that whatever is done, much distress must exist." They will say, "It is the mysterious dispensation of Providence, and there we must leave it." "Hypocrite, hypocrite," I would say to him, "urge not that plea yet, you have no right to it. Strike off every fetter upon industry; take the last grain of the poison of monopoly out of the cup of poverty; give labour its full rights; throw open the markets of the world to an industrious people; and then, if after all there be poverty, you have earned your right to qualify for the unenviable dignity of a blasphemer of Providence (loud cheers); but until then, while any restriction whatever exists, while any impediment is raised to the well-being of the many for the sordid profit of the few—till then you cannot, you dare not, look this gaunt spectre of wretchedness in the face, and exclaim, "Thou canst not say I did it." (Loud cheering.) Why, the Corn Laws and the policy of our agricultural legislators hunt poverty and wretchedness from their own districts into ours. (Hear, hear.)

The landlord class call themselves feeders of the people. They speak of their ability, if properly encouraged and protected, to feed the nation. What feeds the people? Not the growing of corn; but the people being able to buy it. The people are no more fed for all the wheat that they can grow, than as if there were so many stones covering the rich valleys of the country. It is in the price required of the people who eat it; and if that is beyond the power of the multitude to give, they become starvers instead of feeders of the people. Agriculture cannot support its own population; it is not in the course of nature that it should, for one man is vested with the ability to raise food for the many. Twenty-eight per cent. of the population are amply sufficient to cultivate the ground so as to yield food for the remainder of the hundred. (Hear, hear.) How are the rest to be fed? By opening markets for the products of their industry that they may obtain the means. In the natural growth of the population in the rural districts they find a superfluous population—that superfluity is continually on the increase. People talk much about machinery throwing hands out of employment: these very same people raise a cry of the evil results of Corn-Law repeal in throwing the cultivators of the ground out of employ. Why, are they not themselves throwing them out of employ every day? Have we not the Royal Agricultural Society and local agricultural societies all over the country, where premiums are offered of from £3 to £50, from £50 to £100, for the invention of machines to cheapen the tillage of the ground—to do that by mechanical ingenuity which had heretofore been wrought by human labour. (Hear, hear.) Are there not machines for every process and operation; machines for preparing and draining the ground for the reception of the seed, machines for ploughing and sowing, machines even for the splitting the beans that the cattle eat, machinery for reaping the produce, for thrashing the wheat, and for cutting the chaff—is there not machinery from the beginning to the end? is there not mechanical power, chemical power, horse power, steam power?—and what perverts it all, at the back of all of the abuse, political power. (Loud cheers.) These associations come forth with their splendid array of great names—some men who figure in one house, and some who figure in another. Some who are chiefly known as politicians and others as warriors, until we find among them that great name whose judgment in machinery relates more to the sword than the plough, and who best understands the machinery by which battalions are mowed down, and the harvest of carnage is gathered in. (Loud cheers.) And there is this remarkable difference between the employment of machinery in the one case and in the other, in which it has been so often assailed. When machinery is employed in manufacture, what is the natural result? Production is cheaper, goods, apparel of various kinds, are brought to market at a lower rate. The use of it is diffused more extensively in society; people have enjoyments and accommodation which they did not possess; the demand has increased, and this again reacts upon production; more hands are employed, and in the natural course of things there is found to be more work, more wages, and more enjoyment. But in the employment of agricultural machinery the intention of the Corn Law is not to let those inventions affect the price—not to allow them to cheapen corn and to extend the enjoyment of wholesome food, but to keep up the price, while the cost of production is cheapened in order that the surplus may go into that great swamp of all, the receptacle of rent, still crying, "Give, give," and never satisfied. (Loud cheers). Well, in this way there is more of the surplus population who go on in the natural course of wretchedness—who fall from one stage to another—in the agricultural districts than anywhere else. Up they troop to some great town; they come, men, women, and children, they toil their way along the hard roads, and then, without friends or help, they look around them, they ask for work, they ask for alms, they endeavour in vain to find that for which they are seeking, for monopoly has been there before hand; having driven them out of the country, it bars the occasion for their employment in the towns, and so they are beaten and battered from pillar to post; they have, perhaps, to incur the frown of power by some irregular attempt to support themselves, for the police hunt and hound them for endeavouring to sell apples or lucifers in the streets; they are sent to the station-house, they are brought out of that to be committed to gaol; they go in beggars, they come out thieves; they pass through various stages of disease in the only factory into which they can get—in those great factories of typhus which abound in large towns. One union workhouse sends them to another, the overseers send them to the magistrates, and the magistrates send them back to the overseer; and at last, in this hopeless and heartless strife, they drop by the way. Death completes what monopoly began; and we, inhabitants of great towns, know that all this is passing round us, and we are quiet and acquiescing, and conscience never demands, "Are not you accessory to these murders?" (Loud cheers.) Wisely has the Council appealed to the great towns, for there is the power. What can the poor farmer do? His money is in his landlord's ground, and the man who has money in another man's ground must needs be a slave. His freedom is buried there with it; not like the grain, to germinate, but only to rot and dissolve in corruption. It is where great bodies are congregated, where they can stand by one another, where not the importance of the individual, but the importance of the many, is the great thing for all. (Hear, hear.) And how independent are such places, if they but knew their position, of all that aristocracy is or can do. Landlords! They built not this magnificent metropolis—they covered not these forty square miles with the great mass of human dwellings that spread over them—they crowd not our port with shipping—they filled not your city with its monuments of science and of art, with its institutions of literature and its temples of religion—they poured not that stream of commercial prosperity into the country, which during the last century has made the grandeur of London, quadrupling its population, and showing that it has one heart with the entire community. They! Why, if they were to spend—if you could impose on them the laws which they would impose upon you, and they were bound to spend in this metropolis all they received in their rents—if there were no toleration for French wines or foreign luxuries—if they were prohibited from storing and locking up in their remote galleries works of art, real or pretended, which they prize as property—if here, amongst the shopkeepers of London they were bound to spend that which they had obtained by their rents, it would be wretched repayment to you for what you have forfeited by the absence of Free Trade. (Loud cheers.) It is as it were to make war upon towns and cities, to cut off their supplies of food, to limit their resources, to levy upon them other taxation: for in the vast spread of this metropolis, where there are nearly two millions of inhabitants probably, not less than six or eight millions sterling is wrung from your resources in different ways, not going into the pockets of the landlords, but being lost by the way, a great portion of it, in order that their extortion may keep up a veil on its horrid countenance, and have something the show of legitimate taxation, instead of being apparent and downright plunder. (Loud cheers.) The time is opportune for the appeal which has been made to the inhabitants of this metropolis, and for the appeal to those among you who enjoy the franchise of the city of London. (Cheers.) There will, in a very short period, be an opportunity for you to show decidedly that the principle of Free Trade is consecrated in your hearts, and guides your votes. (Loud cheers.) I trust the contest will be by no means a personal one, but one wholly of principle, and that no ambiguous pretensions, no praise of Free Trade, with certain qualifications and accommodations necessary to the hustings, will be tolerated for an instant; but that the plain and simple test will be the complete, total, and immediate abolition of the monopoly of food. (Cheers.) I know not why one should hesitate to say, upon such an occasion as this, that the placards which I see round about this theatre express the feeling and preference that I think may be honestly entertained for Mr. Pattison as the representative of that great city. (Tremendous cheering.) In fact, a very excellent case for Mr. Pattison's election was made out by the *Times* this morning, without mentioning his name. It was urged in reference to one supposed to be about to become Mr. Pattison's opponent—Mr. Attwood, and the *Times* very strangely recommended that gentleman to withdraw his determination not to stand the contest for three reasons—first, because he was opposed to the Poor-law; secondly, because he was a Conservative; and thirdly, because he almost won the last election. (Laughter.) Now, whatever those reasons are worth for Mr. Attwood, they are worth infinitely more for Mr. Pattison. (Hear, hear.) I know not what his opinions are specifically on the subject of the Poor-law, but the man who is the determined enemy of the Corn Law will extract the venom from the Poor-law. Give us Free Trade; let the industrious and the honest have the means of getting bread, and it will little matter what the commissioners of Somerset House may order as the dietary of the paupers in union houses. Nay, I believe that, under the course of prosperity which such an enactment would produce, no very long time would elapse before the ruins of baronial halls, that now commemorate the past ages of feudalism, would have their companions in the ruins of the workhouses, commemorating the past ages of monopoly. If Mr. Attwood be a Conservative and a man of business, we know that Mr. Pattison is a man of business too, and a Conservative—not of oppression, not of taxation upon food, not of restriction upon trade—but a Conservative of that which alone can give the country permanent existence in its grandeur, and the development of its natural resources to its full moral and intellectual growth. (Loud cheers.) To come to the last reason—if it be a good recommendation to Mr. Attwood that he almost triumphed in one election, why Mr. Pattison quite triumphed in two elections. (Loud cheers.) Here then, I hope, will one of the first great electoral experiments be tried, that not merely every member of the League, but every inhabitant of London who can honourably act upon the result of that election, should feel himself bound to do so, as amongst his earliest pledges of adherence to this great cause—the commencement of his answer to the appeal which has now been made to him for support. Other ways will soon open themselves; and I trust that its past backwardness will be amply redeemed by the metropolis in the readiness with which it will respond to the great call now made for its pecuniary liberality, and in the ardour which many will manifest in other modes of co-operating in this great work, showing that we look to yet higher principles and considerations than any that belong either to rural districts or to particular classes, but that we regard this as the common cause of humanity. (Loud cheers.) And so it is; for Free-Trade principles are the dictates of nature plainly written on the surface of land and ocean, so that the simplest may read them, and imbibe them in his spirit; for that Power which stretched abroad the land, poured forth the ocean, and piled up the mountains—that Power which gave Western America its broad prairies, and reared the gigantic and boundless forests of the north—that Power which covered with rich vineyards the smiling hills of France—which wafts sweet odours from the spicy shores of Araby the blessed—which has endowed this country with its minerals and its insular advantages, and its people with their indomitable Saxon energy—with their skill, their hardihood, their perseverance, their enterprise—that Power which doth all this, evidently designed it for the common good, for the reciprocal advantage of all (cheers); it intended that all should enrich all by the freest interchange, thus making the world no longer the patrimony of a class, but the heritage and the paradise of humanity.

During the delivery of the above eloquent address, the audience frequently rose *en masse*, and interrupted the speaker by the most enthusiastic cheering and waving of handkerchiefs.

The CHAIRMAN said, after the eloquent address they had just heard, he would not detract from its effect by any remarks of his own, but content himself with putting the resolution which had been proposed by Mr. Cobden and seconded by Mr. Bright.

The motion was then put and carried by acclamation, the cheering with which it was greeted lasting for several minutes.

The CHAIRMAN then announced the dissolution of the meeting, and three cheers having been given for the principles of Free Trade, the vast assemblage separated.

FARMERS AND LEASES.

At the Knutsford meeting, Mr. Cobden quoted an extract from a letter written to him by a Cheshire farmer, and an extract from a Cheshire lease. We publish the two documents entire.

LEASE OF FARM FOR A TERM OF YEARS.

A doth hereby agree to take from B, and to become tenant of all that messuage, farm, or tenement, with the lands and appurtenances thereto belonging, situate in the township of ——, in the county of Chester, now in the possession of ——, and containing, by estimation, — acres of land, statute measure, for the term of — years, to commence as to the land (except an outlet for cattle to be set out by the landlord on or before the 5th January in the last year), the meadow land, on the 5th of January, 18—, the residue on the 2nd of February; and as to the messuage and buildings, and the said outlet, on the first day of May, 18—, subject to the annual rent of £—, to be paid on the 24th of June in each year, and the first payment to begin and to be made on the 24th of June next. Except from the said farm to the landlord all timber and other trees, woods and underwoods, with liberty to fall and carry away the same, and to plant any young trees in the hedgerows or elsewhere; and also to form out and plant any quantity of land not exceeding five acres, upon making an allowance to the tenant according to the valuation of an indifferent person. The landlord reserves all mines and minerals, with power to cart away sand, marl, or clay, and to make bricks either for sale or otherwise upon making reasonable compensation for waste of herbage. [Reserve all game, fish, and rabbits, with liberty to pursue and take the same both for friends and servants; and the tenant to warn off every person when required to do so, and to allow his name to be used in any action at law, the landlord bearing the costs and charges.] And the said tenant agrees to hold the farm on the terms following:—To pay all leys and taxes, and to serve all offices; [not to have in tillage in any one year more than one-fifth part of the premises, summer work and potato ground included; the potato ground not to exceed one statute acre; not to take more than than three crops at one tillage, nor without once sufficiently marling or liming the land while under the said course of crops; nor to pushplough, pare, or burn any part of the premises; nor to break up any of the ancient meadow land; nor to use any soot as manure; nor to grow any vetches; nor to mow more than once in any one year; nor to sow any wheat or rye on the brush, or without a summer fallow preceding; nor to sow any hemp or flax; nor to break up or mow any pasture land which has been or shall be covered with bone-dust at the expense of the landlord. To break up the land (except the meadow and bone-dusted land) in rotation and due course, and lay the same down with good clover and hay grass seeds at the end of each tillage, when after once mowing the same is to be considered as pasture. To inbarn or stack, eat and consume, on the premises all the hay, straw, or fodder, and not to sell, exchange, or give any part thereof, and to expend all the manure (except such as is used for potatoes as aforesaid) arising from or to be gathered on the premises, on the meadow land, or on the grass land last laid down only]; and if any shall remain unspent at the end of the term, to leave the same in the usual places for the benefit of the landlord. To keep all the buildings, gates, stiles, hedges, ditches, fences, gutters, drains, soughs, and plats in proper repair and condition during the term, and leave the same so at the expiration thereof, having timber in the rough, and bricks allowed by the landlord. [To pay the landlord £20 for every statute acre of ground, and so in proportion for a less quantity that shall be converted into tillage, or used contrary to the appointment before made; and £5 for every cwt. of hay, thrave of straw, load of potatoes, or cart load of manure, that shall be sold or taken from the premises during the term]; and £10 for every tree fallen, cut down or destroyed, cropped, lopped or topped, or willingly suffered so to be; [and £20 for every servant or other person so hired or admitted as to gain a settlement in the township; and £10 per statute acre, and so in proportion for a less quantity of the said land which the tenant shall let off or underlet]; such sums to be paid on demand after every breach, and in default of payment to be considered as reserved rent, and levied by distress and sale as rent in arrear may be levied and raised. [And to do six days' boon team-work whenever called upon, and to keep for the landlord one dog, and one cock or hen], and to make no marl-pit without the landlord's consent first obtained in writing; after which the same is to be properly filled in; [nor to allow any in-

mate to remain on the premises after six days' notice, nor to keep or feed any sheep except such as are used for the consumption of the family]. The landlord reserves the power either for himself or his agent to enter and view the premises at any time, and in case the necessary repairs are not done after a month's notice given in writing, to cause the same to be done at the expense of the tenant. Also liberty for himself or agent, in the last year of the term, to enter at any time after Michaelmas to plough the fallows, ditch, gutter, drain, or do any other act of husbandry. Also the power to exchange any part of lands demised for others of equal quantity or value. [Provided that if the said annual rent, or the advanced rents or penalties, or any part thereof, shall be unpaid for twenty days after the same shall become due, or if the tenant shall assign or underlet the said farm or any part thereof without the consent of the landlord first obtained in writing, or take or hold land under any other landlord, or shall become bankrupt or insolvent, or assign over his effects or any part thereof for the benefit of his creditors, or the same shall be taken in execution for debt, or if he shall not truly perform the stipulations herein-before contained; then on the tender of one shilling by the landlord to the tenant, his executors, or administrators, these presents and the term before-mentioned, and every matter and thing herein contained, shall be void to all intents and purposes.]

Cheshire, Sept. 19, 1843.

SIR,—I am very willing to give any information in my power which may at all facilitate the downfal of monopoly; but I fear I cannot give such answers to your questions as will make the circumstances of the Cheshire farmers clearly intelligible, inasmuch as there are such a number of different cases which vary the amount of expenses—such as a farmer having sons and daughters who do all or part of the work, and the variation of the prices of produce, and the payment of wages partly in kind by all, and largely in kind by many, &c. But I will suppose what I consider to be an average of prices for the last fourteen years, which is the time I have been farming on my own account, and also that the farmer has neither wife, son, or daughter, because if he had, and they did the work, they would of course be entitled to the same remuneration as would servants.

A Cheshire farm of 200 imperial acres paying £300 a year rent supports 35 cows, which make about six tons of cheese, to sell at 60s. a cwt., is	£360
200 measures of wheat (75lb.), at 8s. a measure	80
24 fat calves, averaging 25s. each	30
Pigs	20
Turn-off cows	20
Incidentals, such as butter, fowls, and fruit	25
Total receipts	£535
Outgoings upon said farm:—	
Rent	£300
Poor-rates, &c.	45
Household expenses, including coals, malt, salt, utensils, and travelling expenses with team	45
Christmas bills	25
Six men and boys, supposing they have their meat in the house, £10 each	60
Three female servants, one of whom to be dairymaid	25
Price of two cows to keep up the stock	28
Occasionally a horse, say once in three years, value £21	7
	£535

the two sums exactly agreeing; and consequently showing that the farmer has *no profit* on either labour or capital. Some, however, who have cheaper farms save a little, while others who have dearer farms become poorer, and some to poverty, except they have an income from some other source, which some have; but [the farms are nearly all let, so that the farmer can just crawl on, though in constant trouble and embarrassment. I can remember something of farmers for the last twenty years, and it is my serious opinion that many more farmers come to poverty than there are who gain a competency; or, in other words, if a balance-sheet of the *Cheshire farming* could be produced, it would exhibit a decided and even serious loss. I believe there is *not one in twenty* who has gained the interest on his capital, and a little for his labour, during the last twenty years. Where a farmer has a family, and most of them have, the children are supported and educated by the wife's industry, who is often, in the way of work and management, worth about two servants:—the wives of the *Cheshire* farmers are, I believe, about the *greatest slaves on earth*, not even excepting those driven by the lash]. Some persons do not employ so many men as I have named, but they are considered slovens, and not to gain anything by it; others employ more, and are, I believe, the most prosperous. When I mention six, I mean on the average of summer and winter; in the summer they will often have ten or twelve. I have, beside extras in harvest, five men and two boys, and their wages are as follows:—Two men each, 7s. per week, and all their meat, &c., except Sundays, £36 8s.; one man, £12; one ditto, £10; one ditto, £9 10s.; one boy, £3 10s.; one ditto, £2 10s.: total, £73 18s.; which divided by 7, shows an average of £10 11s. 1½d.; but I think I pay my men better, a *little*, than the majority.

The capital necessary to stock a farm of £300 rent is about £900; the stock in Cheshire is, or ought to be, about the value of three rents; sometimes it is more and sometimes it is less; but the *annual value* of the farm is about one-third of the sum requisite to stock it.

On reviewing this letter, I think that £5 might be added to the "incidentals;" and on the other side, I think that £360 is on the higher side of the produce of the cheese. I have not mentioned oats or barley; I think that no oats are *sold*, except where the *seed* is *bought*; and very little barley is grown, but where it is grown it is in the place of wheat or oats. Some persons will probably say that they produce more than the quantity I have stated, which may be true; but if they will take off the quantity necessary to pay for the bone-waste, &c., which has been bought, I have no doubt that almost every practical farmer will agree that the statement is fair and accurate.

Some may say that more than £30 is made of incidentals, which may be true; but, if it is, it is in consequence of robbing the cheese, which in that case lowers its value considerably. Some may say that they breed their own horses, and are rather sellers than buyers, which may be true; but then they cannot keep the number of cows, and consequently cannot make the quantity of cheese. There are other objections which may be started, every one of which might be easily answered and refuted by a practical man. I have sent you an *exact copy* of a Cheshire lease. Previous to the Anti-Corn-Law banquet the League desired some friend to send one, and probably a number were sent. I partly prepared this one to send, but I was so engaged that I could not send it in time; possibly it may be useful now. I should not like it to be known where it comes from, and that is the reason why I have left blanks; though it is well known in this neighbourhood that I am opposed to the Corn Laws, for I have often spoken to the landlords against them privately, and sometimes to the public publicly. Nine years ago I told my landlord that I believed seven years would see their downfal, at which he seemed much surprised; and it appears now that I was considerably wrong as to time. There cannot be a doubt as to the ultimate and speedy success of the friends of Free Trade.

AGRICULTURE.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE FARMERS.

It has been vehemently asserted by the advocates of the Corn-Law monopoly, that the manufacturing and trading classes are alone interested in obtaining a repeal of the Corn Laws; and not a few persons have been induced to believe there is some truth in assertions so roundly and perseveringly made. Yet, in fact, nothing can be more erroneous. If the trading and manufacturing interests are injured—as they admittedly are—by the Corn Law; agriculture, and the *industrious* agriculturists are borne down and well nigh ruined by that law and the system of which it forms a part. An intimate acquaintance with the sentiments and habits of proprietors and occupiers of land in various parts of England, convinced us, very soon after the enactment of Peel's Corn Bill of 1828, that "protection" was the bane and curse of the tenantry of this country; and that even the landowners themselves, whatever might be their immediate gain, were grasping at the shadow and losing the substance of their wealth by maintaining their *imagined* monopoly. Each succeeding year has strengthened that conviction, and every inquiry into the periodically-recurring agricultural distresses has afforded fresh demonstrative evidence of its truth.

In no department of industry are the evils of the false principles which have swayed our commercial legislation more apparent than in agriculture. Nowhere can the apathy, the unskilfulness, the misdirection of capital and labour, which invariably follow all efforts on the part of governments and legislatures to regulate particular businesses, be more distinctly traced than in the business of English farming.

If no other evidence against the Corn Laws existed, except that which is derived from the past history and present condition of British agriculture and British farmers, nothing could be more completely condemnatory of those laws.

The facts furnished by the agriculturists themselves—often when strenuously advocating "protection"—show that they could not have benefited by a monopoly had they secured one; but that, in truth, its seeming advantages always eluded their grasp. This only requires to be fully examined to become obvious to all who are not wilfully blind. It will be our part to set these things in a true light before our readers.

For the present, let us see what is the actual state of the mass of English farmers.

The great proportion of farms are held at rents fixed according to valuations founded upon the Corn Law of 1828, which promised a price of at least 64s. a quarter for wheat, and other grain in proportion. During the abundant years of 1834, 1835, and 1836, the extraordinary amount of produce compensated the farmer, in a great degree, for the low price of his commodity. Though the price was one-third less than that on which he had founded his calculations, the produce of grain, especially upon the heavy claylands where the weakest farmers are usually found, was full one-fourth more than an average crop; the unexpected loss and the unanticipated gain, therefore, partly balanced each other. Still there was a balance of loss, and rents were generally reduced by temporary abatements of 10, 15, and 20 per cent. But there were few permanent adjustments; and, as most of the tenants in England had merely yearly holdings, these eleemosynary rebates suited the provisional state of the relations between landlord and tenant, which have existed ever since the first attempt, in 1815, to keep the price of corn artificially high. Nevertheless, there was the usual cry of agricultural distress consequent upon low prices, producing the memorable committee of 1836, which completely exhibited the fallacy of protection.

Besides the unusual fertility of the three years we have named, all the farmers, except the very worst, had a further compensating advantage in the high prices of butcher's meat and dairy produce, caused by the great prosperity of the manufacturing districts during that period; and many of them made considerable advances in husbandry by largely adopting the system of stock-farming. At this time the Corn Laws were inoperative, because the abundance of home produce had reduced prices so low that no grain could have been profitably imported had the trade been free. Soon, however, the scanty harvests of 1837 and 1838 acted upon prices, raising them to the monopoly level contemplated by the Corn Law; so that during 1839, 1840, and 1841, the agriculturists enjoyed the average price of 67s. a quarter for wheat. This was coincident with the most appalling distress and destitution in the manufacturing districts. Meat also, for a time, maintained a high range of prices; though eventually the almost entire cessation of demand for meat in the populous seats of manufacturing industry, which happened in consequence of the destitute state of the artisan population in the winters of 1841-2, and 1842-3, has lowered the price of stock to an extent nearly ruinous to the farmer. This fall in the value of stock, happening at the same time with a fall in the price of corn from the productive harvest of 1842, and the very large foreign importations of that year, has produced an extent of distress amongst farmers which has had no parallel since 1821 and 1822. It is certain, too, that the crops just gathered in will turn out to be, on the whole, abundant, though in many districts, perhaps in most, the quality of the grain is inferior. Low prices, therefore, are inevitable during the current year.

Now it must not be imagined that the farmers obtained any very exorbitant profits during the high prices which preceded the harvest of 1842, for the full rents were again universally exacted, and those rents had been calculated on a scale of prices little, if at all, below that which the farmers received in these years of famine. In many instances the rents were raised even beyond the old valuations; for so great is the competition for farms in periods of high prices, that an unscrupulous landlord can then always put on the screw and raise his rents. A bare living profit was all the farmer obtained from the high prices; and often by the operation of the sliding-scale he was forced into the market at the very lowest price of the year. The high prices stimulated the farmer to grow as large a breadth of grain, especially wheat, as possible, invariably much more than the most profitable course of husbandry would dictate; but the farmer, recollecting previous low prices, naturally desired to clutch all he could during the time of high prices, which he knew well enough would not be of very long duration. By such means he yearly grew a less and less quantity per acre, at a proportionably increased expense. The absence of leases, too, has had the same tendency to increase unduly the annual proportion of grain; for the farmer, always regarding his holding as uncertain, adopts not that system of cultivation which he knows would be most beneficial through a course of years, but that by which he can procure the greatest return *in one year*. He knows that he may be turned out; and he has no desire to be bound himself to terms which, though reasonable this year, may prove ruinous next, or the year after.

Now, in this state of things, prices of all kinds of agricultural produce have fallen so low, that it will be no exaggeration to say that, in the present year, four-fifths of the English and Welsh farmers, after paying expenses, will have scarcely anything left for rent. Many must pay it out of capital; others are at the mercy of their landlords, and will assuredly be ruined, unless the landlords shall be afraid of having their farms thrown upon their hands, should they enforce the uttermost farthing.

Such is the actual condition of English farmers, as stated by themselves, after nearly thirty years of "protection." Can there be a stronger *primâ facie* case against the Corn Laws? We shall in future numbers show that the agricultural view of the Corn-Law question, in all its thousand ramifications, offers some of the most decisive arguments in favour of Free Trade.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

At the meeting of the *Stow-on-the-Wold* and *Chipping Norton Agricultural Association*, held on Tuesday se'nnight, Mr. R. Beman, a farmer, being congratulated on his successful competition for a prize for stock, said, "He would have been much better pleased had he been a successful competitor for the best cultivated farm, as he regarded superiority in cultivation as of much more benefit than anything else to the country. He could not congratulate farmers on their present prospects, but he would strenuously advise them to use every effort to improve cultivation, and lay out half-a-crown wherever they could get a moderate profit in return. Not only would the farmer be benefited by a judicious outlay of capital, *but the condition of the labourer would be improved, because the more improvement was followed out in agriculture, the greater was the demand for manual labour.*"

This is perfectly true; yet how comparatively few farmers seem to understand it. The shopkeeper or other trader leaves nothing untried to increase his business,

which is simply the opportunity of "laying out half-a-crown to get a moderate profit in return." Why does not the farmer, who can do this with little risk or exertion, act in the same way? Solely because he has been taught to look to monopoly and high prices for "remunerating returns."

The following dialogue, which passed within our own observation between a good and a bad farmer residing in the same parish, forcibly illustrates this matter:—

Mr. N. (a good farmer.)—You have a nice lot of ewes and lambs there! but why don't you give them a little corn, and fatten them off?

Mr. W. (a bad farmer.)—I always keep my sheep round the summer, and then sell them all off as stores. It would take a good deal of corn to fatten this lot, and I am afraid I should not get back my money.

Mr. N.—What do you make by your couples (the ewe and lamb) by keeping them round the year?

Mr. W.—Perhaps ten or twelve shillings each.

M. N.—Why, half a bushel of peas per head, costing 2s. 3d., would make them quite fat in six weeks; you might then sell them, after keeping them six months instead of twelve, with a profit of 30s. each couple, and have your money in hand to go to work with again; besides saving your keep for a second lot, and benefiting your land by the improved quality of the manure.

Mr. W.—That may be so, but I have never done it. I don't like to run any risks; perhaps the market may fall.

Mr. N.—Why, man, so it may when you come to sell your store sheep; and the longer you keep them, the greater the risk of a change in the markets.

Reader, this is no imaginary conversation: it actually occurred in the spring of the present year, within twenty miles of London; and the position of the two farmers is not a little instructive. Mr. W., who "likes to run no risks," is the son of a man who commenced farming fifty years ago, and made a large fortune during the high prices from 1791 to 1814; and the son farms in the same way his father farmed when corn grown at any cost was sure to pay. Both father and son now farm their own estates, and both state they can barely make a living off their farms, not to say a word about any rent. On the other hand, Mr. N. began farming some fifteen or twenty years ago with but little capital; but by thrift, industry, and great intelligence—always on the look out to make a profit, be it more or be it less—he has now realised a comfortable independence, and is a most prosperous man. And mark, the former—though he admits that as a farmer he barely makes both ends meet at present—declares that a free trade in corn must ruin the farmer; while the latter says, farmers can grow wheat at 40*s.* a quarter, provided everything be permanently adjusted, and the tenant has a long lease; and that he deems the actual amount of rent of little importance compared with certainty and duration of tenure, and the absence of burthensome restrictions.

Here is another added to the thousand proofs, that the Corn Laws are maintained solely to protect *bad husbandry!*

THE TAMING THE DUKE.

The anniversary meeting of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association was held at Aylesbury on Wednesday, the 14th of September inst., where a ploughing match and a meagre cattle show took place. The Duke of Buckingham was in the chair. The ploughing is stated to have been very indifferent, and the cattle show was also "a very trifling affair;" one of the prizes—that for the best heifer—being necessarily awarded to the only beast of the kind sent. This does not say much for the interest felt by the farmers of the rich Vale of Aylesbury—where the dairy is the great branch of farming practised—in these local agricultural associations. But though the farmers did not send their heifers to be seen, 200 of them went themselves to dine with the duke. Lord Walsingham, Sir R. F. Russell, Sir Thomas Fremantle, and Mr. R. R. Clayton, M.P., were the only other notables present. Lord Walsingham, who came from the improved farming districts of Norfolk, had his politeness severely taxed to conceal his disgust at the rude system of ploughing adopted in Buckinghamshire; for his lordship observes:—

"On going into the ploughing field that day, he was much struck on observing *ploughs drawn by four horses, with a driver at their head, as he was used to a very different sort of work.* With him it was customary to use only pair-horse ploughs, the man driving his own team. He was told that the soil of that field was much lighter than that of the great bulk of the land of the neighbourhood, and that it would be impossible to plough some land at all unless they used four horses. *Of this, of course, being a stranger, he could not judge; but the two-horse ploughs had evidently not disgraced themselves to-day, as two of the three prizes had been awarded to them.*"

The noble Chairman, the Duke, told his satellites that

"Of *late years*, the farmers of this county had done much *towards improving the cultivation of the land*, but still much remained to be done; if, however, *they continued their improvements for a few years longer*, they would prove that this county was not behind any other county in England in the cultivation of the soil."

Now, the land of this district is naturally most productive; but being generally occupied by yearly tenants, who, having no confidence in the permanence of their tenures, and who, having been taught to look to high prices (with small produce) for profit, cultivate their farms in the most slovenly and barbarous manner. They employ the smallest amount of capital possible, and as few labourers as they can. This is the fault of the system, not of the farmers: for the landowners of the county might completely alter this state of things by simply granting long leases, without absurd or obsolete restrictions. But then they would sacrifice their political influence, and they want that to keep up the *Corn Laws* and—their rents! The exhortation to the farmers, to improve their husbandry, therefore, came somewhat ungraciously from his grace; and, as an appropriate pendant to the exhortation to the farmers to improve—fancy putting fetters on a man's legs, and telling him to run—we find the following list of prizes given to labourers for rearing families without parochial assistance, accompanied by very "*feeling and happy addresses*" by one of the main supporters of the system which *compels nine-tenths of the agricultural labourers* to become paupers:—

"The noble duke," says the local journalist, "commented on the happy effects of the association in rewarding labourers for bringing up their families independent of parochial relief; and in handing over the sums of money to the different recipients, addressed them very feelingly and happily. The following is he order in which the prizes were awarded:—

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND SERVANTS.—FIRST CLASS.

First prize of £4 to Samuel Beasley, of West Wycombe, having had nine children born to him in lawful wedlock, seven of whom he has brought up without parochial relief.

First prize of £3 10*s.* to Joseph Ray, Haddenham, having had seven children born to him in lawful wedlock, and brought them all up without parochial relief.

Second prize of £3 to E. Bradbury, Quarnton, having had eight children born to him in lawful wedlock, six of whom he has brought up without parochial relief.

Second prize of £2 to William Smith, of Aston Abbotts, having had six children born to him in lawful wedlock, three of whom he has brought up without parochial relief.

Third prize of £2 to F. Causey, Winchendon, for having had four children born to him in lawful wedlock, and brought them all up without parochial relief.

Third prize of £1 10*s.* to Charles Wheatley, of Notley Abbey, having had four children born to him in lawful wedlock, and brought them all up without parochial relief.

This is something like wantonly flooding a parish, and then taking credit to one's self for saving half a dozen of the strongest men, *who could swim*, from drowning.

But the most curious part of the proceedings was to see the effect of a blue riband in taming that once rampant protectionist, the Duke of Buckingham, who thus calmly told the farmers to put aside their political objects; he and his friends, we suppose, having attained theirs:—

"The increased attendance," said the Duke, "at the meeting of the association was a pleasing omen; *and he hoped the farmers of Bucks would put aside political feelings, and unite to carry out its beneficial and benevolent objects.* He *remained* the firm friend of agriculture, which he believed was the sheet anchor of the country, on the stability of which the welfare of all rested. He wished success and prosperity to all, *and on behalf of the agricultural interest asked for no monopoly*—all they desired was a fair and legitimate protection. The object of the association was to do good, and he hoped the farmers would unite in carrying its effects into all parts of the county."

Sir Thomas Fremantle, the Treasury whipper-in, smirked about his official duties, and regretted that they prevented him from mixing more with the members of the association; but he, too, carefully kept aloof from the Corn-Law question. Such, then, is the way in which the farmers are let down by their political "friends." The Duke of Buckingham had the credit of being an energetic, if not a very judicious, "farmer's friend;" yet he quietly abandons "monopoly" as soon as he has got his price—and a paltry one it is—and seen his party secured in office. Let not his grace and his fellow-protectionists imagine these things are lost upon the farmers. They have had sundry new lights breaking in upon them since the general election of 1841.

LANDLORD LIBERALITY.

We cull the following from the *Mark Lane Express* of Monday last:—"In consequence of the depressed state of agriculture, Colonel Jones, of Cyfronydd, returned 10 per cent. to his tenants at his rent-day on the 13th instant."

David Jones, Esq., of Glanbrane Park, near Llandovery, allowed 15 and 10 per cent. on his March rents.

Sir Watkins W. Wynn has postponed the receipt of his rents till February next; this the farmers consider equivalent to a reduction of 10 per cent., as they will now be enabled to keep back their corn for a time, instead of forcing it on the market at low prices.

Sir Alexander Johnson, of Carnsalloch, returned 15 per cent. on the half-year's rent due at Michaelmas last.

David Welsh, Esq., of Collin, allowed his tenants a reduction of 20 per cent. for the last half-year. Prior to this abatement some of the small farmers, whose lands had not been subdivided and drained, received their improvements to the amount of full a year's rent; while on all his larger farms these improvements had been made before that time. [This is a wise act of self-preservation; in nine cases out of ten, landlords had better allow for improvements than remit mere money-rent.

Yet what do all these reductions of rent, which are only a type of what is going on all over the kingdom, mean? [Simply that landlords have availed themselves of the existing competition for farms to screw up their rents according to monopoly prices; and now those prices are not obtainable, they are obliged to remit a part of the bond. But the question is, do they give back all they have unfairly obtained? Let us see. The largest abatement recorded is 20 per cent., the lowest is 10; probably 15 per cent. on an average is the utmost extent of the abatement. Now, take a farm of 200 acres at 39*s.* per acre, or £300, the abatement would amount on the year to £45. Let it be assumed that he has one-third in wheat, about the proportion of the mass of farmers, or 66 acres, producing two quarters and a half to the acre; the price promised being 60*s.*, and the price actually received being considerably less than 56*s.* per quarter, the loss to the tenant upon his wheat alone is more than equal to his whole rent. Observe, that in the case assumed, which is that of the great body of English farmers, the tenant had staked everything on his wheat crop: the breadth of land sown with that grain is much more than can be properly prepared in one year by the occupier of 200 acres. The result is, through half crops and heavy expenses, a loss by the tenant from a fallacious system, for which no remission of rent can compensate. This system is the direct product of the Corn Laws; and it is plain that, though the landlord *may* gain by it—which in the long run is very doubtful—the tenant *must* lose. Truly has Colonel Thompson said, "the landlords take with the bucket and give with the spoon."]

A KIND LANDLORD.—The Right Hon. Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, who acts on the good old principle of "live and let live," makes it a rule that a considerable portion of the game killed upon his extensive property *shall be given to the occupying tenants.* Last week one tenant received as his share of the result of two days' sport, *two red deer*, 119 *brace of grouse, one brace of black game, and* 12 *mountain hares.—Perth Advertiser.* [Does the noble peer take the current value of his land from the occupying tenants of those estates on which they are not permitted to kill game for themselves? If so, the huge present of game recorded is no compensation for the mischief done by the preserve; £20 would be a high value to set on the game given to the tenant; we should like to know whether three times twenty pounds would make good the loss occasioned on the farm by the game?

A nobleman, notorious for his game-preserving propensities, was lately anxious to secure a very good farmer as the tenant of one of his farms, which abutted on his park, and was ready to waive, in favour of this particular individual, sundry obnoxious restrictions, generally imposed on his lordship's tenants; but the farmer—a shrewd man—after looking over the property, declined the offer with this observation, "Why, I think, my lord, you stock that farm yourself!" We have heard farmers of all kinds say there can be no compensation given for the damage done by game; the whole rent would often be insufficient; for in many instances the whole crop is destroyed by these vermin.

While on this subject, it may not be useless to our agricultural readers to mention the state of the law as regards the right to the game on a farm, about which we know many of them are often fatally deceived. This law offers an instance of the selfish cunning of our landlord legislators.

Until the change in the Game Laws, which occurred about twelve or fourteen years ago, unless the game was expressly reserved to the landlord, it passed with the farm to the tenant; but now, unless the right of sporting is expressly granted to the tenant, the sole right to take and kill the game on the farm *remains vested in the landlord*, and the tenant, who may have had acres and acres of corn destroyed by the hares bred on his own farm, dare not kill one. A friend of ours was lately about to take a farm on which the game had been strictly preserved; and the landlord, though willing to grant liberal terms in other respects, very reluctantly agreed that the tenant should regulate the quantity of game to be kept on the property; but not a syllable was said in the agreement about the game, which therefore, of course, remained the property of the landlord. We pointed out this fact to the intended occupier, who was not aware of the change in the law, but imagined that, if the game was not reserved, it would pass with the farm; and the result was, the farm was not taken!]

The recommencement of the Anti-corn Law agitation in the metropolis was made last night in Covent-garden Theatre. And nothing could exceed the enthusiasm with which that recommencement was hailed by the largest and most brilliant metropolitan meeting which has yet taken place on the subject. Mr. Wilson, the chairman, briefly opened the proceedings of the evening—glancing at the past operations of the League, and referring to their future prospects. He hurled defiance at the opposition of the oligarchy, and proclaimed, amidst deafening plaudits, that the doom of the bread monopoly might now be fairly considered to be sealed, and that a very short period would suffice to see the Corn Laws erased from the statute-book of England. Mr. Paulton, the secretary, read the report. The document will be found in another part of our paper. It details the past proceedings of the League, and adverts to the plan of their future operations. No one can attentively read this document without being struck with the surpassing skill and untiring energy with which the League have prosecuted their labours. Neither can any man doubt the issue of the great struggle, when he considers the points in dispute, the condition of the country, the state of public feeling, and the means at the disposal of the League for prosecuting the war in which they have embarked. Mr. Cobden, who was received with, if possible, greater applause than ever, plunged at once into the marrow of the question. He commenced by grappling with the argument against the abolition of the Corn Laws which has been so often, of late, urged by the monopolists—namely, that, notwithstanding the existence of these laws, trade is confessedly reviving. Mr. Cobden dealt with this argument precisely in the same way as we did a fortnight ago. He first demonstrated that the revival of trade is only partial, and then that even this partial resuscitation is solely the result of a reduction of prices, consequent on two favourable harvests. The hon. gentleman entered into various statistical details in proof of his position, which he established with the conclusiveness of mathematical demonstration, and amidst the loudest plaudits that ever greeted the eloquence of a public speaker. Mr. Cobden adverted at considerable length to the League's plan of operations for the future. His remarks on this point will be found in our report of his speech. We cannot here allude to the details of this plan. Suffice it to say, that anything better adapted to accomplish its purpose was never devised by human ingenuity. The announcement of Mr. Cobden, that it is not the intention of the League to recommend any further petitioning to Parliament, produced a sensation of delight exceeding anything we ever before witnessed. The immense assemblage—there must have been fully 5000 present—simultaneously rose to their feet, and gave expression to their joy in thunders of applause. We wish that all the members of the corrupt Commons had been present to witness this expression of the estimation in which they are held by the country. Mr. Bright, in a speech displaying more than his wonted eloquence and power, proceeded throughout on the assumption that the corn monopoly is tottering to its fall. Even already, as he justly remarked, there are thousands of families in England who are deriving actual happiness from the labours of the League, merely from the confident expectation that the entire extinction of the monopoly is at hand. Mr. Fox followed Mr. Bright. His speech was one of the best he ever delivered, and was received with continued bursts of applause. On Mr. Fox's speech, and that of Mr. Bright, we shall take another opportunity of offering some observations. The speaking was equal, on the whole, to anything we have heard since the commencement of the Anti-corn Law agitation. But what is of more importance, the arguments were conclusive in themselves, and were brought forward with irresistible effect. No monopolist sophistry was left unexposed—no point was omitted which could place in a strong and striking light the terrible effects which have been produced by the operation of the Corn Laws. If, indeed, the decision of the points at issue depended on the awards of justice, reason, and utility, the question might have been fairly considered to have been last night settled. Before another 28th of September has come round, there is every reason to believe that the question will be settled in effect, as it already is in reason and justice.—*Morning Advertiser.*

Inadequate as the Whig propositions may now

appear, it is confessed by the Anti-corn Law League itself that the adoption of the fixed duty in 1841 would have dissolved it. But the general election of 1841 enlarged the League, and Sir Robert Peel's Corn Act of 1842 extended its operations. It has now seated itself in London; and that it has become a formidable power, let the meeting of last night testify. A vast building, crowded from the roof to the ceiling, by an audience that might be literally termed "tremendous," cheering with a vociferous enthusiasm the language of the speakers. And the new scheme of agitation, at once so daring, so audacious, and yet so quietly effective, carrying with it all the moral certainty of assured success! One hundred thousand pounds to be raised; the whole electoral community to be acted on, by an organised operation; and, disdaining all further petitioning to the Parliament of 1841, to carry their complaints to the foot of the throne, and to beseech Majesty herself to interpose, by, of course, dismissing her Ministers, and dissolving the existing legislative body! Think you that these men will be scared from their purpose by vituperation? Or seduced from it by a partial prosperity which, as Mr. Cobden so strikingly demonstrated last night, is but a proof, a demonstration of the truth of their principles? No, no!—and all who dread the perpetuation of an agitation which disturbs the entire social system and framework of this country will pause before they determine to prolong a useless resistance. The truth is, the question must be *ended*. It has long ceased to be a party question; and narrow indeed must be the mind of that partisan who, at this time of day, would *dare* to treat it as a party one. No mere party object can *now* be gained by the return or defeat of a free-trader in a parliamentary contest. The fate of no Ministry rests upon it. But the election of a single free-trader may be the turning point, in the carrying of a question which involves the fate of an empire. The man who on such an occasion is neutral is a traitor to his country. There is no other solution of the problem—no other termination of the war which rages between free trade and monopoly—than the triumph of free trade. Nothing short of fatuity can doubt it; and the sooner the struggle is terminated the better for the stability of the constitution, the comfort of the country, and the happiness of the people. It is, therefore, with no little satisfaction that we perceive the Liberal portion of the constituency of the City preparing to take vigorous measures to ensure the return of Mr. Pattison, in the room of the late respected Sir Matthew Wood. The best spirit prevails; district committees are forming; and, though determined to carry the election unstained and pure, there will be no lack of funds for all legitimate purposes. Mr. Pattison's past services in Parliament, his personal character, his position in the commercial community, are all circumstances too well known to need the slightest allusion from us. But, great as are his personal and public qualifications, we would not support him were he not an unequivocal free-trader. On this ground there is no mistake; he is not one of those who acknowledge the principles of free trade to be those of common sense, and who then refuses to apply them in practice. "'Tis true in theory, but then 'tis false in practice. This says Noodle; and this he uttereth with a look of profundity that were enough to make ye split. But, with all deference to this worshipful and weighty personage, *that* which is true in theory *is* also true in practice." If, then, the citizens of London are not worshippers of the "worshipful and weighty personage" Noodle, they will, by the election of Mr. Pattison, prove to the world their conviction that "that which is true in theory is also true in practice." Let them not be surpassed by the honest farmers of South Wales, who met the other day at the place with the unpronounceable name. And above all let them recollect that, if they do not place Mr. Pattison at the head of the poll by a triumphant majority, they not only damage the great question of free trade, in the very mart of the world itself, but they do worse—they prolong an agitation which may be honourably and safely terminated, but cannot be continued without peril to every institution and every interest in the country.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Sir Robert Peel has induced parliamentary landowners to give in their adhesion to the principles of the Anti-corn Law League. In obedience to the requisition of the Minister, parliamentary landowners have falsified their professions—have forfeited the love and confidence of their tenants—and have sacrificed large portions of their own property. Have these frightful sacrifices quieted the League, or rendered that confederacy less formidable? Let landowners look around ere they answer the question! The League is more vigorous than ever. The League has, once more, opened a campaign in London. The League, in short, has not failed to profit by the Ministerial adoption of League principles. During the late session of Parliament, Cobden *bullied* in the House of Commons all the representatives of the agricultural interest. During the recess Cobden has carried the war into the agricultural camp. He has reared the banner of free trade in districts where "protection to native industry" was wont to be the rallying cry; and he has scattered, like chaff, the few supporters of the ministerial policy who have ventured to encounter him. In Parliament, and out of Parliament, agriculturists seem to crouch before the League. Let landowners awake now, or prepare to fall for ever. Their situation is one of surpassing peril. Ministers have deserted them. The League denounces them. Their tenants distrust them. Nothing now can save them—save the re-adoption of old maxims of industrial policy. Let them make common cause once more with the oppressed order of labourers—let them once more secure to the children of toil "a fair day's wages for an honest day's work," and the labourers of England will, in turn, bring to nought, even yet, all the machinations of the League. But time flies fast; and, if landowners will still cling to the principles of free trade, these principles will assuredly destroy them.—*Morning Post.*

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the report of the great meeting of the Anti-corn Law League, which was held last evening at Covent-garden Theatre. This meeting was by far the most numerously attended of any gathering of the League that has yet been held in the metropolis. The enthusiastic cheering with which the plan for the future operations, as detailed by Mr. Cobden, was received proves that all present were in right earnest. Those cheers were the death-knell of monopoly.—*Sun.*

Dominion of Land.—When Napoleon declared that the stomach was the moving power of the political world, he merely gave point to one of those neglected truths which lie on the surface of all history, but which no one stops to examine, because they are so easy to be picked up. There are historians and geologists who waste their time in hunting for cabinet specimens, forgetting that it is much easier to determine the strata of a country by the broken stones on the road. In every age the ruling power in a state has set forth as its claim to obedience that it is "the feeder of the people:" as such it has assumed to itself the property in land, and though it never has gone so far as to deny that this possession of land is in name a stewardship, yet it has invariably sought to render landed property the most absolute of all. We see this principle very strongly set forth in the Jewish Theocracy; God is constantly set before his chosen people as the great proprietor of Palestine, and the "feeder" of the Hebrew nation. "It is the land which the Lord thy God gave unto thee" is constantly assigned as the reason for the two-fold title which the Hebrews as well as the Egyptians were bound to pay; and on no attribute of Deity do the sacred prophets and poets dwell with more force and beauty than his pastoral protection of his people as a flock: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." When the prophet Samuel endeavoured to dissuade the Hebrews from electing a king, we find him dwelling particularly on the change which the substitution of monarchy for theocracy would produce in the tenure of land: "he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive-yards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants." In ancient Greece land was the property of a tribe, and the entire system of legislation was directed against the transference of this possession to aliens. Among the Spartans none but members of the ruling tribe could become landowners, and hence the pure Spartans were enabled during a long course of centuries to maintain an unbroken ascendancy over all the other tribes of Laconia, whom in fact they treated as slaves. But in Roman history the connection between aristocratic power and the supply of food to the people is still more apparent, not merely in the many contests on the agrarian laws, but also in the avowed determination of many patricians when corn was imported to affix such conditions to its sale and distribution as would establish their absolute supremacy over the plebeians. Coming to a later age, we find all the institutions of feudalism curiously contrived to place all the means for the production of food under the absolute control of the feudal nobility, and acting on the principle that the landed aristocracy must be the predominant political power, because it is "the feeding aristocracy," in consequence of its monopoly of land. This dependency upon the ruling powers for the means of subsistence produces habits of subordination and dependence, which are strong in proportion to the amount of control that the ruling body can exercise over the supply of food. A nation such as Poland and Russia, entirely dependent for food on its native landlords, must soon be reduced to the condition of serfs to these lords, and can possess no internal means for effecting their emancipation. An aristocracy of land would be as irresistible in Europe as a despotism of land is in Asia but for the application of industry to employments unconnected with the culture of the soil, and the power of purchasing nutriment of foreign growth by the produce of this industry. So far is it from a political disadvantage for a nation to be in some degree dependent upon foreigners, that without such dependence the existence of civil liberty would be perhaps impossible. And here we may remark on the latent fallacy in the hackneyed phrase, "Do not become dependent upon foreigners;" as if foreigners could at their own pleasure give or withhold the commodities which we require. A nation, when dependent for supplies on foreign produce, does not at the same time become dependent upon the foreign producers, but it does become dependent on the skill and industry of its own manufacturers, on the wisdom and enterprise of its own merchants. Seeds are planted for us by the spindles of Manchester, and harvests reaped in the ledgers of Liverpool.—*Athenæum.*

Corn Laws—Chesham.—A lecture was delivered in the course of last week, at the British School-room, Chesham, by the Rev. W. C. Worley, of Addleston, on the effect of the Corn Laws. The reverend gentleman, who is a strenuous advocate of the abolition of those laws, took an elaborate view of their pernicious operation in relation to "the temporal and moral welfare of the people," and made a very sensible impression on his audience, amongst whom were many members of the working classes, to whom he more particularly addressed himself. There are three large market towns in this neighbourhood, namely, Chesham, Amersham, and Hemel-Hempstead, and the diffusion of sound Anti-Corn-Law doctrine throughout a district so circumstanced is one of the objects which the rev. lecturer has in view.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the funds of the League, will in future be entitled to, and will receive a copy, weekly, of this publication.

Subscribers of half-a-crown and upwards will have forwarded to them on the first day of publication a copy of The League, containing an acknowledgment of the subscription.

All subscriptions of more than half-a-crown will be regularly acknowledged in the columns of The League; and it is requested that *all* subscribers will be kind enough to send *their address*, as well as their names, to the Offices of the League, 67, Fleet-street.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A great mass of Correspondence has been received, which we find it impossible to reply to in the present number.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, September* 30, 1843.

The Free-Trade agitation in the metropolis has recommenced with one of the most splendid meetings ever witnessed. Had Covent-garden Theatre been twice the size, it would have overflowed on Thursday evening. Not only were pit, boxes, and gallery crammed to suffocation, but the very lobbies were filled, and hundreds were accommodated on its ample stage. In the private boxes and the dress circle was a large proportion of ladies, who evinced lively interest in the proceedings. From first to last the earnest attention and strong enthusiasm of the meeting was sustained; and it is evidently the forerunner of many more demonstrations of a similar character, such as have never yet been made in London by any class or party; and such as cannot take place without a deep impression upon the public mind, and, we anticipate also, upon the Government of the country.

The business documents laid before the meeting, the retrospect of the transactions of the Council of the League during the past year, and the address containing its plan of future operations, were most attentively listened to, although considerably exceeding the length to which papers read before a large public meeting can usually be extended with effect. That immense audience was evidently not drawn together by any ordinary desire for amusement or excitement. The description of the projected mode of acting upon the electoral body was heard with marked observance and cordial approval. Its clearness, simplicity, vigour, and thorough aptitude for the accomplishment of the end in view, seemed to be entirely appreciated; and the recommendation not again to petition the present Parliament was hailed with loud and prolonged acclamations.

It is worth consideration, this feeling towards the Legislature displayed by such an assemblage of the inhabitants of the metropolis. The thousands by whom it was evinced chiefly belong to the middle class, many to the higher sections of that class; and with a full proportion, not indeed of the titled aristocracy of the land, but of its mental aristocracy—the literary, the scientific, and the artistical. They pounced at once upon the declaration against petitioning, to mark it by their instant and heartiest response. It was the foregone conclusion of their own minds. Evidently they would not have entertained for a moment any recommendation of renewed petitions. They would not have endured it. Reprobation and scorn would have overwhelmed the suggestion. To this not very enviable position have the nation's law-makers, for the time being, reduced themselves. They retain the power that belongs to representatives of the people, but they have not the respect which should attend it. Sympathy between the governors and the governed is annihilated. The time is gone over for gratitude to wait upon concession. They are passed by, regardlessly; or only with the regard that seans the most summary mode and potent occasion for their dismission. There is something rotten in the state when a phenomenon like this can appear. One plain fact solves the mystery: they are legislative agents of monopoly, and tools of the breadtaxery; and incorrigible in their vocation. Therefore the common heart of the people casts them out with loathing. We supplicate nothing from their compassion. We calculate on nothing from their wisdom. We seek not to propitiate their hollow mockery of power; for such it must be, however legal and constitutional in form, without opinion at its back. We "fly from petty tyrants to the Throne." Nor has any royal personage ever had a grander opportunity for being "every inch a king," or queen, than her Majesty will possess when she grants the future prayer of her people that they, to whom Freedom of Trade is as the breath of life, shall be at liberty to choose new representatives, pledged to accordance with the principles of

the majority, and whose special work shall be the destruction of monopoly.

It has pleased certain journalists to talk of "unpleasant querists," and "considerable uproar," because a person in the gallery called out for "a detailed account" of the expenditure. The nerves must have been very sensitive to which the expressions that promptly silenced an obvious, though unsupported, attempt at interruption, were "considerable." Notwithstanding the dirty insinuation conveyed by the language selected, we will not inquire how far the wish might be father to the thought. The order of a meeting so intelligent and determined as that of Thursday evening, could not easily be disturbed. Nor had the "unpleasant querist" been properly instructed. A "detailed account" and "statement of particulars" had actually been given, as our readers will perceive by referring to the close of the document. The list is tolerably sufficient to account for an expenditure of £47,814 3s. 9d. We should like to see the contractor who would undertake the same work, as efficiently, for less. To have assigned the exact amount to each item in the list would have been difficult, because, though the items be in themselves distinct, they must have continually intermingled in their actual occurrence; and the division of the cost would have been an arbitrary operation of affected accuracy. All the world knows the condition on which the books of the League are open to inspection. No monopolist would grudge £50 to detect the Council of any abuse of its funds, however minute. The outlay would repay them well. We only wish they would make the venture. They would do so, had they any faith in their own insinuations. To the meeting of Thursday evening, it not only appeared that quite enough had been done for the £50,000 of last year, but that quite enough was undertaken to warrant the appeal for £100,000 to ensure its success.

For such a meeting to pass without some allusion to the vacancy created in the representation of the City of London, by the death of Sir Matthew Wood, was impossible. We refer to the report of the speeches for the references made to James Pattison, Esq., as a candidate; and the manner in which they were greeted by the assembly. The electors of London have now a glorious opportunity afforded them. The only rival candidate yet in the field, Mr. T. Baring, has no pretensions whatever, that we are aware of, to the vacant honour, except such as to some apprehensions may arise out of the presumption of his supporting the bread-tax and income-tax party in the House of Commons. The *Times* is evidently ashamed of him, and would much prefer Mr. W. Attwood. There he is, however, the representative of monopoly, as Mr. Pattison is of Free Trade. The battle is one of principles. The citizens of London must fight it with energy for their own sakes. The state of the country, and the paralyzing influence of monopoly, have not left them untouched. That the infection has reached them is visible to all, in the increasing number of names in the *Gazette*, and of tenantless shops in their streets. The ravage is beginning, and they should stay it promptly. It is not a common local contest. London has been called the heart of England. Remote distress acts upon its well-being; and its healthy pulsation is felt to the most distant extremities. Its electors may now strike the deadliest blow at that incubus of monopoly under whose pressure the country groans. Their apathy, if apathetic it is possible for them to be, will ensure long and bitter repentance. Let them be up and doing. The League offers its hearty co-operation to second their honourable efforts. Far above all party struggles, and deeply to be felt in its results of good or evil by all the industrial classes of the metropolis, is the strife now pending. The return of Mr. Pattison will be a triumphant presage of success to our cause. Each should feel as if it depended upon his own vote and his personal exertions. What is there of labour or sacrifice, that a result so full of promise to the best interests of the country is not well worth? No such occasion can return. If not seized, the city of London—the commercial metropolis of the world—will only come in hereafter undistinguished in the flowing tide of electoral exertion, following where it should have led the way. With the electors of London it is now or never! Hurrah! then, for Pattison and Free Trade!

ELECTION OF THE LORD MAYOR.—FRIDAY Sept. 29.—For Alderman Magnay, 207; for Alderman Wood, 43; for the Lord Mayor, 24. The announcement was received with loud cheers. At twenty minutes past three the Lord Mayor announced that Alderman Wood had resigned the contest, and he should retire in favour of Alderman Magnay. The poll must, however, be kept open seven days.

On Monday evening, Mr. Sidney Smith lectured to a highly-respectable auditory at Windsor; on Tuesday, at Walton-on-Thames; and on Wednesday evening, at the White Hart, Ripley, in the county of Surrey.

REVIEW.

The Spirit of the Nation. Dublin: Duffy.

It is not our purpose to enter into any examination of the great political question which has chiefly occupied the attention of the clever and spirited poets whose songs are collected in this little volume. But Ireland is an agricultural country; men are found who say, that the Corn Laws should be maintained, in order to protect Irish farmers and labourers; it is therefore of some importance to ascertain what is the opinion of the Irish themselves on the protective system, and we can desire no better evidence than that of men to whom the chief ground of reproach is, that they are too intensely national. What then is the opinion of men so exclusively Irish in their feelings, that they believe it almost criminal to have sympathy for any other country? Do they desire protection to continue, and imports to be taxed? Here is their answer:—

THE MONOPOLISTS' LIE.

"For our own part we are not ashamed to say, that we hate the word *cheapness*, in its ordinary acceptation, because we have never seen commodities *cheap*, as the term is commonly applied, without the accompaniament of ruinous distress among one class or other of our countrymen; whereas we have generally seen what are denominated *dear* seasons, always seasons of extraordinary prosperity to the majority of the people."—*Standard.*

How the mockery stinks in the nostrils of Heaven!
How the arrogant falsehood insults the wide earth!
To the fiends in deep hell, for a moment 'tis given,
'Mid their torment, to gibber in horrid mirth!
Oh! yes, 'tis A BLESSING that bread is *so dear!*
Yes, yes, 'tis a comfort that rent is so high!
Give the rich man his chariot, the poor man his bier!
'Tis a favour, untaxed, to be suffered to die!

Crawl on, ye vile slaves! chaffer roots with the swine!
They are good enough, churls! for your under-bred maws;
Earth's treasures are skimmed, when your masters would dine,
While ye starve by their merciful, master-made laws!
Toil, sweat, and make huger their huge money-bags;
Serfs, train up your daughters to batten their lust!
As they roll by in splendour, crouch, crouch in your rags!
As they loll at the banquet, pay thrice for your crust!

Oh, God's earth is fair! and a glimpse you may catch,
As you peer o'er the wall of some neighbouring park,
Of lawn, grove, and paddock—but lift not a latch,
Or be torn by the dogs at your footsteps that bark!
Sweet valley and glade, beauteous lake, stream, and river,
Bestud ev'ry turn in our evergreen isle;
Ye have *heard* they are lovely, but glanced at them never,
Save yoked like scorned beasts to unrecompensed toil!

Crawl on, ye vile slaves! not a sod is your own,
Of the soil where your fathers coursed free as the airs;
Not a bird dare ye shoot, where their footsteps have flown;
Not a fish dare you draw from the streams that were theirs!
With your sweat your land-tyrants their 'scutcheons adorn,
And would coin your heart's blood, as your hearts they have riven!
You have asked for free bread—they refuse it with scorn;
If you starve at their will, you deserve it by Heaven!

Nor are the associate bards reluctant to assign a reason for the intensity of hatred with which they regard the bread-tax, and the scornful bitterness with which they reject the excuse which they unceremoniously describe as "the Monopolists' Lie." They say that the system has armed the landlord with a power which has made him an absolute despot over his serfs; they say that the rights of property have been cruelly abused, and its duties ostentatiously violated; they introduce us to the "Exterminator," whose ejectments consign scores of families to perish by the lingering death of starvation, unless typhus comes as a merciful visitation to abridge their sufferings. Can the system endure which is revealed in the following lines?

THE EXTERMINATOR'S SONG.
AIR—"*'Tis I am the Gipsy King.*

'Tis I am the poor man's scourge,
And where is the scourge like me?
My land from all Papists I purge,
Who think that their votes should be free—
Who think that their votes should be free!
From huts only fitted for brutes,
My agent the last penny wrings;
And my serfs live on water and roots,
While I feast on the best of good things!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
(*Chorus of the Editors of* THE NATION)
Yes, *you* are the poor man's scourge!
But of *such* the whole island we'll purge!

A despot, and strong one, am I,
Since a Drummond no longer is here,
To my "*duties*" to point ev'ry eye,
Though of "*rights*" I wish only to hear—
Though of "*rights*" I wish only to hear!
If conspiracies I apprehend,
To throw off my rack-renting rule,
For a "*Special Commission*" I send,
To my friends of the old Tory school!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
(*Chorus of the Editors of* THE NATION)
Yes, *you* are the poor man's scourge,
But of *such* the whole island we'll purge!

If a Connor my right should deny, sir,
To "do what I like with my own!"
For the rascal I've soon a reply, sir,
Into gaol for "*sedition*" he's thrown—
Into gaol for "*sedition*" he's thrown!
The Tariff is bringing rents down—
Yet more cash from the farmer I'll squeeze;
And, for fear of being shot, come to town
To drink, game, and intrigue, at my ease!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
For I am the poor man's scourge!
(*Chorus of the Editors of* THE NATION)
Yes, *you* are the poor man's scourge,
But of *such* the whole island we'll purge!

Poets, novelists, and romancers have favoured us with fanciful sketches of agricultural innocence and prosperity; even grave reviewers have taught that social happiness can alone be restored by establishing once more the relations of feudal times, at least to such an extent as that landlord and tenant should be everywhere substituted for employer and workman. Were their speculations based on truth, Ireland would be their desired Utopia, ready-made to their hands. Is Ireland, then, the country which ought to be taken as a model for the reconstruction of society in England? The poets of the Irish nation shall answer the question; sing in these strains that they describe the *happiness* of a purely agricultural community.

THE TRAMPLED LAND.

I saw a nation sunk in grief—
I heard a nation's wail;
And their deep-toned misery was caught
By every passing gale.
Want guarded every peasant's door,
Swept each mechanic's board;
Yet the earth had teemed—but only teemed
To swell the rich man's hoard;
I saw the *nobles* of that land
In pride and pomp roll by;
And I read contempt for the poor man's lot
In every haughty eye.

I heard the infant's cry for bread—
The mother's piercing shriek;
And I marked the trace of famine in
The father's sunken cheek.
I saw him cast his eye to heaven
With a stern and sad appeal;
And I knew he felt that anguish deep
Which the hopeless only feel.
Yet still the *nobles* of that land
In pride and pomp rolled by;
Nor less contempt for the poor man's lot
Marked every haughty eye!

The *people* humbly sued *for bread*,
But their *rulers* "*gave a stone;*"
And they steeled their sordid hearts and mocked
The peasant's dying groan!
"*Low rents, cheap bread,*" the people cried—
"*Untrammel labour's hands!*"
"Taxed corn, high rents, low wages," sneered
The callous ruling bands!
And the manlords of that land rolled by
To church in pomp and pride!
And the people's dying wail despised,
And the people's power defied!

Then madness came upon the land,
'Twas the madness of despair;
Unarmed crowds went forth—to beg!—
With shouts that rent the air!*
And the rulers grinned a ghastly smile
Of triumph and delight,
As forth their minions came to crush
The weak with armed might;
And the landlords of that land surveyed,
With bland approving eye,
The savage and the ruthless war
Of stern monopoly!

Now the council of that nation sits
Again in grave divan:
But care they aught for liberty,
Or for the rights of man?
A coxcomb's proclamations claim
Discussion fierce and strong;
But a starving nation's loud appeals
Unheeded pass along!
And still the cumberers of the earth
Contrive to hold in chains
The nerve and sinew of the land
Throughout their wide domains.

There are truths in these songs plainly and powerfully told; independent of their political bearing, many of them are among the best specimens of lyrical poetry which have appeared during the present century, and the spirit which they breathe is not among the least startling of the signs of the times. We have of course no sympathy for the exclusive spirit of nationality displayed by the writers; but we are glad to find that they have got firm hold of one great truth—that all monopoly is founded on injustice, is conducted with oppression, and must end in ruin.

Change for the American Notes, in Letters from London to New York. By an American Lady. London, Wiley and Putnam.

It is known to all readers of the history or romance of chivalry, that in the days of knight errantry ladies laid aside the distaff for the spear, exchanged the bonnet for the helmet, and the apron for the shield, mounted their steeds, and sought an encounter with any proud Paladin who was suspected of having slandered their person, their family, their country, or their sex. In our days, when the warrior's blade has been transmuted into a gross of steel pens—when ink is shed instead of blood, and paper stained black instead of fields coloured

* Skibbereen, Waterford, &c. The claim of the people upon these occasions was, to be freed from a tax which the landowners alone ought to bear.

red—the challenges of ladies to tilting encounters have become rather common, but have not lost their interest or excitement. An American lady, wearing her visor down, has taken the field in defence of her country against the redoubtable Boz; and her feats of arms are sufficiently meritorious to attract the attention of the League.

In literary chivalry, America seems to fill the same place as the stuffed figure of a Saracen in the old tilting-grounds attached to baronial halls; every chevalier is required to test his fame by engaging in mock encounter with the pretended champion; Hall, Hamilton, Marryat, Boz, and Buckingham have run against it in full tilt; Mrs. Trollope made it her *coup d'essai*, and nearly tumbled the figure from its pivot; and Miss Martineau gave it several heavy blows, which sadly deranged its propriety. It is not immediately apparent how the United States have obtained the unenviable distinction of becoming a kind of literary target; and it is far more inexplicable how it happens that the Americans, who have to some extent invited these encounters, should display very ill temper at their results, and sometimes seem disposed to change the tilting-ground into a battle-field.

Wishing well to America; viewing it as a country where our younger brethren are engaged in extending and perpetuating a language and a literature thoroughly imbued with the principles of social improvement and happiness, we should gladly see the rancour of literary dispute banished from the encounters that arise when the manners, the institutions, and the legislation of the two countries are compared. America has much to learn from England; but England has not a little to learn from America, both in the way of warning and example. It is easy to bandy mutual reproaches, but it is more profitable, and not much more difficult, to exchange mutual moral lessons. The "American Lady" is rather a sharp schoolmistress: she unites too much of the character of a Gorgon with that of a Minerva; but there is sufficient truth in her censures to recommend them to attention, and too much justice in her sarcasms not to inspire a serious wish for amendment.

The United States suffer, like our own country, from the crushing blight of monopoly; but their monopolies have been established to protect native industry, and ours to foster native idleness. The bread-tax presses with its heaviest weight on the mechanic, the operative, and the labourer; its profits go into the pockets of the landlord alone, to be expended in the maintenance of dogs and horses, in settlements to save younger children from being obliged to have recourse to honourable industry for their support, or in jointures to prevent the marriage bond from pressing too heavily on vagrant inclinations. American monopoly is a blunder; but English corn-monopoly is both a blunder and a crime: the former only limits the supply of luxuries, but the latter withholds the very necessaries of life. Besides, the Americans can say, with some truth, that we forced them to become manufacturers, and to adopt a tariff hostile to our interests. They were once willing to buy our goods, but we refused to take the only payment that they had to offer. Instead of a simple exchange, the Americans had to manage some dozen of exchanges before they could arrive at the form of payment which the wisdom of the British Government would permit the British manufacturers to accept. These several intermediate processes, besides being cumbrous and troublesome, involved much hazardous speculation; and as the purchaser had both to stand the risk and bear the expense of the alternation of markets, through which payments went, it is by no means wonderful that the Americans made an attempt to simplify the exchanges between the manufacturers and the agriculturists, by endeavouring to bring manufacturers to localities where buying and selling could proceed in their natural course, without the intervention of custom-houses, tide-waiters, and bonding stores.

The American tariff was a blunder; and, like all legislative blunders, it has produced moral as well as economic injury to the people; but has English monopoly been less injurious? Have the legislative means taken to support the honourable and noble generations of gilded drones, left sufficient food for the consumption of the working bees in the social hive? The courts and alleys of London, the pig-sty cottages of Dorsetshire, the hovels of Munster, and the wynds of Glasgow, at once answer the question. To continue our metaphor: thousands of the working bees are daily smothered, while the drones still exact the same amount of production from the survivors. Is there any sympathy for those who are thus sacrificed? Nothing like it; the wretches that have been plundered by monopolist rapacity are deliberately slandered by monopolist malice.

"It is easy and common to declaim against the viciousness of the poor; the self-complacent moralist deplores it as he writes his quarterly cheque to pay his wine-merchant; the rich man hugs himself that *he* is guilty of no petty larceny, and shudders at the hungry stealer of a loaf. Englishmen will tolerate anything but poverty, and yet they unlock not their hoards to aid their brethren; they hold forth no helping hand, but dilate on the laziness of a man to whom employment is refused, and who dares prefer begging to famishing. Hunger makes a dog a thief; and it may well make a poor man reckless—for what worse than hunger, cold, and contumely, can he suffer in the prison, the hulks, or the antipodes? I have heard English gentlemen, whose yearly income-tax would be plethoric wealth to hundreds of thousands, regret that the poor were irreclaimable, and there an end!

'God cannot love,' says Blount with tearless eyes,
'The wretch he starves,' and piously denies;
But the good bishop, with a meeker air,
Admits, and leaves them—'Providence's care.'"

The case is worse than the poet has described it: "Providence's care is *not* left to the poor, for the sliding-scale interferes, and declares that the food which God has provided for the nurture of his creatures shall not supply the craving wants of the starving until the price of corn reaches such a height as will secure to Lord A such rent as will enable him to support an extravagant mistress, and procure a sufficiency for Lord B to make up for his losses at Crockford's. This fact is not exhibited in a corner; it comes daily and hourly before our eyes. We live in an age of sickly sentimentality and affected sympathy; we have tears for Indians, negroes, factory children, and every form of suffering humanity, except where the suffering is deemed in any way to minister to our wealth, our luxury, or our vanity. Our benevolence is always abroad; and at home we have no pity for the wretchedness of those whom we have pauperized, and no mercy for the crimes of those whom we have demoralized. We indeed talk of American slavery: the very worst plantation in the southern states does not inflict a greater amount of physical wrong, and does not task the human powers so far beyond the limits of human endurance as many dress-making establishments in London. Here is a fearful picture drawn by the "American Lady," and yet we know, from personal investigation, that the misery is understated.

"I closed my last letter rather abruptly when I was about to tell you that numbers of young women come annually from the provinces to the metropolis, to obtain situations as domestic servants. In remote parts it is more than probable London is regarded as an El Dorado. So and so went to London, and did so well, and rode in her own carriage, why not others? 'Twas ever thus, from childhood's hour,' we all hope, and hope, and hope to be better, greater, happier; and it may be well it is so, for hope itself is often happiness.

"Besides these, numbers come hither for a term to improve themselves, as it is called, in millinery and dress-making, or hoping to obtain permanent employment at their needles. There are so very many of this class, that the glut of work-people, to speak commercially, enables the dress-makers to obtain assistants on their own terms—if one girl, bolder or more sanguine than others, demurs, twenty are ready to accept the offer—no matter how insufficient. The treatment of many of these poor young girls is almost incredibly bad; during the fashionable season they are often compelled to work fourteen, sixteen, eighteen, twenty hours out of the four-and-twenty, often in crowded and ill-ventilated apartments! Nor is there the hope of commensurate reward to sweeten the inordinate toil—nor can the making of fine dresses for the gay and prosperous be accounted a labour to delight in, so that the pain may be physicked and unfelt, and the work rapidly and happily brought to a conclusion. On the contrary, I fear the thoughts of the splendour and luxury that will surround the happy wearers of these robes, on which the midnight needle is plied sleepily and painfully, may tempt the poor drudge—who may be vain, weak, and pretty too—to long for, and seek the enjoyment of, idleness and amusement at any risk, at any sacrifice. Of all the ills that ensue from this system, perhaps consumption is the least!

"The facts are notorious, the grievance is admitted; but as the evil cries out at their very doors, of course the English have not taken one single step to abate it. A few letters in the papers and a report appear now and then, but their writers have been humane to little purpose (greater is their merit), and their productions are read and disregarded, whilst the distress in Madeira and Antigua called forth the active exertions of the charitable English. Nothing but a legislative enactment will do good; for without that the English *never* remedy any social evil among themselves, that is, any evil which is in the way of business, and from which profit accrues to capitalists and 'respectable' traders. Parliament, which the English rather profanely pronounce omnipotent, interferes to prevent manufacturers working young children to distortion or death, to prevent the employment of women amidst unwholesome vapours in mines; and without parliamentary interference these things had gone forward unchecked. O tender and compassionate people!

"If it had happened that the sufferings of these poor dress-makers pertained to a distant city—to Calcutta for instance, and not to London—long ago would the British public have been called to 'a sense of their duty' (I believe that is the phrase); Exeter Hall would have been vocal with the indignant declamation of the gentlemen and the softly-sighed sympathy of the ladies. 'What;' some popular and curled darling of an orator would have said, 'are we men, are we Christians, nay, are we human? Has our infancy known a mother's care, our childhood a mother's precepts, our youth a sister's affection, our manhood a wife's devotion, our age a daughter's solace?—And pause we a moment to redress this wrong, this insult to universal woman?' [Here the orator would cease, to wipe his brow, gather breath, and give time for the applause.] 'Even whilst I speak' (he would resume), 'the injury exists and increases; this plague-spot on our common humanity festers worse, and spreads more widely. Oh! then let England, glorious England, speak peace across the ocean; let her say to the luxurious and cruel and scoffing and distant Asiatic city—this shall no longer be!—Oh! let our meeting to-day be as the olive-branch the dove bore to the ark; let it portend the subsiding of the swollen waters of tyranny; the restoration of virtuous ease and domestic happiness, and long and greenly may they flourish! Let us not delay the blessed work a single week—said I a week? Not a day, an hour, a moment. Can *we* ever hope to prosper if we are longer quiescent, longer supine? No; to tolerate crime is to be participant.'—And so on, amid the flutter of moistened handkerchiefs, would the eloquent gentleman proceed, only much more finely and figuratively, to the end of the chapter. And others would deliver smart little lectures from the text,

'He who allows oppression, shares the crime;'

and then would be resolutions, and subscriptions, and treasurerships, and secretaryships, honorary and corresponding, and a committee, and thanks, and much print. Some good might flow out of all this; but as the evil is *only* in London, it must work its own cure. Sensibility, you know, always goes from home for its objects; vulgar sickness, or privation revolt it. Sterne bewailed a dead ass, and it is said neglected a living mother—his example has not been lost upon the country."

But have we not charity sermons, and Queen's letters, and begging-boxes sent through the West-end for tens of pounds, and through the East-end for hundreds of pounds? Are not lists of donors to institutions for charitable relief paraded in the *Times*, and the *Chronicle*, and the *Herald*? To be sure we have, and much more; all forming admirable illustrations of Archbishop Whately's story of the "Traveller and his Dog." When reduced to distress in the desert, the traveller cut off the dog's tail, picked off every atom of its flesh, and then relieved the starving dog with the bones of his own tail. Our authoress expands the moral.

"There cannot be much health in the prosperity of London, or rather of England, or there would not be such incessant squabbling about education and poor-laws. Existed *the disposition* to amend or relieve the poor—did 'I will' wait upon 'I can,' anything is possible to such ampleness of means. If unoffending hundreds are pining for bare subsistence—for bread, literal bread—how is it to be justified that the classes possessed of such dammed-up wealth do not cause it to flow wisely and freely over the land? If the aristocracy used their money as well in aiding as they use their tongues unprofitably in talking about the poor, in or out of Parliament, what a happy nation would England be! As it is, look into its hospitals, its prisons, its workhouses, into its suffocating courts and alleys, where in every room a family struggles to breathe; read official reports of its squalid manufacturers, its pallid children working hard task-work in factories when they should be in the school or the playground, and then talk of its happiness. I know no right a rich man has to complain of the poverty around him, unless he has personally laboured to diminish the sum; if he have not, 'the poor cat i' the adage' (whatever it be) is not a more pitiable animal. That few do so endeavour the prevalent poverty sufficiently proves.

"I cannot account for this supineness, unless by supposing an opulent Englishman would rather see his brethren want than sacrifice any of his selfish and senseless pride in his unused wealth, or abate a single luxury if he do use it; there are exceptions no doubt, and the proverb tells us the strength of exceptions. That 'property has its duties as well as its rights' is what the English are fond of saying, while they act a negative. A quibbler might assert that when the taxes upon incomes, wines, servants, and carriages, are duly paid, all is accomplished; these being the *duties* to which it is admitted property *is* subject! You say I dwell much upon this; it is so glaring that I cannot but write of the monstrous anomaly.

"The Liberals here form a party. 'Liberal' is a party-gathering word; they are the Whigs of old, more liberal than the Tories, it is contended, in granting popular rights, but nearly the whole aristocracy, it appears to me, 'to party give up what was meant for mankind;' they hoard their thousands among themselves, or squander them in their own personal pleasures, and care less for the labouring poor of England, than for the lazy poor of the Western or Eastern Indies; it is, indeed, distance that lends enchantment to *their* views of charity or munificence."

There is much more in this volume which we should gladly quote, but enough has been extracted to show that we cannot attack foreigners without exposing ourselves to retort and retaliation.

"We feel the charges grating to our pride,
Alas! we know they cannot be denied."

A standard to test sincerity has been raised in this age of hypocrisy; the League has unfurled its banner in the sacred names of justice and humanity. Come forward, you who have advocated the right of the negro to sell his labour in open market, and defend the right of the Englishman to purchase his food in an equally open market. You taught us with truth that slavery was unjust, oppressive, and tyrannical when it interfered with the right of selling labour; denounce monopoly, which equally interferes with the receiving of payment for labour. The robbery at one end of the bargain is just as iniquitous as it was at the other; perverted ingenuity can point out no practical difference between them. Preserve your consistency by denouncing the disguised enslaving of the white labourer as you did the avowed thraldom of your sable brethren, or stand recorded and self-convicted hypocrites, who could only afford to be humane when no sordid interest interfered with your benevolence, and who could only be generous at the expense of other people.

There is, in India, a people called Brinjarrees, who pass their whole lives in carrying grain from one part of the country to the other. They travel in large bodies, with their wives, children, dogs, and loaded bullocks. The men are all armed, as a protection against petty thieves. From the sovereigns and armies of Hindostan they have nothing to apprehend. Their calling is almost considered as sacred. Even contending armies allow them to pass and repass safely, never taking their goods without purchase, or even preventing them, if they choose, from victualling their enemy's camp.—*Lives and Exploits of Banditti and Robbers, No. 62, Family Library, p. 308.*

GLEANINGS.

FARMS TO LET.—In the *Lancaster Guardian*, of the 23rd inst., we observe six farms advertised to be let, by "proposal" or tender, to the highest bidders. If this will not open the eyes of the farmers of North Lancashire to the delusion of "protection," what can?

This is a season when, after a year of toil and anxiety, the British farmer is placed in a situation to reap the reward of his exertions, having, with the assistance of an industrious peasantry, gathered into his storehouses the fruits of the earth. It is a season for universal thankfulness and joy, imbittered only by the reflection that, notwithstanding the land is filled with plenty, many poor families whose industry has so essentially contributed to its production, must, for an extended period, be more or less deprived of the means of procuring a sufficient supply of what an all-wise Providence has intended to satisfy the cravings of our common nature, owing to the comparatively limited demand for their labour, which necessarily succeeds the autumnal harvest, and to the fact that when employed, their wages are (though apparently unavoidably) so scanty as to be in most instances totally consumed in supplying the existing wants of themselves and their children.—*Bucks Gazette*, Sept. 16.

THE FUNDS.—Sept. 29.

BRITISH FUNDS.		FOREIGN FUNDS.	
Bank Stock	—	Austrian, 5 per cent.	—
per Cent. Red.	—	Belgian, 5 per cent.	105¼
3 per Cent. Cons.	95	Brazilian Bonds	—
3¼ per Cent. Red.	—	Buenos Ayres, 6 per cent	—
New 3½ per Cent.	102¼	Chilian, 6 per centl	—
New 5 per Cent.	—	Colombian, 6 per cent.	—
Long Annuities to expire		Ditto, 1824	26
Jan. 1860.	—	Cuba Bonds, 6 per cent.	92
Oct. 1859.	—	Danish, 3 per cent.	—
Jan. 1860.	12 11-16	Greek, 1825, 5 per cent.	—
India Stock	— pm	Mexican, 5 per cent.	34¼
Ditto Bonds	67 pm	Ditto, 6 per cent. 1837	—
Ditto Old Annuities	—	Peruvian, 1825, 6 per cent	—
Ditto New Annuities	93½	Portuguese, 5 per cent.	—
Ex. Bills, 1000*l.* 1½d.	62 pm	Ditto, New Ditto	—
Ditto 500*l.*	62 pm	Prussian, 5 per cent.	—
Ditto Small	62 pm	Russian, 5 per cent.	115¼
Bank Stock for Acct.	182	Ditto, Metallic	—
India Stock for Acct.	—	Spanish, 5 per cent.	19¼
Consols for Acct.	95	Ditto, 3 per cent.	26¼
		Ditto, Deferred	—
		French, 5 per cent.	—f. —c.
		Exchange	—f. —c.
		French, 3 per cent.	—f. —c.
		Dutch, 2½ per cent.	53¼
		Ditto, 5 per cent.	101¼

SHARES.

Great Western (65 paid)	86½
Ditto Half Shares (50 paid)	63
London and Brighton (50 paid)	36½
London and Birmingham (100 paid)	218
Ditto New Shares (2 paid)	23¼
South Eastern and Dover (50 paid)	—
Ditto Scrip (25 paid)	36¼

MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MONDAY, SEPT. 25.

During the past week this market was well supplied with nearly every description of Grain. Up to Thursday night, however, our arrivals were not so large, but throughout Friday and Saturday several vessels arrived corn laden, consisting of Wheat from foreign parts, and Oats from Ireland; the former supply amounted for the week to 22,485 quarters, and the latter rather over 14,000. There has been no arrival of Foreign Flour, either of sacks or barrels. The duty on Wheat advanced on Thursday 2s. per quarter, being now 17s., with an imperial weekly average of 50s. 10d. A fair trade was experienced throughout the week, and free Foreign Wheat advanced fully 1s. to 2s. per quarter, other articles, with the exception of Barley, maintaining their prices. Fresh up to this morning's market a good supply of Essex and Kent Wheats was received, but moderate from Suffolk and other parts. The demand for fine descriptions has been fairly brisk, at an advance of 1s. to 2s. from this day week on both new and old, but secondary samples only maintain steady prices. Barley has met a decline of 2s. per quarter, with a trade by no means active. The extreme price of malting descriptions is now 33s. per quarter. The dealers continue to buy Oats very slowly, still holders are firm; the quotations of last week have therefore undergone no alteration. Beans find a moderate inquiry. Peas, both White and Gray, have declined in value 1s. per quarter. The Flour trade is firm at full prices. In other descriptions of Grain or Seeds we notice no material variation.

	Per Qr.		Per Qr.
Wheat, Kent and Essex	40s 56s	Malt	56s 62s
———New	35s 47s 56s	Peas, White	32s 33s
———Norfolk	40s 54s	Peas, Boilers	33s 34s
———New	34s 44s 53s	Peas, Gray	31s 32s
———Suffolk	40s 53s	Beans, small	29s 30s
———New	[illegible] 45s 55s	———Tick	28s 29s
Rye	[illegible]0s 29s	Oats, Potato	23s 25s
Barley	[illegible]8s 29s	———Poland	21s 23s
Ditto, fine	[illegible]0s 32s	———Feed 19s 20s	21s 22s
Ditto, super	33s 00s	Flour	40s 45s
Ditto, malting	00s 00s	Ditto, fine	46s 50s 52s

IMPORTATIONS.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
English	5392	983	2038	1085	—	497	1027
Scotch	—	130	12	669	—	—	8
Irish	—	—	2	14,277	—	—	—
Foreign	22,485	2085	—	2330	—	—	—

[Flour, English 4272 sacks; Foreign, — barrels.]

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29.

The duty on Wheat advanced yesterday to 18s., and on Oats to 7s. The duty of 17s. was paid on about 26,000 quarters in this port. About 8000 quarters have been warehoused this week in bond. During the week there has been a little demand for Wheat in bond on speculation, and about 2000 quarters have been purchased for France. There is very little English Wheat here to-day; for such as is of good quality Monday's prices are readily obtained. Free Foreign Wheat is held firmly at former rates; there is not much doing, but if holders were willing to accept 1s. less, transactions to a considerable extent would take place. There is not much Barley fresh up since Monday, but some of what was here on that day is still on hand. There is a slow sale, and prices are rather drooping. The supply of Oats is fully equal to the demand, and prices the same as on Monday. No alteration in other articles.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SONS.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, between the 25th and 29th of September, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	5,940	—	34,240
Barley	2,460	—	2,940
Oats	1,690	19,830	4,600

Flour 2,520 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 23, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	111,007	49 3	7029	31 2	38,048	18 5	3257	30 6
Aggregate Averages	..	53 11		32 2		19 10		31 8
Duty	..	18 0		6 0		7 0		10 6

THE CORN TRADE.—We are now in possession of the returns of the quantities of Wheat upon which duty has recently been paid at several of the leading maritime ports; but the total amount entered at the 14s. duty in the United Kingdom has not yet been officially published. The data afforded by the returns which have come to hand are, however, sufficient to enable us to arrive at a tolerably accurate estimate, and we submit the following statement to our readers:—At the London Custom House duty was paid, from the 24th of August to the 15th of September, on 355,000 qrs.; and from that time to the 22nd inst. there were entered, at 15s., 10,000 qrs.; making the total released in London, 365,000 qrs.; at Liverpool, the amount liberated at 14s. was 40,000 qrs.; at Hull, 54,000 qrs.; at Newcastle, 94,000 qrs.; at Bristol, 10,000 qrs.; at Gloucester, 6000 qrs.; at Plymouth, 1100 qrs.; at Leigh, 85,000 qrs.; at Glasgow, 23,000 qrs. It appears, therefore, that the total amount liberated this season is less than one-fourth of what paid duty last year; and as a much larger quantity is likely to be required for mixing with the new Wheat, owing to a considerable proportion of the same having been harvested in bad condition (whereas the previous crop was secured in such admirable order as to be fit to grind with a comparatively small admixture of old), the stock on hand may be regarded as trifling; and the probability is, that the value of the fine qualities of last year's growth, English as well as foreign, must continue to advance. So confident have holders become of this, that many have determined not to sell at present rates, and there has been less offering since the release of the bonded than before that event took place. With the exception of partial showers in the early part of the week, the weather has been extraordinarily fine for the advanced state of the season, and harvest operations have progressed very favourably in the northern parts of the kingdom. Even in Yorkshire the bulk of the corn crops is now secured; and, still further north, carting has proceeded rapidly during the week. The complaints respecting the yield of wheat become more general from day to day, and it is now tolerably certain that the acreable produce is deficient in very many parts of the country. As regards the result of the barley harvest, little is yet definitely known, but, from the information we have hitherto been able to collect, we are disposed to think both the quantity and quality will fall short of an average. Oats are stated to be a productive crop, and Beans and Peas are likewise well spoken of. The trade in grain has assumed a firmer tone at most of the principal provincial markets, and old wheat has risen 1s. to 2s. per quarter at several of the leading consuming towns.—(From the *Mark-lane Express*.)

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

Christopher Johnson Spencer, Carlisle, upholder—John Wade, Lyme Regis, Norfolk, stationer.

BANKRUPTS.

JOSEPH FRANCIS SPORER, tailor, St. James's-street, Piccadilly—RICHARD PARKER, linen draper, Rotherhithe—SAMUEL BURGES, tailor, Dunstable, Bedfordshire—HENRY HUGH BARKER and JAMES BEAN, tailors, Argyll-street, Oxford-street—JOHN ETOCK, linen-draper, Leeds—SAMUEL CANNING, victualler, Warwick.

NOTICES OF INSOLVENCY.

W. Kenworthy, shopkeeper, Huddersfield—C. Hirst, clothier, Almondbury, Yorkshire—J. Saunders, painter, Manchester—P. Short, commission-agent, Manchester—J. Chapman, comedian, Brydges-street, Covent-garden—W. Harrison, horse-breaker, Wolverhampton—W. Chapman, builder, Brighton—H. Mallett, hatter, Tong-with-Haulgh, Lancashire—F. Pitt, cabinet-maker, Kidderminster—J. Whipple, stay-manufacturer, Crown-street, Shoreditch—S. J. Tolson, brick maker, Leeds—W. Hunter, painter, Sheffield; G. Allen, beer-house keeper, Masbrough, Yorkshire—W. Middleton, horse-breaker, Kirkheaton, Yorkshire—T. Pitcher, organist, Ramsgate—J. Weeks, mariner, White Conduit-street, Clerkenwell.

SECOND NOTICES.

F. Adams, Commercial-road, Middlesex—F. W. Painter, retailer of beer, Leonard-square, Shoreditch—J. White, toll-collector, Downham-market, Norfolk—J. Edmonds, attorney's clerk, Greenwich—T. Young, farmer, East-end, Norfolk—J. W. Philpott, hatter, Cutler-street, Aldgate—F. B. Williams, South-grove, Peckham—J. Smith, beer-retailer, Worcester—W. Scott, Manchester—A. Dunlop, wine-merchant, Manchester—A. Levi, jeweller, Wednesbury, Staffordshire.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 21. J. Brown and R. H. Barrett, Stepney, manufacturers of ships' controllers—Oct. 31. V. and C. G. Wakefield, Old Broad-street, brokers—Oct. 24. J. Bennett, Manchester, calico printer—Oct. 25. J. France, Manchester, cotton manufacturer—Oct. 19. S. L. Truscott, Minehead, Somersetshire, coal merchant—Oct. 20. E. Hall, Narbeth, Pembrokeshire, draper—Oct. 21. J. Pattison, Bridlington-quay, Yorkshire, saddler.

CERTIFICATES.

Nov. 10. J. Oliver, Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, coal merchant—Oct. 19. W. Claringbold, St. Alban's, Hertfordshire, innkeeper—Oct. 26. R. B. Kilpin, Ryde, Southampton, watch maker—Oct. 20. M. W. Vardy, Newbury, Berkshire, bookseller—Oct. 18. J. Johnson, Little Abington, Cambridgeshire, builder—Oct. 18. D. Hart, Cambridge, perfumer—Oct. 18. R. Kay, Whitchurch, Yorkshire, grocer—Oct. 21. J. Seddon, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, hollow ware manufacturer—Oct. 21. J. Fairfax, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, printer—Oct. 21. J. Hodges, Wolverhampton, stock lock maker—Oct. 17. N. Walsh, Over Darwen, Lancashire, paper maker—Oct. 17. R. Armfield, King-street, Cheapside, button manufacturer—Oct. 17. J. Turner and T. Turner, New Mill, Yorkshire, clothiers—Oct. 17. J. Stoodley, Bridport, Dorsetshire, twine manufacturer—Oct. 17. N. Garvie, Rahere-street, St. Luke's—Oct. 17. E. Farmer, Wellington, Shropshire, teadealer—Oct. 17. J. Garsed, Halifax, cloth dresser—Oct. 17. W. Greenwood, Oldham, Lancashire, corndealer—Oct. 17. J. Schofield, Oldham, Lancashire, grocer—Oct. 17. T. Miller, Greenstreet, Leicester-square, baker.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

W. D. Husband and H. Stott, jun., York, surgeons.—J. G. Burrows, and S. Theobold, jun., Gloster-place, Chelsea, auctioneers.—G. R. Hommersley and J. Ramwell, Manchester, drysalters.—W. Stower and R. Anderson, Quadrant, Regent-street, milliners.—W. and J. Underwood, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, cabinet-makers.—J. Salter and G. Phillips, Liverpool, ale and porter merchants.—G. Turton and J. H. Smith, Sheffield, surgeons.—T. and T. Carr, Leek, Staffordshire, silk manufacturers.—W. D. Collins and Co., York-road, Lambeth, retail drapers.—W. White and H. Mills, Bishop Auckland, tea-dealers.—J. Lent and J. Loveridge, Glasshouse-street, Upper East Smithfield, smiths.—W. Resch and C. C. H. Minchwitz, Birmingham, merchants.—W. F. Patterson and Co., Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, attorneys.—W. Hughes and J. D. Browning, Bristol, cabinet-makers.—J. Hayes and Co., Manchester, manufacturers of orchil and cudbear.—J. S. Staniland and Co., Leeds, oil merchants.—N. and D. Wood, Whitechapel-road, dealers in Birmingham fancy goods.—R. and J. R. Molineux, St. George's, Bloomsbury, wheelwrights.—W. Dowling and W. Bull, Birmingham, cigar-dealers.—C. Parker and [illegible] Smith, Brighton, tailors.—E. Ling and Co., Norwich, cab[illegible] makers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JESSIE WILSON, Tain, hotel keeper.—DAVID FERGUSON, Glasgow, merchant.—JOHN MITCHELL, Glasgow, clerk.—ALEXANDER BOSWELL, Edinburgh, brush manufacturer.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

The *Gazette* of this evening contains a notice from the Speaker, that he intends to issue a warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the election of a member to serve in the present Parliament for the city of London, in the room of Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

JOHN WALTER GRAY and ROBERT GRAY, Bishop's Waltham, Southampton, corn-dealers.—JAMES SMITH, Hoxton Old town, linen-draper.—CHARLES CHAMBERS, Peterborough, Northamptonshire, liquor-merchant.—WILLIAM SMART, Billingshurst, Sussex, dealer and chapman.—ROBERT KIPLING, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman.—SHADRACH WESLEY, Long Buckley, Northamptonshire, baker.—ROBERT KIPLING and WILLIAM ATKINSON, Wood street, Cheapside, warehousemen.—EDMUND GOLDSBURY, Hastings, draper.—HENRY WATTS, Bristol, sail maker.—JAMES BROWN CARSON, Liverpool, merchant.—JAMES HILL, Durham, grocer.

GOLD.—Yellow, Glittering, Precious Gold.—The GOLD REVIVING PARISIAN DETERGENTS are now sold, wholesale and retail, by SMITH and CO., special agents, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand. The operation of these celebrated preparations upon all gilt and lacquered surfaces is instant, magical, lasting; the application simple—the cost a few pence. The Lamp Detergent renders the insides of oil lamps as clean as when new. Price for gold, 2s. 6d.; lacquer, 1s. 6d.; lamp, 1s. 4d. per bottle. Each bottle sufficient for several articles. Thus a valuable picture frame and the inside and outside of an expensive lamp may be new for less than one shilling. Sold also by Deanes, London-bridge.

SMITH'S IMPROVED LAMP-WICKS, manufactured of Cotton of the longest fibre and purest quality, possess in the highest degree the power of supporting combustion with great brilliancy, while their extraordinary capillary action ensures that great desideratum, a full and constant supply of oil to the flame. Price not higher than the very common article usually sold, which clogs the burner and weakens the light.—N.B. One dozen of these Wicks will be sent gratis with each sample gallon of Smith's celebrated Lamp Oil. Central Depot, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.

LAMPS, Lamps, Lamps.—Nothing is more easy than to get a lamp, nothing more difficult than to get a good light; yet a good light is the object of the purchaser, and should be that of the lampmaker. The season is approaching when a good light will be essential to comfort, but this cannot be attained without good oil, good wicks, and lamps constructed with more regard to light than to ornamental furniture. SMITH and CO. will undertake to make all lamps give a good light at a very trifling charge.—Depot for improved lamps, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.

PERFECTION and ECONOMY of LIGHT.—SMITH'S highly-purified LAMP OIL, 4s. 6d. per gallon, gives a stronger light than Sperm, and does not consume so rapidly. This saving, with the difference of price, is more than 50 per cent. Smith's Lamp Wicks, made of pure long fibre cotton, possesses great power of supporting combustion, and, by their extraordinary capillary action, keep up a full and constant supply of oil to the flame. The Patent Oxydator is now only 2s., and no lamp glass can be broken, nor smoke evolved, when it is used; these three united produce the perfection of light. Fire-proof Chimneys, 6d. each.—Central Depot, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.—N.B. One gallon of oil forwarded, as sample, to any place within five miles, and one dozen of the improved wicks sent therewith gratis.

MAGNIFICENT TABLE CLOTHS, five yards long, 15s. each; napkins to match, yard square, 9s. 6d. the dozen; breakfast ditto, 5s. 6d. Families or public companies can have their own crests or emblematical designs made to order on any size table cloths. Factory and bleaching grounds, Lisburn, Ireland. Shippers, families, and the trade can now purchase every description of linens, sheetings, table cloths, long cloths, calicoes, counterpanes, dimities, &c., and other manufactures suitable for domestic use, at the National Linen Company's Branch Establishment, 105, Fleet-street, corner of Farringdon-street, on the same terms as at the factory. Samples sent to any part of town or country. Prospectuses, containing full particulars of goods for sale and list of prices, can be had at the warehouse, 105, Fleet-street, or by post.

WATCHES by WEBSTER and SON, Chronometer-makers to the Lords of the Admiralty, established 133 years.—W. and Son have REMOVED to 74, Cornhill, where the advantages of the premises will enable them personally to superintend their workmen. An extensive stock, finished with the utmost care, and at the lowest possible prices consistent with maintaining that reputation supported during so many years for the finest works, consisting of compensated duplex and lever watches, on the principle of their chronometers, to which Government awarded the prizes three years in succession; the detached lever and horizontal watches for ladies, of the smallest and most elegant patterns; marine and pocket chronometers, with long and accurate rates; also a large selection of second-hand chronometers and watches by the most eminent makers. Superior workmen are employed on the premises in the repairing department for English and foreign work.—Webster and Son, 74, Cornhill.

DELCROIX and CO.'S PERFUMERY.—

"'Tis hard to say what scent is uppermost;
Nor this part musk or civet can we call,
Or amber, but a rich result of all."

"We are requested to enlighten our fair friends on a subject of too much importance to such as seek the best perfumery to be lightly touched on. We therefore caution them not to give further credence to a fabricated tale of Messrs. Delcroix's removal: they are fixtures at 158, New Bond-street, and Perfumers, by appointment, to her Most Gracious Majesty; the original depôt for their celebrated Esprit de Lavande aux Millefleurs (the most pure scent for the toilet), Delcroix's Macassar Oil for the hair, and their extraordinary Kalydor, which improves the most beautiful complexion. Sinister motives, assisted by discharged servants of Messrs. Delcroix, have occasioned personal allusion to one of the partners in the old original firm, and which allusion renders the existence doubtful of the celebrated old concern of Delcroix and Co. We have made it our business, in answer to the several inquiries of our fair readers, to ascertain the truth of this report, and the above is the substance of the answer which we have received, and that such removal has never been contemplated at 158, New Bond-street."—Vide Court Gazette, July 22.

PANAMA CANAL.—JUNCTION of the ATLANTIC and PACIFIC OCEANS across the ISTHMUS of PANAMA.—See NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL, of the 16th and 30th instant; and COLONIAL PENNY MAGAZINE, No. 1.—D. M. Aird, 2, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden.

SUMPTUOUS PRESENT to its SUBSCRIBERS by the PICTORIAL TIMES.—The Proprietors of the PICTORIAL TIMES avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the completion of the FIRST VOLUME of their Work to acknowledge the great success which has attended the undertaking, and to make known to their numerous subscribers that the encouragement they have received enables them to add to the many attractions this newspaper already possesses a far more MAGNIFICENT and INTERESTING FEATURE than any hitherto developed in the history of journalism, by procuring for them, without expense, a participation in the produce of the most stupendous effort that has ever been made for the encouragement of the fine arts, and the extended diffusion of good taste.

To carry out this most extensive undertaking, the talents of many distinguished artists have been employed for several months past, at an enormous outlay of capital, in the production of a series of GIGANTIC ENGRAVINGS, in an original style of execution, and of the highest degree of excellence, which, under the title of the LONDON PORTFOLIO OF ART, will be presented GRATIS to every regular subscriber to the PICTORIAL TIMES.

The subjects to be issued will comprise the choicest productions of the celebrated artists of antiquity whose magnificent works adorn the public galleries of England and the Continent; but, beyond this selection from the gems of ancient art, living painters of the highest renown have been engaged to contribute ORIGINAL PICTURES towards this splendid series of embellishments; and it is anticipated that some of their noblest efforts will appear in connection with the PICTORIAL TIMES.

The engravings, already far advanced, and which will be amongst the earliest distributed, comprise several of Wilkie's highly popular delineations of humble life, executed on the scale of the original paintings; an English historical picture by the celebrated Paul de la Roche; and one of those stirring military scenes so forcibly depicted by Horace Vernet, the chief painter of the modern French school; full-length portraits of her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attired in their gorgeous robes of state; a portrait, recently painted, of "the Great Captain of the Age," his Grace the Duke of Wellington; also some of the most valued productions of the German and Italian schools, the first issued of which will be "The Avenging Angel," by Rethel.

The subjects above enumerated form only a portion of this stupendous undertaking, which, as it more fully developes itself, will afford opportunities of future announcements that will disclose many subjects of even greater interest now in course of preparation, which, for obvious reasons, may not be made known until the eve of their distribution.

These valuable engravings will be printed in the finest possible manner, upon a plate paper of the most silken texture, which has been manufactured according to a new improvement, and without regard to expense, so as to produce many thousand impressions, all of that equal sharpness and delicacy which usually characterises early proof impressions.

Subscribers for six or twelve months will be entitled to receive the engravings presented during those periods; and the Proprietors wish it to be distinctly understood that no papers will ever be permitted to leave their office without their companion prints, and that therefore the agent who receives the subscriptions will be the party responsible for their safe delivery with the papers of the subscribers.

These splendid works of art, issued without any extra charge, are thus placed within the means of alike the humble and the rich. Their excellence will equally fit them to adorn the walls of the cottage, and make them no mean ornaments to the chambers of the more magnificent mansion. In point of quality, they shall rival any of the engravings put forth by the Art-Unions of the kingdom, and yet be attainable at one-twentieth of the others' cost. Collected together in a folio, they will exhibit an union of talent and labour, so costly, so elaborate, and so unique, that, from their surpassing splendour, they will reflect an imperishable lustre on the artistic ability of the country, and cause the issue of the LONDON PORTFOLIO OF ART to be hailed as an entirely new era in the annals of British enterprise. They will make the beautiful in art popular from one end of the land to the other, and will, not inaptly, claim for themselves the title of "Cartoons for the Million."

Specimens will be speedily issued. Orders (which should be given without delay) will be received by all booksellers, newsvenders, and postmasters.

To prevent disappointment, care should be taken to specify the exact title of the paper—"PICTORIAL TIMES."—Price 6d., stamped.—Office, 135, Fleet street, London.

HOW TO GET A GOOD DRESSING!!!

Reform the State, with voice elate, let Politicians shout,
Reform the Lords, Reform the Church, Reform the Land throughout;
Reform your house, your plans, your purse, your ailments and your ills;
But, ho! above all things, cry we—REFORM YOUR TAILORS' BILLS!!!

Perhaps you say, in sore dismay, "How can the thing be done?"
Whereat we cry, most easily, with DOUDNEY and SON,
Of Lombard-street, at Forty-Nine, the number's on the door:—
Established Anno Seventeen Hundred and Eighty-Four.

Your person in a perfect Suit they'll prominently fix,
In such as all who see admire, for Three Pound Twelve and Six.
Good Work, Good Cloth, Good Quality, and Patterns all the go,
And Morning Coats, the price Fifteen—the charge, you'll own, is low.

And, oh! YE SPORTSMEN, listen now, while we your pleasures cater,
For Two Pounds Ten, your Suit complete, including Leather Gaiter.
Their Trousers, too, of many sorts, for fishing or for trav'ling;
The price is small—Thirteen and Six—and safe from all unrav'ling.
Their Pilot Jackets, One Pound Ten, in which no man can founder,
And Petersham Great Coats the same—a very warm wrap-rounder;
THE GUINEA CLOAK, a Waterproof, which will withstand all weather,
A proper "Comfort in a Storm," and wear as strong as leather.
Or if within your carriage green you're leisurely reclined,
A fine fat Coachman on the box, and Footman tall behind;
The moment their old suits show rusty on collar, cuff, or knee,
A LIVERY they'll furnish each for only Three Pounds Three.
Then as for BOYS, the wearing dogs, who tear their things to pieces,
They'll clothe them in good Coats and Frocks, your Girls in smart Pelisses;
And should you want them Ready-made—they say it without roguery,
No House can show so cheap a Stock of little Urchins' Toggery.
Moreover, DOUDNEYS were the first who very kindly proffered
Their Yearly Contracts for our Clothes—the Cheapest ever offered.
Two Suits a Year at Eight Pounds Six, and Three for Twelve Pounds Five,
Or Four for Fifteen Pounds Eighteen.—'Tis you the benefit derive.
Three Waistcoats for One Pound they sell; and Trousers Cantoons, Drillings,
The Newest Patterns that are out—Three Pairs for Thirty Shillings.
DOUDNEY and SON, of Lombard-street, their promises fulfil:
The City Mart's at FORTY-NINE—REFORM YOUR TAILOR'S BILL.

GENTLEMEN'S SUPERIOR CLOTHING, at prices much lower than any respectable house in the trade has hitherto offered to the public, where cut and quality, the true test of real economy, are considered. J. ALBERT and CO., Tailors, established upwards of 36 years, respectfully invite families and gentlemen to an early inspection of an extensive and fashionable stock of entirely new articles for gentlemen's and youths' outer garments for the approaching season, made to order in a superior style, at prices not quite so astonishingly low as those by which the town is at present inundated by bills and pamphlets from hosiers and slopsellers, to delude the public with slovenly made-up rubbish called garments, but much cheaper in the end, by the satisfaction given in the wear. Every description of the most recent improved waterproof coats, in every shape and quality; shooting and fishing coats, waistcoats and trousers, in endless variety; uniforms, liveries, &c. Families waited upon, by addressing a line per post, 52, King William-street, City.

Comfort for Tender Feet, &c.
Wellington-street, Strand, London.

HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes, for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

RELIEF from TORMENT.—LEFAY'S GRANDE POMMADE cures, in most cases, by one application, tic-douloureux, gout, and all painful affections of the nerves, giving instant relief in the most painful paroxysms. Patients who had for years drawn on a miserable existence, and many who had lost the use of their limbs from weakness, brought on by paralysis and rheumatism, to the astonishment of their medical attendants and acquaintance, have by a few rubbings been restored to strength and comfort, after electricity, galvanism, blistering, veratrine, colchicum, and all the usual remedies had been tried and found useless. Its surprising effects have also been experienced in its rapid cure of rheumatic pains of the head and face, paralytic affections, weakness of the ligaments and joints, glandular swellings, sore throat, chronic rheumatism, palpitation of the heart, and difficult respiration. It requires no restraint from business or pleasure, nor does it cause any eruption, and may be applied to the most delicate skin without fear of injury. Sold by the appointment of Jean Lefay, the inventor, by his sole agent, J. W. Stirling, chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in metallic cases, at 4s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. each.—N.B. A Post-office order for 5s. will pay for a 4s. 6d. case and its carriage to any part of the United Kingdom.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.
Price 1s. 1½d. per box.

THIS excellent Family PILL is a Medicine of long-tried efficacy for correcting all disorders of the Stomach and Bowels, the common symptoms of which are costiveness, flatulency, spasms, loss of appetite, sick headache, giddiness, sense of fulness after meals, dizziness of the eyes, drowsiness, and pains in the Stomach and Bowels. Indigestion, producing a torpid state of the Liver, and a consequent inactivity of the bowels, causing a disorganization of every function of the frame, will, in this most excellent preparation, by a little perseverance, be effectually removed. Two or three doses will convince the afflicted of its salutary effects. The Stomach will speedily regain its strength; a healthy action of the Liver, Bowels, and Kidneys, will rapidly take place; and, instead of listlessness, heat, pain, and jaundiced appearance, strength, activity, and renewed health will be the quick result of taking this medicine according to the directions accompanying each box: and if taken after too free an indulgence at table, they quickly restore the system to its natural state of repose.

Persons of a FULL HABIT, who are subject to headache, giddiness, drowsiness, and singing in the ears, arising from too great a flow of blood to the head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their immediate use.

For FEMALES these Pills are most truly excellent, removing all obstructions; the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex; depression of spirits, dulness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and give a healthy and juvenile bloom to the complexion.

As a pleasant, safe, easy Aperient, they unite the recommendation of a mild operation with the most successful effect, and require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use. And for ELDERLY PEOPLE they will be found to be the most comfortable medicine hitherto prepared.

Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box; and by the Venders of Medicines generally throughout the kingdom.

Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," on the Government stamp.

CORROBORATION OF THE INNOCENT YET RELIEVING PROPERTIES OF BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

TO MR. PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

19, Lisson Grove, St. Marylebone.

SIR,—In recompense for the great benefit I have received from the use of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, I feel it a duty I have long owed to the afflicted with the excruciating torture of the Gout, to make your valuable remedy more extensively known.

I am upwards of seventy years of age, and have, when occasion required, used them for more than twelve years past. I have at all times found nothing to relieve me but them, and my firm belief is that they are not composed of anything injurious to the constitution, as I always find after their use, my general bodily health renewed, and my appetite considerably sharpened.

Should you, Sir, think this statement worthy of insertion in your list of testimonials, I can with truth solemnly declare the above. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

April 16th, 1842. ANN MOORE.

P.S.—I will with pleasure answer any application in proof of this testimony.

The never-failing effects of BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS in curing every description of Gout and Rheumatism, have secured to them a celebrity unequalled by any medicine of past or present times. They not only give relief in a few hours, where the patient has been driven nearly to madness by the excruciating tortures of this disease, but restore to perfect health in an inconceivable short space of time. They are equally speedy and certain in rheumatism, either chronic or acute, lumbago, sciatica, pains in the head or face, and indeed for every rheumatic or gouty affection; in fact, such has been the rapidity, perfect ease, and complete safety of this medicine, that it has astonished all who have taken it; and there is not a city, town, or village in the kingdom, but contains many grateful evidences of its benign influence.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government Stamp affixed to each box of the genuine Medicine.

STIRLING'S PILL FOR HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.—Sir William's Advice.—It is well known that the late Sir William Blizard paid the highest deference to the efficacious merits of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS, and earnestly recommended that no family whatever should be without them; for, said he, in all cases of sudden illness, they could be at once safely administered to the sufferer, who, perhaps before medical assistance could arrive, might be carried off, or placed in imminent danger. Stirling's Stomach Pills have, in all cases, proved superior to every other medicine in the cure of stomach and liver complaints, loss of appetite, indigestion, gout, sensation of fulness and oppression after meals, shortness of breath, and an excellent restorative after any excess at the table, as they gently cleanse the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and invigorate the constitution. Females, who value good health, should never be without them, as they purify the blood, remove obstructions, sallowness, pimples, &c., and give the skin a beautiful, clear, healthy, and blooming appearance. Persons of a plethoric habit, who are subject to headache, giddiness, dimness of sight, drowsiness, attended with apoplectic symptoms, should take them frequently. They may be safely administered to children and persons of all ages, as they contain no mercury, nor any ingredient that requires confinement, or restriction of diet.

Prepared only by J. W. Stirling, Chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and may be had of all respectable medicine venders.

PARR'S LIFE PILLS.—Curious and highly interesting Experiments on the Causes of Human Longevity.—The scientific world has lately been enriched with a paper published in the Transactions of the Surgical Institute of Paris, by the celebrated Spanish surgeons Gonzales and Valdez, assisted by Mons. Pieroot, of Paris, detailing experiments made by them during several years' practice in Andalusia, in Spain; and, when a right view is taken of the difficulties to be met with in obtaining subjects for dissection in a place where so much prejudice exists against the practice, as is the case in Spain, the obligations of the medical profession to these gentlemen will be proportionately enhanced. The paper states, "that their time was for several years devoted to observations on the habits and manners of the extremely aged; also to *post mortem* examinations and experiments. Out of fifteen cases, in which the parties died at the age of 90 to 100 years, they found but three in which the arterial functions, including the ventricles, had ossified, and in these subjects it was observed that the bowels and stomach exhibited every symptom of activity and health. On inquiry, it was stated by the apothecary of the village that their custom was to purge the alimentary canal periodically, at least weekly. The conclusion arrived at was, that by attending to this great essential to health and longevity, purging of the bowels, these three persons had, in each case, sustained a naturally weak frame for many years beyond the period to which they could have existed under an opposite mode of proceeding. On dissecting the remaining twelve (with one exception, and that arising from malformation), the heart, lungs, and arteries were found in as healthy a state as in much younger persons; their decease occurring from morbidity of the stomach and bowels, beginning in costiveness, and ending in constipation and death. It was proved that till the last moment they seldom or never took medicine, except in extremity, and in such cases their remedy had been strong mineral drastics, such as calomel, &c. The conclusion to be arrived at in these cases is, that had these old persons attended to the state of the alimentary canal, or bowels, by judicious purgatives, their already advanced age would have been prolonged to a more extended period. As an illustration of the truth of the above, it is on record that the life of one of the oldest and most vigorous men in England was continued to a patriarchal age by his constant attention to the seat of all health—the bowels. OLD PARR, called in old English phraseology "The Old Man Wise," by a simple herbal medicine prepared by himself (and the prescription or mode of preparing which has been fortunately discovered within these few years), preserved his health and mental faculties during the reign of ten kings and queens of England. The attention of all classes has been attracted to the undeniable virtues of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, and a vast majority of the people have evinced their unqualified approval of the high character awarded this medicine, and are daily becoming more and more convinced, not only of the efficacy, but, to use a more familiar term, the innocency, of this renovator of the human race. Hence the proprietors have, from time to time, been obliged to enlarge their establishment, and compelled to avail themselves of the combined aid of mechanical skill and steam power, in order to enable them to measure out a supply in accordance with the demand; and the philanthropic of every grade and of every clime will rejoice to learn that this invaluable medicine is rapidly extending its healing influence to every corner of the civilized world.—Manchester Salford Advertiser, July 2, 1843.

Bishop Auckland, July 27, 1843.

Messrs. T. Roberts and Co.,—I send you the within Testimonial from Mr. John Branson. He certainly has most wonderfully improved in health since taking the Pills.

ROBERT DAVIDSON,
Druggist, Bishop Auckland.

Coundon, near Bishop Auckland, July 4th, 1843.

Gentlemen,—It is with heartfelt gratitude to God I have to acknowledge that I was led by a kind Providence to make use of Parr's Life Pills, in the spring of 1842. I had been afflicted for eleven years with the scurvy, so ill that I could not make use of salt, nor anything that tasted of it; and very often was lame of my leg. I took the pills for six weeks, and I am so much restored that I sometimes fancy myself to be about twenty-one years of age; but I smile at the mistake, for my age is sixty-one years.

I have to inform you also of my son: he was afflicted for ten years, from the effects of the typhus fever; he is now wonderfully restored. I am, gentlemen, yours respectfully,

JOHN BRANSON.

P.S.—You may make use of this as you please.

Communicated by Mr. Brown, Bookseller, Gainsborough.

To Messrs. T. Roberts and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London, Proprietors of Parr's Life Pills.

West Stockwith, August 11th, 1843.

Gentlemen,—I, James Jackson Easton, do hereby testify, that, by taking your excellent Parr's Life Pills, I have derived greater benefit than in using all the other medicines I have tried since 1841; about which time I was attacked with severe illness, accompanied with excruciating pain and trembling, with large rupture. For the last six months I have had no return of this illness, nor the least appearance of the last-mentioned symptom. Through the mercy of God, I do at present feel perfectly recovered from it. I still continue the occasional use of your excellent Pills.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully yours,

J. J. EASTON.

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In order to protect the public from imitations, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words "PARR'S LIFE PILLS" to be engraved on the Government Stamp, pasted round the sides of each box, in WHITE LETTERS on a RED GROUND. Purchasers are also requested to observe that a facsimile of the Proprietors' signature, "T. ROBERTS and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London," is printed on the directions wrapped round each box—without which none are genuine.

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London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton) and Published by A. W. PAULTON, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and 67, Fleet-street.—Saturday, September 30, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 2.] SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1843. [3d.

TO OUR READERS.

The Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League have seen the necessity of having an efficient organ of their opinions, and a correct record of their proceedings; and they have therefore resolved to publish the LEAGUE, under such arrangements as shall ensure it a wide and influential circulation. They propose to forward a copy of it for twelve months to every subscriber of £1 and upwards to the League fund, and a single copy to every subscriber of 2s. 6d. and upwards, as an acknowledgment of the receipt of his subscription. They are most anxious that every subscription of 2s. 6d. and upwards shall appear in the columns of the LEAGUE; and they particularly request that the address of every subscriber, legibly and fully written out, should be forwarded to the office of the LEAGUE in London or Manchester. The object of this paper being to give correct reports of all proceedings connected with the Free Trade movement, and to form a chain of communication between the vast and increasing body of Free Traders throughout the empire, they urge upon their friends everywhere to take such means as may best serve to give it a wide and national circulation. The price charged for it is unusually low, and the writers engaged upon it are such as to offer the best guarantee that, as a literary production, it will not be inferior to anything of which the press of this country can boast. Through the LEAGUE the Council would speak to their countless friends, who, in every part of the empire, are rallying round the standard, on whose flag is inscribed "Industry shall be free."

THE PLAN OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The *projet* of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League for the ensuing campaign against monopolist legislation is now before the public. Its legality and practicability are unquestioned; and its fitness for the accomplishment of our great object seems to be generally recognised. So far as we have observed, the friends of Free Trade are unanimous in its approval. The approval of monopoly was never intended; but its discomfiture. Little account, therefore, need be taken of objections from that quarter. It is enough to combine the views of Corn-Law repealers in one harmonious plan of operations; and that purpose, there is every reason to hope, has been accomplished.

It must be borne in mind that the scheme delineated in the address which we published last week, as adopted by the great meeting at Covent-garden Theatre, is a series of practical measures, and not of speculative propositions. Exertion and expense are implied in every step; and frequently a spontaneous and active co-operation will be required, and is confidently relied upon. If the League is to act with electoral bodies and local associations, they should prepare themselves to act with us. To form, at our office, a library of some hundred volumes of registration lists; to become acquainted with the address of every possessor of the franchise, and enter, as occasion may demand, into direct communication with him; to complete the supply of information, in printed works, upon the effects of monopoly, to the widest possible extent, amongst both electors and non-electors; to hold the succession of public meetings contemplated in the address, not only in London, but throughout the kingdom,—these, and the other proposed measures, suppose a continuous attention and toil which the Council of the League and their coadjutors are desirous of commencing immediately, and in which they are, indeed, already embarked. The expenditure, however, must of necessity keep pace with the exertion. The plan itself, for its entire and efficient execution, is contingent upon the furnishing by the public for that purpose the great National Fund of one hundred thousand pounds. Promptitude of contribution will facilitate promptitude in execution. In fact, a portion of the moral result will be achieved by the speed with which the subscriptions flow in, even before the outlay begins to operate. The heart of monopoly will quail at the determined zeal evinced in the ready liberality of the public, and lose much of that power of resistance which it would otherwise oppose to the strength we shall be enabled to put forth by the application of the resources thus supplied. "Bis dat qui cito dat" has seldom been a more appropriate motto. The foremost contributors, like the Scottish warriors, will thus have "doubly redoubled strokes upon the foe;" and will unnerve, before the conflict, the champions of the pestiferous monopoly which we have to strive against and to conquer.

We learn, with much pleasure, that it is intended by the Council or Committee of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association to convene speedily a meeting of that body for the special purpose of bringing the address of the League under its consideration. Liverpool will thus enhance the good example it has already given to the Free-Trade public. Our readers will find in our columns the most complete account furnished by the press of the splendid and enthusiastic meeting held there on Wednesday last. Every allusion at that meeting to the address of the Council of the League and its scheme of operations was received in a manner that promises the warmest concurrence and support. The increased distribution of tracts, the rousing of the electoral body to a just sense of its responsibilities, the cessation of petitions to the present House of Commons, and the ultimate appeal to Majesty itself, were marked by responsive acclamations, similar to those elicited by the same points at the metropolitan meeting. It was thus evinced that Free Traders throughout the land are, like the first Christians, of one heart and soul, and have a like unity of feeling in what is also a righteous cause, and tends to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, and succour those who are ready to perish. And those who scorned to reiterate unheeded petitions to a regardless legislature, felt no scorn of petitioning their brother electors and their fellow-sufferers, the citizens of London. For the resolution of the meeting, relative to the representation of London, is, in fact, the petition of those who are themselves misrepresented. That resolution was framed and adopted in a generous and confiding spirit, regardless of the taunt that might be hurled at themselves for what is notoriously only the enforced semblance of inconsistency; and regardless also of the nonsensical imputation of interference, which its authors well know to be grossly inapplicable. It was an honest and honourable expression of sympathy with those who have to fight the most momentous battle for Free Trade that has yet been waged at the electoral hustings. It goes further; it asks the electors of London for aid to a common cause. Corruption has enslaved them to monopoly, and they stretch their hands to the metropolitan constituency for help. "You are in the van," it says in effect; "you have the immediate opportunity; strike the first great blow at the monster mischief; strike hard, and home, and fatally, for our sakes, and for your own, and for that of our country, whose destiny is trembling in the balance. When our turn comes, you shall not find us wanting." And thus, in our opinion, should electors, in all districts, express their mutual sympathy, and hearten each other for whatever is demanded of exertion, of firmness, and of sacrifice. The electors of London are not so petty and poor of spirit as to fail in appreciating this noble movement; nor so inert, we trust, as to be backward in like demonstrations whenever opportunity is afforded by local contests. They have cheered the Durham triumph; and they will set the example, and minister encouragement, to as many similar victories as the Bread-tax tenacity of life may require, before it gives up the ghost, and sinks into its destined annihilation.

But to return to the intended meeting of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Society for considering the address and plan of the League. Other associations will, we hope, pursue the same course. Let the scheme which has been so frankly propounded to the largest meeting that could be collected in this great metropolis, be as fairly and fully submitted to the public in every locality where it is practicable. An intelligent, hearty, liberal, and persevering co-operation will thus be obtained. That is what we want, and all we want. There are no mysteries in this agitation; no concealed movements or ulterior purposes. The most free and open procedure will best advance our aims and objects. Such meetings will also afford fitting opportunity of arranging the readiest method in each locality for rendering proportionate help to realize the pecuniary resources which are generally and rightly deemed, vast as they appear, not at all more than commensurate with the exigency. We look for help to the opulent according to their means. Those means must be comparatively insecure, while a system continues which so large a portion of the country detests, and which threatens, in turning back the tide of national prosperity, to overwhelm no small mass of individual wealth in ruin. In their subscriptions to our fund, the rich are not only giving to the claims of charity and justice, but they are effecting an insurance of property against the perils created by monopoly. The poor, we know, will club their mites, on the principle that "many a little makes a mickle," if there be but well concocted plans for turning their combined efforts to the best account. They are prepared to impose on themselves the amount of a few days' extra bread-tax, to be amply remunerated by bread-tax abolition. They are awake to the fact of the passing time, that by cheapened food they can not only buy more bread but get more work. From such meetings, also, we anticipate the growth of other modes of co-operation besides the financial. For the votes of electors and the opinion of non-electors, appropriate organization and modes of expression must be devised in each locality. The call resounds, and will be everywhere answered, for what is at once, in familiar phrase, the means and the certainty of success—"a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together."

We have dwelt on the machinery by which our cause is working rather than on the motives by which it is animated. In the minds of those to whom we are specially addressing these remarks, we presume the motives to be already felt in all their mighty influence. From any who cannot trace, or who refuses to perceive, the condemnation of monopoly in the records of experience; who is unappalled by the failing resources of the industrious and the growing lists of bankrupts and insolvents; who thinks a people can ever thrive by grinding the faces of the poor, or by isolating themselves from the great family of nations whom Providence has made mutually dependent for mutual good; who feels not for disappointment, struggle, suffering, and starvation, nor acknowledges justice to the many as paramount over any profit or privileges of a class,—from such we expect neither contribution nor co-operation. We seek it not; we desire it not. Our appeal is to the simplest dictates of human feeling, of moral duty, of Christian precept, and even of national policy; and on all who reverence them we throw ourselves confidingly for their heartiest sympathy, their liberal support, and their untiring help, until taxation upon food be utterly abolished.

PROFLIGACY OF THE MONOPOLIST PRESS.

In watching the progress of a great question such as that with which we are connected, it is often very instructive to mark the conduct of those who are employed as advocates for or against the movement. As the man who has the worst of an argument is generally the first to lose his temper, so the defenders of a wrong are the first to forsake the field of fair argument, and to seize the weapons of calumny and abuse.

In the controversy which has for so long a time been maintained on the question of the Corn Law, there has been an immense amount of argument on one side, and as great a mass of abuse and slander on the other. The distinguishing feature in the action of the Monopolist Press is the incessant recourse to vulgar and personal vituperation against the prominent men connected with the Anti-Corn-Law League; and this is not only observable in the more influential London daily papers, but is also found to exist in the columns of their coadjutors in nearly all the provincial organs who defend the usurpations of the landed aristocracy. The "Quarterly Review," and "Blackwood's Magazine," with their high pretensions to literary ability, are in no degree behind the daily and weekly papers of their party in the use of the ungenerous and discreditable weapons of coarse and scurrilous attack. We can hardly suppose that this arises from the fact that it is much easier to rail than to argue, since, on questions which do not involve the interests of party, the field of argument is often fairly contested by those who invariably shun it when monopoly is the subject of strife. But among the writers who thus disgrace themselves, and dishonour the profession to which they belong, there are none more shamelessly regardless of the ordinary rules of propriety than the men who conduct the *Standard* newspaper. That journal is now happily suffering the just and unavoidable penalty which sooner or later overtakes all who trample upon truth; it has small and continually-diminishing influence with all intelligent and right-minded readers. Its reckless contempt for everything like fair play has destroyed the importance which once belonged to its opinions; and men now glance at its pages to see what new falsehood it can devise, or what freshness it can give to the vile sentiments with which its columns are polluted. But unscrupulous advocates of the worst causes sometimes go beyond their briefs, and inflict deadly wounds upon the party they are paid to serve. The monopolists, in their desperate struggle to maintain their supremacy, have not only attacked the members of the League, but have hurled their shafts at the whole class of manufacturers, from which the League has sprung. So malignant has been the hostility of the monopolist organs, that they have systematically sought to depreciate the value and importance of

manufactures, and have pictured the northern districts, where manufacturing industry has so wonderfully developed itself, as a country inhabited only by heartless tyrants, and degraded and brutal savages. The overgrown wealth of the employers; their ruthless disregard of the rights and wellbeing of the artisans; their selfishness, which hesitated not to work up human life into per centage upon capital; their determination to be rich, even though wealth only were to be secured by the overthrow of all time-honoured and valuable institutions—all this has been paraded a hundred times before the public eye, that public indignation might perchance overwhelm the men who came forth from their mills and counting-houses to give battle to the lords of the soil. The *Standard*, in the excess of its zeal to aid the cause of starvation, declared that "England would be as great and powerful as she now is, and all useful Englishmen as happy and prosperous as they now are, if all the manufacturing towns and districts of the empire were involved in one common ruin." The atrocity of this sentiment has probably never been surpassed by anything hitherto uttered by any human being. A paper claiming to be the organ of a great party in the country, affecting great regard for religion, and now the especial mouthpiece of the monopolist Ministry, dared to write a paragraph thus madly denouncing the manufacturing districts and people, and holding up millions of our countrymen and their pursuits as a curse rather than a blessing! The *Standard* was not wise in this. Bad men are never wise. Crimes are generally accompanied by blunders, else their effects would be more disastrous than they are; and it is a beautiful arrangement of Providence that want of sagacity should so generally attend want of principle. The rattle in the snake's tail is a warning that we may shun the deadly bite. The malignity of the *Standard* has spoken out too soon, and we may now be on our guard against the desperate measures to which the monopolist faction will resort when they are driven to extremities. The *Standard* feels that its bitterness overflowed somewhat indiscreetly, and it would now retract. In its remarks on Mr. Bright's speech at the Covent Garden meeting, wherein he denounced the infamous passage we have quoted above, the *Standard* says:—

"We have now to turn to Friend Bright, merely reasserting, probably for the fiftieth time, that the proposition which he quotes was an *abstract proposition*, in reply to an assertion of the League, that England would be happier 'if she did not produce a single ear of wheat,' and that we all along guarded ourselves against being understood to wish or to propose that the manufactures existing, whether wisely or unwisely introduced at first, should not be protected in every fair way."

We are at a loss to understand precisely what is meant by an "abstract proposition." The assertion was plainly and distinctly made, the hatred of manufactures was unequivocally manifested, the cloven foot of feudalism was bared to the sight, and all men saw how intense and how unchanged is the hatred which the oligarchy cherishes to commercial and manufacturing prosperity. But this "abstract proposition" was but a reply to an assertion of the League, that England would be happier "if she did not produce a single ear of wheat," &c. So the *Standard's* morality permitted the fabrication of a vile and fiendish lie in reply to a foolish sentiment which it attributes to the League? But when did the League assert that "England would be happier if she did not produce a single ear of wheat?" We have heard much of what the speakers of the League have said, and we have read much of what they have written, but we never met with this assertion to which the *Standard* took the pains to reply. Will the *Standard* reprint its article containing the foul sentiment we have denounced, and will it give us chapter and verse for the assertion of the League in reply to which it was written? The *Standard* is on a wrong tack. It has sold itself to a Ministry who admit the truth of Free-Trade principles, but its bargain requires that it should assail the Free Traders. It has engaged to prop up a cause notoriously rotten and failing; and, arguments being scarce, the foulest slanders are the only weapons at hand. These it uses with unsparing profusion, but without much skill or effect. Time passes, and the slander of the day is forgotten; its readers are unfurnished with weapons of better temper, and in every conflict they are foiled. It may be pleasant to be the organ of a ministry, even though the appointment require the abandonment of every principle of honour, and every semblance of decency. Men dressed in "a little brief authority" often outstep the rules by which other men are guided; and to the *Standard* it may be impossible to refrain from the weaknesses and the crimes which too often mark the career of "a dog in office." If it be admitted that wisdom and goodness come by hereditary descent, we need not be surprised if ancestral baseness be transmitted from one generation to another. The editor of the *Standard* will understand, if he do not explain, this allusion.

THE LEAGUE AND THE CITY ELECTION.

A circular letter, issued by Mr. Baring's committee, has been sent to us, the object of which is to create amongst the electors of the city of London a feeling hostile to Mr. Pattison, on the ground that as a candidate he is supported by the League. This letter is dated "Committee-room, London Tavern, October 2, 1843," and from it we extract the following choice paragraph:—

"It is our firm conviction that, if this question could have been left to the citizens of London, no opposition would have been offered to Mr. Baring's return. It is sufficiently obvious that the gentleman whose name has just been announced as Mr. Baring's competitor has been drawn forward by parties whose home is in Lancashire, and not in London; and that it is chiefly as the candidate of 'The League' that he is presented to your notice. Whether it is expedient or proper that a contest, with all its inevitable heart-burning, should be thus got up by strangers to the city of London, is a question which must be left to you and the constituency at large to determine."

From this it would appear that Mr. Baring's committee have no more respect for the intelligence of the electors of the greatest commercial city in the world than to insult them by the insinuation that, but for the interference of the League, Mr. Baring would have been permitted to walk over the course. Their mistake is a singular one, and not less impudent than singular. They say, that Mr. Pattison is brought forward by men "whose home is in Lancashire," as if Lancashire were a country in a position of natural hostility to London. But who are the League, and what is this terrible and all-controlling power? The League is the vast majority of the people of Great Britain. In this metropolis alone it has *enrolled* more than 37,000 members, and every day is adding to its ranks. In the City there has been a cordial response to the appeals of the League, and its principles are hailed with delight by thousands who are now called upon to vote. Monopoly, like every injustice, is mean and insincere, and it is in its true character that Mr. Baring hopes to gain from the paltry jealousy he would foster that which he can never secure by an appeal to intelligence and public virtue.

Mr. Baring is of a family great in commerce; he is of a family whose chief was once foremost in condemning the Corn Law; who hoisted a large loaf when a candidate for a seat in the House of Commons; who fought for the people and for trade, until his acceptance amongst the aristocracy destroyed his sympathies for the many, and made him an apostate and a labourer in support of the usurpations of the few. Mr. Pattison is the candidate of the commonalty of London; he would sit in the House of Commons to defend the commons. The League is an association of the commonalty of England, and the League wishes all success to the election of Mr. Pattison, and for the universal triumph of the great and just principles of perfect freedom of trade.

WHY ARE FARMERS IN DISTRESS?

In our last we endeavoured to show "*Why trade is improving;*" and we likened the manufacturers and farmers to two buckets in a draw-well—as one goes up the other goes down. We showed why manufacturers always prospered when food was abundant and cheap; but the very abundance which makes the manufacturer and every other class in the nation rejoice, is ruin to the farmer.

The object of the Corn Laws is to keep up, artificially, the price of corn beyond its natural price in the markets of the world; but as it is impossible to regulate the price of corn or any other article by act of Parliament, whenever by a good harvest the market price approximates to the *natural* price, farmers complain of distress. On the contrary, whenever, by a bad harvest and the aid of the Corn Laws in keeping out supplies, the price of corn is raised *above* its natural price, farmers are comparatively prosperous, that is to say, they can pay the rents founded on the high price of corn. We shall presently show the process by which, for the purpose of keeping up rents, the farmers and manufacturers have been plundered in turns by the ingenious contrivance of Corn Laws.

Everybody knows that during the war the price of corn was enormously high, and that rents rose accordingly. The average price of wheat in 1810 was 106s. 2d. per quarter; in 1811, 94s. 6d.; in 1812, 125s. 5d.; and in 1813, 108s. 9d. During all this time we were at war. In 1814 peace came, and with it a great decline in the prices of all commodities: corn was no exception. The average price of wheat that year fell to 74s., and the following year (1815) it fell to 64s. 4d. per quarter. No wonder that farmers then complained that "they could not pay war rents with peace prices." If at this time corn, like everything else, had been left to find its natural level rents would have accomodated itself to the price of corn, and farmers would have had nothing to complain of. The landowners, however, were determined not to reduce rents. But the question arose how were they to maintain rents and satisfy the suffering farmers? They began by sympathising with them, graciously making trifling abatements, and by assurances that their interests were one—that they must stand or fall together—that it was not high rents from which they were suffering, but competition with the cheap corn of other countries—that all they needed was protection, and protection should be afforded. It was not difficult to persuade the simple-minded confiding farmers that any change which held out the prospect of enabling them to pay their rents would be for their benefit; and so a law was proposed in 1815, *prohibiting foreign wheat altogether until the average price of home-grown wheat reached 80s. per quarter!!* But the people were not so easily bamboozled—their natural instinct led them at once to recognise this infamous law as a tax on bread. The whole country was in an uproar—the House of Commons was besieged by crowds clamouring for justice — the bread-taxers became alarmed, and in their terror surrounded themselves with soldiers, whilst they perpetrated the deed to cheat the farmers and to beggar and starve the people.

The farmer was assured that this law would secure him the famine price of 80s. a quarter for wheat; but we shall show the extent to which he was deluded and robbed by the following, which we shall call the farmers and manufacturers' distress barometer, because it indicates with as unerring certainty as the barometer points to rain or fair weather, the alternate periods of distress among farmers and manufacturers.

	CONDITION OF FARMERS. Rent point.	Average price.		CONDITION OF MANUFACTURERS.
1816.	80s	75s 10d.	Not prosperous, from low prices preceding years.	Trade bad—Distress.
1817.	80s	94s 9d.	Prosperous.	Ditto—Disturbances in manufacturing districts.
1818.	80s.	84s 1d.	Ditto.	Great distress.
1819.	80s	73s 0d.	Ditto.	Climax of distress—Peterloo meeting at Manchester to petition Parliament for reform, and *repeal of the Corn Laws*—500 people killed and wounded.
1820.*	80s	67s 11d.	Complaints of falling prices.	Symptoms of improvement.
1821.	80s	56s 2d.	Great distress—Committee of House of Commons.	Trade good—Wages rising.
1822.	80s	44s 7d.	Another agricultural committee of the House of Commons.	Ditto—Great increase in the revenue.
1823.	80s	53s 5d.	Continued distress.	Ditto—Ditto.
1824.	80s	64s 0d.	Ditto.	Ditto—Ditto.
1825.	80s	63s 7d.	Ditto—Agitation for change in the Corn Laws.	Distress, arising from the great money panic.
1826.	80s	58s 9d.	Distress.	Ditto—Ditto.
1827.	80s	56s 9d.	Ditto—Canning's Corn Bill thrown out.	Symptoms of improvement.
1828.	80s	60s 5d.	Distress—Sliding-scale Bill passed.	Trade languid.

It appears from the above, that during the first four years of this law, the price of wheat, owing to scarcity, averaged 80s. per quarter, and the farmers were so far prosperous that they were enabled to pay their rents; but they soon discovered that the law could not assure them famine prices *at all times*. The distress barometer indicates a constant loss every year during the last nine years of its continuance. Committees of the House of Commons were appointed in 1821, and again in 1822, to inquire into agricultural distress; but no remedies were adopted to stay the swelling tide of ruin, which continued to roll on until vast numbers of the farmers were swallowed up in bankruptcy. Such were the results of this grand attempt to regulate nature by the wisdom of Parliament. Let us now proceed to their next attempt.

In 1828, the celebrated sliding scale was established. The farmers were told that this was an infallible contrivance to secure uniformity of prices by shutting out foreign corn when home prices were low, and letting it in when prices were high, adopting a graduated scale of duties so as to secure them the certainty of 63s. per quarter for wheat. We shall continue our distress barometer for the purpose of showing the results of the sliding-scale law.

	CONDITION OF FARMERS. Rent point.	Average price.		CONDITION OF MANUFACTURERS.
1829.	63s	66s 3d.	Could pay rents.	Trade bad.
1830.	63s	64s 3d.	Ditto.	Manufacturing distress referred to in King's speech.
1831.	63s	66s 4d.	Ditto.	Trade bad.
1832.	63s	56s 8d.	Symptoms of distress.	Ditto.
1833.	63s	52s 11d.	Agricultural distress mentioned in King's speech. Committee of the House of Commons.	Trade improving.
1834.	63s	46s 2d.	Great distress.	Trade good, wages rising.
1835.	63s	39s 4d.	Ditto.	Trade very good; great increase in revenue.
1836.	63s	48s 9d.	Extreme distress. Committee of House of Commons.	Ditto—Ditto.
1837.	63s	55s 10d.	Symptoms of improvement.	Trade declining.
1838.	63s	64s 4d.	Could pay rents.	Distress.
1839.	63s	70s 6d.	Ditto.	Distress increased.
1840.	63s	66s 4d.	Ditto.	Great distress.
1841.	63s	64s 5d.	Ditto.	Extreme distress.
1842.†	63s	57s 5d.	Complaints.	Symptoms of improvement towards the close of the year.
1843: 1st 6 months.	63s	47 7d.	Distress.	Trade improving.

* The change in the currency at this period has been assigned by some as the cause of the decline in corn. As, however, the manufacturers and farmers would be equally affected by this change, and as the former prospered at the time, the irresistible inference is that the decline in corn was caused by the abundant harvests of 1820 and 1821.

† Although the sliding scale was altered, and farmers told that henceforth wheat would average 56s. a quarter, as rents have not been reduced, we have continued the rent point as before.

It is remarkable that, as with the "bayonet law" so also with the sliding-scale law, *at first* it appeared to answer the expectations of its framers. Three years of scarcity enabled farmers to obtain an average of upwards of 63s. per quarter for wheat, and so enabled them, during those years, to pay their rents; the law, therefore, both by farmers and landowners, was considered to be the perfection of human wisdom. But in 1832 symptoms of change appeared; the following year the King's speech referred to the agricultural distress, and again a committee of the House of Commons sat to inquire into it, without proposing any remedy for the evil. The distress barometer indicates a continuance of calamity until, in 1835, the average price of wheat, instead of being, as was promised to farmers, 63s. per quarter, was only 39s. 4d. Extensive ruin and bankruptcy was again the consequence; and to satisfy the clamour of the poor farmers another committee of the House of Commons was appointed in 1836 to inquire into the distress, which ended, like all the former, in leaving the poor farmer to his fate.*

From 1838 to 1841 scarcity and high prices enabled farmers to pay their rents; in the latter part of the last year, and for the first six months of the present year, however, more abundant seasons have again brought down prices, and the same process of distress, ruin, and bankruptcy are in progress.

We think it must be obvious, from the facts we have laid before our readers—First, that the object of the Corn Laws is to maintain famine prices for corn, to enable farmers to pay high rents. Secondly, that, when farmers obtain these prices, *they have no advantage in it beyond being able to pay those rents*, whilst every other class in the community is plundered and plunged into distress. Thirdly, that it is an impious and fruitless attempt to interfere with the laws of nature by acts of Parliament to fix the prices of corn; that natural prices, whilst they are a blessing to every other part of the community, bring distress and ruin upon farmers, and expose them in their turn to be plundered by the landowners.

The farmers are distressed, and must ever remain so, until the trade in corn, instead of being carried on by fits and starts, and confined to gamblers, is placed on the same footing as the trade in everything else. We cannot trifle with nature with impunity. It is a law of nature that fire burneth. It were as rational to expect to escape the penalty of being burnt were we to put our hands into the fire, as to expect to escape the penalty of periodical distress and privation so long as we continue openly and impiously to violate the laws of nature by the continuance of the Corn Laws. There can be no possible security for the future but in following truthful nature; and then, and not till then, shall we realize the saying of good Sir Josiah Child—"Land and trade are twins—they wax and wane together."

GREAT FREE TRADE MEETING—LIVERPOOL.

The usual monthly meeting of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association was held on Wednesday evening last, at the Amphitheatre in that town. Each successive meeting of that spirited body appears to increase in interest; and the enthusiasm manifested on Wednesday by a crowded audience of between 5000 and 6000 persons equalled, if indeed it did not surpass, anything ever before witnessed in Liverpool. The house was splendidly decorated for the occasion; gorgeous banners and Free-Trade devices ornamented the stage, while the boxes were surrounded by pithy mottoes, of which the following may be taken as a sample:—

"The Corn Law increases the price of bread."
"A tax on bread is a poll tax."
"Free Traders are of no party."
"For God's sake, don't tax the bread of the people."—*Earl of Winchilsea.*
"The Corn Law is a rent law."
"Your device is to create an artificial scarcity."—*Earl Fitzwilliam.*
"The gallant minority of ninety."
"Commerce is barter."
"The Corn Law keeps up the price of food, but not of wages."
"If one man receives protection, another pays for it."
"A protected trade is a useless trade."
"Free Traders! Shoulder to shoulder!"
"Monopoly has received its death-blow."
"Long leases the best protection for farmers."
"Cobden, the soul of the League."

Among the many influential gentlemen by whom the platform was crowded we observed Joseph C. Ewart, Esq., Eyre Evans, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., Thomas Blackburn, Esq., Richard Shell, Esq., James Mulleneux, Esq., Richard Rathbone, Esq., James Mellor, Esq., Thomas Bulley, Esq., George Holt, Esq., John Mather, Esq., Robert Mather, Esq., Thomas Hibbert, Esq., Thomas Jevons, Esq., Timothy Jevons, Esq., William Blain, Esq., Thomas Avison, Esq., John H. Greene, Esq., Peter Leicester, Esq., Jones W. M'Bride, Esq., Samuel Bulley, Esq., Isaac B. Cooke, Esq., Joseph Robinson, Esq., Charles Edward Rawline, jun., Esq., Morgan O'Connell, Esq., W. H. Darby, Esq., Samuel T. Hobson, Esq., John Finch, jun., Esq., William Thornhill, Esq., James H. Mactae, Esq., Samuel Kearsley, Esq., John Gordon, Esq., James Perrin, Esq., James Lewin, Esq., John Tayler Crook, Esq., William Holt, Esq., John Eason, Esq., Charles Kirkpatrick, Esq., Robert Johnson, Esq., Edward Eyre, Esq., Samuel Still, Esq., Rev. C. M. Binell, Rev. David Thom, Rev. John Robberds, Percival Witherby, Esq., Robert L. Holt, Esq., Joseph Mondel, Esq., C. J. Corbally, Esq., Francis Boult, jun., Esq., William Lockerby, Esq., John Middleton, Esq., William Preston, Esq., Samuel Thornely, Esq., Thomas Wylie, Esq., Thomas Urquhart, Esq., A. C. Jeffery, Esq., Thomas Reay, Esq., S. A. Picton, Esq., G. G. Unsworth, Esq., of Liverpool; Abram Darby, Esq., of Coalbrookdale; Edward Eyton, Esq., of Mostyn; Thomas Brown, Esq., of Cwmcellan; and Peter Hulme, Esq., of Philadelphia; and a great number of Conservative merchants, who have always voted against Free Trade at former elections. Every part of the house was completely packed, and thousands were unable to obtain admission.

During the lucid and argumentative speech of Mr. Blackburn, the most perfect silence reigned throughout the house; and the clear apprehension and ready assent given to each successive point in his most logical train of reasoning, evinced that the audience fully understood the functions, and took upon themselves the responsibilities, of a deliberative assembly; and their vote, unanimously given, that whatever the course other nations may pursue, it is our duty at once and for ever to abolish all restrictions on our commerce, sets at once a noble example to the country at large, and reads a valuable lesson to our rulers. This motion was followed by a well-timed resolution, calling upon the electors of London to do their duty, and discharge worthily the heavy responsibility devolved upon them, by sending to Parliament as their representative a thorough uncompromising Corn-Law repealer.

The speech of Mr. Fox, which followed, was brilliant in the extreme, and during its delivery this accomplished orator was frequently interrupted by the most enthusiastic cheers from all parts of the house; the whole assembly repeatedly rose in a body, and at its close several distinct rounds of applause testified the delight with which his most eloquent address was received. The announcement of the determination of the League to recommend no further petitions to the present House of Commons was greeted by a unanimous burst of approbation.

About half-past seven o'clock Charles Holland, Esq., entered the house, followed by James Mellor, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., and others, amidst the most enthusiastic cheering.

As soon as such cheering had subsided,

Mr. Alderman BULLEY rose and said — Respected friends, I have been requested to move that Charles Holland, Esq., an old and tried friend of our cause, do take the chair.

Mr. THOMAS JEVONS having seconded the resolution, it was put and carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with deafening applause, said—Ladies and gentlemen, I feel that a heavy responsibility has been imposed on me; but when I look at the brilliant assemblage before me, which proves the degree of enthusiasm that is felt on the important subject to be discussed, I am assured that I shall obtain that support in the performance of my duty as Chairman which will enable you to pay that attention to the proceedings of this evening which such a question as that of Free Trade imperatively demands. (Cheers.) This you are aware is the monthly meeting of the Anti-Monopoly Association, and I have now to congratulate you on the triumphant position in which we now stand, and on the brilliant prospects before us. Never did the principles of any great cause make such rapid and triumphant progress as our principles have within the last few months. (Great cheering.) Public opinion has now stamped them with its approval to that degree that a complete and not very remote accomplishment can no longer be doubted. What, yesterday, were but as abstract truths, known only to the political economist in his cabinet, are now adopted as household words in the mouths of the people at large, by whom a practical application is imperatively and speedily demanded. Gentlemen, I believe that it is now impossible to find any man sufficiently bold to stand before an audience such as this in defence of monopoly. I believe we are all agreed that the date of the sliding-scale may be foretold, and that it will shortly be consigned to the page of history, there to be the wonder of future generations; and I believe also that, of the number of those professed friends to our cause who have hitherto, with cautious step, only advanced to that point—fixed duty and reciprocity—there are many who have the conviction now forced upon them that public opinion has arrived at the conclusion—that it has said in words not to be misunderstood—that the great principles of Free Trade are no longer to be trifled with; that there is no half-way house in carrying out great principles; that no great cause, whether it be the emancipation of slaves, or any other cause, was ever carried by compromising a principle; but that the time has now arrived for no longer postponement; that, after having admitted principles to be true in the abstract, to permit them to linger in the application is only to prolong an injury to society. I have no doubt that we shall soon see those cautious friends to Free Trade desirous of joining our ranks; that they will be received with open arms; that they will be incorporated with us in the great cause (cheers); and that caution which they have hitherto so much manifested will, I am sure, be a guarantee to the public that future success is no longer doubtful. But the greatest of all triumphs that we have hitherto achieved, has been in the sudden burst of light which seems to have been shed in the agricultural districts. There gentlemen, the great missionaries of our cause, Messrs. Cobden and Bright (great cheering), have opened the eyes of those hitherto deluded victims of the so-called protective system, and they have shown them that they have been the victims of a system through the means of which they have become sponges in the hands of the landlords; wherewith to suck up the earnings of the rest of the community, and pour it into the cup of those landlords, and, having served this office, are themselves at last squeezed dry, and have the glorious privilege, like the favoured morsel in the ape's jaw, of being first mouthed to be last swallowed. There are other friends, ardent and professed friends to our great cause, who decline yet to join us, fearing that we have departed from our right path, and have engaged in politics. Now, gentlemen, let us clearly understand one another. If there be any point on which we are perfectly clear, if there be any rock on which we have endeavoured not to split, it has been that of not trenching on party politics. (Cheers.) We have repeatedly said that the great motto which is inscribed on our banner, "Freedom of trade and the rights of industry," precludes us from entering the arena of mere party politics; that we know not the names of Whig, Tory, Radical, or Conservative; that we have a great, a righteous cause at heart, the cause of the people of England, and one which we will not allow to be prostituted to any plans of mere political partisanship. I challenge any one to say that we have ever in any degree sacrificed our cause or deviated from this course. As respects politics there is indeed one mode by which our question should be settled, by the legitimate and constitutional mode—the elective votes of the country. (Cheers.) We descend not into the arena of the registration courts, where we are told by an eminent statesman the great battle of our cause is to be fought; we descend not to the degrading practices of those courts; we conjure not up some phantom of religious difference, appealing to the rancour of religious feeling; we desire not to drag religion from her sanctuary and expose her to public gaze, making her a plea on which to hang some miserable electioneering manœuvre. No! we carry our cause into that court of conscience, reason, and justice, which exists in the breast of every elector in this country. To that court we appeal, feeling confident that a verdict will be rendered in favour of the rights of industry and freedom of trade. And, gentlemen, we are politicians to this extent: that when we find a statesman, at the head of affairs in this country, laying down doctrines as to Free Trade perfectly in accordance with all that we have maintained, and in far better terms than we do now, and then, on another day, legislating in open violation of those doctrines, we feel called upon to point out to the electoral body the importance of denouncing, in the strongest terms, the indecent compromise between his avowed convictions of what his duty to his country demands, and the base bargain he has struck with the monopolist faction for a political purpose. (Applause.) So far only are we politicians. Permit me now to direct your attention for a moment to the manifesto of the great Free-Trade party—of what I may appropriately term our Parent Association—the League in London. At that glorious meeting, which was held a few days since in the metropolis, and at which some of my friends near me were present, the League put forward a manifesto as to their future course. Its skilfulness and boldness is in harmony with its truth. By acting on it, success will necessarily follow. The League seek to draw closer the bonds that unite them to the electoral body of this country: it is to that body that their appeal is to be made; and who can doubt the result, when everything that is sacred to man, everything that is sacred to Britain, and the very fate of the industrious class, are dependent on it? (Cheers.) If there be any community which owes anything to the country, it is that of Liverpool. (Hear.) Is it not a monstrous anomaly that in a cause like ours, in which is united such a vast deal of respectability and talent—is it not, I say, a monstrous anomaly that, after such meetings as we have held, after such determined expression of public feeling, we have the mortification of seeing in our members men who vote diametrically in opposition to us? I trust that another era is at hand when we shall find men flinging aside all party prejudice; when we shall see our present opponents advocating the great question—freedom of trade and rights of industry—assisting us in obtaining a second Magna Charta, a Magna Charta which shall maintain the rights of every class. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I have detained you longer than perhaps I ought to have done; I trust, however, that if I have travelled out of my duty as Chairman, you will excuse me on the score of excess of that feeling which I entertain in relation to our cause. We now proceed to business.

The CHAIRMAN then called on J. B. Cooke, Esq., to read the report of proceedings during the month.

Mr. COOKE then came forward, and read a short report of the proceedings since the last meeting. The report adverted to the great meeting in London, which had opened the campaign on behalf of the League; and also to the new feature which had been given to the agitation of this question by the petitions of the farmers of two different places in South Wales, in both of which they directed their complaints against the Corn Laws as the cause under which they and their customers were suffering. (Applause.)

The report having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said our long-tried friend, Mr. Blackburn, will now address you.

This announcement was followed by the most enthusiastic display of feeling. When the cheering had subsided,

THOMAS BLACKBURN, ESQ., thus commenced:—I congratulate the active supporters of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association on the success which has attended their endeavours to excite an interest in this great trading community in relation to the object for which they are united. The vast assemblage that I see before me, and which I assure you it is a very appalling undertaking to attempt to address, affords decisive proof that such

* Though the committee of 1836 proposed no remedy, the draft of a report in favour of Free Trade was offered by the chairman of the committee, Mr. Shaw Lefevre (now Speaker of the House of Commons), and rejected by the committee. The evidence given before this committee is completely destructive of the usual arguments for the Corn Laws, and so it has been felt by the monopolist.

supporters have not laboured in vain. It is in the nature of things that a cause which has truth and justice on its side should gain increasing power and influence over the public mind as its claims are more fully discussed, and its merits more fully ascertained. And when, in addition to the recommendations of truth and justice, a cause has humanity and benevolence on its side, and when, also, it comes recommended to us by its immense importance to vast masses of the people, having a direct bearing on their immediate and most vital interests, it cannot fail to acquire additional strength from month to month, and from year to year. (Cheers.) Such is the cause and such the character of it that has assembled us together this evening; and it requires not the spirit of prophecy to tell us of ultimate success. Resting alone on its intrinsic importance, and the efforts of its dauntless advocates, it will gradually silence the language of the interested, enlighten the darkness of the ignorant, remove the fear of the timid, consolidate the approbation and support of the humane and generous, and even kindle a glow of kind feeling in the breasts of the cold and selfish, until at length it rises superior to every abstraction, and bears down before it in its resistless course all opposition. (Great cheering.) In the contest that has been going on with more or less activity for several years between the advocates of Free Trade and the abettors of monopoly, it is not a little curious to see how the strongholds, as they were once accounted by our opponents, have been one after another all but abandoned. (Laughter.) We hardly ever hear a whisper now of the necessary connexion between cheap food and low wages, of the danger that, by repealing the Corn Laws, we should deprive the tenant-farmer of his prosperity, or press down the miserable serf that cultivates the soil into a lower deep of that lower depth in which he is already ingulfed; we seldom or ever hear a whisper about those burdens which press exclusively on land, and which require some protection in order to enable the oppressed landlord and landowner to bear up under their heavy load. (A laugh.) The truth is, the fallacy of all these pleas has been so thoroughly demonstrated that men are now actually ashamed of mentioning them, and are compelled to adopt the only remaining line of defence—the debts and mortgages so naively expatiated upon by Lord Mountcashel, and the family arrangements so touchingly dwelt upon by the right honourable baronet, the Paymaster of her Majesty's Forces, Sir Edward Knatchbull. In the midst of this sore destitution, something like a sufficient reason for maintaining our present infatuated course, the view of the subject I have noticed, was adverted to again and again, particularly by the Prime Minister and the President of the Board of Trade, not indeed as argument for a permanent adherence to our present laws, but rather as a reason for caution and delay in effecting any alteration in them. The subject was adverted to by both those distinguished men in that wary, practised style for which they are so justly celebrated, and by which, gentlemen, it is not a little amusing and encouraging to observe that the chiefs of the present Ministry always talk like men who see breakers ahead, and who, speculating upon a change, are very cautious not to commit themselves by the expression of any positive opinion, that they may hold themselves in readiness to tack about when the time come. The same argument to which I have alluded may be thus illustrated. Although it be true that a free commercial intercourse among the various nations of the earth is in itself abstractedly a good thing, yet, in order to make it advantageous to any one nation, it must be acted upon by some others at least, if not by all; therefore, the wise and prudent course for this country to pursue, under present circumstances, consists in endeavouring to negotiate, by commercial treaties, securing by them mutual concessions, availing ourselves of what Lord Stanley calls small advantages, and thus paving the way gradually for a large extension of trade with those nations, and those only, who are willing to deal with us on a system of reciprocal benefit. At first sight there is something very imposing in all this. It has the merit of conceding the great principles which we are called upon to carry into effect as far as they can with prudence and propriety be carried, and to throw the blame of postponement and delay on other nations who are not ready to meet us in a friendly spirit of reciprocity. Accordingly you find that this representation has had considerable influence on many persons from whom better things might have been expected; and it is not uncommon to hear it stated that nothing can be clearer than that no advantage whatever can arise to this country from extension of Free-Trade principles in our own code of laws, unless other countries will open their ports and receive our manufactures on fairer terms than they are inclined to agree to at present. Plausible as this representation appears to be, it is my decided conviction that it is a pure fallacy. The resolution which I have to introduce to your notice refers to this point, and I beg very cordially to propose its adoption. It is couched in the following terms:—

"That the only effectual method of restoring and perpetuating national prosperity, is by the removal from our own laws of every restriction on a free commercial intercourse with other nations; and that the adoption by this country of such a course ought to be prompt and decisive, whether other governments are disposed to follow our example or not."—(Much cheering.)

I believe that this resolution contains a statement which is substantially true. I venture to maintain that the wise course for this country to adopt, under present circumstances, is, to cast away all restrictions upon our trade; to open all our ports freely to the commerce of the world; to admit the imports of all nations, without distinction as to the duty imposed on articles brought home; and, I doubt not, whether other countries follow us or not, that our national condition will be greatly improved, our commerce and trade revived, and those great evils, against which we have for several years laboured, and which we have escaped only for a short time, will not return. (Applause.) My object in venturing to trespass on your indulgence for a few moments longer is to lay before you considerations which have led me to adopt the opinion I have expressed, and which appear to me fully to justify it. I am quite aware that our subject is a very dry one, that it is difficult to make interesting and impossible to make exciting to a mixed audience; but we meet for discussion and inquiry, not for amusement and excitement merely. We meet to find out what is truth in all that relates to the great and vital question of Free Trade, and I venture to indulge the hope of having a patient hearing. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) First of all, let me endeavour to explain to you what I mean by the term of Free Trade as applied to the present circumstances of this country, and also put you in possession of the idea I entertain of the real nature of a commercial treaty. Correct opinions on both these points are of extreme importance. By Free Trade I mean the entire abolition of all differential duties. We are not chargeable with the absurdity some men impute to us of maintaining, under the name of Free Trade, the total abolition of all customs duties. We are quite aware that faith must be kept with the public creditor; and that taxation in part is indispensable to the liquidation of the enormous national debt with which we are favoured. A commercial treaty is an agreement between two Governments, whereby each binds itself to further the subjects of each other in their commercial transactions with each other. Such an agreement always implies the existence of a third party, which is by it placed in less advantageous circumstances; and therefore a commercial treaty is, in the very nature of things, tainted with the vice of monopoly. In its formation, one Government may be regarded as virtually saying to another, if you will compel your subjects to raise the price of certain commodities they have to sell, we will return the compliment by inflicting a similar injury on your subjects. This principle is always necessarily implied from the very nature of a commercial treaty, or otherwise such treaty is a mere dead letter; for, if the contracting party stand furnished with articles as cheap as they can be purchased in another country, the necessity for a commercial treaty does not exist: trade springs up spontaneously of itself under the guidance of that love of gain which prompts all men to buy in the best market. Keeping in view this defence, let me suppose myself to be arguing this question with regard to postponement till we get a commercial treaty formed, with an advocate for that policy. Supposing all nations of the earth were to act on Free-trade principles, such as I have already explained, do you think we should be able to obtain the supplies we want—do you think, for example, that we could get as much corn, sugar, coffee, &c., as are necessary for our consumption? If the answer to that question should be in the negative, if my opponent should say no, I don't think you would be able to obtain those things, the rejoinder is very obvious. On your own showing, what have you to fear? You have hitherto maintained your great argument in favour of restriction, that, if restriction were removed, you would have such an avalanche of corn, sugar, and everything precious; but you now tell us that we should not be able to obtain those things under the supposed circumstances, if we were willing to receive them. Your opposition is, therefore, unreasonable, for, according to your own representation of things, there would be no danger of incurring that frightful evil—abundance and cheapness of the prime necessaries of life. But I know that the answer would not be in the negative, I know that it would be in the affirmative, and, by universal consent, there is no man of common sense and common observation who is not perfectly aware that, if this country were willing to receive the supplies which other nations might send, we should be able to obtain any amount our consumption required. When Napoleon, in the zenith of his power, having all the Continent of Europe subservient to his will, his Berlin and Milan decrees utterly failed, and at that very time, in spite of all his power, wheat grown in France was eaten in England, and woollen cloths manufactured in York were worn by imperial legions. If these circumstances occurred at a time when every attempt made to prevent the commerce of countries entirely failed, is there any probability that such an attempt could succeed now? We arrive, then, by general consent, at the conclusion that, if we were willing to receive the productions of other countries, we should be able to obtain any amount of supply we might stand in need of. And I apprehend that there exists no difference of opinion respecting another point at which we necessarily arrive, namely, that whatever we obtain we must pay for. Nations would be very willing to furnish us with the articles we might want, but they would not think of making us a present of them, they would expect a *quid pro quo*; in some shape or other we should send them something as an equivalent. Let me ask, is it in the nature of things possible that any equivalent could be made but in British manufactured goods? When we get the supplies required, it is self-evident we cannot without paying for them; and one question I would have answered is, how can we pay for them but by the exportation of an equivalent in the manufactures of our own country? Did I hear some gentlemen whisper bullion? It will not do to talk about bullion, because you must first of all obtain the bullion before you can pay it. (Laughter and cheers.) The bullion can only be obtained by sending abroad British manufactured goods; and if it were possible (which I believe is not the case) for two countries to carry on a constant trade, one sending its productions and receiving in return gold and silver,—I say, that, if such a mode of commerce could be kept up, there would be no difference in argument, inasmuch as bullion must first be obtained from other countries by the exportation of manufactured goods to bring it home. This view of the subject might easily be amplified at great length; it conducts us to the conclusion, inevitably I should think, by a fair chain of reasoning, that nothing is necessary for the restoration of our commercial prosperity but the removal of restrictions from our commercial code; and that, if we would open our ports to the wealth of the world, we should have an immediate revival of trade and commerce—we should have a large introduction into the country of the common necessaries of life—we should do that which is the only thing to restore our national prosperity, increase supply to ourselves, and augment the demand for British manufactured goods. Let us act on the right system—let us adopt it fully and freely and carry it out in all its principles, and the hostile tariffs of other countries will be of little avail to my Lord Aberdeen; nay, if it so please him, commit to the flames the musty parchment connected with treaties to be found in the Foreign-office. (Cheers.) I have now argued this question on the assumption that, even if we were to adopt a more liberal policy towards other nations, they would continually adhere to the same injurious policy towards us that they are at present pursuing; and I have done so because the overwhelming strength of correct reasoning in favour of Free Trade is such as to enable us, while debating, to make any amount of concession. Our course is to act for ourselves, and leave other nations to do as they think fit. (Hear, hear.) Is it not, however, all but certain that, by the adoption of right principle in our Corn Laws, it would become the immediate interest of other nations to follow our example? It was the opinion of Mr. Deacon Hume, a very sound practical economist, that, if we were to act on liberal principles of Free Trade, there would be a struggle between the nations of the old and new world to profit by the advantages that would arise from them. Our policy appears to be plain and obvious: we are not to be influenced and guided by other nations; we would act on Free-trade principles for ourselves, and by so doing we should not only secure our own internal prosperity, revive our own trade and commerce, place that trade and commerce on a permanent, because a natural, foundation, but give a deathblow to the very spirit of monopoly itself, from the effects of which it would never recover, and which would become a name and nature withered from the world. I have hitherto chiefly confined myself to one aspect of our question bearing upon the physical condition and well-being of men; but I ought to allude to another aspect which, to my mind, is exceedingly interesting. I think that which bears on the physical condition of men an important point, but not the only point to be discussed. I have always considered that enlightened principles of commerce have an immediate connection with the intellectual and moral condition of men. Difference of opinion on this important point has been one of the causes of that misery, crime, and wretchedness that has desecrated the earth. Had correct principles, had a thorough knowledge of the subject of Free Trade been acquired when communities of the earth first formed themselves into different nations—had such communities felt that the interest of one was the interest of all—that the true happiness and real aggrandizement of each could only be promoted by a free interchange of productions—national feuds and wars would never have been known. (Cheers.) Now, I believe there are passages in the sacred volume which point out a brighter and purer era than has yet been known. I believe the time will come when mankind will possess and enjoy that measure of knowledge and virtue and happiness far surpassing the brightest page of past history. Nothing to my mind can be more clear than that this one grand instrument that should be employed by the wisdom of Parliament for the extension of true religion to all nations of the earth is a fair and unlimited commercial intercourse among those nations. (Much cheering.) Every true-hearted Christian is bound to embrace our cause with a holy, a sacred enthusiasm. In devoting ourselves to it we are not merely labouring for the present temporal well-being of men, but we are labouring to promote their intellectual, moral, and spiritual welfare. The complete and final triumph of that glorious enterprise in which we are embarked will constitute a great movement towards that bright period in the world's history when the spirit of enlightened Christian philanthropy shall be substituted for that ignorant policy which has already guided the various nations of the earth in their conduct towards each other, and when despotism and monopoly shall take place among things that have ceased to be, and shall return to curse the earth no more. (Loud and long-continued cheering.)

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then said, the next step in our proceedings has reference to a late event in the metropolis, and our friend, Mr. Rawlins, will now do us the favour of proposing a resolution expressive of our feelings with regard to that event.

C. E. RAWLINS, Jun., Esq., then stept forward, and moved that the following resolution be adopted:—

"That a vacancy having occurred in the representation of the city of London in the Commons House of Parliament, this meeting would most seriously impress upon the electors of that city that they are now called upon again to exercise their electoral rights at a most important crisis of our national affairs—that upon them devolves the decision whether the first city of the first commercial empire in the world shall be represented by a friend or a foe to the extension of that commerce which forms the source of its greatness and the strength of its position, and they would earnestly entreat the electors to record their votes in favour of an advocate *for the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws, and all other monopolies*, and thus assist the friends of commercial freedom throughout the country to obtain food for the hungry, clothing for the naked, and for every Briton the right to dispose of the produce of his labour in the open market of the world."

The resolution having been seconded by ROBERT MATHER, Esq., it was carried with *only one dissentient*.

The CHAIRMAN:—I now beg to introduce to your

notice a gentleman who has done us the favour of coming expressly from London, after having been present on a late occasion which has been referred to, where the sentiments that fell from him had an electrical effect upon an assembly comprehending as much of intellect and respectability as it ever fell to the lot of any individual to address. I need not say that I allude to our respected friend and guest, Mr. Fox (tremendous cheering), a gentleman whose name has been long known in the service of literature, as one of its brightest ornaments; but who has erected for himself a fairer fame, has reared for himself a nobler pedestal, by his services in the cause of humanity and philanthropy.

W. J. Fox, Esq., on presenting himself, met with the most enthusiastic reception, the cheering continuing for several minutes. When it had subsided, he spoke to the following effect:—

Mr. Chairman, and friends—for friends, assuredly, this reception entitles me to call you—I feel all the more deeply and strongly the reception you have so kindly given me on account of the resolution with which it was prefaced, and for which, as an elector of London, I render to you and to this meeting my sincerest and warmest thanks. (Applause.) That resolution cannot but serve the cause of Free Trade in London and throughout the country, because it gives an example to the whole kingdom of the sympathy which the enemies of monopoly—in all localities, and disregarding all particular interests of particular districts—ought to evince on every occasion, and especially on every electoral occasion; for every vacancy now in the representation opens a new battle-field to the champions of Free Trade and those of monopoly; and each, as it occurs, must be contested—earnestly and strenuously contested—as if the fate of this country depended solely on each particular election. (Cheers.) In London, throwing aside the jealousies and rivalries that frequently alienate different sections of those who are moving onward in the same direction, the citizens of London have chosen their candidate; the tendered alliance of the Anti-Corn-Law League has been readily, thankfully, gladly accepted. (Applause.) The expression of your opinion will have its result in animating both; and the contest will be fought, as all such contests must be hereafter, as the struggle of one great cause—the cause of humanity and of national prosperity against that of monopoly, of food-taxation, and of national degradation and impoverishment. (Loud cheers.) And between what two localities could there be such an interchange more appropriately carried on than between London and Liverpool, each owing its aggrandisement to trade and commerce; each built up from comparative nothingness, not by feudal power (hear, hear), not by the exercise of despotic authority (hear, hear), least of all by monopoly (hear, hear); but each having thriven as industry and enterprise developed themselves in the growth of our gigantic manufacturing system—each being stupendous monuments of the power and advantage of the system—and each now, I trust, becoming pledges that it shall continue until it works out the whole of that good for individual and social being which it seems to be the plan of Providence thus to accomplish. (Cheers.) The population of London has been quadrupled since the improvement begun in the manufacturing districts. Were it not for the trade of the country, it would be the comparatively petty town that it once was; and a monarch might still, as a monarch once did, possess his flourishing vineyard upon Holborn-hill, and the Chapter of St. Paul's might still have, as it once had, very fine grass lands in Norton-folgate. (Chers.) Well, but for that same system, what would you be here, but with your population of 8000 instead of something like 300,000; but with your single dock, the only one you had for half a century, instead of your upwards of 100 acres of dock and your about seven miles of quay? (Hear, hear.) You would still be paying the petty duties for your seventy or eighty ships, instead of the four and a half millions a year which you contribute to the customs of the country; you would still be, in short, the petty, "little creek of Liverpool," the appendage of Chester, instead of being the magnificent establishment that you are; and for all your streets and squares, for your institutions, your Exchange, your spacious warehouses—for all your buildings for amusement or for instruction—you would only have so much land, producing, perhaps, as many potatoes as there are now human beings here assembled. (Cheers and laughter.) I say, let London and Liverpool, then, interchange their sympathy and encouragement on this great question so vitally interesting to both; and the compliment which you have paid London, I shall be happy to find London returning to you, and saying, "Now, Liverpool, is your time. (Applause.) You told us of our duty at the critical moment: we now tell you of yours; let not this great, this first commercial town in the empire, be represented in the British Parliament any longer by a brace of monopolists." (Cheers.) And I am not exclusive in these things. I should be very glad if our monopolist opponents would imitate us in this. Let them interchange their encouragements; and as their course seems rather to be one of modification, however trifling and varied in degree, than of strict adherence to the principle—the sordid and selfish principle which is the basis of their scheme—why, let Liverpool monopoly say to London monopoly, as *Peachum* does to *Lockit*, in the "Beggars' Opera," "Brother, brother, we have both been in the wrong." (Cheers and laughter.) We have our fight—and a great one it is—to achieve in the metropolis, one in which if we succeed, and I understand there is the most encouraging and animating prospect of success, the blow will be felt, the dart will quiver, in the very heart of monopoly. (Applause.) And we receive, as a presage of success, the encouragement of Liverpool to this combat—of Liverpool, which was mainly instrumental in striking down the great East India monopoly (applause,) not, I think, to your own disadvantage (hear, hear), nor without furnishing some argument in the experience of the mercantile classes of this town how much more advantageous a Free Trade, even with the remotest regions, is, than a strict monopoly can ever be. (Cheers.) I know not that there is any thing so extraordinary in those who are toiling in a common cause and working in it with what opposition makes an arduous toil, communicating with one another, and encouraging one another. I therefore had no anticipation, in accepting the invitation of your committee to come here on this occasion, that I should expose myself to any particular questionings as to my reasons, motives, or purposes, in so doing. (Hear, hear.) But I find there is a catechising tendency in some quarters here which has in a manner called upon me to answer why I am here, and with what object; and certain questions are put in one of your newspapers, the *Courier* of this day, which it may be worth while to bestow a word or two upon. (Hear, hear.) It says,—"The Anti-Monopoly Association are to hold another meeting at the Amphitheatre this evening" (I think the Anti-Monopoly Association ought to be obliged to the editor for this gratuitous advertisement—Laughter), "when Mr. Fox of London is to undertake the task, however supererogatory after the visits of Mr. Bright, of instructing the people of Liverpool in the true principles of political economy, the right way of exercising the elective franchise, and other things which it would be extremely convenient for a few grasping manufacturers, who desire to sacrifice every other interest in the nation for the aggrandisement of their own, that they should know." Now this writer, professing to know so much of my mind at this time, ought, to justify those pretensions, to have known something more, and to have been aware that I have written and have spoken on this question before there was any pretext whatever for calling it a manufacturers' question (applause)—before the League was in existence, even in thought—before any individual of the capitalist classes had taken up the matter: I had then expressed myself most unreservedly and strenuously upon it, in that light in which I have since regarded it, as most deeply interesting every one, but not as the question of manufacturing capitalists, or of any other class exclusively—I do not mean but what I would have their property respected, that that which they have honestly earned should have its fair chance of further accumulation, but capital can usually take care of itself. My interest in the question has been as the working man's question, whose bread no class in the country has the right to tax. (Cheers.) If there be in the country such manufacturers as have been described; if there are those who regard their fellow-creatures simply as so many engines by which to work out their own profit, with no further sympathy or care for them, soul or body; if there be masters who feed their steam-engines with fuel, and their wheels with water, but are careless whether their workpeople and their wives and children are fed or clothed; if they take more care in packing their bales of cotton than they feel about the comfortable lodgement of those who are employed in their service; if the sole business and interest of their lives is to screw what money they can, not only out of material existence, but out of the blood and bones, the sinews, the brains, the lives of their fellow-creatures—I can only say that, with such manufacturers, I have no feeling in common. If any of them be really Free Traders, why, I regard it in them as one virtue mixed with a thousand crimes—(applause); and my only solicitude about them is, if they were in my way, to awaken the reproaches of their conscience, and to stimulate them to rise, if they can, from the love of money to the love of humanity. (Loud cheers.) But when I see men of whom nothing of this sort can be alleged with any show of truth—when I behold the industrious and the enterprising in trade and commerce led by the strong conviction of their minds of the injustice and the impolicy of the existing law, to withdraw their attention from business, and to devote themselves from morning till night, and from year to year, to the adjustment of a great national question—when I behold them asking the country for large subscriptions, but themselves making the largest subscriptions that are tendered, in aid of the great cause for which they are combating—when I find these men, if they do indeed seek their own interests, seeking them only in connexion with the interests of the entire community of which they are members—why, then, I say that with such I am ready, heart and soul, to co-operate; and that to fling in their faces the fact that they are manufacturing capitalists; can only disgrace those by whom such expressions are thought to be an imputation. (Loud cheers.) But the writer asks an answer to this question—"Some, who were captivated by the glowing prospect set before them (he is speaking of the farmers at Knutsford,) by Messrs. Cobden and Bright, of increasing commerce, increasing towns, and an increasing demand for the produce of the country to supply the wants of the increasing population thus got together, have been induced to ask themselves where, in the first place, this commerce was to come from? Looking to the Leaguers for an answer, they find that it is to arise from the importation of foreign corn, to be paid for in English manufactures." And a very good answer, although it is a Leaguers' answer; but this is not the whole answer of the Leaguers. The answer of the Leaguers is—Look to your own columns. What are your own themes of rejoicing? Have we not been told, for the last several weeks, with a continual flourish of trumpets, that cotton is up? Has not an increase, and a valuable increase so far as it goes, in the manufactures and commerce of the country been loudly proclaimed abroad; and has it not been represented as that which is to produce the downfal of the League, when it is in truth an answer to this very question, and the justification of the reasoning on which the leaders of the League have ever founded their proceedings? (Applause.) Why is there a revival of trade, but because food has been cheapened (applause,) following in this the experience of past years, showing that whenever food is cheap, manufactures become more thriving; and that, on the contrary, when food is dear, then the pressure begins to be felt anew, and the alternation commences by which distress is tossed backward and forward, from the agricultural classes to the manufacturing classes, and back again from the manufacturing classes to the agricultural classes—(hear, hear); showing clearly that we are under a false system, and telling the plain truth, which this writer seems disposed to blink, that cheap bread does not lower wages, but makes thriving trade, and enables the wages of the workmen to go much further than they would under any other circumstances. (Applause.) He follows this up with another question:—"How is a measure, the specific object of which is to encourage the importation of foreign grain, which, as a necessary consequence, must supersede theirs (the grain of the English farmers) in the English market, as otherwise it could not be imported—how is such a measure to benefit them? Whatever advantage may accrue to commerce, how is the bringing of corn from abroad to promote its growth at home?" This has been already in part explained to you by my excellent friend near me. Whatever promotes trade promotes the consumption of corn. It enables the labourer to buy more, and thereby it stimulates production beyond the limits of the power which originally gave the impulse. But this is not all. If every quarter of foreign corn that comes into the country displaces a quarter of English-grown corn, why is any importation at all allowed—why do we on the average import about a million of quarters per annum, going up, at times, to three or four millions? What is all this but an injury which the present system works, and which it works in the most intolerable manner? (Applause.) And it would be something even to correct the mode of this foreign corn coming in; it would be something to pay for it regularly in manufactures, instead of the continual derangements now occasioned thereby in the monetary system of the country; it would be something to have the trade put on such a wholesome footing as that corn—instead of coming in, as it did lately, in foreign vessels, on account of the unexpectedness of the order—might come always in British vessels, employed with aforethought for that purpose. (Loud applause.) It would be something to make the importation of foreign corn more of a trade and less of a lottery (hear, hear), to make it a business in which capital might be fairly vested, with the prospect—the encouraging prospect—of regular gains therein, instead of making it a speculation which every now and then ends in the ruin of one after another, and excites the spirit of gambling in a country that should only live by honest industry. (Applause.) If every quarter of imported foreign corn displaces one of home growth, what are we to say of the breaking up of new land in our own country? If the importation from abroad be, as is pretended, an injury upon the farmer, and the farmer is the person always professedly looked to, why, then, every enclosure bill is a cheat put by the landlords upon their own farmers. (Applause.) It is bringing fresh acres into cultivation, to throw the produce of the old ones out of the market; and the bills which within the present century have caused the inclosure of two millions and a half of acres have been a war waged by the landlord class upon their own dependants, a war to aggrandise their own estates at the expense of the cultivators of the more ancient parts of those estates. (Applause.) But this does promote consumption, and they know it. Less than a century ago not more than one-third of the population of this country was fed upon wheaten bread. Why did the consumption of wheat extend? Because manufactures arose, to furnish means for the purchase of corn; and its being at times cheapened thereby did not prevent its becoming more profitable. You make eaters when you cheapen the price of the necessaries of life. We have been told that five millions in the United Kingdom—told with a cold irony of expression that one would not willingly repeat—that five millions "rejoiced upon potatoes." (Hear, hear.) Why should not these five millions rejoice upon wheat? Where then would there be any apprehension that the importation of foreign corn would displace from the market a single grain supplied by the home producer? (Loud applause.) I have nothing further to say on these questionings except that I disclaim the imputation of coming here to teach political economy. (Applause.) The assembly that I witness to-night, and the speeches that I have heard to-night, show that you have already an admirable school of your own in political economy, where I should much rather present myself as a learner than as a teacher. (Applause.) The article from which I have quoted does indeed show that the extension of the knowledge of political economy, that the gathering together of such a magnificent assemblage as this from all its varied ranks and classes of society, to attend, seriously and thoughtfully, to the truths of political economy, is by no means a gratifying subject of thought in those quarters (applause); and it also indicates that there is still some darkness remaining; and that, perhaps, notwithstanding the many charities that flourish in this town, it would not be amiss if one other were added to the number, and if some charitable ladies would set on foot a penny-a-week society for the instruction in political economy, and in sound logic, of the literary champions of the falling cause of monopoly. (Loud and prolonged cheers and laughter.) My hostility to the Corn Law is based on no recondite speculations; it is on the broad principles which we may trace on the very surface of the question. I object to it as a violation of justice. (Applause.) It insults that innate feeling of the human mind which tells us to render to each that which is due to him, and especially to respect the rights of the poor, the distressed, and the laborious. (Applause.) It appears to me to be a violation of the first dictates of all moral codes that have ever appeared

on the face of the earth with any pretensions to the reception of mankind. (Hear, hear.) It takes from man what he has earned in the sweat of his brow; it deprives him of that which is not only his as a debt of justice, but which ought to be his by the kindness and forbearance of his more fortunate brethren, if he had not fairly earned it. It seems to interpose between Heaven and earth; when the solemn prayer is uttered that the Supreme Power would give us our daily bread, monopoly interposes, and dares blasphemously to say that Providence shall not give it until it has first taken toll on the passage. (Loud cheers.) It says—"You shall not feed the hungry, unless, first, the loaf that you give, even to the paupers in the poorhouse, shall pay its dues; as it goes to the most wretched classes in the land, it shall pay its dues to the wealthiest classes in the land (hear, hear); a slice, a huge slice of it, shall be abstracted from the perishing, in order that a large proportion of what is thus wrested from his wants may go into the treasury of the affluent." (Applause.) In such a case as this, all need of political economy, all need of deep research and recondite questioning, seems to me to be utterly at an end; and I take my stand on such a question with the generous language of one of the great statesmen of this country—that what which is morally wrong can never be politically right. (Loud cheers.) I feel hostile to the Corn Laws, because they are at variance with the spirit of the nation. They depart from, they attempt to obstruct, the characteristic principle of British progress. They are alien to the whole course of our experience as to what most leads onward in this country, not only the growth of its population, but the growth of intelligence, of riches, of the means of enjoyment diffused through all classes. For what was this island of ours when it was simply agricultural, when that feudal principle of which some modern writers seem so enamoured was flourishing in all its glory? What was it then, not merely as to the condition of the upper classes, of the barons, who had to put their mark instead of writing their names—(hear, hear), and the floors of whose palaces were strewn with rushes, instead of being covered with the rich carpets of modern days. But, I say, look at the labourer; what was the working man's condition under the agricultural system of this country? Measuring the wages of the labourer by the number of pints of wheat that he could purchase, it seems that in the close of the fifteenth century (we have this on record) his wages were worth 100 pints of wheat; about the middle of the sixteenth century they were worth no more than 82 pints; and by the commencement of the seventeenth century, no more than 42; thus being reduced in value three fourths in the course of little more than a century. (Hear, hear.) And then came enactments about the middle of the seventeenth century, fixing a maximum of wages—a maximum, mind you—so far enslaving the working classes of this country, by limiting the value of their daily toil, which their superiors needed, and denying them the remuneration which, in a fair and open market, they would have been sure of obtaining. (Applause.) Agriculture having done this, which can never, I think, advantageously exist in a nation like this as an exclusive system, the course of industrical avocation began its career. Your Arkwrights and your Watts arose, and led on that long and magnificent course of things, in which the produce of the country in wheat has been trebled, in which the revenue of the owner of the soil has been quadrupled, in which the population has gone on doubling itself, and enabling this country to bear the greatest burdens of taxation that perhaps ever were imposed upon any country—to struggle with them bravely, and even now, after all the pressure, to need but a fair field and no favour, but its inherent energy, to go on augmenting the greatness of the community, and thereby increasing the amount of individual enjoyment. (Applause.) I oppose the Corn Laws, because they seem to me altogether grounded on fallacious pretences, hollow and rotten in the very basis of any argument that can be erected for their support. (Applause.) What, for instance, has been almost the only plea of a public kind that has been dwelt upon? "We want," say they, "to make this country independent of other nations, independent for its food." How independent is that man who cannot purchase food at all? (Hear, hear.) This dependence is not on the owner of the rich fields, whose golden grain has been waving in the sunshine, and is now stored in barns and granaries. He is not allowed to go there, and to take what he wants. The landowner is not his feeder, but the manufacturer who gives him work and pays his wages, without which he would never get at one atom of the landowner's produce. (Applause.) And if he has to earn the wages to buy his home-grown corn by producing goods of which the foreigner is the purchaser, why, then, it is on the foreigner that he is dependent; and all the restrictions in the world cannot sever that bond. (Applause.) Besides, what dependence is there that is not mutual? (Hear, hear.) Make Great Britain independent of all other countries! It is only another phrase for making all other countries independent of Great Britain. (Applause.) There is the policy to which these wise statesmen point. They would make the world independent of our country, when—without blood-stained fields, without dyeing the ocean with human gore, without a succession of wars as devastating to financial resources as they are destructive to human life—by the spread of the products of our industry over the whole face of the earth, by supplying the wants, wherever wants were felt, in any section of the great family of mankind, and by taking back whatever was produced there, the chain of man's dependence would indeed be a golden one, and that moral influence would be purchased by this country, honourably purchased, over all the nations of the earth, which the lord of empire could never wield, nor the most triumphant battle ever secure. (Loud cheers.) No wonder that monopoly cannot satisfy us with its doings: it has never been able to satisfy itself. (Applause.) The history of the system is but one of successive tinkerings, making one hole faster than another was patched up. (Cheers and laughter.) First, the cupidity of the class showed itself in actually giving a bounty on the exportation of corn. (Applause.) We had to pay—the people of this country with not a bit too much of food to put into their mouths, had to pay—for the food being sent abroad, in order that it might be sent abroad at a profit. Then, when importation became absolutely necessary to prevent actual starvation, there was first a law devised, in 1804, to keep up the price of grain to 64s. per quarter; another was passed, in 1815, to keep it up to 80s. per quarter; another, in 1821, which never came into operation, was intended to fix the price at 70s., and obstruct all importation whatever until it reached that price. Then another law was passed, in 1828, to keep the price somewhere about 60s.; and another, in 1842, was to keep it, so far as Sir Robert Peel allows such operation can have effect, at about 56s. a quarter, notwithstanding which it has since fallen to between 40s. and 50s. a quarter. (Applause.) And now, on the one side and on the other, those who enjoy the monopoly in the sense of imposing it, and those who enjoy it in the sense in which the negro might be said, of old times, to enjoy the whip—in the sense of feeling it (laughter)—they are alike dissatisfied, and are calling out that this last tinkering has been tried long enough, and that it will be better to demolish the old rickety implement altogether, and go upon a better system—the system of Free Trade. (Loud cheering.) In the hard struggle that has to be maintained, and which will yet be a hard one, for the abolition of this iniquitous impost, a plan has been marked out by the leaders of the Anti-Corn-Law League which has, to my mind, all the characteristics of a grand, an efficient, a triumphant scheme. (Applause.) It traces step by step the course to be taken. The League proposes, first, to collect the registration lists from the entire country; it will know who are the holders, the deeply-responsible holders as they must be, of political power—the electors of the kingdom. (Applause.) Knowing them, it will put itself in connexion with them; it will receive information; it will transmit information; it will endeavour to combine them in one body, so that places where they are strong may support those where they are feeble; and so that in all there may be a systematic effort to put down the bribery and corruption by which elections have been disgraced, and enable the opinion that is formed to speak out freely by its legitimate and constitutional organs. (Applause.) They propose encouraging electoral organisation as you are encouraging the electors of London in their struggle; rendering all honourable support, by the dissemination of tracts, to the efforts which they make; being ready, as zealous, whenever they are called on to assist in the great contest; if candidates are not forthcoming, to suggest those who may be thought able to serve their cause; and thus going forward, progressively but surely, to the time which must come, when the majority of those who made the present members a Parliament say they are not in unison with it—they differ from it on the question of Free Trade and monopoly. (Applause.) And in the names of those, the majority of the electoral body, the League will then say to the Sovereign of these realms—"May it please your Majesty to dissolve a Parliament that misrepresents the people, and authorize them to call one which will, at any rate, speak their opinions, and coincide with their own views of their interests." (Loud cheers.) It was to my mind an impressive lesson to legislators, the mode in which the announcement was received at the great meeting at Covent-garden Theatre last week—the enthusiasm, the prolonged acclamations which followed the announcement that the League did not recommend any more petitioning of the present Parliament. (Loud and continued cheering, and waving of hats.) I rejoice that you feel with them on this point. All right to be petitioned has been forfeited by a Parliament like the present; a Parliament elected by corruption and false principles (hear, hear), whose very existence was founded in delusion—a Parliament which has falsified every promise that it made, and while not answering the views of those whom it flattered for their votes, has yet not adopted the more just principles of those to whom it was opposed—a Parliament that seemed to be created but for one purpose, that of changing the reins of Government (loud applause), but of marking out no intelligible policy for the future rule of this great empire (loud applause)—a Parliament that has disregarded the petitions of the people, offered not merely by thousands and tens of thousands, but by hundreds of thousands and by millions (loud applause)—a Parliament that has adhered to no one recognised principle, that has not respected even that inferior tie, the bond of party, but whose leaders and followers are continually interchanging their recriminations and their sarcasms (loud cheers)—a Parliament that has redressed no one grievance (applause), that has rectified no great wrong, that has conceded no single right (hear, hear), and whose members at last scampered from London, telling on their cards the only truth that Parliament had told in its long session and with all its multitude of speeches and divisions, "D. I. O.," to shoot grouse and partridges (loud cheers and laughter)—not to such a quarter do we look for redress; but to that manifestation of opinion which I trust this meeting will serve to promote, to that general coincidence in the plans sketched out by the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, which I am glad to find is to be brought before your earnest attention, and to the combination in working out that plan of all hearts and hands, through all classes, and in all the districts of this great empire. (Cheers.) I hope that the opulent here will aid that call, and that they will set a great example of liberality to the country in their contributions; that the electors here will yield their co-operation by preparing themselves to instruct their present representatives, or to choose their future representatives, so as to combine their parliamentary efforts for the total abolition of these iniquitous laws; and that all, electoral or non-electoral, of whatever class, will remember that it is the battle of opinion we are waging, and that opinion is important to all. (Loud cheers.) Remember that those who, under the forms of law and the mask of public good, have gratified the cupidity of the class to which they belong—when the mask is stripped, when the sophistry is demolished, when they find that from the highest to the lowest throughout the country they stand bare and exposed in the naked deformity of their endeavours to enrich themselves at the expense of the common good—they will flinch from the frowns, from the reprobation, from the dreaded execration of their countrymen, and will rather conciliate by concession than prolong an obstinate opposition, which can only lead to the disorganization of society. (Cheers.) For where are we if agitation be continuous, if the depression be continuous, if these gleams of sunshine in a temporarily reviving trade pass away, as pass away they soon must under the present system—where are we, where is society, but in danger of dissolving into its original elements, of owning only the law of the strongest, of completing that misrule which has raised the shout of national existence in Ireland, which has rent in twain the ecclesiastical establishment of Scotland, which has put Wales in a state of open and partially successful insurrection, which convulses England from one end to the other, and which cannot be prevented—with the ignorance of a large proportion, especially of our rural population—from having its fearful climax in deeds of violence and desperation, bringing down again from his gibbet the skeleton of "Swing," and sending him through the country with the dagger of the assassin in one hand, and in the other the torch of conflagration. (Loud and prolonged cheers.) From these perils, and such as these, it is but by a timely effort to give property its security, labour its rights, and industry its encouragement; it is to make a people thriving, prosperous, and happy, and thereby the state great and glorious, that the efforts of the League are directed, and which cannot, I imagine, be in any way so materially promoted as by their complete success, in the immediate, total, and final abolition of the Corn Law monopoly, and, in the train of it, the abolition of all other monopolies. (Cheers.) And in this they are following out those great principles of civilization which have been at work in the world for many an age, which have raised nations, and aggrandised them, and made them ministers of good in the world for their time, or for some specific purpose. For there is nothing uncertain, nothing arbitrary or capricious, as has been sometimes represented, in trade more than in anything else. It has its laws, its laws inviolable in their operation, wise in their construction, beneficial in their tendency, as those great laws of nature which give us the sun to shine by day and the moon by night, and rule the planets in their courses, and marshal the stars in their constellations. (Applause.) The poet was guided by a one-sided view of the question when he said that—

> "Trade's proud empire hastes to swift decay,
> As ocean sweeps the laboured mole away;
> While self-dependent power can time defy,
> As rocks resist the billows and the sky."

If there is such a power, it is certainly not in agriculture. There is no power more self-dependent than that of trade, based as it is on the common wants of humanity, and blending as it does with the progress of human civilization. And hence the metaphor fails, as metaphors will fail poets when they are turned to an unphilosophical purpose. Let the "laboured mole" be swept away, and you of this great emporium know how soon industry and commerce may replace it; stretch it wider, and lay deeper its foundations. The rivers of Sir Hugh Middelton and Brindley—rivers carried along through a course of country—those of Brindley especially passing through hills, over plains, and proudly surmounting those of nature—those rivers flow on like the streams of nature herself; and while the scene of the battles of the old epic poem is the subject of interminable controversy—while they cannot tell us where Scamander flowed, or where the strife of Hector and Achilles had its termination—aqueducts and works of industrial usefulness remain; they are supported; they show from age to age the strength of the principles in which they originate; and the very rocks themselves, while the engineer blasts them with his gunpowder, bow their proud heads down to their base, and the triumphal car of industry, the steam-engine—type of the progress of humanity—rolls over them, bearing its living freight (applause), reconciling countries that were at enmity—uniting those that were at a distance—annihilating time and space—and proclaiming the miracles which God works, for God works by human intelligence, human energy and enterprise, extending the spirit of trade and commerce, that enriches all nations by enriching one, and develops higher principles than its own; for as it advances it represses the selfish feelings, in which it seemed to originate, and shows that there is no real competition between individual and individual, no real antagonism between nation and nation, but that the laws of trade and those of nature are the same as the laws of the religion which we revere; and thus working out the principles on which this society is established, till they lead forward to the magnificent result of the one great law of love and of universal brotherhood.

Mr. Fox resumed his seat amidst the most deafening applause, which was renewed again and again.

The Chairman, after briefly urging upon the meeting the duty of perseverance in the cause of Free Trade, announced that the plan of the League would be submitted to their consideration at the next monthly meeting.

A vote of thanks was then moved by RICHARD SHEIL, Esq., and seconded by JAMES MULLENEUX, Esq., and the immense assembly dispersed.

FREE TRADE MEETING AT LINCOLN.

Mr. Falvey has, within the last few weeks, lectured in Pontefract, Thirsk, Northallerton, Knaresborough, Whitby, York, Driffield, Gainsborough, and Lincoln. The lectures have been invariably well attended, and although entirely agricultural districts, the most unqualified condemnation has been passed upon the Corn Laws. In Lincoln, where Mr. Falvey lectured twice, the most decided approval of Free-Trade principles was manifested. The lectures were delivered in the Guild-hall, John Norton, Esq., taking the chair on each occasion.

In the course of the first address the lecturer gave a short history of the Corn Laws—proved their object to be to preserve high rents—showed how the farmers had been deceived—and traced the connexion between the distress of the country for the last four or five years, and the deficient harvests commencing with the year 1838. The lecturer supported his statements by the unquestionable authority of Parliamentary reports and other statistical documents. After votes of thanks had been passed to the chairman and lecturer, the meeting separated with a request that Mr. Falvey would invite Mr. Seely to the next meeting, he having been a candidate at the last election, and in favour of a fixed duty.

At the commencement of the second lecture, which was delivered on Tuesday evening, the 19th ult., Mr. Falvey stated that, in compliance with their wishes, he had invited Mr. Seely to attend that meeting, who had received him in a kind and courteous manner, but still declined to come.

The lecturer in the course of his remarks explained the difference between duties for monopoly and duties for revenue to the satisfaction of the meeting. He showed that Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston were not agreed as to the reasons for a fixed duty; and then replied to the various and oft-refuted arguments which have been put forth in favour of the Corn Laws: such as burthens on land—national debt—reciprocity—vested interests; and concluded amid loud and long-continued cheering.

The following resolution was proposed and carried unanimously:—

Resolved—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, both the present and past Corn Laws have had the most injurious effects on agriculture and commerce, and that any attempt to perpetuate a bread-tax, UNDER ANY NAME OR FORM, would only delay a final settlement; and, while it would not confer any benefit on the tenant-farmer or farm-labourer, would press with peculiar severity on the poor; therefore, that the interests of all classes and the stability of the empire will be best promoted by the total, immediate, and unconditional abolition of all restrictions on the people's food and industry."

Cheers were then given for Messrs. Cobden, Bright, the League, the Chairman, and Mr. Falvey.

CHOBHAM.—A crowded meeting was held on Monday evening last, in the large market-room of the town of Chobham, at which a "row" was got up by the monopolists of the neighbourhood, with a view of preventing Mr. Sidney Smith from delivering his lecture on the evils of the Corn Laws. Every engine had been previously put to work by the monopolists to prevent the meeting being held, and to deter the small farmers and humble freeholders from attending, but without success. The opponents of the objects of the League, therefore, mustered in pretty strong force at the meeting, which they began to disturb the moment Mr. Smith commenced his address. An attorney, in particular (who has either retired from business, or from whom business has retired), took a prominent part in the disturbance, becoming more unruly as Mr. Smith remonstrated with him. The meeting at length became exasperated at the proceedings, and proceeded, *vi et armis*, to effect the expulsion of the attorney, who made a vigorous resistance with his stick, which he played about him without favour or partiality. The attacking party, however, had the best of it; and the discomfited attorney and his "allies" were, to use a law phrase, put "out of court." The lecturer then resumed his address, and spoke for two hours and a half; after which the meeting gave three hearty cheers for the Anti-Corn-Law League.

ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETING AT DONCASTER.—We understand that an agricultural district meeting has been convened by the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, at Doncaster, and that the day is fixed for Saturday week, the 13th instant. What will give great additional importance and interest to this meeting is, that Earl Fitzwilliam, Mr. Childers, member for Malton, and many of the leading members of the aristocracy of the district, have intimated their intention to be present at the meeting, and to support a resolution for the entire freedom of trade.—*Manchester Guardian.*

GUILDFORD.—On Friday an Anti-Corn-Law meeting was held in this town, at which Mr. Sidney Smith delivered an instructive lecture, which was listened to throughout with deep and respectful attention. The Mayor of the town (who is a Tory), with a liberality that reflects the highest credit on his character and understanding, gave the use of the Town-hall for the delivery of the lecture; being, doubtless, of the growing opinion among the most intelligent of the Conservative body, that "the Corn Law is no party question." The lecturer said, from all that he could ascertain, a vacancy for one of the county seats was whispered as not unlikely to take place by resignation; and, judging from the "signs of the times," the Corn Laws were almost worn out as a "hobby," for candidates any longer to think of riding with ease into Parliament by declarations in favour of them. The farmers of West Surrey, he had every reason to hope, would do their duty, both as respects those laws and their supporters, when occasion might arise. —*Morning Chronicle.*

DINNER TO MR. WAWN.—A dinner was given, on Friday the 29th of September, to Mr. Wawn, M.P. for South Shields, by his constituents, where he made an excellent speech, from which we extract the following passages, referring to the expenses of elections and the Corn-Law monopoly. Mr. Wawn said:—

"He had heard many members of the Reformed House of Commons complain that their election had cost them considerable sums of money; and with what justice could their constituents find fault with them, if, after purchasing their seats so dearly, they should desert their duty in the hour of need, and attend to their own interests more than to the interests of their country. Were all constituencies prepared to do their duty to themselves and their fellow-countrymen—were they ready to record their votes on the principles of purity and independence—they would find abundance of honest men to respond to their call. (Applause.) He knew, on too good authority, that constituencies—constituencies, too, calling themselves Liberal (hear, hear)—had put their respective representatives to many thousands of pounds expense. This was most disgraceful to electors, and injurious to the country; it was especially disgraceful when it occurred in connexion with men who professed the principles of purity of election. It was to such proceedings that the state of the country might in a great measure be attributed."

With reference to the Corn Laws, he said:—

"On the subject of imposts and monopolies, he had gone further, perhaps, than he promised to go, at the time of his election. He had then declared himself in favour of an 8s. duty on the importation of foreign corn; stating, however, at the same time, that he would be prepared to go on reducing the duty, and, if he saw his way clear to such a measure, would eventually abolish it altogether. (Hear, hear, hear.) In the past session of Parliament, it had appeared to him that he might, consistently with his duty, vote for the total abolition of the duty, and he had voted, accordingly, for total Corn-Law repeal. (Loud and protracted cheering, of a most enthusiastic character, and singularly remarkable and significant in an assemblage of shipowners.) He was himself personally interested in the Corn-Law question; and whatever bias he could be supposed to have must be on the side of the existing law. But in his conscience he could not contend that the Corn Laws were advantageous to the community, or even to the farmers as a class. To the labouring classes—those who earned their bread by the sweat of their brows—they were most oppressive and unjust; and he had come to the conclusion that the sooner they were done away with the better. (Loud applause.) The tax on bread was indefensible. A tax on property, on the contrary, was one of the fairest that could be imposed; and if he could have obtained such a tax, apart from the tax on income (which was inquisitorial and unjust), he would gladly have voted for such a measure. (Applause.)

Mr. Mitcalfe, the member for North Shields, who did not vote on Mr. Villiers's motion, was present at the dinner, and declared himself in favour of total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws.

LONDON ELECTION.

SYMPATHY OF THE ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION OF LIVERPOOL.—The following were the resolutions passed at the great Liverpool meeting, of which a report appears in another column. Loud expressions of sympathy and co-operation amongst the Free Traders in different constituencies will have great effect upon electors and elected throughout the kingdom. There are few monopolist members of the House of Commons to whom it will not give some uneasiness. Moved by Mr. Blackburne, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence Heyworth:—

"That the only effectual method of restoring and perpetuating national prosperity is, by the removal from our own laws of every restriction upon free commercial intercourse with other nations, and that the adoption by this country of such a course ought to be prompt and decisive, whether other governments are disposed to follow our example or not."

Moved by Mr. C. H. Rawlins, and seconded by Mr. Robert Mather,

"That a vacancy having occurred in the representation of the city of London in the Commons' House of Parliament, this meeting would most especially impress upon the electors of that city that they are now called upon again to exercise their electoral right at a most important crisis of national affairs; that upon them devolves the decision, whether the first city of the first commercial empire of the world shall be represented by a friend or a foe to the extension of that commerce which forms the source of its greatness, and the relative strength of its position; and they would earnestly entreat the electors to record their votes in favour of an advocate for the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws and all other monopolies, and thus assist the friends of commercial freedom throughout the country to obtain food for the hungry, to clothe the naked, and for every person the right of disposing of the produce of his labour in the open market of the world." (Great cheering.)

A FREE TRADER FOR THE CITY.

Everywhere the friends of commercial freedom and the rights of industry are rallying round Mr. Pattison, the Free-Trade-candidate for the city of London. That their exertions will be successful—shame that Mr. Baring, a monopolist, should dare to contest the representation of the greatest commercial city in the world—cannot be doubted; yet everything must be done to render the monopolist's defeat exemplary. Each elector of the City—every inhabitant of this vast metropolis, who values commercial freedom—must make the cause his own, and, by the exercise of his franchise or the exertion of personal influence, assist in securing Mr. Pattison's election.

The following summary of meetings of Free Traders, in aid of the commercial candidate, will show that the advocates of freedom are stirring themselves heartily. Let no one abstain from the good work.

The electors of the ward of FARRINGDON WITHOUT met in the British and Foreign School-room, in Harp-alley, on Wednesday evening, and were addressed by Mr. Bright, M.P.; Mr. Richard Taylor, the chairman of the meeting; and Mr. R. R. R. Moore, who, with other members of the League, and a great muster of the leading friends of freedom in the ward, were present: the room was crammed. Mr. Bright said the League felt it their duty to throw their weight into the scale of Mr. Pattison, who openly declared himself for Free Trade. Mr. Baring was the relative of that Lord Ashburton who, when he represented Taunton, was the ardent advocate of Free Trade; who had presented the celebrated petition for Free Trade from 40,000 traders of London! but who, having been taken from the order to which he naturally belonged, had turned apostate, and become an enemy to his country. The meeting enthusiastically resolved, with one voice, to support Mr. Pattison.

On Tuesday the WHITECHAPEL AND STEPNEY Anti-Corn-Law Association met at the Grove Maurice, Whitechapel-road. Mr. Little in the chair. The association resolved to support Mr. Pattison as a Free Trader, the contest about to be carried on in the City being, as the chairman observed, "a struggle between the supporters and opponents of monopoly." It was also determined to put the association in communication with the League.

The same evening the HAMPSTEAD ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION met in the Temperance Hall, when A. I. Saul, Esq., of the League, concluded an instructive lecture on the Corn-Law monopoly, and in so doing directed the attention of the meeting to the coming election for London. Those who possessed the franchise ought to exercise it in favour of Mr. Pattison, as the advocate of Free Trade. The meeting separated with cheers for Mr. Pattison.

On Wednesday evening the electors of BISHOPSGATE ward assembled at the White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to consider measures to be adopted for supplying the vacancy in the representation of the city of London, caused by the death of Sir Matthew Wood. Amongst those present were, Mr. Deputy Stevens (chairman), Mr. Deputy Peacock, Messrs. Johnson, Tagg, Bennett, Thomas, Carr, common councilmen; Messrs. Allen, Richardson, Proctor, and many other influential electors of the ward; Mr. Pattison, jun. (the son of the Free-Trade candidate), was also present. Mr. Deputy Stevens, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Deputy Peacock, Mr. Carr, and Mr. Bateman, addressed the meeting, which resolved, First—

"That the death of our esteemed and respectable representative, Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., having caused a vacancy in our representation, it becomes an imperative duty cast on the constituency of this city to select a gentleman to supply his place, *whose principles are in favour of Free Trade*, and who is a firm supporter of civil and religious liberty."

Second—

"That we are much gratified by the address of James Pattison, Esq. His political opinions have been long known, and his conduct during the period he represented this city in Parliament is highly approved of by us, his constituency; and we pledge ourselves to use our best exertions to place him in the honourable situation to which he aspires."

Mr. WYLIE, of Tower Ward, said:—

"He thought that the city of London—a city whose welfare depended on its trade, should return such members as would strive by every means to procure their repeal. (Hear, hear.) That a Baring should present himself as an opponent to the principle of Free Trade, he confessed appeared to him as affording a source of the greatest humiliation to the great house to which the present Conservative candidate belonged."

A meeting of the electors of the ward of FARRINGDON WITHIN was held at the Queen's Head Tavern, in Newgate-street, on Thursday evening, for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, consisting of Mr. Bright, M.P., and Mr. R. R. R. Moore, who, at the solicitation of the friends of Free Trade in that district, had agreed to address the electors. Mr. Holt, one of the common councilmen of the ward, was called to the chair, and the most influential electors of the ward were present. Mr. Moore directed the attention of the meeting to the fact that Mr. Baring, when before in Parliament, had, with a single exception, invariably voted in favour of monopoly, and against the interests of the city of London. Mr. Bright commented on Mr. Baring's address, wherein he alluded to the "commercial interest," and said—"Every interest taken singly was but a monopoly. The object of the League was to protect the public interest, and secure the general well-being." At the conclusion of these addresses a resolution was passed, pledging the meeting to support Mr. Pattison at the coming election. The thanks of the meeting were voted to the deputation.

FREE TRADE, IMMEDIATE OR GRADUAL?

(From *The Economist.*)

At the Oxford county meeting, in proposing a moderate fixed duty on corn, Lord Camoys said:—

"He freely admitted that the fixed duty which he supported would be an evil, but it was an evil which, for a time, we must bear. It was an evil too, let them remember, not without some compensation. A fixed duty might be gradually reduced. If they had a duty of 6s. they might gradually and safely bring it down; but what he did contend for was, that it would not be safe to make the great stride at once."

There are three distinct classes of reasons given in support of a fixed duty upon grain. Some support it on the ground of the protection it affords the home grower; others, repudiating protection, support it as a source of revenue only; while a third class, repudiating both these grounds, support it as a temporary expedient, and as a safer way of arriving at a perfectly Free Trade. It was on the latter ground that Lord Camoys supported his proposal of a modified fixed duty; which, though much less objectionable, in an economical view, than either of the others, yet we think it will not be difficult to show that even this modification would be attended with more hazard and more danger to all parties, but more particularly to the producers, than an immediate repeal of all duties.

We believe it would be very difficult to overrate the injuries, direct and indirect, which have resulted from the existence of these laws to the community at large, to the common well-being of the country; but we are perfectly satisfied that the benefit which they have afforded to the agriculturist, in the narrowest and most limited view of his own interests, has been exaggerated and overrated to an immense extent. But in the proportion that the landed interest of this country has overrated the advantages which these laws have afforded them—in proportion to the tenacity with which they have clung to this protection as an essential to their welfare, in that

proportion we have taught the Continental cultivator to exaggerate greatly to his own mind the advantages which would directly accrue to him on the opening of our markets freely for his produce. And it must be acknowledged by all that the accidental circumstances under which our markets have been opened to the foreign growers, by the operation of the fluctuating scale of duties, must have tended materially to strengthen this feeling on their part.

When the price of corn has been low, England has never been a customer for wheat in Germany. In the most depressed state of their markets nothing could be sold for English account; at 25s. or 30s. per quarter we have refused their wheat at one time, and, on the occurrence of a single bad harvest, we have rushed into their markets, and have raised the price to 50s. or 60s. a quarter within a few months. It is now, therefore, a settled axiom among the wheat growers of northern Europe, that prices are always high when the English market is open to them; and that when it is not, the demand and prices are equally depressed. They do not sufficiently reflect that it is only when prices are high here that the scarcity of wheat and the *lower rate of duty* combine to raise the price of their wheat much more in proportion than even our own; that in the present state of the law these two circumstances, *scarcity and a suddenly declining duty*, act on their prices in a way which a steady Free Trade, keeping prices always moderate and nearly uniform, never could.

Such, however, is the case. Throughout the Continent the wheat growers have a most exaggerated notion of the advantage they would derive by the markets here being freely opened to them. Now what would be the effect of our passing a law by which the whole duty on wheat should gradually sink—and, for example, by which the trade should be perfectly free at the end of five years? The growers on the Continent, everywhere acting upon their exaggerated notions of what the effect would be in *giving them the very high price which they have always had from English buyers*, would turn their attention to extend the growth of wheat by cultivating new lands, in reference to the period when this great advantage was to be extended to them by a free admission of their produce here; and it would be a matter of certainty that, when the time did arrive, a large quantity of grain would be ready to be sent to this country, in proportion to the exaggerated notions under which the increased cultivation has gone on; and if, during that time of preparation, the farmers in England made much progress or improvement in cultivation, a very huge quantity would at once and suddenly be thrown upon the market, and prices would be depressed to a ruinous extent, ruinous not only to the cultivator at home, but more so to the grower abroad; which ruinous effects could not fail to have an effect prejudicial to the consumer, by quickly reacting on production, and, before long, again producing scarcity and high price.

In the meantime the condition of the producer at home, the relation of landlord and tenant, would remain in a most uncertain and unsettled state. The result of the prolonged experiment would to the last continue undefined, and the best interests of all connected with land would be sacrificed to the exaggerated fears and apprehensions arising from existing prejudices about foreign competition, all of which could not fail to produce a certain amount of neglect in the cultivation, most prejudicial to the land, and prevent that steady application of industry and capital which can only be secured by settled and permanant arrangements.

On the other hand, we have nothing to fear from an *immediate adoption* of Free Trade in corn. For the last five years we have taken not only the whole natural present surplus of the Continent into our consumption, but even our imports have been stimulated by extremely high prices. Last autumn we had, in addition to a very abundant harvest, an import of about three millions of quarters of wheat: and yet before the arrival of the late harvest, there was an evidence of insufficient supply, by rapidly rising prices. The effect of an immediate Free Trade could not suddenly increase that quantity, but would have the effect of diffusing it gradually over the whole year, and keeping prices steady, in place of throwing it all suddenly upon the market, and for a time causing an unnatural depression of prices and certain reaction afterwards, alike injurious to home producers and consumers. The moderate, though steady prices, which could be afforded for foreign wheat abroad, if even quite free of duty here, when our prices are moderate, would have the effect of checking any improper or undue speculation on the part of the wheat growers on the Continent, while the growers here would quickly gain confidence in their true position, and all the advantages of a Free Trade would be thus best secured, and with less inconvenience, by an immediate than by a gradual repeal of those laws.

This view is supported by every experience which we have had in similar important changes in our commercial laws. So much so, that last session Mr. Gladstone admitted as a principle derived from experience, that whatever changes were desirable in commercial policy, an immediate adoption of them was always safer and less inconvenient than one of a gradual or prolonged character.

In 1824, when the importation of French silks was first permitted, the manufacturers of that time, like Lord Camoys now, alarmed at the *great stride*, induced the Government to grant a reprieve for two years, that they might be prepared for the change, and the law was therefore made to take effect at the end of two years. During those two years, while little was done in England to prepare for the new competition, in France the manufacturers were busily occupied in obtaining a knowledge of the goods and patterns best suited for the English market, and in preparing a large stock to send over as soon as the time arrived for their admission. Just before the expiry of the two years, the English manufacturers having obtained a knowledge of the large stocks thus prepared, became more alarmed than ever, and after much effort induced the Government to have recourse to a plan, not very creditable, to help them out of the *dilemma which the delay had thus produced*. The silk goods in France had been made in pieces of a given length, and our Government was induced to issue an order in council, just before the act came into operation, confining the import of such goods to pieces of greater length than the French had prepared, and thus the whole stock on hand was thought to be rendered unmarketable. The French, however, having acquired our patterns and a knowledge of what we most wanted, commenced immediately to make the required lengths; and, submitting to a sacrifice on the shorter pieces, they were bought by smugglers, and brought illicitly into this market, and the competition for a time was thus made more severe.

Again, when the timber duties were altered last year, the merchants engaged in the trade induced the Government to postpone their operation until the 10th of October. What was the consequence? From the time the change was determined upon, the price fell in anticipation; every person was a seller, few were buyers. The use of timber during the six months was limited to actual pressing wants. People ceased to replenish their stocks, and the trade during the whole time was almost at a stand; and on the 10th of October, when the great reduction was to take place, the price actually rose, and many people replaced their stocks with green timber at a higher price than they had obtained for what was well-seasoned. Many more examples might be given to prove that it is always safer to adopt a principle *as soon as it is proved to be true*, and thus, by determining the real effects at once, setting men's minds at rest, than by the delay, to leave important interests exposed to the usually exaggerated alarms and fears of those who are most immediately interested therein.

THE REGISTRATION.

The progress of the revision shows the increasing importance which our friends attach to the movement of the League upon the electoral body. Our advices from the cities and boroughs in which the revision has been completed are cheering. In most of them the Free Traders have succeeded in very much increasing their strength—in scarcely any have they receded from their former position. In the Lancashire and Yorkshire boroughs, come an election when it may, great changes will take place. When the whole revision of the kingdom is completed we shall endeavour to give our readers the general results.

RESULT OF THE REVISION FOR THE CITY OF BRISTOL.

HOUSEHOLDERS AND FREEHOLDERS.

Free Traders' objections made ..		349
Sustained ..	234	
Change of residence	34	
Withdrawn ..	19	
Duplicate objections withdrawn, on which service could not be proved by Monopolists	49	
Failed in ..	13	
		349
Monopolist objections made ..		244
Sustained ..	5	
Change of residence	14	
Withdrawn ..	60	
Failed in ..	116	
Ditto, upon the objection taken to the sufficiency of Tudball's notice	49	
		244
Free Traders' claims made		198
Allowed ..	155	
Failed ..	43	
		198
Monopolist claims made		93
Allowed ..	54	
Failed ..	39	
		93

FREEMEN.

Free Traders' objections made ..		280
Sustained ..	167	
Change of residence	83	
Withdrawn ..	28	
Failed ..	2	
		280
Monopolist objections made ..		92
Sustained ..	4	
Change of residence	12	
Withdrawn ..	18	
Failed ..	53	
Ditto, on Tudball's notice ..	5	
		92
Free Traders' claims made		24
Allowed ..	22	
Failed ..	2	
		24
Monopolist claims made		46
Allowed ..	23	
Failed ..	23	
		46

SUMMARY.

Gross Free Traders' objections sustained ..	401	
" " claims allowed ..	177	
		578
Gross monopolist objections sustained ..	9	
" " claims allowed ..	77	
		86
Free Traders' majority ..		492

PORTSMOUTH.—We congratulate the electors of the borough, as well as those of the county residents in this district, on the successful termination of the registration, increasing as it does the already safe majority on the side of the Liberals of these towns and neighbourhood. Our contemporary the *Advertiser* waxed wroth at the idea of any one possessing courage enough to object to the vote of the Lieutenant-Governor, whose vote the Revising Barrister, it appears, considered bad, and consequently expunged it from the list. The same fate attended the votes of all the officers of the dockyard resident therein, as well as many others on the list who, like them, have their rates and taxes paid for them. We consider the barrister's decision a very just one: it is monstrously absurd that any one not liable to the payment of the rates should endeavour to acquire any privileges resulting therefrom. We have often witnessed the officers of the dockyard voting at parochial elections, making of church-rates, &c. We presume the decision of the barrister will put an end to such conduct. If they are not entitled to parliamentary votes because they do not pay rates, surely they cannot be entitled to parochial privileges for the same reasons. —*Hampshire Independent*.

NORTHAMPTON PARLIAMENTARY BOROUGH REGISTRATION, BEFORE J. MELLOR, ESQ.

CLAIMS.

New claims by Free Traders	37	New claims by monopolists	21
Sustained	32	Sustained	12
Not sustained ..	5	Not sustained ..	9

Majority for Free Traders .. 20

OBJECTIONS.

Objections by Free Traders	42	Objections by monopolists	24
Sustained	26	Sustained	0
Not sustained ..	16	Not sustained ..	24

Votes rejected, all monopolists .. 26

BLACKBURN (from an esteemed Correspondent), Oct. 4.—I have great pleasure in informing you, and, through you, the League, that we have committed absolute slaughter on the monopolists here in our Registration Court. We have exceeded our most sanguine expectations. In confirmation of my statement, I send you by this post the *Blackburn Standard*. Our attorney has not, as yet, made up his books, so as to ascertain the real result of our and their objections and claims. But there can be no doubt but that it will be greater than that admitted by the *Standard*. It, however, as you will see, admits a gain of forty. We can now, without the slightest doubt, return two good Corn Law repealers, come an election when it may.—Mr. HICKIN, Sec.

PROGRESS OF THE QUESTION.—Mr. Pattison, upon the subject of Free Trade, is brief and explicit. "On the subject which now chiefly occupies the public mind my views are clear and decided, and the votes I have invariably given in favour of Mr. Villiers's motion on the Corn Laws sufficiently attest their sincerity." This is a plain, straightforward declaration of principle—such as should secure to Mr. Pattison the support of all classes of Free Traders. It goes further, perhaps, than the same candidate would have gone in a hustings declaration two years ago. But such is the progress of the great question to which it refers. From this, as well as from the tone taken by the Anti-Corn-Law League, it is obvious that we approach the beginning of the end. Mr. Cobden's speech, the other night, was characterised by an ability as much above his previous efforts as his position rises with the question. It is evident he feels his power, and is equal to the issue. The enthusiasm of that vast meeting knew no bounds. It was a bold proceeding to commence a campaign in the metropolis before the autumn closes and the multitudinous wanderers for health and pleasure of this vast hive had retired to their winters quarters. But Mr. Cobden seems well aware that his acorn has become an oak; that its branches are as luxuriant as the parent tree; and that the vital principle contained in such a cause as Free Trade will bear transplantation from the ardent North to the more languid latitudes of London. To us it appears also that the course recommended by the League is exactly what is best suited to its great enterprise.—*Chronicle*.

PROTECTION OR COMPETITION.—It is very common to hear earnest agricultural improvers indulging in the belief that if they are only left alone, and their present protection is not withdrawn, the Corn Laws in a few years will be a subject of indifference equally to producers and consumers, for we shall grow wheat cheaper than any other country in the world. This argument was maintained in 1815, when the Corn Laws were first enacted, and has been urged upon every occasion on which discussions have arisen in Parliament on the subject, since that time down to the present day; and it has been said that we were to be rendered "*independent of foreign countries*," by the great stimulus which these laws would give to our productive powers at home. *Twenty-eight years have passed away without any symptom of such an effect having resulted.* The experience of the last five years shows that we depend more on foreign countries than ever; it is universally admitted that, during that period, agriculture has made less progress than any other important art; and every page of agricultural journals, royal and provincial, leads us to infer that nearly the whole work of improvement is yet to be commenced.—*Economist*.

CUSTOM HOUSE.—Owing to the dismissals and suspensions at the London Custom House, in consequence of the frauds committed there, several of the officers of the Customs at Bristol have been removed for a time to the metropolis, to do the work until these vacancies are filled up.—*Bristol Mirror*.—[What a commentary upon our absurdly high customs duties do the late Custom House frauds present!]

WHY SHOULD AGRICULTURISTS STAND STILL?—It is quite impossible to speculate on the full advantages which energetic competition might have produced in agriculture since 1815, but there are several very striking phenomena connected with farming which at least prove much. What would be said if the cotton-spinner or weaver in Glasgow had machinery by which, with no better material, he turned out double the quantity, or one-third more yarn or cloth than his competitor in Lancashire? The latter must soon apply the same machinery, or he would be ruined. Yet for years past, on land originally worse, with a worse climate, the Scotch farmer turns off four or five quarters of wheat to the acre, where the farmer in the south of England barely produces three quarters, and with green crops the difference is still greater. Then, again, improvements of the most striking and acknowledged kind will exist in one county, and not be imitated even in the adjoining counties for a long time, if ever. A practical and successful farmer of upwards of seven hundred acres, and a large land-agent, Mr. Hewitt Davis, recently published a pamphlet, in which he shows, by his own experience, that a saving of *seed wheat* alone might be made, with very great advantage otherwise to the crops, by thinner sowing, which, on the entire sowings of the country, would make a quantity equal to the whole average imports of the last fourteen years; but how long it may be before this obvious improvement is adopted generally it is difficult to say. In short, until

we see free competition applied to the cultivation of the soil, we can form no calculation of what either our farmers or the land is capable.—*Economist.*

The new agitation of the League is the most imposing enterprise that they have yet undertaken. They calculate that in the entire body of electors a real majority is in favour of Free Trade; and their object is, by placing the dissevered fragments of that majority in free communication with each other, to give it unity, strength, and efficiency. At the same time that by such means, and by a magnificent scheme of canvassing, they endeavour to evoke the true opinion of the constituent body, they are to check the influences that disturb and oppose it in Parliamentary elections; calling bribers and intimidators to account before the law, with a strictness never employed heretofore. Their arrangements have a completeness and a business-like aspect that promise much.—*Spectator.*

Agricultural Estimate of Monopolists.—We regret that our county members attended the *so-called* county meeting at Oxford, unless they had better exposed (which they might easily have done) the fallacious arguments of Cobden and Bright. Had they absented themselves altogether they would not have experienced a *defeat*, nor would their constituents have had reason to complain that *their interests were so feebly advocated.—Oxford Correspondent of Bell's Weekly Messenger.*—[The italics are the writer's. The feeble advocacy of monopoly—when can such a cause be otherwise advocated?—wherever the monopolists have had the rashness to make a show of fighting, has greatly tended to convince the farmers that they were deluded by fallacies at the election of 1841.]

The following statement was given by the Rev. J. Bulwer of the expenses and profits of a farm of 350 acres, situate in the hundred of South Erpringham, as reported in the *Norwich Mercury* of September 26, 1843:—

50 acres of wheat, 8 combs per acre, 24s.	£480	0	0	Rent	£525	0	0
100 acres of barley, 9 combs per acre, 13s.	585	0	0	Tithes	122	10	0
Profit on 30 bullocks	240	0	0	Poor-rate ..	105	0	0
Do. 200 sheep ..	200	0	0	Labour	450	0	0
Do. pigs ..	30	0	0	Grass seeds ..	20	0	0
				Wheat do. ..	44	8	0
				Barley do. ..	65	0	0
				Horse corn ..	50	0	0
				Oilcake	90	0	0
				Artificial manure ..	50	0	0
				Blacksmith's bill ..	90	0	0
				Wheelwright's do. ..	30	0	0
				Harnessmaker's do.	15	0	0
Loss ..	175	12	8	Farrier	10	0	0
				Moles and rats ..	4	0	0
				Income tax ..	7	14	8
				Interest on £2450 ..	98	0	0
	£1706	12	8		£1706	12	8

Worcester Anti-Corn-Law Meeting.—The High Sheriff has refused to comply with the requisition for a county meeting, presented to him on Friday last. When we consider the number and high character of the signatures attached to this document, we cannot help being greatly disappointed and surprised that the High Sheriff should have come to such a decision, the more so as he has not thought proper to assign any reason, or leave room for any reason to be inferred, for his non-compliance, save and except the purpose of the meeting—the discussion of the Corn Laws—was not exactly to his taste. The requisition bore the signatures of Viscount Southwell, of Sir Edward Blount, Bart., of Colonel Davies, our late valued city member, of Mr. Robert Scott, M.P. for Walsall, of Mr. Holland, formerly member for East Worcestershire, and of eleven other gentlemen, many of them large landowners, others still larger manufacturers, and all in the commission of the peace for the county. * * * Amongst the other freeholders who subscribed the requisition we observe the name of Mr. Hardy (a candidate at the last election for the representation of this city in Parliament), the mayor and high alderman of Evesham, a magistrate and twelve town councillors of Worcester, two aldermen and two town councillors of Birmingham, a magistrate of Droitwich, the names of most respectable professional gentlemen of Worcester, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, and Dudley, and some of the principal manufacturers of the three latter places, in all 165 signatures, including those of many respectable agriculturists. Yet the High Sheriff, copying the conduct of the Liberal mayor of Birmingham, rather than that of the Conservative High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, refuses a request thus influentially supported, a request which had no other object than that of procuring a full, fair, and free discussion of the advantages or evils of Corn Laws, before a class of men who principally believe that their interests are bound up with the maintenance of protection, and who were driven by that belief, at the last general election, to place the Ministry of Sir Robert Peel in office, with a commanding majority at their back. The refusal of the High Sheriff argues, in the light we view it, the conviction of the party with which that gentleman usually acts, that the encounter of arguments on the subject of free trade in corn would be anything but favourable to them. Messrs. Cobden and Bright will now address the meeting in the Town-hall on Saturday (this day), and, should that building not prove sufficiently capacious, an adjournment to the Grand Stand on Pitchcroft, if the weather be fine, will probably take place.—*Worcestershire Chronicle.*

Free Trade with America.—There is a growing feeling in America in favour of Free Trade with Great Britain, and no doubt whatever of an immense and almost incalculable extension of the commercial relations between the two countries, provided we abolish our absurd and iniquitous Corn and Provision Laws. The writings and speeches of the most eminent men in America show that the obstacles to the adoption of a better system do not rest at the other side of the Atlantic. Mr. Calhoun, the popular candidate for the Presidency, says, in a recent letter, "I must say that I have not much hope that anything satisfactory can be done in *the form of arrangement.* Although I do not doubt the sincerity of the Government on either side, the difficulties are great; but, if an equal and fair arrangement can be made, I do not doubt its expediency. *I am for Free Trade—Free Trade on both sides, if it can be had, but, if not, on one side.* It is good in part, but better in whole for the interest of both countries; and my advice, as far as I have an opportunity of giving it to my friends, is to push, without the least relaxation, for decided action on the part of Congress at the next session; but, at the same time, *to throw no discouragemen on the attempt to arrange the duties by mutual agreement;* and I hope they will take that course. It is, I hold to be, the most certain mode to obtain the object they have in view—*to strike off the shackles of commerce.*" In the same spirit Mr. Upshur, the American Minister for Foreign Affairs, in a letter to the British Minister in this country, says, most truly, that England and the United States have nothing to gain by mutually crippling each other,—nothing to lose by the closest and most friendly relations, and that, if they only approach each other with a generous confidence, and in a frank and sincere spirit, "*nothing will be easier than the formation of a commercial treaty satisfactory to both.* I am afraid of some of the leading statesmen of England are not so well informed as I wish them to be in regard to the southern portion of our country. There is nothing in our institutions unfriendly to England's prosperity. We produce what she wishes to buy, and we buy what she wishes to sell. If mutual convenience and common interest are enough to bind two nations together, then should England and our southern states be close friends. It is true that the northern states are her competitors, not only in our own market, but in those of the world, but the northern states have seen the folly of all attempts to engross our trade *by unreasonable tariffs, and are now willing and able to enter into fair competition.*"

The "Times'" Comment on Peel's Agricultural Speech.—"On the subject of farming leases, that great mare's nest, as we must call it, of those who do not understand the relations between the English landlord and tenant, Sir R. Peel's conclusions are cautious and, we think, rational. He believes that where the practice of 'tenancy at will' exists, there exists also 'an almost universal feeling of confidence between landlord and tenant.' 'Of this, however,' he presently adds—'I am confident that unless there be that feeling of reliance on the part of the tenant, either by a lease or by a full confidence in the generosity of the landlord—a full assurance in some way or other, either legally or morally, that advantage will not be taken of his improvements, that neither political differences nor any other cause *will be allowed to disentitle him to the benefits derivable from the capital he may expend*—I am certain, I say, that unless this condition be complied with agriculture will not make that progress which I consider to be essential to the best interests of the country.' With the justice of this it would be difficult to quarrel. It is the mere statement of a most unquestionable, and we hope unquestioned, principle of equity. But we cannot help being a good deal amused by the way in which the able Parliamentary tactician seems to have dealt with this delicate subject for an agricultural dinner. We may be misled by a 'forward and delusive' imagination—but we cannot help fancying that we perceive most curiously the oscillations of the orator's mind as the different circumstances of his auditory successively flashed upon him. We would have given a trifle for the privilege of admission to Sir Robert's Peel's inner mind during the developement of his essay upon long leases, as difficulty after difficulty sprang up to mar the sentences which he was on the point of bringing to a majestic conclusion, producing that strange pendulous effect which characterises this part of his speech. No sooner has he caught the farmers' attention by the magic words 'occupying tenant,' 'permanent interest,' 'long lease,' than it occurs to him that half of his auditory, he himself inclusive, are landlords who have never given a lease in their lives—so he recoils suddenly upon the topic of 'reciprocal confidence' and perfect security. But this, he appears instantly to perceive, will scarcely do for the farmers, and so begins to qualify his unpromising phrases by an assurance that any tenant of his shall have a lease on demand: here, however, his heart fails him before the end of the sentence, and the nascent pledge fades into the assurance, that 'I shall hesitate very long before I decline to accede to my tenant's request.' Still Sir Robert is uneasy—this is as much too impotent as the other was too stringent a climax. He makes up his mind to try again. He composes another sentence, and assures the supposed demandant that 'he shall be *very much disposed to accede to his wishes.*' Some farmer, we suppose, still looked discontented—the cheers hang fire—the assembly expects something still more definite. The orator reluctantly makes up his mind to the gulp, and, with a hint that he does not 'think it likely any such application will be made,' and 'should rejoice to find that such a feeling of confidence' as aforesaid 'existed,' goes the whole hog, and tells his tenantry out and out, that '*he will be perfectly ready to accede to the application.*' Poor Sir Robert! Between farmer and landlord—his own practice and his own theory—his amiable desire to be popular and his habitual determination to be prudent—he had a delicate line to draw. And it must be allowed he has accomplished it with considerable skill. His practical conclusion, before quoted, is reason itself—all that could be asked or hoped for by any party—not fertile in particulars, but sound and sensible—suggesting anything, and pledging to nothing. It is quite a pity that his artless speech should have betrayed so lamentably the line of reasoning by which it was forced upon him."

AGRICULTURE.

INFLUENCE OF TENURE ON AGRICULTURE.

The very characteristic speech of Sir Robert Peel at the Lichfield Agricultural Association has formed the subject of innumerable articles in the daily and weekly press; and, as in other instances, the most opposite inferences have been drawn from the see-saw sentences of the dexterous Premier. To those who know anything of the every-day sentiments of the landed gentry, with respect to "reciprocal confidence" of landlord and tenant the right hon. baronet's speech is perfectly intelligible. He is far too clear-sighted, too much accustomed to judge of evidence, not to see most distinctly "that it is necessary to complete success in agriculture that the occupying tenant *should* have a permanent interest in his land;" and that unless the tenant "has a full assurance, in some way or other, that advantage will not be taken of his improvements, agriculture will not make the progress which is essential to the best interests of the country." So much is positively stated, amidst his balanced and involved speech. The most obvious way of giving the tenant "the full assurance" requisite to improved husbandry would be to grant him a lease. But then it is not the custom in England to grant leases, for reasons on the part of the landlord which we shall examine presently; and landowners, having of late become fully aware that improvements in husbandry can alone secure their present rents, are now trying to induce their tenants to become improvers in reliance on "the generosity of their landlords." That no rational farmer will rely on anything so frail every day's experience proves; and it forcibly shows in what an atmosphere of self-delusion our aristocrats are accustomed to dwell, when a man of Sir Robert Peel's knowledge of the world can indulge in such fallacies.

But Sir Robert only dealt with one-half of the question. It is perfectly true that "it is supposed by some that it is necessary to complete success in agriculture that the occupying tenant should have a more permanent interest in the land than that which he can have where duration of the tenancy is only from year to year;" and we entirely agree with Sir Robert Peel when he says, "It would be of the greatest importance to the landed proprietor fully to consider the policy of granting such more permanent leases, and so to facilitate and promote the better cultivation of the soil." But has the backwardness to enter into more permanent engagements existed only on the side of the landlords? Have not tenants been at least as unwilling to hamper themselves with leases? It is notorious that the general body of English farmers, for the last twenty years, have been as unwilling to accept as the landowners have been to grant leases. The want of leases has operated most materially to retard the progress of agriculture in England. Complete success in agriculture will never be attained until the system of granting and *taking* leases shall become universal. But the advent of that period does not depend on the mere readiness of the landlords to "consider the policy of granting," or actually to grant, leases. We do not believe that one in fifty of the tenants of the principal landowners in England could be induced to take leases. We challenge contradiction of that statement.* And why is this? There must be some widely-operating cause for such an anomaly, seeing that the advantages to a tenant of a permanent holding appear to be incalculable. That cause will be found in the Corn Law.

Restrictions on the importation of foreign grain, under the peculiar circumstances of this country, have introduced so much uncertainty and fluctuation in the farmer's business, that he must be a man of some general information and considerable command of capital, who would now venture on a lease of fourteen or twenty-one years; and no shorter term is worth a farmer's consideration. Comparatively few of the tenantry of England possess both the knowledge and capital requisite to enter into a speculation so hazardous as the lease of a farm during the existence of the Corn Laws. Let any farmer review the history of his business for the last twenty-three years, and he may well hesitate to bind himself to a definite engagement for twenty-one years onward. Will he not remember that, in 1820, a law existed which promised him 80s. a quarter for his wheat, and other grain in proportion, and that his rent and all other burthens had been calculated on that basis? Yet the price he actually received for his wheat in that year was 51s. a quarter! In 1822 the average price of the year was only a fraction above 38s. per qr. Then nothing but the "generosity of the landlord"—or his self-interest—stood between the farmer and ruin. He was then amply "protected" against foreign competition. Two different Parliamentary committees, in 1821 and 1822, declared that "protection could not be carried further than monopoly," and that "the British grower had possessed a complete monopoly of the home market since 1818." The low prices resulted from the abundance of the

* See the speeches at the Ledbury Association, which we had not seen when writing this article, where the same opinions are stated by farmers.

home produce, and, though every other business was prosperous and advancing, the farmer was immersed in poverty and distress. Then came the wet harvest of 1824, and the price of wheat advanced in the spring of 1825 to 67s. a quarter. The farmer began to think his turn was coming, that he was about to obtain the monopoly price of 80s. the Corn Law promised him; but no, the Government of the day dared not to subject the nation to the effective operation of the monopoly. In 1825, 1826, and 1827, the Corn Laws were set aside, and foreign grain was admitted on the special authority of the Government. After the harvest of 1827 the average price again fell to 49s. a quarter. There was a tacit admission that the law of 1815 had failed, and that a monopoly price of 80s. could not be enforced. Sir Robert Peel's sliding-scale Act of 1828 was then enacted, and, after a few fitful alternations of price, caused by bad harvests and sudden importations, the farmer, in 1833, again found himself in a state of distress, through low prices, the result of abundance at home. The prices continued low until 1837, when he had high but rapidly fluctuating prices till 1842, and then a new cycle of low prices recommenced. With these facts before him, deeply imprinted in his mind by anxiety and suffering, is it wonderful that the farmer is averse to bind himself by a lease? Is it strange that he hesitates to embark in permanent improvements? How is he to farm? Is he to frame his scheme of cultivation according to the high scale of prices or the low? What security has he that either will be right? The obvious, the proved result is, that he looks only to the current year, and grows as much corn as he can *in one year* without reference to future advantage. At the end of that year he finds the same reason for continuing his provisional system as existed in the previous year, and so he goes on from year to year, the victim of a false and delusive policy. And in spite of all the agricultural societies in the country, so will the mass of the farmers continue to go on until the Corn Laws shall be totally and absolutely abolished.

This is the major branch of the lease question, which is now exciting the deepest interest amongst all classes of farmers. The minor branch of the subject is that to which Sir Robert Peel addressed himself. English landlords have generally discontinued to grant leases, for reasons partly feudal, partly pecuniary, partly political. Previously to the great rise of British manufacturing industry in the latter half of the last century, the relation of landlord and tenant retained many of its old feudal customs. The tenant looked up to the landlord as feudal superior, the director of his opinions, his advocate, and representative at quarter sessions, and, perchance, in Parliament. The landlord let his land in consideration of rent *and services*—(in testimony of which see the Cheshire lease we published last week); though modified by the advancing civilization of the age, the holding was essentially a feudal tenure. The farmer's political rights were exercised under the landlord's direction, and this influence on the county elections added, in no slight degree, to the dignity of landed property. The absolute disposal of the game kept on the farm was another strictly feudal reservation, and such as no really good farmer at this day will submit to. The gradual rise of rent and the money value of land which occurred down to 1794, and the eager, headlong competition for its occupation which existed from that time to 1814, soon rendered the amount of rent the only substantial question, and the feudal reservations, still contained in the leases, were practically disregarded by both parties. Land became the subject of speculation; its commercial value, according to the existing practices of agriculture, was alone considered, and the barbarous relics of feudalism were silently abrogated.

The change which occurred in 1814, though it embarrassed the arrangements both of landlord and tenant, in no way tended to re-establish the feudal incidents of the tenure. On the contrary, more production—the price being lower—became necessary, to enable both parties to perform their obligations, the tenant to his landlord, the landlord to his mortgagees and encumbrancers. The obvious way of attaining this was by the outlay of more capital on the land, by rendering it and its occupation more strictly commercial, by obliterating the last traces of feudalism. But this required some temporary sacrifice on the part of the landlord, and some vigorous exertion on the part of the tenant; and both parties agreed to the experiment of extracting their accustomed profit and rent out of the public by means of the Corn Law. The experiment has proved a miserable failure, and, like most acts of dishonesty, has fearfully recoiled upon the experimenters, though hitherto the landlords have contrived to make the largest share of the retribution fall upon the tenantry. Though the feudalities of tenure in this country are in fact gone for ever, the landowners still cling to their shadow, and this forms one reason why they object to leases; for, let it be recollected that, when leases again become general, their provisions must be rational, and such as good farmers will be content to abide by.

Then the landlords have had pecuniary reasons for withholding leases. They were made to understand, especially after 1821, that a lease formed no security for payment of stipulated rents from the great body of tenants, under the circumstances of that period; for they were compelled to make temporary abatements, though they always hoped, by remodelling the Corn Laws, to contrive that such abatements should be only temporary. Thus the Corn Law has made the money engagements between landlord and tenant strictly provisional.

The desire of political influence has been another reason with landlords for refusing leases. Though of late, the maintenance of the Corn Laws has been the principal object for which that influence is desired, inasmuch as, notwithstanding all the Parliamentary parade about the farmers' interests, the gentry have long had a shrewd suspicion that the Corn Law is entirely a landlords' question.

With these views, Sir Robert Peel's speech becomes a lucid and intelligible oration. He knows that a fixed tenure is essential to good husbandry; but he knows also the prejudices of the landlords, and their anxiety to obtain the *full commercial rent*, and THE FEUDAL SERVICES AS WELL. He knows that in the fluctuations the Corn Laws will again produce, the tenants must be again and again at their landlords' mercy.

This is what he means by "the feeling of reciprocal confidence between the landlord and the tenant," which was well understood in an assembly wherein probably every tenant had solicited, and every landlord had conceded, an abatement upon the past year's rent.

The subsequent remark, that if any tenant of his "did say to him, that he would feel his character exalted by having a greater permanency of tenure, or that it would be more agreeable to him to have that permanency of tenure which a lease would give, *I should hesitate very long before I declined to accede to his* proposition," addressed to such a meeting, seems really very like a covert sarcasm.

Fancy a tenant coming one day to a landlord, "who has not a single lease on his estate," and who "rejoiced to find such a feeling of confidence existed," as would induce a farmer not to desire a lease; and telling him in substance, though perhaps not in words, that he, the farmer, had not the "moral assurance that advantage would not be taken of his improvements;" and the same farmer humbly seeking, possibly at the next rent-day, an abatement of rent! Yet, what farmer can say, while the Corn Laws exist, that he may not be compelled to ask or to receive such an abatement? The truth is, the Corn Law forms the grand engine of the farmer's degradation, as very many of them are beginning to understand.

THE WELSH FARMERS.

Another meeting of the Welsh farmers, on the mountain of Ben Crugycbalac, near Newcastle Emlyn, took place on Wednesday last, at which Mr. Lloyd Williams, a county magistrate, presided.

"The meeting took place on the topmost acclivity of a mountain, from which could be seen the three counties of Pembroke, Cardigan, and Carmarthen. The place of meeting was admirably arranged, for the platform from which the speakers addressed the assembly formed something like the arena of an amphitheatre, around which arose the steep ground, that gave to the auditors the advantage of standing step over step, so as to have a complete view of everything that was passing beneath them. At the time the chair was taken there could not have been less than 3000 persons present."

After the Chairman and Captain Lloyd had addressed the meeting, a resolution, expressing regret at the outrages, and pledging those present not to attend any nightly meeting themselves, or to permit any of their sons or dependents to do so, or do any other acts in aid of the disturbers, was agreed to. It was then proposed to embody the resolution in a petition to the Queen; but, after several speeches in Welsh from farmers and their friends, and much discussion, it was agreed that a petition, similar to those passed at Mynid Sylen and Mynid Mawr, omitting such parts as related to vote by ballot, fixity of tenure, and the dissolution of Parliament, should be also adopted for presentation to Parliament.

Some of the observations of the farmers show the unwholesome state of feeling between landlords and tenants. For instance:—

Mr. John Rees, farmer, of Clanarth, said,

"He wished to point out the real source of the grievances. He complained of the roads as being kept wholly unrepaired by the trustees. He was willing to pay a higher rate of toll, if they were kept in a proper state of repair. The game-laws were very oppressive. The farmer was not permitted to kill a hare which passed over the land for which he paid rent and taxes, which was a great shame. The real grievances of the country were the rents and tithes, but he did not think the gentry of the country were alone to blame for this. Rents were high because the competition for farms was so great. *Ten men were anxious to get the same farm, and before the twelvemonths was up, they could not pay the rent.* The tithes ought not to be more than 2s. in the pound rack rent. A great cause of the present distress was the underletting of farms. As hair by hair the horse got cropped, so distress came upon them by degrees: formerly the farmers bought their lime at the seacoast, but now the roads were getting green—they had no money to pay for the lime. The land was in consequence badly cultivated. The landlords ought to return 20 per cent. of their rents, or the farmers could not live. He freely admitted that it was ordained by Divine Providence there should be gentlemen and poor men; but the gentlemen now gave the best of food to their hounds, while the poor were starving. He called on them to join in petitioning for a reduction of rents, and to leave the Lleckryd weir, vote by ballot, and all that sort of thing, and turn their attention to the real grievances of the country—tithes and rents.

LEDBURY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The yearly meeting and show of this Society was held at Ledbury on the 29th of September, when a large exhibition of stock and implements took place. In consequence of the hardness of the ground the ploughing match was postponed, after several ineffectual attempts.

When the prizes awarded for bulls, cows, sheep, pigs, and turnips, had been disposed of, those intended for the encouragement of agricultural servants were declared as follows:—

SERVANTS.

	£	s.	d.
The man servant (not being a bailiff) who has lived the longest time in one service, being a hired servant, of good character—Anthony Godsall, in the service of E. T. Foley, Esq.	1	0	0
The second period of service of like character—Henry Barber, in the service of Mr. James Davis	0	15	0
The boy under eighteen years of age who has lived the longest time in one service, of good character—George Rouse, in the service of Mr. George Godsall	0	10	0
The man servant who has worked the longest time in one service (not being a hired servant), of good character—Joseph Fawke, in the service of Mr. J. Dallimore	1	5	0
The second ditto ditto—Edward Badham, in the service of Mr. James King	1	0	0
The third ditto ditto—Philip Eley, in the service of R. D. Cooke, Esq.	0	15	0
The cottager *who has supported the largest family without parochial aid*, of good character—Thomas Haford, recommended by Mr. John Hollings	1	10	0
The second ditto—Thomas Davis, recommended by Mr. Thomas Holland	1	0	0
The third ditto—*No claimant*	0	15	0
The cottager's wife who has produced the greatest quantity of honey this year—Maria Fawke, recommended by Mr. James Ward	0	7	6
The second ditto—*No claimant*	0	5	0
The labourer or widow of a labourer who has brought up and is now supporting the greatest number of children without assistance from any parish—No claimant	1	1	0

The total amount of these prizes for encouraging independence of parochial relief and steady service amongst the agricultural labourers, is the vast sum of £10 3s. 6d., or, probably, about half the amount offered as a prize for the best bull. And, be it observed, that for £2 1s. of this allotted sum there were no claimants. What the whole sum which was distributed in prizes for stock amounted to, the *Hereford Journal*, from whence we take the report, has not recorded. But looking at the sums usually given on these occasions, we should not estimate it under £100. Does this proportion of £100 to £8 2s. 6d. mark the relative regard the landlords—the chief promoters of these associations—have for stock and crops, which produce rent, and the agricultural labourers who, in the shape of paupers, often cause no slight deduction from it?

Then came the dinner:—

"At about half-past three, the company, amounting to nearly 140, sat down in a tent erected for the occasion, behind the George Inn. Richard Webb, Esq., of Donnington Hall, filled the chair, James Martin, Esq., of Old Colwall, acting as vice-president. Among the gentlemen present were, Earl Somers, Joseph Bailey, jun., Esq., M.P., Captain Holbrook, Rev. Chas. Wetherell, Rev. Mr. Jones, Osman Ricardo, Esq., Rev. C. Hill, Reginald Hill, Esq., Robert Biddulph, Esq., Mr. Partridge, Mr. Watson, Mr. Hudson, Mr. W. C. Watson, Mr. J. Homes, Mr. Burgum, Mr. P. H. Boissier, Mr. C. A. Mason."

After the routine toasts, Mr. Bailey, jun., the only county member present, in returning thanks, said—

"These societies have my best wishes, from the great good they not only do to agriculture in producing good stock and crops, and promoting a right feeling between landlord and tenant, but for the benefit the farm labourer derives from them. *It is necessary that a good feeling should exist between landlord and tenant*, and between tenant and labourer; that those good, honest, industrious workmen should be rewarded for their conduct and skill; and nothing is more likely to conduce to goodwill between farmer and labourer, and engender kind feeling between them, than these societies."

The Chairman then proposed "Success and perpetuity to the Ledbury Agricultural Society," and said—

"I have always felt great pleasure in promoting the interests of this association, not because I am a landholder, but because these meetings bring the landlord and tenant together, when they can introduce subjects which tend to the advantage of both parties, and because the welfare of the country is dependent upon the prosperity of the agricultural interest. *The present low prices should render us more anxious to have better crops; and such can only be gained by using improved manure, by improving the land, and availing ourselves of the advantages of machinery.* I trust that, ere long, there will be a better feeling established between the manufacturing and agricultural interests, and that the former will see that their prosperity depends upon the success of the latter."

The health of Earl Somers, "the patron of the association," having been drunk, called up his lordship to return thanks, when he said—

"Upon the present occasion it is absolutely necessary that there should *be a good understanding subsisting between landlord and tenant, and that we should all put our shoulders to the wheel* and endeavour to get over the difficulties the agricultural interest is at present in. I feel assured a change will take place—and *I must say the agricultural interest for some time past has not been in a very prosperous state.* But still we must not give up because our prospects are now a little clouded; I believe that this will blow over, and that the sun of prosperity will again shine upon us. We must all work together as good neighbours, and *the landlord must help the tenant when he stands much in need of it.* The prosperity of the agricultural interest depends mainly upon two circumstances—*the farmer must endeavour to increase the produce of his land, and then to bring it into the market at as low a price as possible.* We should all pull together, landlord, tenant, and labourer, as upon this depends the accomplishment of our object. All classes connected with agriculture ought to feel an interest one for the other—the landlord ought to help the tenant—and the farmer ought not to press hard upon the labourer, but endeavour, if possible, to relieve him from the distress; and I feel assured, if we go on in this way, great good will be done. The next object that should call forth all our attention should be to improve the cultivation of the land. I must certainly say *that around me the land is not cultivated as I could wish*, and I shall not be at all at ease till I see an example set; there will consequently be more labour employed upon the land; and labour, it is well known, cannot be employed upon it without the labourer being benefited. I can assure you that I have only thrown out these suggestions believing that we shall all be assisted by them. I think this society is doing a great deal of good, and that it is improving; the stock exhibited to-day is better than for some years past. I have the satisfaction to believe that agriculture is improved—the growth of turnips has undergone a great improvement, and I should think we have not for many years had such crops. *The machinery used for agriculture is capable of being vastly improved*, and I believe we might look in this respect for many good to be derived from the various alterations at present

taking place in these articles. *The cleaning of land, I fear, is not enough attended to—and I do think that our object should be not so much to see how soon we can do without the labourer, but how long we can employ him—for instance, if the hedges and ditches were kept in better repair,* I think it would be the means of keeping the land dry, and afford some more work for the labourer. I must now not be misunderstood, that all persons should carry out these suggestions, but that individuals should be guided by their means—and I do think that we all ought to do as much good as we can according to our abilities."

All this is true so far as it goes; but these exhortations to improvement, now as regularly dinned into the farmer's ears as a curtain lecture, only disclose one-half of the evil. Had the landlords "put their shoulders to the wheel" in 1815, instead of setting their wits and their power to work to create an artificial scarcity by means of Corn Laws, we should not at this day have heard a syllable about agricultural distress.

In the same strain Mr. R. Biddulph (a farmer) said—

"He was happy to congratulate them upon the show of the day, for they had heard from the judges and persons who had come from a distance, the excellency of the stock. He had no doubt but that the society had done a great deal of good, which was the wish and intention of all upon the formation of it, and he could not but feel gratified at the improvement which had taken place in stock. He would ask them, had they made the same improvement in husbandry? He thought he could see a great deal of improvement—of course that improvement could not take place so soon in husbandry as it could in stock. He would say a few words upon the subject of manure; though some persons might feel offence, still he must express the feelings of his mind. Now, with regard to the use of manures, much certainly depended upon a knowledge of the soil, and it was impossible to get much from off the land except by using good manure. There was a great deal of manure lost by the farmers in this county; he alluded to liquid manure. Farmers should manage to have a reservoir, or tank, in the farmyard for the purpose of making liquid manure; but then they will all say, '*How are we to meet these expenses?*' *Now, he would say they must have leases granted to them, and then they would soon receive the outlay back in the shape of better crops.* Every tenant had the means in his own power. *Let him go to his landlord and get a lease.* (Cheers.) When he had got the lease, he would feel an interest in the estate, justice would then be done to it; *and if without the pecuniary means himself, his neighbour would advance on the strength of the lease,* and in a few years ample return would be made for the outlay. (Cheers.) Some years ago he had gone over an estate upon a shooting excursion, some of the fields of which were covered with rushes, growing quite as high as his knees, and he had lately seen the same place; and *now, instead of rushes, there were as fine crops of turnips as he had ever seen.* There was at this time not a yard of land there but what was perfectly dry and good ground. *He did think that subjects of such importance as these ought to be introduced more often than they were at meetings like these.* He would say, let the landlord exert himself for his tenant, and the tenant for his landlord—they were bound together in a social chain, and one link of it could not be affected without the other feeling it; let good fellowship and every other kind feeling exist between them. *In the manufacturing districts they were constantly hearing of improvements taking place, and why should it not be so in the agricultural?* He hoped that when they met next year he should not only hear of great improvements having taken place, but that there was a gradual dawn of prosperity."

This, as usually happens when farmers can be brought to speak their minds, is more to the purpose. The farmers will soon hit the right nail plump on the head. These agricultural associations produce excellent Anti-Corn-Law lectures.

"The Royal Agricultural Society" having been toasted, Mr. Walker returned thanks as a member of that society, and said,—

"With regard to what had been said about leases, he observed that they *would have been highly desirable two years ago, but that at present he would not take one at any price.* ('Hear, hear,' and one gentleman said, 'What will you do next year?' '*Give up my farm, I suppose,*' replied Mr. Walker.) *The truth was, the Legislature had so altered things, that landlords and tenants knew not what to do in giving or taking leases.* Who would take a lease when wheat was 5s. a bushel? ('Hear, hear,' and an observation—'That's no rent at all.')"

The President remarked that he was desirous of giving one more toast, which would be comprised in four lines; it was—

"Success to the hoof and the horn;
Success to the flock and the fleece;
Success to the growers of corn;
With the blessings of *plenty and peace.*"
(Great applause.)

So said old Tusser. But what have the landlords and the farmers been saying for the last twenty-eight years? Have they not endeavoured to prevent "plenty and peace" as the worst evil which could befal them? Now the farmers, at least, are beginning to ask themselves whether they have been benefited by the process.

REDUCTION OF RENTS.

Bartholomew Maher, Esq., has made an abatement of six shillings per acre on his estates in Roscommon.

Thomas Robbins Barnes, Esq., of Tenessee House, Cloughjordan, county of Tipperary, has made an abatement of 15 per cent. in his rents.—*Dublin paper.*

G. Bengough, Esq., of Ridge, Uley, Gloucestershire, returned 10 per cent. to his tenants on the 17th inst.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

GAME PRESERVING *v.* FARMING.

We last week alluded to the injury done to farmers by game—for which no compensation can be offered by the landlord—and this, in many districts, ranks high in the list of farmers' grievances. This is fully confirmed by Lord Hatherton, who, at the late Lichfield meeting, said,

"There is still one other topic to which I wish to refer. I feel that in alluding to it I am treading on tender ground: I refer to the injury done by game, which operates most prejudicially to all crops, and to some especially, on light farms. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear.') I am an enthusiast in the cultivation of land; *and as I have made up my mind, from experience, that I could do nothing unless I destroyed the rabbits and hares,* it is now my determination, on about 8 or 9000 acres, utterly and entirely to destroy them. (Applause.) I do not prescribe this as a rule to be followed by all landlords. I am fond of sporting as well as farming; but, placing the two in opposition, I decide upon sacrificing the former. (Cheers.) There are parts of my property upon which I shall still preserve them; but having now had some experience as a stock farmer, and intending to breed and feed largely, and believing it impossible to do either advantageously without a variety of green crops, and especially of mangel wurzel and carrots, I see clearly that the hares and rabbits must be sacrificed—for where they abound the cultivation of these roots is impossible. *You, I suppose, are aware what the ordinary stock of hares and rabbits on an estate costs the farmer.*"

And his lordship might have added, that few landlords calculate "what the ordinary stock of hares and rabbits" *costs the farmer.* A correspondent of an agricultural journal thus lately alluded to the subject, in terms "of bated breath and whispered humbleness" too common amongst farmers:—

"I live under one of the kindest and most indulgent of landlords, in every respect worthy of the name of a good and liberal landlord; but it is calculated one-third of the produce of the whole township is devoured by rabbits alone. If I speak to my landlord on the subject, his answer is, 'they shall be destroyed.' If I speak to his respected agent, I have the same satisfactory answer, with the addition that every proper compensation will be made for the damage done. If I speak to the keepers, their answer is, that if the rabbits are gunned or ferretted in the breeding or hatching months it will disturb the game setting on their eggs. The injury they do all the year round is incalculable, not only to the corn crops but to the cow pastures; the former they eat off as the blade appears time after time, so that the plant can bear it no longer, and it either dies, or becomes so weak and withered as to produce nothing; to the latter, by their constant gambling and pasturing on the grass, also from their urine and manure, it makes the grass so very bad that nothing will eat it."

We have seen respectable farmers, men occupying several hundred acres of land, called up before the landlord, on the information of the keeper, that they are suspected of having molested the game, and lectured in a regular quarter-sessions tone of voice and manner.

NECESSITY OF LEASES TO IMPROVED FARMING.

The last number of the *Mark-lane Express* contains the following editorial remarks on the absolute necessity of leases; and the present state of the relations between landlord and tenant throughout the kingdom:—

"The legislation of the last session in reference to the Corn Laws and the Tariff, the agitation of the Anti-Corn League, and of the Repeal Association in Ireland, are powerful engines, which will, ere long, work a great change in the relative position of landlord and tenant and produce a consequent effect on agriculture. The just indignation of the farmers on finding that faith had been broken with them in reference to the promised maintenance of the Corn Laws was only stifled by their peculiarly dependent condition. Those who felt themselves independent, unhappily few in number, spoke out, and others boldly gave vent to their feelings, regardless of consequences; they now see that there is no security to their property but in their independence, and that can only be obtained by leases. A few years since, to have hinted at an intermeddling with the law of landlord and tenant would have been thought little less than sacrilege; but now in Wales, in Ireland, even in Parliament, the subject is openly adverted to, and will speedily obtain the serious and general consideration of the English farmers; once properly taken up by them, and the change must be made. The reduction in the price of corn, occasioned by the alteration in the Corn Laws, has impressed landlords generally with the belief that it can only be met by increased energy on the part of the tenantry, and such doctrines are promulgated at almost every agricultural meeting. Increased energy, however, on the part of the tenant alone will not suffice; the landlord must perform his part, and this state of things will give an impetus to the granting of leases."

At the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society, lately held at Ruthin, Mr. Turnor (the agent of Lord Bagot) in a long speech exhorted the farmers to improve their husbandry; though, in so doing, he made admissions which show the landlords must do their part first. He said,

"As to their cultivation of the earth, the main besetting sin of Welsh tillage was excess. If they cultivated more green crops and turnips they would have more corn and better grass. He also urged the use of the subsoil plough, which was of the greatest advantage in light as well as heavy soils; and they should bear in mind that the implement which broke up the bottom best, and brought least to the surface, did its work in the most efficient manner. But in talking of these improvements he was aware there was a sad lack of capital in the principality; farmers knew what to do, but had no means to do it. Let them, then, husband their resources, lay out what they expend to the best advantage, and bear in mind that the best soil pays best for cultivation. He was sorry to observe that the mountains were more and more encroached upon, but before they invaded spots which nature had consecrated to rest let them calculate whether such Vandalism would be profitable; and let them hesitate before they stripped off the enamel robe in which nature had clothed their hills, while they left untouched their swamps and water-logged tracts of land to diffuse ague, without an effort to reclaim them. Mr. Turnor then urged a better system of draining and irrigation, a more judicious mode of liming, and other practical suggestions."

Now, this excess of tillage, which Mr. Turnor mentioned as the besetting sin of the Welsh farmers, is the direct product of that premium on corn-growing offered by the Corn Laws. The same inducement leads the poor Welsh farmer to plough the land on the hills, because there he can obtain, at all events for a time, *some* crop without much outlay; while his means are totally insufficient to reclaim the wetter, though probably better, land in the valleys.

Tithes in Wales.—At a meeting at Pembroke, on the 30th of Sept., at which 250 farmers attended, to consider the burthen inflicted upon the occupiers of land, by the tithe-rent charges, Mr. R. Waters, the chairman, stated, that the tithe commissioners had in almost every instance increased the tithe to the full extent allowed by the act of Parliament, viz., 20 per cent. He also said the price of corn in the district was 20 per cent. below the averages of the kingdom, by which the tithe charge was regulated, and that they were paying 40 per cent. more than they ought. A memorial to the tithe-owners was agreed to.—[The mode in which the burthens of the tithe-rent charge is aggravated by the occasional high price of corn is one of the innumerable minor evils attributable to the Corn Laws.]

The disturbances of "Rebecca" are extending into Radnorshire. Two toll-gates have been destroyed; and it is stated that the same spirit prevails in Radnorshire and Breconshire as in Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire.—[None but those engaged in agriculture are aware of the expense occasioned to a farmer by having heavy tolls interposed between his farm and his market, and all accounts agree in stating the Welsh tolls to be most excessive, while the farmers, the cherished objects of a monopoly, are very generally suffering from extreme poverty.]

The Corn Laws a Delusion.—At a meeting lately held by the Welsh farmers at Cwm Twich (in the midst of the Welsh mountains), to consider their grievances, Mr. John Jones, the chairman, said: "With regard to the Corn Laws, the landlord by them actually *placed a price* upon the corn before it went to market, say 56s.; but suppose, when the farm is rented on such a calculation, the corn, instead of realising 56s., only fetched 46s. per quarter, why then the farmer is ruined, and there is a general distress. Well, then, it may be said, the landlord would suffer also; but it was no difference to him at what he let his farm, or at what rental; for, *while the farmer had enough credit to find seed to sow, the landlord was safe;* for if the farmer could not pay his rent, the landlord came in first with his distress, and actually took the produce of the very seed the man had obtained on credit, and sold off the poor fellow. *This was the law of distress, which ought to be abolished, and the landlord placed in the same situation as other creditors—to come in with them, and not before them, and to their exclusion.*" The editor of the *Morning Chronicle,* in commenting upon this speech, says: "Most persons who have watched the progress of Corn-Law agitation, have dreaded that, sooner or later, the continuance of those laws would lead to some serious attack on the power of the landowners. In the proceedings at Cwm Twich there are indications of such an attack from a quarter from whence it was least expected, and well calculated, from bringing into palpable conflict the interests of the tenants and landowners, to alarm the latter."—[This is true, but it is not the whole truth. Those who have mixed intimately with farming tenants as we have done, and have had opportunities of knowing the real state of the relations between landlord and tenant, are perfectly aware that the mere money part of the wrong, which the Corn Laws enable the former to inflict upon the latter, is by far the smallest part of the tenant's grievances; and this landlords well know. Hence the dismay with which they see Free-Trade opinions making progress amongst the tenantry. Their only hold upon the farmer as a supporter of the Corn Laws was his fear of pecuniary loss from repeal; in every other respect the farmer well understood the injurious operation of restrictive laws upon his own interest, but in the matter of rent the landlord's hand was upon his throat, and he dared not examine all the bearings of the subject. Now the question has been forced upon his attention, and landlords will soon find the truth of Mr. Cobden's prophecy: "That ere long the bitterest of the landlord's opponents will be found at his own door." The petition to the Queen, agreed to at the Welsh meeting, is an instructive document, which will be found in another column.]

Breaking up Inferior Pastures.—At the Stow-on-the-Wold meeting, Mr. Edward Bowley said, "The times are no doubt unfavourable as regards the prices of agricultural produce; but, let me ask, *When do you expect them to be better?* When will you have *more* protection against foreign competition? Can you have a better harvest or more productive crops? I think trade will improve, *but there will be no general improvement till we adopt a different system.* We must have the old pasture lands broken up and rendered arable; and this would have been done long ago had it not been for the prejudices of the proprietors. I do not say that every pasture should be broken up, but there are thousands of acres which would afford more keep for cattle if broken up than they yield at present. Now, only consider the consequence. If all the land were properly cultivated, and if the old pastures were broken up, would not the demand for manual labour be immediately increased, and would not this improve the demand in the home market for manufactures?" And Mr. R. Beman afterwards expressed his approval of the remarks which had been made by Mr. Bowley, as to the advantage of converting middling pasture land into arable; and said, "He (Mr. Beman) could speak from experience, for he had broken up a piece of pasture land worth, in that state, about 15s. an acre, and had realised an excellent crop of wheat from it. It was a piece of his own land, otherwise he would not have been able to effect the improvement, looking at the prejudice which existed in the minds of proprietors. They seemed to think that to break up old pastures would diminish the keep of cattle; but the certainty was, that more cattle could be kept upon one-fifth of the land laid out in turnips or swedes than could at present be kept on the whole." [Here we see the farmers are beginning to apply their minds to the improvement of land as the means of profit, rather than to a system of artificial scarcity produced by the Corn Laws; and the most intelligent of them have for some time been doing so; yet until the monstrous law which promises—delusively promises—monopoly prices, be repealed, the great mass of farmers, the men who live only from hand to mouth, will never effectually stir themselves.]

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

League Fund, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the League Fund, will in future be entitled to, and will receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months.

Subscribers of *half-a-crown,* and under £1, will have forwarded to them on the first day of publication a copy of The League, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their *address,* as well as their names, to the Offices of the League, 67, Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in postage stamps or by Post-office order to the publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the League, forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with the agent for Manchester, J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Oct. 5, 1843.

	£	s.	d.
Previously advertised in the *Circular*	£84	6	6
Stanley Mills Association, near Stroud, per George Dangerfield	5	0	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne, per Daniel Liddell	4	4	0
Todmorden Committee	0	6	0
Leith, per Archibald Clarke	6	16	6
Samuel Bailey, Esq., Sheffield, per Francis Frith	10	0	0
Workpeople of Joseph Twigg, and Brothers, Newhill, and Kilnhurst, near Rotherham, per W. Bradford	5	0	0
John Bell, builder, Manchester	1	0	0
W. Hamilton, Esq., Plymouth	20	0	0
Manchester Committee, per Mr. Jackson	0	4	0
Swansea, per John Jenkins	2	19	6
A Conservative Elector, per Thomas Capern, Tiverton	0	2	6
Mr. Walmsley	0	10	6
Dundee, per Alexander Lowe	3	1	5
Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.	50	0	0

George Crawshaw, Jun., Gateshead	£10	0	0
Anonymous	0	5	0
Richard Bligh, Esq., Ilfracombe	10	0	0
Messrs. Bryan, Donkin, and Co., Bermondsey	20	0	0
Mr. Thomas Ritchie, 28, Middle-street, Cloth-fair	1	0	0
Mrs. Jane Goodwin, 7, Augusta-terrace, Clapham-road	1	0	0
Mr. W. C. Withall, 4, Featherstone-street, City-road	1	0	0
S. Collard, Esq., Camden Town	1	0	0
Mr. Samuel Godwin, Pitt-street, Old Kent-road	0	2	6
Mr. G. Hyde, 61, Fleet-street	1	0	0
Mr. William Henry Brace, 10, Crown-street, Finsbury	1	0	0
Mr. M. Dear, 78, Watling-street	1	0	0
Mr. M. White, Jun., 118, Cheapside	1	0	0
Mr. M. J. Grisbrook, Woolwich	1	0	0
Mr. J. H. Hutchinson, 19, Little Pulteney-street, Golden-square	2	0	0
Mr. W. Runder, Albany-street, Camberwell	0	2	6
Colonel W. Gore Langton	5	0	0
J. Bragg, Esq., 6, Throgmorton-street	3	0	0
Robert Little, Esq., 4, Somerset-place, Commercial-road East	1	1	0
William Holmes, Esq., 91, Watling-street	1	0	0
John Cox, Esq., 41, Gloucester-place, Portman-square	1	0	0
Mr. M. Davison, 6, Upper Rathbone-place	0	2	6
Mr. T. Ling, 31, Cirencester-place	0	2	6
Mr. John Morris, 99, Mount-street,	0	5	0
L. M.	1	1	0
Mr. Joel Hearder, 18, Skinner-street, Snowhill	1	0	0
J. Williamson, Esq., 1, Winterslow-place, Vassall-Road, North Brixton	1	1	0
Mr. William Hall, 3, Pickering-place, Bayswater	1	0	0
Mr. William Alfrey, 31, Aldermanbury	1	1	0
Mr. William Turner, 50, South Molton-street	1	1	0
Mr. D. Hutton, Hamilton-place, King's Cross	1	0	0
Mr. James Buckingham	1	0	0
Mr. John Barefoot Prince, 27, Bread-street	2	0	0
Small subscriptions, per Vincent Bird, North Tawson, Crediton, Devon	0	8	5
Other small subscriptions	0	5	0

It will be recollected that, on the £50,000 fund being called for last year, a stranger, calling himself *a landlord, aged seventy years*, sent a subscription of £100 to Mr. Cobden. The same patriotic individual has transmitted the following letter, announcing his intention to double his contribution this year:—

"To Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.

"Dear Sir,—Last year, when the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League asked for £50,000, I contributed £100 to the fund.

"The Council now ask 'the sum of £100,000,' and my present contribution is £200, with a further sum if requisite.

"In continuing to withhold my name from the public, I adopt the language and sentiments of that eloquent gentleman, Mr. W. J. Fox, at the meeting in Covent-garden Theatre, viz., 'I trust the contest will be by no means a personal one, but one wholly of principle; that the plain and simple test will be the complete, total, and immediate abolition of the monopoly of food.'

"Sir, that the *feeding of the people* should have hitherto been made a question of party is a scandal on the nation in the eyes of the whole civilized world.—I am, with regard,

"A Landed Proprietor,
Never in trade, and living on his rents.

"October 2, 1843."

The following letter has also been received:—

Dear Sir,—I willingly respond to the call the Anti-Corn-Law League has made to the people of the United Kingdom, and beg leave to enclose £10, with the hope sufficient funds will be immediately placed in their hands to enable them to carry out their views, with which I most cordially agree.

Yours very truly,
Richard Bligh,
October 2nd, 1843. Ilfracombe, Devon.

To George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, October* 7, 1843.

The progress of Mr. Pattison's friends, both in the City and the out-districts, and the strenuous movement which the advocates of Free Trade are universally making on his behalf, render his election almost certain. The monopolists, on the other hand, are languid and dispirited; Mr. Baring is either unsupported by the monopolist press, or receives that sort of left-handed support which is worse than none. The *Morning Post* of yesterday calls upon him for a distinct declaration of his opinions upon Free Trade, and urges him to avow his concurrence in the anti-commercial views announced by his apostate relative, Lord Ashburton, in 1841. A meeting of Mr. Baring's friends was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, yesterday (Friday), and the monopolist candidate, on the occasion, delivered a speech even more incomprehensible than his oracular address. He stated that he had hoped that "this election would have passed off in relation to commercial interests alone." Every human being is aware that the points at issue between him and his opponent are Monopoly and Free Trade, and that these points vitally involve the commercial interests of the empire. What then can be the meaning of such a phrase? Simply, that certain monopolist interests, calling themselves commercial, have hoped to render London a pocket-borough; and that the refusal to recognise them as paramount, gives Mr. Baring the unpleasant information that the city of London will not endure the same dictation as a rotten borough.

He referred to the present state of Wales, Ireland, and Scotland, declaring that Sir Robert Peel's "wisdom was proved by the present state of things, which showed clearly that his Government had trodden in the right steps for producing permanent prosperity." This was rather too strong even for a packed audience. Some one asked "What had the Ministry done?" To which Mr. Baring replied, that "it had restored confidence." However this may be questioned, there is no doubt that it must have bestowed an extraordinary amount of confidence on the gentleman who had the hardihood to make any such assertion.

An influential meeting of the electors in the ward of Bishopsgate, held at the White Hart Inn, was addressed last evening by Mr. Bright, M.P., and Mr. R. R. R. Moore, on the importance of this election to the cause of Free Trade, and met with a cordial response in the unanimous resolution to support Mr. Pattison.

Mr. Bright left early, having to attend the agricultural meeting at Worcester this day; when Mr. Moore commented, with much effect, upon Mr. Baring's nondescript speech and ministerial policy, which had substituted an income-tax for Free Trade. The room was crowded to suffocation, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

The anniversary meeting of the Liverpool Agricultural Association was held at Liverpool on Friday the 6th inst., at which Lord Stanley, M.P., presided. We have received a full report of the proceedings of the meeting in the *Liverpool Mercury*, but too late to enable us this week to place before our readers the sayings of the Monopolist Minister who presided. We shall not forget him next week.

Imperial Parliament.—At the Privy Council held on Monday at Windsor Castle, it was ordered by her Majesty in council, that the present Parliament, which stands prorogued until Thursday, the 19th instant, be further prorogued until Tuesday, the 14th day of November next.

Loss of the Indian Mail.—By despatch from Paris the news of the loss of the Memnon steamer, with the Indian overland mail, was received in London on Tuesday last. It appears that the Memnon, from Bombay, was totally lost near the entrance to the Red Sea, on the 1st of August last, off Cape Guardafui, on the coast of Africa, not far from Aden. The crew, treasure, and passengers, were saved, but the mails, cargo, and passengers' baggage were lost. The number of persons on board, including the crew and passengers, was about 170. The vessel has gone to pieces, the disaster having been caused by her striking on a reef of rocks.

Dreadful Fire in Jamaica.—An account has been received by the West India mail, of a dreadful fire which occurred at Kingston, in Jamaica, on the 26th of August. The loss of property is immense, and one gentleman, Mr. E. Depass, lost his life from a spent shell; a field-piece having been brought out to batter down some of the houses, and so stay the progress of the fire. Four hundred houses have been burned.

Thomas Challis, Esq., citizen and butcher, was yesterday elected alderman, without opposition, in the room of the late Sir M. Wood, for the ward of Cripplegate.

Death of G. W. Wood, Esq., M.P.—The death of Mr. Wood, the member for Kendal, occurred suddenly in the refreshment room of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester. Mr. Wood was vice-president of the society, and had just returned from Westmoreland, where he had been staying at his son's residence, apparently with renewed health, when his awfully sudden death occurred. The vital spark fled instantaneously, for though several medical men were in the room, every effort to restore animation was fruitless. Mr. Wood had been long a member of the society in whose rooms he breathed his last. He was elected an ordinary member on the 24th of April, 1807; he was placed on the council on the 27th of April, 1810; and was elected a vice-president on the 26th of April, 1822. By Mr. Wood's death, the representation of the borough of Kendal becomes vacant. Mr. Wood once occupied the position of one of the representatives for the southern division of the county of Lancashire; was the son of a Dissenting minister, and a native of Leeds, and was in his 66th year. Mr. Wood was a subscriber of £50 to the fund of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and last session voted with the minority in favour of Mr. Villiers's motion for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. He possessed large and general information upon all commercial questions; but the muscle of his mind (so to speak) was not of that hardy character which is necessary for earnest political action in the present day, when something beyond sound opinions on political topics is required to enable public men, the representatives of commercial interests, to resist the blandishments of aristocracy and escape the influence of party.

Seizure of Tobacco at Harwich.—On Friday week her Majesty's cutter Scout, Commander Saxby, brought in the smack Olive Branch, of London, John Sunerway, master, and a crew of six men, who have been committed to goal for a further hearing. The vessel had on board about 8000lb. weight of tobacco and cigars, and was captured off Orfordness by the six-oared galley of the cutter.—*Ipswich Express.*

Smuggling at Sunderland, Sept. 22.—Yesterday an extraordinary number of persons were brought before the magistrates of this borough on charges of smuggling, preferred by the Custom House and coast-guard officers. Taking this port as a fair sample of those of the United Kingdom, it would seem the offence of smuggling is greatly on the increase.

Exportation of Machinery.—The impetus given to those branches of British industry in the Huddersfield district of the West Riding, since the adoption of the Machinery Exportation Bill, has now become strikingly apparent, and many of the principal houses are particularly busy, caused by the demand for machinery for exportation alone. On Thursday morning several large cases of machinery applicable for finishing broad cloths were despatched from the manufactory of Mr. Thomas Firth, Huddersfield, destined for the Russian empire, but for which department the maker was unable to furnish information. We are told that the orders on hand are extensive.—*Leeds Mercury.*

The Large Towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire.—There are eleven towns in Lancashire with a population exceeding 20,000 each; and seven towns in Yorkshire whose population exceeds 20,000. The aggregate population of the eleven Lancashire towns is 879,335; that of the seven Yorkshire towns, 474,615; aggregate population of the eighteen towns, 1,353,950. The only county in England which exceeds the aggregate population of these (of course excepting Yorkshire and Lancashire) is the metropolitan one of Middlesex; and in fact their population is about one-eleventh of that of England.—*Manchester Guardian.*

At a Privy Council, held at Windsor on Monday last, a proclamation was issued offering a reward of £500 for the conviction of incendiaries and persons guilty of violence whereby life is endangered in Wales, and a free pardon to accomplices.

At the same council a proclamation was issued, which declared the legal weight of the gold coin, and enjoined all collectors and receivers of revenue, after the 1st of January next, to "cut, break, and deface such pieces as were deficient in weight."

Dr. Bowring, M.P., in his address to his constituents in Bolton, promised to take up the subject of the Welsh grievances in Parliament.—*Swansea Journal.*

The *Temperance Recorder* for this month contains an "Essay on the town of Ipswich," from which it appears that no less than £50,000 a year are spent there in beer, porter, wine, and spirits.—[Ipswich has long been notorious for the corruption which prevails amongst certain classes of its parliamentary electors, and is now represented by two advocates of monopoly.]

Sir R. Peel and the Irish Landlords.—The *Chronicle* correspondent says the Premier's speech at Lichfield is deemed by the Irish landlords as the first step towards a decided movement on the subject of tenure in Ireland.

The Government reporters have for the first time attended the Irish Repeal meetings. A Government reporter from London attended at Mullaghmast, the latest of Mr. O'Connell's monster meetings, and was offered every facility by the conductors of the meeting.

Another meeting of Welsh farmers, much like those already reported, was held at Kidwelly on Wednesday to petition for redress of grievances and the summoning of a new Parliament.

Sir J. Graham, Bart., M.P., who is at present at his seat Netherby Hall, has intimated his intention of making a return of 20 per cent. to his tenantry in Cumberland, whose rental has hitherto beeen considered extremely moderate.—*Newcastle Journal.*

A harvest deficient in quality is worse to the farmer—much worse—than a harvest deficient in quantity. *Landlords should be made acquainted with this truth*—they *may* know it and yet be *loath to acknowledge it.* Let it be repeated over and over again at all farmers' clubs and agricultural meetings—*large reductions should be made from rents, and must be made.* Will the gentlemen of England and the noblemen who were so generally, nay almost universally, trusted at the last election declare themselves really the "farmer's friends" in this way? If they do not, Cobden and his "League" will have no better allies than themselves.—*Mark-lane Express.*

A very large contract is open at present for the supply of the French Post-office steamers, and as we are assured *sub rosa*, for the *bateaux de vapeur* employed in the navy of Louis Philippe, such supplies to be furnished by the coal mines of great Britain. This to a certain extent is an admission that our coal is necessary in part for the effective working of the French steamers. In the manufactures of France an immense quantity of our coal is daily used where steam-power is called into action; but it is also right to bear in mind that Belgium could furnish supplies.—*City Article.*—[What say the coal-owners to the tariff?]

The *Swabian Mercury* has the following from Berlin, 13th September:—"The conferences of the commissioners of the German Customs Union have commenced, and those of them who propose the protective duties do it with more advantage than before. Experience operates in their favour. The duties put on foreign pig iron in Prussia are firmly sustained. England and France are not this year represented at the conference, but the commissioners will endeavour to establish with the two countries commercial relations, which will turn to the advantage of the manufacturing and trading interests of Germany."

REVIEW.

The Influence of Aristocracies on the Revolutions of Nations. By J. J. Macintyre, Esq. London: Fisher and Son.

Although the work before us is neither very logical in its arrangement nor very felicitous in its illustrations, it is one of great interest and value; it has been carefully thought out in the mind of a man who has been a keen observer rather than a diligent reader, and who, while he has wanted the advantages that may sometimes be derived from scholastic formularies, has also escaped from the chains of precedent and the restrictions of prejudice. The great principle which he has undertaken to illustrate is, that the basis of all political power is the control which the ruling party exercises over the the supply of food, or, in the words of Napoleon, "the stomach is the governing power of humanity." The principle is not as Mr. Macintyre seems to believe, a new discovery in political science: it is fully as old as the days of the Pharaohs, and was never more broadly stated than by the Egyptians in their address to Joseph during the years of famine: "We will not hide it from my lord, how that our money is spent; my lord also hath our herds of cattle, there is nought left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands; wherefore shall we die before thine eyes, both we and our land? *Buy us and our land for bread,* and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh."

The policy then of a despot, an oligarchy, or an aristocracy, eager to retain excessive power and domination, is necessarily to hold in its hands such a control over the supply of food as may enable the governing body to produce at will such an artificial scarcity, as may compel a starving people to come, exclaiming, "Buy us and our rights for bread." The possession of such control has in England produced high rents, rendered tenant-farmers the political serfs of the landlords, and enabled them, by the multitude of slave votes, to outnumber the freely-chosen representatives of the people. "We too have been sold, and our children are being

brought for sale into the market to purchase bread." Our author at the very outset shows that such a state of things is fraught with serious danger.

"As it is maintained, that the control of subsistence constitutes political power, it follows that the glare of a famished people must be terrible to the possessors of that power. This being admitted, it will be for the interest of governments, and all bodies possessed of power, to shape their measures, so that the great mass of the community shall not feel in their personal circumstances the immediate pressure of the power that rules them. There is a short-sightedness in a too selfish principle of government which defeats its own object. There is an inquietude in the perseverance in acts of injustice which has always been distressing and dangerous to government. Governments are composed of men, and must be appealed to through the feelings of men, and state maxims, and courtly influence must in the long run give way to humanity. With governments, as with individuals, justice, as well as honesty, ought to be the best policy."

The monopoly of land, established more firmly in England than in any other part of the globe, has given to "the landed interest" the political power arising from the control over the supply of food; and the Corn Laws were passed to prevent that usurped power from being weakened by our seeking for a supply in other markets. Now let us see at what price we have been permitted to purchase food; in other words, let us see what have been the fiscal arrangements and system of taxation established by those to whom the monopoly of land gave the monopoly of food, and whom the monopoly of food invested with the monopoly of political power.

"During the reign of that wretched king, James II., the landed aristocratic power voted an annual revenue of upwards of two millions sterling, *without* including any tax at all upon the land. But William III., who succeeded to the abdicated throne of James, passed, in the year 1692, the famous land-tax law, of twenty per cent. on the rental of land and houses, six per cent. on personal property, and twenty per cent. on pensions. During the reign of William, more than a fourth of the public revenue was raised from land-tax. At that time the whole revenue was about £4,600,000, of which the tax on land was about £1,300,000.

"In the year 1842, the total amount of revenue is £52,000,000, of which the taxes on land amount to less than £1,200,000.*

"Before proceeding farther, a pause must be made here, to consider this statement. There is a great depth of meaning in it. Land and fixed property in a country, are the objects for the protection of which government is chiefly instituted, and on them, as the legitimate basis, the great burden of taxation rests. Among all nations, ancient and modern, such has been the case. In ancient Egypt a land-tax of twenty in the hundred was levied by the government. Moses, by the command of God, imposed a land-tax of the same amount for the maintenance of the religious, civil, and military institutions of the Jews. The ancient Romans established a tax of ten in the hundred on the produce of agriculture, and of twenty in the hundred on vineyards and gardens. In the British empire in India about two-thirds of the public revenue are raised from the produce of the lands. By the constitutional law of England, down to the Revolution of 1688, land bore the principal burdens of the state; indeed, the lands were assigned to the proprietors by the Conqueror, on the express condition of bearing the expense of government either by personal service, or by substitution of payment of taxes. In the modern nations of Europe the great portion of the public expenses of government is defrayed from land-taxes. Taking the most powerful nations we have—

	Land and property tax.	Other taxes.
In France	£23,200,000	£17,500,000
Prussia	3,990,000	3,667,000
Austria	8,795,000	7,700,000

"But, in Great Britain, the most wealthy of all European nations, we have land-taxes £1,200,000, other taxes £51,000,000!

"Let the 27,000,000 of men, women, and children, in the islands of Great Britain and Ireland, rivet their attention on these statements, and inquire why should such inequality exist? The £51,000,000 are made up of

Taxes on food, drinkables, and on articles of raw material	£39,000,000
Duties on transfer of property, *not lands*, and taxes on industry and on prudence—stamps on mercantile transactions ..	7,000,000
Taxes on windows of houses—Post-office—Duties on horses, carriages, servants; and other assessed taxes	5,000,000
Total	£51,000,000

"The landed aristocracy, that make the laws for this great manufacturing and commercial nation, tax themselves to the amount of only about two and one-third per cent. of the national burdens; while they tear from the subsistence, or tax the industry of the people, to the amount of ninety-seven and two-thirds per cent! Scarcely one person out of a hundred is aware of the real state of the case, and hence the apathy of the people. This is a question of the greatest personal interest to every individual, however humble, in the United Kingdom; and it is of vast importance to the farming, manufacturing, commercial, shipping, banking, and every other interest in the country."

The author calculates that the nominal gain to the landlords by artificially raising the price of food is £20,000,000 annually, and then enters into the following calculations:—

"The number of cultivated acres in the British Islands is 46,522,000, so that the Corn Laws have the effect of raising the average rent of land just 8s. 8d. an acre! The farmers, or what is called the agricultural interest, have really nothing to do with the question; for, when the Corn Laws are abrogated, they will just get their farms at 8s. 8d. an acre cheaper than they now rent them. The farmers are as directly interested in the abolition of the Corn Laws as the manufacturers. The saving by the fall of rent can be invested in the improvement of the lands, and hence will be an *increase* of produce which will more than make good the fall in the value of it in the market.

"The gross rental of the lands is estimated at £75,000,000,* including the bonus derived from the operation of the Corn Laws. This bonus is estimated at £20,000,000, equal in round numbers to about 25 per cent. of the rental, leaving net £55,000,000.

"Now, bring this to bear on the income of the landowner of £100,000 a year, and we get his proportion of the gain at £25,000 a year. His net rental ought to be only £75,000.

He pays taxes £2,858, and income-tax	£2,957	£5,815
But he gains by Corn Laws		25,000
Net gain annually ..		£19,185

accumulated after paying all charges to the state!"

Now we very much doubt the accuracy of this calculation; the profit of the Corn Laws to the landlords must be far less than what the monopolists expected when they made such a law; for, in fact, those who calculated their rents by the artificial price which they hoped to fix on corn, have either been forced to make large abatements to their tenants, or have forced the farmers to bankruptcy. In many parts of Ireland, and in some parts of England, the farmers continued paying rent out of their capital until that capital was exhausted; and the land in consequence has been so deteriorated, that its market value has fallen more than one-half. It is in many places the rule and not the exception, for the real rent paid to be but a portion of the rent stipulated. The rhyming description which an Irish clergyman gave the Poor Law Commissioners of cottage property is fast beginning to become applicable to farms. When asked "What is the usual amount of rent paid by tenants of cottages in your neighbourhood?" the witty parson replied:—

"From one to two pounds they will promise to pay;
But after twelvemonths the landlord will say,
'I'll forgive you the rent if you give up the *kay*;
He then gets another who acts the same way."

Moral Views of Commerce and Society. In twelve Discourses, by the Rev. Orville Dewey. Philadelphia: Carey and Lea.

A Mahommedan legend describes the perplexities of an angel, who had obtained permission to assume a human form, and travel through all the regions of the earth for the purpose of ascertaining the real condition of mankind. Countless anomalies puzzled him at every step; but there was none so perfectly inexplicable as the fact, that men, nationally and collectively, boasted of extended commerce, and individually were ashamed of being supposed to have anything to do with it. He saw a class of men whose intelligence, industry, and integrity procured wealth for themselves, comfort for their families, and influence for their nation; men engaged in a pursuit which had been the source of everything that really adorns and dignifies humanity; and he saw, with astonishment, that these men, instead of challenging respect for their honourable exertions, shrunk from confessing that they belonged to a class which produced improvement to the community. They seemed to believe that they were disgraced, because their intelligence was kept in action, their industry engaged in the development of national resources, and their integrity recognised to the utmost ends of the earth. He saw men of whom the world ought to be proud, who were thoroughly ashamed of themselves,—who refused "to stand by their order," though well aware that to their order alone society stands indebted for every advance that civilization has made since the days of the Deluge.

There was a species of shame that puzzled the heavenly visitor, but there was a form of pride which completed this perplexity. He had believed, before his arrival on earth, that cut-throats, robbers, and plunderers must be universally execrated by their fellow-men; he never dreamed that mortals could ever combine to deify as heroes those by whom they were insulted, injured, and trampled down; but to his inexpressible astonishment he learned that destruction was deemed a glory and production a disgrace,—that the management of the chemical agencies by which men were mowed down in thousands was rewarded by the cheers of multitudes, titles from Government, and pensions from Parliament; while the development of agencies which gave support to men in thousands was virulently opposed by ignorant mobs, superciliously disregarded by the Government, and contemptuously sneered at by the Parliament. The angel could not discover *why* this was; but *how* it was, required no laboured investigation to discover. Men of trade and commerce, ashamed of their order, had set the example of despising themselves, and had thus supplied sufficient justification for the contempt with which they were regarded by others.

It is a thankless task to set forth the moral dignity of commerce and manufactures; those who least desire the real elevation of their social position to be demonstrated to the world, are to be found among the merchants and manufacturers themselves. There is no earthly use in denying or concealing that traders invoke contempt on trade, that manufacturers implore for disgrace upon their order, and that merchants pray for a brand of shame to be stamped upon commerce. So far as they are individually concerned they are most probably right; no man was ever ashamed of his order, save the man of whom his order had very ample reason to be ashamed in its turn. Were such men the genuine representatives of England's commercial feelings, a landed aristocracy would be justified in rivetting upon them the yoke which they stretch out their necks to invite, and trampling them in the dust on which the crawling slaves have prostrated themselves for the purpose of being honoured by the touch of an aristocratic boot.

"Ay, down to the earth with them, slaves as they are,
From this hour let the blood in their dastardly veins
Spout forth as they're crush'd by nobility's car,
Be wasted for tyrants, or stagnate in chains."

But these men are not genuine exponents of the present feelings of British merchants and manufacturers; there are now in that body men resolved "to stand by their order," men who know the social importance, the moral worth, the national value, and the political weight of the order to which they belong. It is to such we address ourselves; we invite them to examine the claims of their class, and to assert the dignity of their position. Our purpose is to show them the reasons why they should be proud of commerce, and why they should glory in honourable industry. We call upon them to examine the nature of business, and inquire whether it does not afford the best training for what all genuine religion and all true philosophy concur in pointing out as the proper purpose and object of life.

"Life, say the expounders of every creed, is a probation. The circumstances in which we are placed; the events, the scenes of our mortal lot; the bright visions that cheer us, the dark clouds that overshadow us—all these are not an idle show, nor do they exist for themselves alone, nor because they must exist by the fiat of some blind chance; but they have a purpose, and that purpose is expressed in the word probation. Now, if anything deserves to be considered as a part of that probation, it is business. Life, say the wise, is a school. In this school there are lessons: toil is a lesson; trial is a lesson; and business, too, is a lesson. But the end of a lesson is, that something be learned; and the end of business is, that truth, rectitude, virtue, be learned. This is the ultimate design proposed by Heaven, and it is a design which every wise man, engaged in that calling, will propose to himself. It is no extravagance, therefore, but the simple assertion of a truth, to say to a man so engaged, and to say emphatically, 'You have an end to gain beyond success, and that is the moral rectitude of your own mind.'

"That business is so exquisitely adapted to accomplish that purpose, is another argument with me to prove that such is the intention of its Ordainer, was its design. I can conceive that things might have been ordered otherwise; that human beings might heve been formed for industry, and not for traffic. I can conceive man and nature to have been so constituted, that each individual should, by solitary labour, have drawn from the earth his sustenance; and that a vesture, softer, richer, and more graceful than is ever wrought in the looms of our manufactories, might have been woven upon his body, by the same invisible hands that have thus clothed the beasts of the desert, and the birds of the air, and the lilies of the field, so that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of them. Then might man have held only the sweet counsel of society with his fellow, and never have been called to engage with him in the strife of business. Then, too, would he have been saved from all the dangers and vices of human traffic; but then, too, would the lofty virtues cultivated in this sphere of life never have had an existence. For business, I repeat, is admirably adapted to form such virtues. It is apt, I know it is said, to corrupt men; but the truth is, it corrupts only those who are willing to be corrupted. An honest man, a man who sincerely desires to attain to a lofty and unbending uprightness, could scarcely seek a discipline more perfectly fitted to that end than the discipline of trade. For what is trade? It is the constant adjustment of the claims of different parties, a man's self being one of the parties. This competition of rights and interests might not invade the solitary study, or the separate tasks of the workshop, or the labours of the silent field, once a day; but it presses upon the merchant and trader continually. Do you say that it presses too hard? Then, I reply, must the sense of rectitude be made the stronger to meet the trial. Every plea of this nature is an argument for strenuous moral effort. Shall I be told that the questions which often arise are very perplexing; that the case to be decided comes, oftentimes, not under a definite rule, but under a general principle, whose very generality is perilous to the conscience? It is indeed. Here, perhaps, lies the great peril of business, in the generality of the rule. For conscience does not in most cases definitely say, 'thou shalt do this thing, and thou shalt do that.' It says always, 'thou shalt do right,' but what that is, is not always clear. And hence it is that a man may take care to offend against no definite remonstrance of conscience, and that he may be, in the common acceptation, an honest man; and yet that he may be a selfish, exacting, and oppressive man—a man who can never recognise the rights and interests of others—who can never see anything but on the side that is favourable to himself—who drowns the voice of his modest neighbour with always and loudly saying, 'O! this is right,' and 'that can't be'—a man, in fine, who, although he seldom, perhaps never, offends against any assignable or definite precept of conscience, has swerved altogether from all uprightness and generosity. What, then, is to be done? A work, I answer, of the most ennobling character. A man must do more than to attain to punctilious honesty in his actions; he must train his whole soul, his judgment, his sentiments, and affections, to uprightness, candour, and good will.

* On corn, malt, sugar, tea, coffee, butter, cheese, and other articles of food consumed by the people, £16,000,000; on British spirits £5,400,000; on foreign spirits £2,600,000; on wine £1,540,000. Can any human being be surprised at the enormous accumulation of property in the hands of the law-making class, and at the poverty of the industrious classes, after considering the effect of such a system continued through two or three generations?

* See Mr. Macqueen's statements.

"In fine, I look upon business as one vast scene of moral action. 'The thousand wheels of commerce,' with all their swift and complicated revolutions, I regard as an immense moral machinery. Meanness and cunning may lurk amidst it, but it was not designed for that degradation. That must be a noble scene of action where conscience is felt to be a law. And it is felt to be the law of business; its very violations prove it such. It is the enthroned sovereign of the plan; disobedience, disloyalty, give attestation to it. Nothing is too holy to connect with it. There is a temple in one of the cities of Europe through which is the very passage to the market-place; and those who pass there often rest their burthens to turn aside and kneel at the altar of prayer. So were it meet that all men should enter upon their daily business. The temple of mammon should be the temple of God. The gates of trade should be as the entrance to the sanctuary of conscience. There is an eye of witnessing and searching scrutiny fixed upon every one of its doings. The presence of that all-seeing One, not confined, as some imagine, to the silent church or the solitary grove—the presence of God, I think it not too solemn to say, is in every counting-room and warehouse of yonder mart, and ought to make it holy ground."

Commerce has been, under the guidance of Providence, the grand civilizer of nations, or rather it alone has presented that condition of things under which civilization has rapidly advanced, and without which it never has made, and never can make, progress. The spirit of naval and commercial enterprise could alone counterpoise that spirit of barbarism which poets and novelists have dignified with the name of chivalry, but which, in reality, means nothing more than

"That those should *take* who have the power,
And those should keep who can."

This is "the good old rule, the simple plan" of government which the advocates of oligarchy and monopoly have advocated in all ages; which has enriched titled robbers at the expense of plundered slaves, and which divided communities, according to the Eastern proverb, into "kites and pigeons, the eaters and the eaten." It was commerce alone that broke the despotism of the single tyrant who chastised his subjects with whips, and the still more cruel despotism of oligarchy which chastised its subjects with scorpions. Hence tyranny of every kind, but most of all the tyranny of class ascendency, has been ever opposed to the progress of commerce. "Well might the aristocracy of Sparta," says the lamented Dr. Arnold, "dread the introduction of foreign manners, and complain that intercourse with foreigners would corrupt their citizens, and seduce them to forsake the institutions of their fathers. Injustice and ignorance must fail, if the light be fairly let in upon them; *evil can only be fully enjoyed by those who have never tasted good.* The sea deserves to be hated by the old aristocracies, inasmuch as it has been the mightiest instrument in the civilization of mankind. In the depth of winter, when the sky is covered with clouds, and the land presents one cold, blank, lifeless surface of snow, how refreshing it is to the spirits to walk upon the shore and to enjoy the eternal freshness and liveliness of ocean! Even so, in the deepest winter of the human race, when the earth was but one chilling mass of inactivity, life was stirring in the waters. There began that spirit, whose genial influence has now reached to the land, has broken the chains of winter, and covered the face of the earth with beauty."

How few historians have cared to record the multitudinous blessings for which the world is indebted to commerce. The cradle of Grecian poetry and philosophy was in the commercial cities of Ionia; merchants were the patrons for whom Thales examined the phases of the celestial luminaries, and Homer poured forth his immortal songs; it was for commercial Athens that Æschylus created the drama, that Pericles founded the Parthenon, and that Socrates raised morals to the dignity of a science. But these are among the least of the triumphs of commerce:—

"Liberty has always followed its steps; and with liberty, science and religion have gradually advanced and improved, and never without it. All those kingdoms of Central Asia, and of Europe too, which commerce has never penetrated, have been, and are, despotisms. With its earliest birth on the Mediterranean shore, freedom was born. Phœnicia, the merchants of whose cities, Tyre and Sidon, were accounted princes; the Hebrew commonwealth, which carried on a trade through those parts; the Grecian, Carthagenian, and Roman states, were not only the freest, but they were the only free states of antiquity. In the middle ages commerce broke down in Europe, the feudal system raising up in the Hanse Towns, throughout Germany, Sweden, and Norway, a body of men who were able to cope with barons and kings, and to wrest from them their free charters and rightful privileges."

And yet of commerce—with all these undeniable claims to human gratitude, reverence, and respect—there are men who pretend to be, or who really are, ashamed; men who would sacrifice their order for the smile of some titled patron, whose only claim upon their homage is, that

"His ancient but ignoble blood
Has run through scoundrels ever since the Flood."

We should be tempted to speak of such men with scorn and loathing, were we not forced to weep over the moral prostration which has led men to speak of their own sphere as habitually given over to low aims and pursuits. Would that they could see what true dignity encircles the upright man of business. We should like to see every man of business assert for himself the impregnable position which our author has taken in his name.

"I say that there is no being in the world for whom I feel a higher moral respect and admiration than for the upright man of business; no, not for the philanthropist, the missionary, or the martyr. I feel that I could more easily be a martyr than a man of that lofty moral uprightness. And let me say yet more distinctly, that it is not for the generous man that I feel this kind of respect—that seems to me a lower quality, a mere impulse, compared with the lofty virtue I speak of. It is not for the man who distributes extensive charities, who bestows magnificent donations. That may be all very well—I speak not to disparage it—I wish there were more of it; and yet it may all consist with a want of the true, lofty, unbending uprightness. That is not the man, then, of whom I speak; but it is he who stands, amidst all the swaying interests and perilous exigencies of trade, firm, calm, disinterested, and upright. It is the man who can see another man's interests just as clearly as his own. It is the man whose mind his own advantage does not blind or cloud for an instant; who could sit a judge upon a question between himself and his neighbour just as safely as the purest magistrate upon the bench of justice. Ah! how much richer than ermine, how far nobler than the train of magisterial authority, how more awful than the guarded bench of majesty, is that simple, magnanimous, and majestic truth! Yes, it is the man who is true—true to himself, to his neighbour, und to his God—true to the right—true to his conscience—and who feels that the slightest suggestion of that conscience is more to him than the chance of acquiring a hundred estates."

It almost makes a man ashamed of sharing a common nature with his fellows, when he finds a public opinion in the world derogatory to labour; as if the very constitution of nature—as if the very physical and mental powers which the great Creator has bestowed upon our race, did not show it to be the design of Providence that every man should work either with his hand or his head.

"Yes, such is man's task, and such is the world he is placed in. The world of matter is shapeless and void to all man's purposes till he lays upon it the creative hand of labour. And so also is the world of mind. It is as true in mind as it is in matter, that the materials only are given us. Absolute truth, ready made, no more presents itself to us in one department, than finished models of mechanism, ready made, do in the other. Original principles there doubtless are in both; but the result—philosophy, that is to say—in the one case is as far to seek, as art and mechanism are in the other.

"Such, I repeat, is the world, and such is man. The earth he stands upon, and the air he breathes, are, so far as his improvement is concerned, but elements to be wrought by him to certain purposes. If he stood on earth passively and unconsciously, imbibing the dew and sap, and spreading his arms to the light and air, he would be but a tree. If he grew up capable neither of purpose nor of improvement, with no guidance but instinct, and no powers but those of digestion and locomotion, he would be but an animal. But he is more than this: he is a man; he is made to improve; he is made, therefore, to think, to act, to *work*. Labour is his great function, his peculiar distinction, his privilege. *Can* he not think so? Can he not see, that from being an animal to eat, and drink, and sleep, to become a worker—to put forth the hand of ingenuity, and to pour his own thought into the worlds of nature, fashioning them into forms of grace and fabrics of convenience, and converting them to purposes of improvement and happiness—can he not see, I repeat, that this is the greatest possible step in privilege? Labour, I say, is man's great function. The earth and the atmosphere are his laboratory. With spade and plough, with mining-shafts and furnaces and forges, with fire and steam—amidst the noise and whirl of swift and bright machinery, and abroad in the silent fields beneath the roofing sky, man was made to be ever working, ever experimenting. And while he, and all his dwellings of care and toil, are borne onward with the circling skies, and the shows of heaven are around him, and their infinite depths image and invite his thought, still in all the worlds of philosophy, in the universe of intellect, man must be a worker. He is nothing, he can be nothing, he can achieve nothing, fulfil nothing, without working. Not only can he gain no lofty improvement without this; but without it, he can gain no tolerable happiness. So that he who gives himself up to utter indolence, finds it too hard for him; and is obliged in self-defence, unless he be an idiot, to *do* something. The miserable victims of idleness and *ennui*, driven at last from their chosen resort, are compelled to work, to do something; yes, to employ their wretched and worthless lives in—"*killing time.*" They must hunt down the hours as their prey. Yes, time—that mere abstraction—that sinks light as the air upon the eyelids of the busy and the weary, to the idle is an enemy clothed with gigantic armour; and they must kill it, or themselves die. They cannot *live* in mere idleness; and all the difference between them and others is, that they employ their activity to no useful end. They find, indeed, that the hardest work in the world is to do nothing!"

In the name of common sense, in the sacred names of reason, justice, and humanity, we not only protest against the stigma which prejudice, ignorance, and corrupt interest have affixed upon honourable industry, but we further demand that nothing else should be respected.

"What is there glorious in the world that is not the product of labour, either of the body or of the mind? What is history but its record? What are the treasures of genius and art but its work? What are cultivated fields but its toil? The busy marts, the rising cities, the enriched empires of the world, what are they but the great treasure-houses of labour? The pyramids of Egypt, the castles and towers and temples of Europe, the buried cities of Mexico, what are they but tracks, all round the world, of the mighty footsteps of labour? Antiquity had not been without it. Without it, there were no memory of the past; without it, there were no hopes for the future.

"Let then labour, the world's great ordinance, take its proper place in the world. Let idleness, too, have the meed that it deserves. Honour, I say, be paid wherever it is due. Honour, if you please, to unchallenged indolence—for that which all the world admires hath no doubt some ground for it: honour, then, to undisturbed, unchallenged indolence—for it reposes on treasures that labour some time gained and gathered. It is the effigy of a man, upon a splendid mausoleum—somebody built that mausoleum—somebody put that dead image there. Honour to him that does nothing, and yet does not starve; he hath his significance still; he is a standing proof that *somebody* has worked.

"Nay, rather let us say, honour to the worker—to the toiler—to him who produces, and not alone consumes—to him who puts forth his hand to add to the treasure-heap of human comforts, and not alone to take away! Honour to him who goes forth amidst the struggling elements to fight his battle, and shrinks not, with cowardly effeminacy, behind pillows of ease! Honour to the strong muscle and the manly nerve, and the resolute and brave heart! Honour to the sweaty brow and to the toiling brain! Honour to the great and beautiful offices of humanity—to manhood's toil and woman's task—to parental industry, to maternal watching and weariness—to teaching wisdom and patient learning—to the brow of care that presides over the state, and to many-handed labour that toils in the workshops and fields, beneath its sacred and guardian sway."

If the League had performed no other service to the community than teaching the merchants and manufacturers that theirs is an order of which there are many noble spirits ready to avow their membership, it would have well-earned the gratitude which a future generation will assuredly bestow upon its exertions. It has improved the social position of every merchant, and trader, and manufacturer, and operative, not merely within the seas of Britain, but within the circuit of the round world. Every man who has joined its ranks has received with his dignity a patent of nobility, issued by his own soul, attested by his own reason, and sanctioned by his own conscience. "My mind to me a kingdom is" was the boast of the old poet; and it is truly the boast of every man who thinks for himself, and does not delegate that privilege to other people. For the first time Britain has seen a great association of its wealth, its intelligence, and its working power based on the principle of independent action, and this independent action is an absolute realizing of the royalty of soul of which the poet dreamed. Let those hold off from the League who hug their chains and are enamoured of slavery; let them sacrifice everything that is manly, everything that is noble, and every constituent of self-respect, to purchase from a sneering aristocracy some gaudy bits of tinsel to ornament and disguise their fetters; we can do without them; if they refuse to join the crew, they are sure to be dragged, in spite of themselves, in the wake of the vessel. Would that they could read the signs of the times, for then they would discover, that though they may retard, they cannot prevent the advance of the mighty movement which is in progress around them.

"It is, doubtless, a very extraordinory state of things. Its distinctive feature is a grand popular movement, slowly propagating itself through all civilised nations—a revolution of ideas, which is elevating the mass of mankind to importance and power; and, in fact, to the eventual government of the world. It is a revolution which goes alike beyond all former examples in history, and principles in philosophy. The *education* of this age—that mass of sentiment and maxims which it has received from former ages—does not prepare it to understand itself. Though the noblest genius and philosophy of former times have been distinguished by their generous recognition of the claims of humanity; yet they have seldom descended to work out the great problem of human rights. They have shown more admiration of human nature, than confidence in it. Their speculations, indeed, have proceeded upon grounds widely different from the present state of facts. When Aristotle discoursed in such discouraging terms on the popular tendencies, he discoursed concerning a people that could not read; that had no newspapers; that were ignorant and brutal, compared with our educated and Christian communities. When Plato reasoned of his ideal republic, his ground was pure hypothesis; his work pure fiction. The philosophy of modern politics has not been written in past times; it cannot be written now; that work, I believe, in its full perfection must be left to a future age. I do not pretend to say what it will be; the principle of intelligent, Christian freedom may develop results that are out of the range o our present contemplation. But this, I think, is evident, that when the future philosopher and historiographer rises, that shall analyze and portray the stupendous revolution that is now passing in the civilized world, he will speak of a revolution having no precedent in history. None was ever so universal, so profound, or so fearful: all former revolutions have been local, occasional, and sanguinary. In former days, when power has been wrested from its despotic possessor, it has been done only by a violent and bloody hand. But now, an influence, silent and irresistible, is rising up from the mass of the people, and is stealing from thrones, and princedoms, and hierarchies their unjust prerogatives; and, at the same time, as if by some wonder-working magic, is making their incumbents helpless to resist, and even willing to obey. Potentates are learning a new lesson, and so are the people too. Before, revolutions have been violent and bloody, from the very weakness of those who have carried them on, from the very uncertainty whether they should succeed. Now, the people are reposing in calm security upon their undoubted strength. Assurance has made them moderate. Let no one mistake their moderation for apathy, or their quietness for defeat; for they are calm only in proportion as they are determined and sure.

"Such is, undoubtedly, the character of the present era, however we may regard the good or the evil involved in it. To me, I confess, it is far the most momentous and sublime era in the history of the world. The introduction of Christianity, and the discovery of printing—the two greatest events on record—are, in fact, now producing, for the first time, on the broad theatre of national fortunes, the very results which we are witnessing. They have given birth, if not to the free principles of modern

times, at least to their free action. Like the sun and the moon in heaven, they have penetrated by their influence the great deep of society. The effect produced may well awaken that solemn and even religious emotion in the mind, of which a late distinguished writer has spoken. What is now presented to the attention of the world is not, as formerly, kingdoms convulsed, or navies wrecked upon the shore, but that 'tide in the affairs of men,' that slow rising and gradual swelling of the whole ocean of society, which is to bear everything upon its bosom."

We have written of those who are renegades to their order more in sorrow than in anger; for we feel deeply that the mercantile community of England has too long shown itself insensible of the great moral responsibility which the circumstances of its position involves; and the consequence has been that its political influence has been least when its elements of political strength were greatest. The League has done much to combine these disjointed energies; but it has much more still to do before it can teach men the simple duty of standing by their own order, and defending their own interests.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Sept. 30	Mon. Oct. 2	Tues. Oct. 3	Wed. Oct. 4	Thurs Oct. 5	Fri. Oct. 6
Bank Stock	162½					
3 per Cent. Con.	95	95	91⅞	95	94⅞	94½
New 3½ per Cent.	102½	102	102⅞	102½	102⅞	102
Long Annuities..	12 11-16					12⅞
India Bonds	67	66		66 68	66	67
Exchequer Bills..	69	61 63	61 63	61 64	61 64	61
Consols for Acc..	95	95	95½	95 94⅞	91⅞	94⅞
Brazilian	73½ 74			72½		72½
Mexican	34	31½	34½		34½	
Portuguese.....				43½	48½	
Spanish 3 per Ct.	26½	26½ ⅝	26⅞	26½	26⅞	
Russian	115½					114½
Dutch..	53⅞	53½	53½	53½	53	52⅞
Belgium	105½	104½				
Colomb. 6 per Ct.	26					
Austrian					113	114½

MARKETS.

MARK-LANE, Monday Oct. 2, 1843.—There was a good supply of Wheat this morning from Essex and Kent. The condition and quality of much of it were inferior, and there was in consequence a brisk demand for fine dry samples at 1s per qr. advance; but other descriptions were not sold readily, and no improvement in price could be obtained. There was a steady demand for free Foreign Wheat of the best qualities at fully last week's rates; but inferior descriptions were very unsaleable, and 1s. cheaper. A little advance was attempted to be obtained in the price of Flour, but without effect; and the sale was slow at last week's rates. There is no alteration to notice in the value of Barley, Beans, and Peas. There was again a large supply of Irish Oats. The trade was excessively dull at a decline of 6d. from this day week.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 25th to 30th of September, 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	5901	2133	92	1247	740
Scotch	—	650	2154	—	—
Irish.....	—	26	33065	—	—
Foreign	36219	4540	5370	33	—

Flour, 3691 sacks, 1000 barrels. Malt, 6313.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple.....	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk.....	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin.....	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting....	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed ..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

FRIDAY, OCT. 6.—There was no alteration in the Wheat duty yesterday. There is a pretty good supply of English Wheat here to-day. The demand is not so brisk, nor is the trade quite so firm as it was on Monday. The supply of Barley is short, and the value unaltered. We have another very large arrival of Irish Oats. The trade is as dull as possible. There is so little doing that we cannot report any alteration in prices.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 30th of September and 6th of October, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	7,050	—	9,020
Barley.....	1 870	560	1,490
Oats.....	1,910	35,090	2,800

Flour 3,430 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	138,257	49 5	12,655	30 4	43,925	17 10	3317	30 8
Aggregate Averages..	..	52 3		31 7		19 3		31 5
Duty.....	..	18 0		7 0		7 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

JOHN HARTLEY, Height, Lancashire, shopkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.

W. WOODWARD, Hammersmith, builder—T. BENNETT, New City Chambers, Bishopsgate-street Within, timber-merchant—C. BOURJOT and W. E. de la VELLESBOISNET, Coleman-street-buildings, merchants—G. BRINSMEAD, Bideford, Devonshire, retailer of flour—J. SYKES, Birstall, Yorkshire, corn-miller—O. JONES, Liverpool, draper—J. SOUTHERN, Birmingham, grocer—W. HAVELOCK, South Shields, carver—W. HUGHES, Plascoch, Merionethshire, slate-merchant.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 27. J. Cockburn, New Broad-street, merchant—Oct. 24. C. Thompson, St. Andrew's-road, Horsemonger-lane, builder—Oct. 24. P. P. Thoms, Warwick-square, printer—Oct. 24. J. W. Herend, Paradise-street, Lambeth, builder—Oct. 24. J. A. Stirton, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, oilman—Oct. 24. T. P. Chalk, Linton, Cambridgeshire, draper—Oct. 24. O. Gilby, Greenwich, wine-merchant—Oct. 25. W. Ward, Blackfriars-road, draper—Oct. 24. G. Chapman, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, grocer—Nov. 2. G. Sadler, Cheltenham, linen-draper—Sept. 26. M. Atkinson, Temple Sowerby, Westmoreland, and J. Laidman, sen., Penrith, Cumberland, bankers—Oct. 31. T. Humble, Ardwick, Manchester, grocer—Oct. 12. B. and J. M. James, Manchester, tanners—Oct. 27. A. Casacuberta, Manchester, merchant.

CERTIFICATES.

Oct. 26. C. H. Griffiths, Enfield, draper—Oct. 26. G. Walter, Oundle, Northamptonshire, grocer—Oct. 26. W. Jeffcoat, East Harding-street, bookbinder—Oct. 26. J. Baylis, jun., and J. Baylis, Gutter-lane, Cheapside, crape-manufacturers—Oct. 26. H. Walton, jun., Crowland, Lincolnshire, wheelwright—Oct. 26. A. Harris, Chichester, Sussex, hotel-keeper—Nov. 10. J. B. Cooper, Drury-lane, iron-founder—Nov. 7. N. Bromley, Little Bentley, Essex, maltster.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

R. Bateson and Co., Liverpool, brokers (so far as regards J. G. Bateson)—W. Cordingley and J. B. King, London—R. A. Pearse and M. Hall, Exeter, linendrapers—J. Aldridge and R. Aldridge, Northumberland-street, Strand, jewellers—R. L. Gaskell and W. J. Lockerby, Liverpool, shipwrights—M. V. Picciotto and Co., South-street, Finsbury (so far as regards J. Guillemard)—R. Foster and Co., Cambridge, brewers (so far as regards E. Foster)—T. Hall and J. Laxton, Cheshunt-street, Hertfordshire, linendrapers—J. Richards and R. Richards, Harwood-place, High-street, Peckham, plumbers—T. Carlisle and Co., Bristol, haberdashers (so far as regards J. H. Day)—J. Cholditch and J. Barter, Wolverhampton, wine-merchants—J. Davis and W. Powell, Queen-square, Aldersgate-street, bookclock and clasp-manufacturers—W. Jones and Co., Great Tower-street, licensed victuallers (so far as regards W. Jones)—S. G. Fryman and R. Watts, Rye, Sussex, wholesale-grocers—R. and W. Fairbairns, Southampton, china-dealers—G. and W. Yonge, Strand, watchmakers—M. Jamieson and C. Richardson, Moorgate-street—J. Pirie and Co., London, ship and insurance-brokers—C. Vaughan and G. Crutchfield, Bloomsbury-market, porter and ale merchants—T. Leite and H. Hilliard, Cornhill, stationers—J. Muskett and Co., Norwich, warehousemen—J. Eglen and A. J. Potter, Manchester, commission-agents—M. S. and A. S. Viener, Southampton, jewellers—E. Godley and T. Underwood, jun., Southampton, general commission-agents—L. F. Blackett and H. Robinson, Leeds, general commission-merchants—R. and T. F. Lee, St. Martin's-lane, carpenters.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

BANKRUPTS.

J. BROOKER, Southampton-row, Bloomsbury, carver and gilder—P. A. NUTTALL, Edward's-terrace, Chalk-road, Islington, newsvender—J. BEDFORD, Melina-place, Westminster-road, Lambeth, iron-merchant—J. HARVEY, St. Mary Axe, builder—G. KEELING, Manchester, brewer—S. GOULD, Liverpool, merchant—E. K. BULLMAN, Leeds, cabinet-maker.

EVERY MONARCH that has wielded the British Sceptre, since the reign of George II., had the misfortune to require a Truss, but they had not the good fortune to get ONE OF COLES'S INVENTION. Their pages, coachmen, and postillions, wore them, and are now on their legs.

The greatest barrier to a wealthy man is his riches; there were thousands of persons, in humble life, who could have told their Majesties, if they had the same access to them the rich have, that it would be as easy to judge between the properties of Coles's Patent, and those of other Inventors, as to judge whether it is more comfortable to ride in a state carriage or a dung cart.—Manufactory, 8, Charing-cross.

SEA SICKNESS.—THOMPSON'S REMEDY.—This Medicinal Preparation has, on an extensive average, proved EFFECTUAL IN 93 CASES OUT OF 100. It is much recommended by the Faculty; and to delicate Females, Children, and Invalids, it will be found invaluable. This remedy for Sea Sickness is nearly tasteless, readily administered, and so light and portable that a post-office order for 2s. 11d. will ensure its immediate transmission by post to any part of the United Kingdom.

It is prepared and sold in boxes, price 2s. 9d.; and in tin cases, equal to six boxes, at 11s., by the Proprietors, Thomas Thompson and Son, Chemists, Liverpool; by the following Agents (wholesale and retail); W. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's, London; Raimes, Duncan, and Co., and Baildon, Edinburgh; the Apothecaries' Company, Glasgow; W. Jackson, Dublin; and A. Mordaunt, Southampton; and by respectable Druggists in most seaports in the United Kingdom.

RELIEF from TORMENT.—LEFAY'S GRANDE POMMADE cures, in most cases, by one application, tic-douloureux, gout, and all painful affections of the nerves, giving instant relief in the most painful paroxysms. Patients who had for years drawn on a miserable existence, and many who had lost the use of their limbs from weakness, brought on by paralysis and rheumatism, to the astonishment of their medical attendants and acquaintance, have by a few rubbings been restored to strength and comfort, after electricity, galvanism, blistering, veratrine, colchicum, and all the usual remedies had been tried and found useless. Its surprising effects have also been experienced in its rapid cure of rheumatic pains of the head and face, paralytic affections, weakness of the ligaments and joints, glandular swellings, sore throat, chronic rheumatism, palpitation of the heart, and difficult respiration. It requires no restraint from business or pleasure, nor does it cause any eruption, and may be applied to the most delicate skin without fear of injury. Sold by the appointment of Jean Lefay, the inventor, by his sole agent, J. W. Stirling, chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in metallic cases, at 4s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. each.—N.B. A Post-office order for 5s. will pay for a 4s. 6d. case and its carriage to any part of the United Kingdom.

SPRING AND FALL.—The spring and fall of the leaf have been always remarked as the periods when disease, if it be lurking in the system, is sure to show itself. The coldness of winter renders torpid the acrimonious fluids of the body, and, in this state of inactivity, their evil to the system is not perceived; but at the spring these are roused, and, if not checked, mix up and circulate with the blood, and thus the whole system is contaminated. PARR'S LIFE PILLS, taken three every night for two or three weeks, will rid the body of all that is noxious, and produce health and comfort. Persons troubled with scorbutic affections are strongly advised to try them at this time of the year; in a few days they will see the powerful clearing properties they possess, and thus be induced to continue them. Recently, a remarkable case, where a gentleman was so dreadfully afflicted with a scorbutic affection as to be quite unsightly, by a patient undeviating course of these pills his system has undergone a thorough change, and his skin is now as fair and sound as that of a healthy child. The fall of the leaf is also a time when the system, relaxed by the heat of summer, would be highly benefited by a few weeks' course of the pills, two or three every night; these will clear off the sour and bad humours which heat invariably generates. The liver, which generally gets sluggish, will be put into healthy action, and thus be able to perform the functions allotted to it; the body altogether will be re-invigorated and prepared to undergo whatever change the winter may bring on.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—In order to protect the public from imitations, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words, "PARR'S LIFE PILLS," to be engraved on the Government stamp pasted round the sides of each box, in WHITE LETTERS on a RED GROUND. Purchasers are also requested to observe that a fac-simile of the Proprietor's signature, "T. ROBERTS and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London," is printed on the directions wrapped round each box—without which none are genuine.

Sold wholesale by E. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Sutton and Co., Bow churchyard, London; Mottershead and Co., Manchester; and J. and R. Raimes and Co., Edinburgh; and retailed by at least one agent in every town in the United Kingdom, and by most respectable dealers in medicines. Price 12½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets 11s. each. Full directions are given with each box.

PATRONIZED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN; H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT; THE ROYAL FAMILY; AND THE SEVERAL COURTS OF EUROPE.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, for the Growth, Preservation, and for beautifying the Human Hair.

CAUTION.—The words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" are engraved on the wrapper of each genuine bottle; and on the back of the wrapper 1500 times, containing 29,026 letters,—without this NONE are GENUINE. The lowest price is 3s. 6d.; the next 7s.; family bottles (containing four small), 10s. 6d.; and double that size 21s. per bottle.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR,

for the Skin and Complexion. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTRIFICE, for preserving and beautifying the TEETH. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

NOTICE.—The word "ROWLAND'S" is on the wrapper of each genuine article, and A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, HATTON GARDEN, is engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to the KALYDOR and ODONTO.

*** All others are SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!

The genuine articles are sold by respectable Chemists and Perfumers.

TO MERCHANTS, CAPTAINS, AND OTHERS.

THORN'S TALLY-HO SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Chops, Cutlets, Made Dishes, and all general purposes, is the richest and most economical Sauce now in use, imparting a zest not otherwise acquired. In bottles 2s. and 4s.

"We have tried (crede experto) Thorn's Tally-ho Sauce, and can pronounce it exquisite. We know nothing of the ingredients—that we leave to such as are more 'curious in Fish Sauce' than we are; but we speak to the richness of its flavour, which, to our thinking, would create an appetite under the ribs of death."—Satirist.

THORN'S POTTED YARMOUTH BLOATERS.

The increasing demand for this most delicious preparation proves, beyond all doubt, it is far superior to anything of the kind ever yet offered to the public for Sandwiches, Toasts, Biscuits, &c., and an excellent relish for wine. In pots, 1s. and 2s each.

"We certainly give it a decided preference over anything of the kind that ever came under our notice. None of our friends proceeding to India or the Colonies should be without a supply."—Alexander's East India Magazine.

Wholesale and Retail, at his Italian Warehouse, 223, High Holborn, and of all Sauce Vendors in the World. Beware of piracy.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.

TO the Sufferers from BILIOUS and LIVER Complaint.—The unexampled success of FRAMPTONS' PILL of HEALTH calls for particular attention. These Pills give immediate relief in all spasmodic and windy complaints, with the whole train of well-known symptoms arising from a weak stomach, or vitiated bilious secretion, indigestion, pain at the pit of the stomach, bilious or sick headache, heartburn, loss of appetite, sense of fulness after meals, giddiness, dizziness, pain over the eyes, &c. &c. From among many kind testimonials communicated to the proprietor of this useful medicine, the following is selected:—

TO MR. THOMAS PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

5, Cooper-street, Manchester, March 12, 1842.

SIR,—I have much satisfaction in communicating to you the result of my experience, after repeated trials of FRAMPTON'S PILL of HEALTH, and I feel it but justice to state that, in the course of many years' trial of various aperient medicines, I have never found results at once salutary and efficient in the relief of the system from redundant bile, &c. &c., with so little inconvenience; I am, therefore, warranted in declaring that they supply to me a means long wanting of being able to recommend to families, schools, and especially mercantile men, whether at the desk or on the road, a most valuable resource in an occasional medicine. And I shall take credit to myself, if, in giving this testimony, I am the means of making FRAMPTON'S PILLS more generally known and appreciated.

I am, Sir, respectfully yours, WILLIAM SMITH.

Persons of a FULL HABIT, who are subject to headache, giddiness, drowsiness, and singing in the ears, arising from too great a flow of blood to the head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their immediate use, and apoplexy often avoided.

Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London, price 1s. 1½d. per box, and by the vendors of medicines generally throughout the kingdom.

Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL of HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," on the Government Stamp.

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.—Further testimonials of the efficacy of this medicine.

TO MR. PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

Frimley, near Bagshot, Surrey, April 23, 1843.

SIR,—I enclose three cases in which the parties therein named have received great benefit from using BLAIR'S PILLS, and the truth of which I am at any time ready to make affidavit of if required. You are at perfect liberty to publish them if you think proper. Hoping this may induce the credulous to make a trial of the Pills, which will speedily convince them of their value, I am, Sir, yours truly, JOHN J. GILES.

Pirbright, April 23, 1843.

DEAR SIR,—Upon your recommendation I sent for a box of BLAIR'S RHEUMATIC PILLS, and to my astonishment a few doses entirely removed the tormenting pains my wife had suffered so long, but having caught a severe cold the rheumatism again returned, when, having recourse to a few more Pills, it again fled, and has not since returned. The public are not generally aware of the efficacy of this truly valuable medicine, or few would suffer from rheumatism.

In consequence of witnessing the effects of the above medicine in my own family, I recommended Edward Bridger, now sixty-seven years of age, a labouring and jobbing gardener, to apply to you, he being much afflicted with rheumatism for twenty years; he could scarcely get any sleep, being always worse when in bed, and unable to walk without the assistance of a stick. You gave him some Pills. I saw him yesterday; he told me he could now get rest, which he had been unable to do for a very long time, he is still lame from the length of time he has been afflicted, but can now walk, without much inconvenience, ten or twelve miles in the day, and can, as he says, do any light work; he has applied to me for a job at hoeing. It is distressing to see a fellow-creature suffering such excruciating pain, when relief may be obtained by taking BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS. I shall, for the benefit of those who may suffer, continue to recommend them.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly, GEORGE INWOOD.

To JOHN J. GILES, Esq., Frimley, Surrey.

Blackwater, near Bagshot, Feb. 25, 1843.

DEAR GILES,—The effect of BLAIR'S PILLS has been everything I could wish for. I had symptoms of the gout during Wednesday night; I took two Pills during the night, and two in the morning, which quite removed the pain; and I was enabled to give a lecture at Hartly-row on Thursday evening, although I was in fear that morning I should not have been enabled to leave home. I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

To J. J. GILES, Esq. EDW. J. LANCE.

To the above gratifying communication the proprietor of BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS considers any comment from him would be superfluous.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by the vendors of medicines throughout the United Kingdom.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—The CENTRAL COMMITTEE for conducting the ELECTION of JAMES PATTISON, ESQ., for the City of London, SIT DAILY at Charlotte's Coffee House, 15, Poultry.

JOHN TRAVERS, Chairman.
London, Oct. 3, 1843. GEORGE WANSEY, Secretary.

TO THE ELECTORS of the CITY of LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The lamented death of my friend, Sir Matthew Wood, has caused a vacancy in your Representation. On two occasions you have returned me to Parliament; and, at the last election, 6070 votes were recorded in my favour.

A large number of influential Electors urge me, at this time, to come forward as a Candidate for your suffrages, and I feel that, under the present critical circumstances of the country, I ought not to hesitate.

My opinions on all great political questions are well known to you; my votes are on record; and my sentiments remain unchanged.

On the subject which now chiefly occupies the public mind, the Corn Laws, my views are clear and decided, and the votes I have invariably given in favour of Mr. Villiers' motions sufficiently attest their sincerity.

There is no question affecting the Rights of the People in which I shall not continue to feel a deep interest; and, should you place me in the honourable position of your Representative, I trust I shall ever prove myself the firm supporter of Civil and Religious Liberty.

With respect to the important Local and Commercial Interests of this great City, it shall be my constant study to attend to them, as heretofore, with zeal and fidelity.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,
Your faithful and obedient Servant,
Dolgelly, October 2, 1843. JAMES PATTISON.

THE ECONOMIST, a New Weekly Free-Trade Paper, will this day contain articles on "Free Trade and the National Debt;" "Our Continental Trade in Foreign Produce;" "Who is benefited by Monopoly?" "The State of the Revenue," and all the latest News of the week.

Published at No. 6, Wellington-street, Strand; and sold by all Newsmen.

MONTREAL PAPERS, to September 12th inclusive, are received at DEACON'S Coffee and Chop House, 3, Walbrook, near the Mansion-house (opposite the church door of St. Stephen's).

Sydney, Launceston, and West India Papers of late dates.

Advertisements punctually inserted in every London and Provincial paper.

*** Advertisement Office, first floor.

To be completed in about Eighteen Monthly Parts,
CHINA AND INDIA.
This day, Parts 1 to 9, price One Shilling each, of

THE HISTORY OF CHINA AND INDIA, PICTORIAL AND DESCRIPTIVE: exhibiting a complete and familiar view of the people of those interesting countries, and their governments, from the earliest period to the present time. BY Miss CORNER, author of the "Historical Library," &c. &c. Illustrated with Plates, executed in the new style of tint, and superior Wood engravings, from accurate local drawings.

London: Dean and Co., Threadneedle-street; and, by order, of every Bookseller in the United Kingdom.

Just published, under the Gracious Patronage of his Royal Highness Prince Albert,

A YARN. A Nautical Poem. (To be continued.) By J. P. REED, late of the Portuguese and Spanish Services.

"A bold, dashing, sailor-like sketch of a Voyage to the West Indies. The author is no fresh-water mariner—his fingers know the touch of a rope as well as of a pen—and he writes vigorously of things he has been, from childhood, familiar with. There is really some of the right sort in this tiny volume.—Court Journal.

A Yarn. A Nautical Poem. By J. P. Reed. Carnarvon: W. Pritchard and H. J. Witchell.—"The author of this little volume is evidently a man of genius and original observation. His copies are drawn, for the most part, from what he has himself seen. The poem owes no small share of its interest to the rapidity and profusion of the occurrences which it brings before us; and in almost every page there are those minute touches of character which give life and individuality to the delineation. Mr. Reed's style is at once spirited, unpretending, and graceful."—Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald

Sold by Grant and Griffiths, St. Paul's Churchyard, and all Booksellers; also by the Author, 23, Great Turner-street, Commercial-road, London. Silk, 4s. 6d.; cloth, 3s. 6d.

CORNER'S HISTORICAL LIBRARY, for Schools and Families, now completed.—This judiciously-condensed, interesting, and highly-useful work, having received a large share of commendation from the public Press, may fairly claim to rank superior to any similar production. The same competent authority has also pronounced the Historical Library to be a work entitled to especial attention as a school book.

One valuable quality which, in common with its general merit of narrating all the essentials of history, may be restated, namely, that the graceful and easy style peculiar to the author adapts the work in an eminent degree to attract and inform the young mind, whilst it never fails to secure an interest with readers of all ages. The work is published in a handsome form, and each volume, bound and lettered, containing the entire history of a country, may be had separately, embellished with two, three, or five historical engravings, and a map.

	s. d.		s. d.
History of France	2 6	Germany & German Empire	3 6
Spain and Portugal ..	2 6	Turkey and Ottoman Empire	3 6
England and Wales ..	3 6	Russia and Poland	3 6
History of Scotland ..	2 6	Italy and Switzerland ..	3 6
History of Ireland	2 6	Holland and Belgium ..	2 6
Norway, Sweden, Denmark	2 6		

London: Dean and Co., Threadneedle-street; and, by order, of every respectable Bookseller in the United Kingdom.

*** Schools supplied on the usual terms, through the medium of their own booksellers.

CHEAP CLOTHING.

SWAIN and CO., 92, Fleet-street, Tailors to HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. The best goods at the lowest possible prices.

MISS WICKHAM'S ESTABLISHMENT.

TWO VACANCIES in a select Establishment for Young Ladies, in an open and healthy situation north of the Royal Exchange, where every attention is paid to the moral and intellectual improvements, health, and comfort of the pupils. Terms moderate.—Apply, or address by letter, post-paid, to Miss Wickham's, No. 2, Belle Vue-terrace, Ball's Pond-road, Kingsland.

ALBERT REVERSIONARY INTEREST AND LOAN COMPANY, FRITH-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

CASH advanced to respectable Persons upon the Security of two suitable Housekeepers, resident in London or its vicinity.

Terms moderate, and no charge made, unless business be done.

Payments may be made by instalments as may best suit the convenience of the parties.

Printed Particulars Gratis.

All communications are regarded as strictly confidential, and business is transacted without delay.

Office Hours Eleven to Five daily.

THE LEAGUE NEWSPAPER.

WILLIAM DAWSON AND SON, LONDON AND COUNTRY NEWSPAPER AND ADVERTISING AGENTS, 74, Cannon-street, City, London (established 1809), respectfully inform their Friends and the Public that they supply THE LEAGUE, as also all the other London Newspapers, at the earliest publication, and forward them punctually to every part of the United Kingdom, by the Morning and Evening Mails, as well as to Gibraltar, Malta, the Ionian Islands, France, Spain, the East Indies, the British West Indies, Canada, &c., &c., free of postage; and to Australia, Cape of Good Hope, and other Foreign Parts, at a small postage. Advertisements inserted in the London, Dublin, and Edinburgh Government Gazettes, and in all the Newspapers and Periodical Publications of the United Kingdom and of Foreign Countries. Public Companies, Solicitors, Auctioneers, and others, will meet with every attention, and ensure an early insertion of their advertisements.

S. GODWIN, LONDON and COUNTRY NEWSPAPER AGENT, 4, Pitt-street, Old Kent-road, respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that he supplies "THE LEAGUE," as also all the other London Newspapers, at the earliest publication, and forwards them punctually to all parts of the kingdom by the morning and evening mails, likewise to the Colonies, Continent, &c.

Observe the address, 4, PITT STREET, OLD KENT ROAD.

BRETT'S SAMPLE HAMPERS, 20s. each.—These favourite little packages will be highly appreciated by those who can distinguish between the USE and the ABUSE of the good things of this life; inasmuch as they contain specimens of only such SPIRITS as are perfectly free from deleterious adulteration. Their contents are three bottles of pure Geneva, one of Jamaica Rum, two of Brett's Improved Cognac, and two pint bottles of the Liqueur Ginger Brandy: the eight bottles and Hamper included for a Sovereign. A half-dozen Hamper of either kind of BRANDY (or a portion of each) on similar terms. Order by post.

HENRY BRETT & Co., Old Furnival's Inn, Holborn Bars.

BOOTS and SHOES for the MILLION, at the Devonshire Shoe Mart, 18, Skinner-street, Snow-hill.—Best Wellingtons, 12s. 6d. and 13s. 6d.; Clarence, or Cloth Boots, 9s. 6d.; Bluchers, Light or Stout, 5s. 6d., 6s. 6d., and 7s. 6d.; Oxonian Shoes, 7s., and 7s. 6d.; Calf Shoes, 5s. 6d.; Dress Shoes, or Pumps, 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 6d. per pair. Keep your eyes open, and recollect the number 18, nearly opposite St. Sepulchre's Church, for there is more deception practised among the improvers of the understanding in Skinner-street and neighbourhood than any other part of London. Approving customers will please to recommend their friends to JOEL HEARDER, Proprietor.

PARSONS'S ALEPPO OFFICE WRITING INK.—This very superior Ink, being made with pure ALEPPO GALLS, is equally adapted for Quills and Steel Pens, and combines the requisite qualities of INCORRODIBILITY and PERMANENCY of COLOUR with an easy flow from the Pen. It is therefore strongly recommended to Merchants, Bankers, and others, especially to such as are accustomed to write expeditiously.

Sold in quart, pint, and half-pint, and Sixpenny bottles, by John Parsons, Manufacturer of Printing and Writing Inks, 9, Ave Maria-lane, London.

H. WALKER'S NEEDLES (by authority the Queen's Own), in the illustrated Chinese boxes, are now in course of delivery to the trade. The needles have large eyes, easily threaded (even by blind persons), and improved points, temper, and finish. Each paper is labelled with a likeness of her Majesty or his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in relief, on coloured grounds. Every quality of needles, fish-hooks, hooks and eyes, steelpens, &c., for shipping. These needles or pens for the home trade are sent free, by post, by any respectable dealer, on receipt of thirteen penny stamps for every shilling value.—H. Walker, manufacturer to the Queen, 20, Maiden-lane, Wood-street, London.

WATCHES by WEBSTER and SON, Chronometer-makers to the Lords of the Admiralty, established 133 years.—W. and Son have REMOVED to 74, Cornhill, where the advantages of the premises will enable them personally to superintend their workmen. An extensive stock, finished with the utmost care, and at the lowest possible prices consistent with maintaining that reputation supported during so many years for the finest works, consisting of compensated duplex and lever watches, on the principle of their chronometers, to which Government awarded the prizes three years in succession; the detached lever and horizontal watches for ladies, of the smallest and most elegant patterns; marine and pocket chronometers, with long and accurate rates; also a large selection of second-hand chronometers and watches by the most eminent makers. Superior workmen are employed on the premises in the repairing department for English and foreign work.—Webster and Son, 74, Cornhill.

NO LAMP GLASS can be BROKEN by the FLAME, nor Smoke evolved, when a PATENT OXYDATOR is used. The price is now reduced to 2s., including a proper chimney glass, so that it is actually cheaper than the advertised substitutions, under the name of Oxydating Glasses, which only cease breaking when they no longer produce the required effect upon the flame.—SMITH and Co., Agents for the Patent, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.

SMITH'S IMPROVED LAMP-WICKS, manufactured of Cotton of the longest fibre and purest quality, possess in the highest degree the power of supporting combustion with great brilliancy, while their extraordinary capillary action ensures that great desideratum, a full and constant supply of oil to the flame. Price not higher than the very common article usually sold, which clogs the burner and weakens the light.—N.B. One dozen of these Wicks will be sent gratis with each sample gallon of Smith's celebrated Lamp Oil. Central Depot, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.

LAMPS, LAMPS, LAMPS.—Nothing is more easy than to get a lamp, nothing more difficult than to get a good light; yet a good light is the object of the purchaser, and should be that of the lampmaker. The season is approaching when a good light will be essential to comfort, but this cannot be attained without good oil, good wicks, and lamps constructed with more regard to light than to ornamental furniture. SMITH and CO. will undertake to make all lamps give a good light at a very trifling charge.—Depot for improved lamps, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.

QUAM MAGNUM VECTIGAL?—What a Revenue is Economy!—By the instant operation of the PARISIAN GOLD DETERGENT the most soiled, faded, or tarnished gilding may be made new; by that of the Lacker Detergent the richest ormolu or lackered articles are renovated; by the Lamp Detergent all thick and glutinous substances, which impede the well-burning, are at once removed from the insides of lamps. The cost in each case a few pence; the application simple; the saving enormous. Price for gold, 2s. 6d.; lacker, 1s. 6d.; lamps, 1s. 4d. per bottle. Highly rectified Lamp Oil, 4s. 6d. per gallon, equal to sperm in force and brilliancy of light, and entirely free from every offensive quality of smoke, smell, &c. By using this oil a saving of 50 per cent. may be effected in the cost of light. Lamp Cottons manufactured expressly for supporting combustion, and Lamps of an improved construction, for the table, the hall, the counting-house, and the chamber.—SMITH and Co., special agents, Central Depot, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand, supply the trade.

DELICACY OF COMPLEXION.—The use of ROWLAND'S LOTION is speedily followed by the disappearance of every species of cutaneous defect and discoloration, and the establishment of a pure surface of the Skin, accompanied by the brilliant circulation which constitutes the tint of Beauty, whilst, as a refresher, it preserves the most susceptible complexion from the effects of variable temperature, and sustains in all cases to a protracted period the softness of texture and vivacity peculiar to earlier years.—"Robt. Shaw, London," is in white letters on the Government Stamp, without which it is not genuine. Prices, 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d., quarts, 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Venders.

DELCROIX'S PERFUMERY.—CAUTION.—DELCROIX & SON (the Widow and only Son of the late J. Delcroix), Perfumers and Manufacturers of the celebrated "Esprit de Lavande aux Millefleurs, &c. &c.," are not in any way connected with the person who is now carrying on business under the name of DELCROIX & Co.; and the only MACASSAR OIL and KALYDOR sold by them are the Original and Genuine Preparations of A. ROWLAND & SON, 20, Hatton-garden, London. Widow J. DELCROIX & SON, 66, Conduit-street, Regent-street, removed from 158, New Bond-street.

BRONZED FENDERS.—R. WILLIAMS is now SELLING his BRONZED FENDERS and FIRE IRONS at unprecedented low prices. Bronzed Fenders, from 6s.; ditto with Steel Spears and Rests for Fire Irons, from 18s. Bright Steel, with Bronze or Ormolu Mountings, of superior make and appearance; also a great variety of Cast-iron Kitchen and Green Fenders. Fire Irons of good quality, for bedrooms, at 2s. the set; ditto of Polished Steel, with cut heads, at 6s. 6d.; ditto, with superior Bronze heads, at 13s. 6d. A great variety of elegant Fire Irons. Very superior Tea and Coffee Urns, Papier Maché and every other kind of Tea Trays, Knives and Forks, Japanned Tin, and all goods necessary for furnishing, considerably below any other house, at R. WILLIAMS'S "ORIGINAL LITTLE DUST-PAN," 174, HIGH HOLBORN.

GENTLEMEN'S SUPERIOR CLOTHING, at prices much lower than any respectable house in the trade has hitherto offered to the public, where cut and quality, the true test of real economy, are considered. J. ALBERT and CO., Tailors, established upwards of 26 years, respectfully invite families and gentlemen to an early inspection of an extensive and fashionable stock of entirely new articles for gentlemen's and youths' outer garments for the approaching season, made to order in a superior style, at prices not quite so astonishingly low as those by which the town is at present inundated by bills and pamphlets from hosiers and slopsellers, to delude the public with slovenly made-up rubbish called garments, but much cheaper in the end, by the satisfaction given in the wear. Every description of the most recent improved waterproof coats, in every shape and quality; shooting and fishing coats, waistcoats and trousers, in endless variety; uniforms, liveries, &c. Families waited upon, by addressing a line per post, 52, King William-street, City.

Comfort for Tender Feet, &c.
Wellington-street, Strand, London.

HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes, for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

FAILURE of the LARGE LINENDRAPERY HOUSE of H. T. REEVE and Co., High-street, Borough, and SALE of the STOCK by the Trustees to BROOKS and WIGHTWICK, their neighbours, in the Borough.—BROOKS and Co. have removed the whole of the above stock from the premises to their extensive warehouses, No. 106, High-street, Borough, facing Union-street, and are selling it off to the public at exactly half the original cost price of the goods.

Brooks and Co. have undertaken this immense sale only on such terms as to clear the whole off in a few weeks, the creditors preferring an early dividend, however small, to a slow sale. £17,400 worth of goods will be so reduced in price as to satisfy and astonish all who visit this great sail. The following are a few of the leading lots:—

	s.	d.
Several thousand yards of extra rich satin turcs, cost 3s. 6d. to 4s. per yard, all reduced to	2	3
1800 pieces of Irish linen, Bennet's celebrated make, reduced from 2s. 2d. per yard, to the piece of 26 yards for	25	0
600 pieces of good stout Irish linen, being also marked 26 yards for	15	0
2000 table cloths, a little soiled, two yards square, rich damask, each	2	6
Smaller sizes at 6d. and 7d. each.		
1400 Chusan dresses, many cost 10s. 6d. the dress, all to be sold at	2	6
Horrock's longcloth, 12 yards for	3	6
Double-width linen sheetings, the pair	3	9
Duck sheetings reduced to the pair	2	9

Besides the above few lots quoted to show the intended reduction are large quantities of shawls, cloaks, furs, silks, merinos, and every possible description of drapery goods, many recently bought at double the prices to which they are now reduced, the failure having arisen from a recent and unexpected loss.

Ladies will please to observe the goods are all removed to Brooks and Wightwick's, 106, High-street, Borough, facing Union-street.—Orders from the country for samples attended to.

STIRLING'S PILL FOR HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.—Sir William's Advice.—It is well known that the late Sir William Blizard paid the highest deference to the efficacious merits of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS, and earnestly recommended that no family whatever should be without them; for, said he, in all cases of sudden illness, they could be at once safely administered to the sufferer, who, perhaps before medical assistance could arrive, might be carried off, or placed in imminent danger. Stirling's Stomach Pills have, in all cases, proved superior to every other medicine in the cure of stomach and liver complaints, loss of appetite, indigestion, gout, sensation of fulness and oppression after meals, shortness of breath, and an excellent restorative after any excess at the table, as they gently cleanse the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and invigorate the constitution. Females, who value good health, should never be without them, as they purify the blood, remove obstructions, sallowness, pimples, &c., and give the skin a beautiful, clear, healthy, and blooming appearance. Persons of a plethoric habit, who are subject to headache, giddiness, dimness of sight, drowsiness, attended with apoplectic symptoms, should take them frequently. They may be safely administered to children and persons of all ages, as they contain no mercury, nor any ingredient that requires confinement, or restriction of diet.

Prepared only by J. W. Stirling, Chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and may be had of all respectable medicine venders.

London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton) and Published by A. W. PAULTON, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and 67, Fleet-street.—Saturday, October 7, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 3.] SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

The Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League have resolved—

That all Subscribers of £1 and upwards to their funds shall be entitled to, and receive a weekly copy of, this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscriptions.

That all subscriptions of less than £1 shall be regularly acknowledged in the columns of THE LEAGUE, *and a copy, containing the acknowledgment, shall be forwarded to each Subscriber.*

NOTE.—*To ensure the punctual delivery of* THE LEAGUE, *it is earnestly requested that Subscribers will give their* exact addresses, *as well as their names, when they pay their subscriptions.*

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

BROTHER ELECTORS,

Within a few days you will be called upon, not only to exercise your most important political right—that of the elective franchise—but also, by its exercise, to decide the immediate fate of the most important commercial question of the times in which we live. On your choice of Mr. Pattison or Mr. Baring to fill the place of your late representative, it depends whether the struggle against taxation upon the people's food shall come to a speedy and triumphant termination, or be indefinitely prolonged until a series of minor successes shall achieve the result which you might have accomplished at once. The end is certain. The question of time is in your hands; and in that are involved the considerations of continued suffering, spreading upwards from the labouring into the trading classes; of widening agitation, inevitably interfering with the interests of the peaceably industrious and the friendliness of social intercourse; and of justice deferred by that monopolist opposition which your return of Mr. Baring will strengthen and encourage, until the remedy may come too late, and it shall unhappily be found that the trade, commerce, and manufactures of this country have received irreparable, if not fatal, injury. No single Election has ever been fraught with such a train of most desirable, or most disastrous consequences. Under a corresponding sense of the deepest responsibility should every vote be tendered.

You have to act for the community. Around you are hundreds of thousands who have no vote, but whose concern in the decision is that of their daily means of subsistence. Wealthy men may talk of the cheapening of food as a problematical benefit, and of the possibility that wages may be regulated by its price; but these multitudes know, by wretched experience, that the dear loaf is a real and practical evil, and that its enhanced cost neither brings them more work nor better wages. You know their condition and their wants. The tradesmen with whom they deal feel the reaction upon themselves. Help these people, as you would be helped in your own extreme necessities. And not them only. The whole country regards you wistfully. On you, the manufacturing districts feel their prospects, and almost their existence, dependent. They tell you how they thrive or are depressed alternately as food is cheap or costly. The dense population, not only of our factory towns, but of our ports, looks for your interposition. The thousands of Liverpool petition you, by their late resolution, to stand by them, and to give your voices for the freedom and consequent permanence and extension of that trade which has raised their town to greatness. Even in the agricultural counties, your choice will have its prompt results. Farmers, suffering as they long have, by uncertainty, the ceaseless chance of change, and the influence of a delusive system, will perceive, in the return of Mr. Pattison, the assurance of permanent arrangement; and in that of Mr. Baring the continuance of fluctuations that are and must be ruinous. From one end of the land to the other, your movements are watched with unprecedented earnestness, and your decision anticipated with anxious hope.

The eyes of the civilized world are upon you. What country, however remote, so that it be within the reach of commercial intercourse, is unaffected by the predominance in the policy of Great Britain of the principle of Free Trade, or that of Monopoly? Of what country is not Free Trade the real interest, as well as of our own? You are intrusted with the cause of humanity. The example of this country has spread the mischief of restrictions over the trade of the world. Others have been injured thereby, and the injury has recoiled upon ourselves. In commerce, as in morals, "curses, like chickens, come home to roost." And it rightly devolves upon us, who have spread the plague, to diffuse the antidote. In no way short of the legislative procedure for which it cannot fail to prepare, can this be done so effectually as by the recorded votes of the citizens of London against Monopoly and in favour of Free Trade. Even the formal change of the law, when it shall arrive, will be made more efficient by your previous decision. A pledge will have been given thereby of the hearty concurrence of the people in the repeal. They will be seen to have outrun their Legislators in abjuring restrictions that have invariably excited odium and generally provoked retaliation. The result of your election will be everywhere understood and felt. It will evince to all that our policy is not only changed in form but in spirit. The common suspicion of insincerity which attaches to diplomatic arrangements will be utterly precluded. The merchants of the world will respond to such a declaration for freedom of trade from the world's commercial metropolis.

And what has obtained for London that proud title of "the Commercial Metropolis of the World?" The fact that its progress in wealth, grandeur, and population, has kept pace, and been most intimately connected, with the universal growth and extension of trade and commerce. Monopoly never created that greatness. It may have enriched individuals, and given factitious importance to cliques that become powerful by their combination. In this way West India proprietors, Canada timber merchants, and other affiliated scions of the great monopoly of all—that of the landed proprietary—may have gained power to act upon the Government, and to command your votes. But your substantial prosperity is not the work of such influences. They are the dry rot in its core, and not the vital principle of its growth. You depend on trade and commerce. What extends them, enriches you; and what cripples them, ensures your impoverishment. Manchester and Liverpool have advanced as you have advanced, and from the same causes. The commercial intercourse of the world has advanced as you have advanced, and from the same causes. The general decline of trade would transform this vast province of houses into a huge wilderness of ruins; and trade must decline unless the Corn Laws be repealed. How many markets have they, and the sugar monopoly, already closed against us? Is not this felt in London? Does not your own experience testify to the reaction? Your interest is not, and cannot be, an isolated one, either at home or abroad. You stand or fall with the commercial world. In your household expenses, in your ledgers, in the increasing claims on your charity, and in the inquisitorial visits of the tax-gatherer, are the reasons for your vote at the approaching election. As you poll for Pattison or Baring, you will poll for trade or against trade—trade, by which you live, whatever be your occupation; for as trade is injured, all other avocations are injured also, unless it be that of the Registrar in the Court of Bankruptcy.

Mark how this contest has been conducted. On the one side, you have a frank avowal of distinct principles, and the assurance of consistent conduct. What have you on the other? Mr. Baring does not dare to declare his hostility to Free Trade principles, though the hostile animus is very apparent. He flies to the paltry expedient of professing regard for them, and then of neutralizing them by exceptions, and reducing them to abstractions. His committee asks, "Do merchants thrive upon monopolies?" Certainly not; and yet Mr. Baring is the avowed defender of monopolies; of the shipping, the sugar, and the corn monopoly. Who is to trust this double-faced dealing? Let those, who honestly deem monopoly a good, seek a consistent champion. Let them fight a fair battle under their proper colours. Treat as it deserves this equivocating endeavour to cajole the citizens of London. Brand it with signal disgrace. His committee affirms that, "To say of such a man that he is an upholder of monopoly and of class aggrandisement, is an assertion that stultifies itself by its absurdity." And they say this in the face of his speech to his supporters at the London Tavern just one week before. Do you not see them winking at each other, as they send forth these courageous contradictions? Has the week's canvass put them on this new tack? What voice cried "Right about face?" Was it that of Electoral Opinion? And will Electoral Opinion be satisfied with the hollow concession of words from parties whose objects and purposes remain unchanged? No; the rebuke of the original hostility to Free Trade will be followed by a severer rebuke upon the simulated disclaimer of monopoly.

And then, how pitiful and trumpery the repeated imputations on the Anti-Corn-Law League. They speculate upon your jealousy of dictation. Is not the dictation of West India planters as offensive and degrading as that of Manchester manufacturers? And what dictation has been attempted? Was not Mr. Pattison the man of your choice before the League existed? Did not the League await your selection before it raised a voice in favour of your candidate? And who are the League? Who, but you who throng its meetings; you, inhabitants of London, that by scores of thousands have enrolled yourselves in its books; you, electors, who are also by thousands its members, who cling to its principles, and rejoice in its progress. And this League, we are gravely told, holds anti-property doctrines, and would stimulate confusion. Electors of London, will you acknowledge the slander, and reward its impudent promulgation with a triumph at the hustings and a seat in Parliament?

Addressing you through the medium of the LEAGUE paper, I have followed the example of its Council in abstaining from general politics, and have regarded the election exclusively as turning upon the question of Free Trade, especially in corn. Mr. Baring's supporters have not been so forbearing. While untruly charging their opponents with making the contest political, instead of leaving it strictly commercial, they have originated almost all the politics that have been introduced. I leave them the benefit of this, with all those who do not perceive in Ireland, Wales, or Scotland, the happiest combination of energy and forbearance that might have been exhibited; with all who do not wish the brawls and imposition of church-rates perpetuated, and the famous Education Bill of last session revived in spirit if not in form; and with all who do not cherish the limitations and rate-paying clauses of the Reform Act as safeguards of political right: only suggesting to such persons that, with especial reference to their presumed gullibility, Mr. Baring, the apologist of monopoly, is still put forward by his friends as a "commercial representative." To others, he is a Conservative; or, as the *Morning Post* calls him, a "mere Ministerialist."

You must not expect to win this election without strenuous exertion; nor without considerable sacrifices. On a small and well-known portion of your number, corruption is probably at work; on vast numbers of you the power will be tried of influence and intimidation. But the singular importance of the contest, at this critical moment of the Free Trade agitation, renders firmness your best prudence. You will never regret having proved yourselves equal to the emergency. No such occasion can occur again. It is now or never. The disgrace of defeat will be indelible. And who is there whom the blessings will not reach, in common with yourselves, of that opportune and decisive victory of Trade which you have the power of achieving? Brave, then, manfully, all attempts to induce you to vote against your convictions. Be true and steady; active in canvassing others, through all the intervening days; and prompt at the poll on the morning of the election. I appeal to you with none of the ordinary topics of excitement in electoral conflicts. You have a high and solemn duty to discharge to your fellow-citizens, your posterity, your country, and the world. In deciding between Free Trade and the Food Monopoly, you arbitrate for the rights and interests of countless millions. Your function is sacred as that of juries upon property and life. And I conjure you that you do "well and duly try, and true deliverance make," in this great cause; and as you are faithful to your trust, "so help you God!"

I remain, &c.,

ONE OF YOURSELVES.

LANDOWNERS' DREAD OF ANTI-CORN-LAW SECRETARIES TO AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The *Times* of the 5th inst. gives an amusing sequel to their previous account of the meeting of the Lichfield Agricultural Association. Their first report closed with the speech of Sir Robert Peel; but it appears that the *meeting* did not then close; on the contrary, the most interesting part of its proceedings to us had only then commenced.

We have long suspected that these associations, *ostensibly* established to promote improvements in agriculture, are really nothing but a deep contrivance to throw dust in the eyes of the farmers. What the farmers *really* need is long leases at fair rents, and this is precisely what the landowners do not want to give; and so, to put them off the right scent, they endeavour to amuse them with associa-

tions, and prizes for growing turnips and feeding fat bullocks. It will be seen from what follows that our suspicions are not without foundation. Lord Hatherton, the president, in proposing the health of the secretary to the association, observed—

"That every gentleman present was aware that the proceedings of this society had been ably regulated by a committee, who had taken a great deal of trouble in its management; yet it was well known that in all matters of this description the labour rested mainly upon one individual; and he now wished to call the attention of the company to the very valuable services of the gentleman who, from the establishment of the society, had acted as honorary secretary—Mr. Chawner. He had had the pleasure of making Mr. Chawner's acquaintance since that period, and he must say that he had seldom, in the course of his (Lord Hatherton's) acquaintance, found any one who seemed to unite in such an extraordinary degree all the qualities requisite for a good farmer. *Mr. Chawner was not only an accomplished farmer, but he had studied all the theories connected with agriculture: he had tried experiments most extensively, and he possessed more information on the subject than almost any other man of his* (Lord Hatherton's) *acquaintance.* It was impossible to estimate too highly the services of a gentleman of that description, and he begged to propose that they should mark their sense of Mr. Chawner's services by drinking his health with three times three." (The health of Mr. Chawner was then drunk with loud applause.)

One would have thought, with attainments and qualifications such as Mr. Chawner's, he was of all men the most fit to be the secretary of an association whose *real* object was the improvement of agriculture; but not so: Mr. Chawner lacked one thing which was more important in the eyes of certain great landowners than knowledge and science; his faith was not pinned on the sliding-scale; he dared to think that farmers might walk without the protection of crutches; nay, worse than all, he had committed the unpardonable sin of presiding at an Anti-Corn-Law lecture. The moment this discovery was made, the then president of the Lichfield Association (Mr. Pye) addressed a letter to Captain Dyott, requesting him to communicate with Mr. Chawner; but Captain Dyott, *instead of speaking on the subject to Mr. Chawner, sent the president's letter to the chairman of the committee;* and Mr. Chawner, indignant at this insolent attack on his independence, sent in his resignation as secretary. Captain Dyott's speech, however, will best explain the summary vengeance wreaked upon the secretary. He said—

"Had not the secretary of the society appeared in a public manner to join in politics (*politics! attending an Anti-Corn-Law lecture?*) in this particular town, no notice, he was sure, would have been taken, either by his (Captain Dyott's) friend Mr. Pye, or by any other member; but when Mr. Chawner was the president of a meeting in that town, at which meeting a lecturer of the Anti-Corn-Law League attended to divulge his principles and the principles of the League, they did think—he spoke of Mr. Pye and also himself, for he was not about to avoid any share which he had had in the transaction—*that it was not for the true interests of this society that a gentleman holding the important and responsible office of secretary should introduce to that town a lecturer from the Anti-Corn-Law League, to advocate the principles which must be considered in direct opposition to the interests of this agricultural society.* (Applause and expressions of dissent.) It was not merely the fact of the secretary of the society having attended this meeting, but a paragraph appeared in the same newspaper (for the announcement had appeared in the county newspaper), that the Anti-Corn-Law League had nominated Mr. Chawner as one of a deputation to watch over their proceedings in this district. It could not fail to attract the attention of both Mr. Pye and himself, that, the paragraph having appeared in the county newspaper, it must attract the attention of the county generally; and having the interests of this society at heart, and nothing else—for it was nothing but the interests of the society that actuated Mr. Pye—he did write to him (Captain Dyott) that letter, to beg he would ascertain from Mr. Chawner himself whether what had been stated was a fact, or whether it was not. He (Captain Dyott) thought that the best thing he could do was to enclose Mr. Pye's letter to the chairman of the committee; the subject was subsequently brought before the notice of the committee, and Mr. Chawner then tendered his resignation. He (Captain Dyott) knew that it was the determination not only of Mr. Pye, as a member of the society, but he knew it to be the determination of many members, that if so anomalous a circumstance was to exist, that the secretary to an agricultural association was to preside at a meeting at which a lecturer from the Anti-Corn-Law League was to attend and advocate his principles (cries of "order")—if that was to exist, and if the secretary to an agricultural society was at the same time to be a deputy from the Anti-Corn-Law League,—

"Mr. Chawner: You know that is not a fact.

"Captain Dyott: I am only stating that which you have compelled me to state—the report of your having presided at a meeting at which an Anti-Corn-Law lecturer attended, and your being named as a deputy by the League.

"Mr. Chawner: I denied it at the meeting, and you know it.

"Captain Dyott: You denied being a member, but not being a deputy.

"Mr. Chawner: I denied both. I am sorry for interrupting you.

"Captain Dyott: This statement having appeared in a London paper (and I believe in the county newspaper also), Mr. Pye and myself had brought the subject before the committee—not in consequence of Mr. Chawner entertaining different opinions in politics, but in consequence, as they and several gentlemen of that neighbourhood thought, of his being implicated with this Anti-Corn-Law League, and they did think that such a circumstance was inconsistent with the office of secretary to an agricultural society, and must act to the detriment of this society. In Mr. Pye's absence he had thought it right to give this explanation."

Mr. Chawner appears to be as independent as he is intelligent, and to the insolent swaggering speech of Captain Dyott spiritedly replied (be it remembered, in the presence of Sir Robert Peel).

"Mr. Chawner said the truth was that he had not been a member of the League; but Mr. Pye, although he had communicated with him upon any matter connected with the society, had not thought proper to communicate with him on this subject *before* he sent that letter to the committee, *denouncing him without asking him whether the report was true.* It was not the truth that he was a member of the League; *but he begged, however, to say that he would join that or any other society.* He would do that which every member of this society had a right to do—merely give effect to his own opinions, and act independently, as any other member belonging to this society had a right to do. (Applause.) If he was wrong, he had been misled by the right hon. baronet (Sir R. Peel), for he had heard his speech when he replied to Mr. Bell, at a meeting of the Royal English Agricultural Society, when he said that every man who might belong to it would have a right to do as he pleased with respect to politics. He (Mr. Chawner) appealed to every man belonging to the Lichfield Agricultural Society whether he had not done all he could to promote its prosperity. (Applause.) *No member had a right to exact from him a pledge that he would not be a member of the League, because he ought to be in a position to do what he liked, unconnected with any other question than practical agriculture.*"

Mr. Chawner, though not a member of the League, accepted the invitation, which was put out generally, to attend the great aggregate meeting held in Manchester last winter, and formed one of the committee of the agricultural section during the three days' interesting proceedings. We remember to have heard an American slave-owner reproached for the infamous law forbidding any one, under severe penalties, to teach the slaves to read or write. He defended the law under the plea that, so long as they were kept in bondage, it was necessary for their own happiness to keep them in ignorance. We would say the same of the farmers. Nothing is so calculated to make them uneasy and discontented with their present condition as associations with intelligent secretaries; and the Lichfield landowners have shown themselves wise in their generation in getting rid of Mr. Chawner. But the landowners deceive themselves if they suppose that, by means like these, they get rid of their difficulties. Agricultural associations, without intelligent men like Mr. Chawner at their head, will be good for nothing. Intelligent men are generally independent men; and the most intelligent and scientific farmers are opposed to protection and the Corn Laws. The characters and opinions of such men will be looked up to by others, and will gradually extend their influence from one end of the country to another. The landowners, therefore, have not shown wisdom in departing from the American slave policy. It were better, so long as they wish to keep the farmers in bondage, to keep them in ignorance; and perhaps the best course they can now pursue to retrieve their error is to replace intelligent secretaries, like Mr. Chawner, with men of an opposite character.

It is one of the most triumphant evidences of the truth of the principles of the League, that the men most distinguished above all others as scientific and practical agriculturists, are either members or supporters of the League. Lord Hatherton calls Mr. Chawner an accomplished agriculturist. Mr. Charles Lattimore, of Wheathampstead, near St. Alban's, one of the best farmers in Hertfordshire, moved the resolution for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws at Hertford, and afterwards spoke at one of the meetings of the League at Drury-lane Theatre. Mr. George Hope, tenant farmer, of Fenton Barns, by Haddington, Scotland, is the author of one of the prize essays of the League. Lord Ducie, whom Professor Buckland, at the late great agricultural meeting at Derby, designated "the great exemplar of British farmers," whose model farm, under the management of Mr. Moreton, is visited by agriculturists from all parts of England, is a subscriber of £50 to the League. The East Lothian farmers are proverbially the best in the United Kingdom. Mr. Cobden has just received an invitation to address the agriculturists of that district, signed by twenty of the principal farmers, none of them paying less than £700 a year of rent; two of them pay £2000, one £1200, and another £1400 a year; and Mr. C. has, in compliance with the requisition, appointed Friday, the market day, for the meeting at Haddington.

The opponents of the League are confined to grasping landlords and bad farmers. When we travel through the country we know as well by the appearance of the land, the crops, the hedges and ditches, whether the farmers go on crutches (protection), as we know by a crowd of the helpless, the infirm, the lame, and the impotent, that we are in the neighbourhood of a hospital. Who can travel through that pattern county, Buckinghamshire, without feeling that he is in one vast agricultural hospital?

GRAND FREE-TRADE DEMONSTRATION IN COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

The walls of Covent Garden have never contained a more vast or enthusiastic assemblage than that which last night met within them, for the purpose of assisting the efforts of the Liberals in the City, and generally promoting the great cause of Free Trade. Crowded is a weak word to express the condition of the house. Stage, pit, boxes, and galleries were crammed, and every entrance, public and private, was besieged by crowds of eager applicants for admission, but for whom no room could possibly be found; although an additional gallery had been reopened for the occasion, capable of seating from five to six hundred persons. As had been previously announced, the Hon. C. P. Villiers M.P., presided.

Precisely at seven o'clock Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. John Bright, M.P., and Mr. George Wilson, the chairman of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, appeared on the stage. They were accompanied by the Honourable Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P., Mr. W. J. Fox, Mr. R. R. R. Moore, Mr. P. A. Taylor, &c. &c., and their appearance was the signal for the most vociferous plaudits from all parts of the house. Among those present on the stage at this time were:—S. Lees, Esq., Manchester; A. W. Paulton, Esq.; Richard Price, Esq.; William Leaf, Esq.; W. Lister, Esq.; Sidney Smith, Esq.; R. L. Tweedale, Esq.; S. Morgan, Esq.; — Brettel, Esq.; — Harrison, Esq.; Sir William Baynes; — Wilkinson, Esq.; Cowden Clark, Esq.; — Dewar, Esq.; Samuel Hickson, Esq.; G. Hudson, Esq.; — Cumming, Esq.; — Gilbert, Esq.; John Evans, Esq.; George Tyndale, Esq.; John Ratcliffe, Esq.; Joseph Phelps, Esq.; William Hewitt, Esq.; George Ridge, Esq.; John Const, Esq.; Richard Lloyd, Esq.; T. G. Gabriel, Esq.; W. H. Walker, Esq.; W. S. Strafford, Esq.; Dr. Simpson; — Hunter, Esq., Manchester; John Poulter, Esq.; S. Mattley, Esq., Manchester; John Brent, Esq., Canterbury; The Messrs. Lyons; — Atkinson, Esq.; G. Dracato Papanicolas, Esq.; Richard Burnett, Esq.; — Crockford, Esq.; A. M'Phall, Esq.; J. P. Bernard, Esq.; W. D. Saull, Esq.; Dr. Lynch; W. Scott, Esq.; W. Edwards, Esq.; Dr. Cook Taylor; Dr. Holman; W. Albam, Esq.; — Purcell, Esq.; David Parker, Esq.

Silence having been restored,

Mr. C. P. Villiers, the chairman, first addressed the meeting, and was hailed with long and loud greetings. He said: In the unfortunate absence of persons I should have considered far better fitted for the purpose than myself, I have been requested by those earnest friends of Free Trade, who have called this meeting, to take the chair. (Cheers.) Although labouring under some indisposition, and feeling myself unequal to the task, I have acceded to the request, from a desire to show my readiness to aid and to evince my zeal for a cause which in every way I feel so worthy of support. (Cheers.) It is under these circumstances that I have to ask your indulgence, and to express the hope, which I am sure I shall not do in vain, that I shall receive at your hands that support usually extended to the chair. (Applause.) Of the purpose of this meeting you have been apprised by public notice. That you are impressed with its importance, I rejoice to see, from the manner in which you have responded to the call; and inasmuch as the purpose of the meeting is to convey to the minds of the electors of the city of London a clear and distinct understanding of the great question placed in issue by the approaching contest, and to impress upon them the great responsibility which attaches to their decision. The importance of such a meeting cannot be overrated (loud cheers); and I venture further to say that there never was a moment in our history, whether looking to the general condition of the country, or to the views and feelings of that mass of men who are still unenfranchised, when it was more important that the electors should discharge their trust with fidelity, with purity, and with intelligence. (Loud cheers.) It is matter of notoriety that the legislation of this country is now the object of bitter and general complaint. (Hear, hear.) And the justice of that complaint is universally recognised. But who is responsible for the conduct and character of a legislature but those who are intrusted with the power of constituting it? (Loud and general cheering.) The welfare of millions of people of this country depends upon the principles and views of the persons returned to Parliament, and what those principles are, and who those persons shall be, is always in the discretion and judgment of persons precisely circumstanced as the electors of London are at this moment. (Cheers.) Yes, it rests with the electors to say whether those persons shall be men who only meet to serve and further the particular interests of a party, or men able and anxious to promote the common good. (Hear, hear.) It is, therefore, one great purpose of this meeting, that not one man who is invested with the privilege of the franchise shall, with respect to the approaching occasion for its exercise, be left in the dark as to his duty, or in doubt as to the manner in which he ought to discharge it. (Hear, hear.) Although complaints have been made that men whose homes are not in London have meddled in the matter, I cannot but think that, when so important an event is about to occur as the selection of a man to make laws for the empire, no man can be deemed a stranger who can be called a subject. (Loud cheers.) It is precisely this vigilance that is so much required. It was the want of it which had enabled the sinister interests to triumph so long, and which had caused the public interests to be so scandalously neglected. Reaction had, however, commenced. (Cheers.) Bad laws and bad governments make politicians of all men (hear); and I am happy to think that the monopolies to which we are directing your attention have become the great subject of contention, and that the advocacy of their continuance or abolition is now strongly marking the line which will separate in future the great parties of the state. (Cheers.) I am glad to see that on no occasion has this line been

drawn more clearly than the present, and that you have now presented for your choice the respective advocates of the principles to which I have alluded. (Cheers.) I look to the result of this contest with confidence, because I see that the voices of those who have so long denounced monopoly are now listened to everywhere with attention and respect; while their warnings and predictions are seen to have been verified to the letter. (Hear, hear, hear.) Of late years this country has shown every sign of embarrassment and decline — the finances have been sinking — the capitalist and the labourer alike complaining; and while the number of the people has been augmenting, their subsistence and the demand for their industry have been declining, and the country, in many parts, has been brought to a state approaching social confusion. (Hear, hear, hear.) Each and all of these calamities have been predicted by those who have been so long calling for freedom to labour and trade. (Hear, hear.) And if there has been one prediction made with more confidence than another, it is that our finances could not be maintained together with these monopolies. (Hear, hear.) This was the almost dying declaration of a man, of whose memory even our opponents are disposed to speak with respect—I allude to Mr. Huskisson. (Hear.) In the last speech which he delivered in Parliament upon the state of the nation, he solemnly warned the landed proprietors that the revenue could not be collected, and the Corn Laws maintained; and he pointed to the tax which in justice, he urged, ought to be imposed if the Corn Laws were retained—which was, a tax more directly bearing on the land. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Huskisson's predictions were verified soon after his death; and I believe that it was with the view of learning in what way the Corn Laws could be maintained and the revenue still propped up that the present Prime Minister (loud groans) was, to use his own expression, "called in;" and those present had now experienced the prescription which he compelled the country to swallow. (Hear, hear.) The Corn Laws are maintained; but, as Mr. Huskisson predicted, additional taxation had become necessary, and we are now suffering from a direct tax upon income, without reference to its source or its liability, and which was palmed off upon the country with the no very creditable fallacy that it was a tax that would touch the rich, but not extend to the poor. (No, no.) How far the poor have profited by the exemption, let the records of crime, and death, and misery, which have occurred since it was imposed, satisfy that question. (Hear, hear.) But experience, as usual, is making some folks wise—people of all classes are now arousing themselves, and monopoly in every quarter is called upon to vindicate itself; and it is the advantage of such assemblages as these that monopoly is openly arraigned before them—that it is dragged to the bar of public opinion—that it is here exposed, and that those who would support it are thus compelled to attempt its vindication. Advantage has already been derived from discussion: when I, in an humble way, began to assail monopoly in Parliament, I was accustomed to hear that it was a good thing in itself—nay, that it was necessary to swell the bounties of Providence—to support our finance system—and to enable a large portion of our people to live in happiness, comfort, and contentment. (Oh, oh.) And now, when the authors and supporters of these monopolies have been shamed from these grounds by the wide-spread ruin and discontent which they have caused, where do they take refuge? Why, in the very liberal confession that monopoly is not good in itself—that it would have been better had it never existed—that the opposite principle is sound, but sound only in the abstract ("oh! oh!" and cheers)—consistent with common sense, but dangerous in its application. ("Oh! oh!" and loud laughter.) But a hope is expressed that a day may come when this sound, abstractedly sound, principle may be adopted in practice. When this day will come it will be easy to tell. It will be neither sooner nor later, but when the electors of this kingdom shall cease to be cheated—deluded—humbugged (loud cheers); and when they shall pluck up courage and virtue to resist the influence of bribery and fear. (Loud cheers.) And I will not despair that an example is about to be set of these delusions having ceased. I cannot think in the city of London that men are to be so deceived. The notion that what is true in theory is false in practice is the old saw that has been employed to obstruct every step in the progress of humanity. (Cheers.) How long were our fellow-creatures kept in bondage in the colonies from the fancy that, having once been slaves, they were unfitted to be free? (Loud cheers.) How long was conscience fettered under the pretence of danger to the church from suddenly removing the restraint? (Cheers.) And now it seems we are to be told that the people have been so long submitted by monopoly to sufferings and privation, that the greatest caution must be observed in making the transition to improvement. (Loud cheers.) Certainly, if these are the views of the electors of the City, one of the two candidates now before them will make a most appropriate representative. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) But, if the electors are of opinion that the public have been wronged too long;—that justice cannot be rendered too soon;—if they know what should be done;—if they prefer honest action to crooked reasoning;—if they prefer their views being stated in a bold, plain, manly, and intelligible manner;—if they prefer as a representative a man who can point with pride to his recorded votes, and who is not ashamed in his latter days of the opinions of his former life—if they wish to rescue the city of London from the reproach of its merchants being timid, time-serving, and treacherous to their own class—then the task which devolved upon them of choosing between the candidates, of whom James Pattison was one, did not appear to him to be one of a very arduous kind. (Loud and long cheers, the company rising.) Of the nature of their duty, and what they owed to the country and themselves to do in the selection they would make upon this occasion, he would now leave to their own convictions and conclusions, when they had heard the statements and arguments of the able men whom it was then his duty to introduce to their attention. (Loud cheering.) He would now call upon Richard Cobden, Esq., to address the meeting. (Tremendous cheering, which lasted several minutes, and amid which the honourable gentleman resumed his seat.)

Mr. Cobden then rose, and was received with a repetition of the prolonged applause which had marked the termination of the speech of the preceding speaker. He said (alluding to some little disturbance in the upper tier of boxes, caused by want of room), I regret extremely that, spacious as this building is, we are unable to accommodate comfortably those who would wish to be present, but I hope that those gentlemen who have gained admission, however uncomfortable they may feel in the press, may still endure a little inconvenience, in deference to the importance of the object which has called them together. (Cheers.) That object your chairman has properly explained. We do not seek to disguise the fact that our object here is to discuss with you—to entreat with you—to canvass you on the important election about to take place. (Cheers.) Our meetings, gentlemen, are always canvassing meetings; we have no other object in our meetings than to influence the electoral voice, and every voter of the city of London has received a circular, requesting his presence here. (Cheers.) The question we have to submit is not very well fitted for declamatory appeals; and if we would make a good use of the short time we have, to address ourselves to your judgments, I would beg your attention to what may appear even very dry matter. (Laughter and cheers.) We have come here to ask you to consider whether you will give your votes in favour of Monopoly or Free Trade. (Hear, hear.) Now, by Free Trade I do not mean the throwing down of all custom-houses. One of your candidates, Mr. Baring, in pure ignorance, I presume, for I will not suppose he would insult you by inventing such a statement, actually says that Free Trade means the abolition of all custom-house duties. Why, we have said thousands of times, that our object is not to take away the Queen's officers from the custom-house, but to take those officers away who sit at the receipt of custom to take tithe and toll for the benefit of peculiar classes. (Cheers.) There is something so obviously honest and just in what we advocate, that there has been no writer seated in the quietude of his closet who has discussed the matter—there is no writer, I say, with a name having pretensions to last beyond the year of the publication of his works, who does not agree with us in our doctrines. (Hear, hear.) Nay, we have lived to see practical statesmen while they hold office, actually driven by the force of argument and the intelligence of the age, to admit the justice of our principles, while they have basely condescended to practise their direct opposite. (Cheers.) Nay more, your candidates, both of them, stand upon the same ground as to avowal of principle. The difference is, that one will honestly and consistently carry out his opinions—the other refuses to do so. (Loud cheering.) Now, our business is to ask you, whether you will take a man for your representative who, acknowledging Free Trade to be just—though I confess, I believe, he does not know much about it—yet refuses to act up to his professions? Will you take him, or a man who, after avowing our principles, will go into Parliament pledged and determined to carry them out? (Hear.) Our chairman has said that Mr. Baring admits our principles to be true in the abstract—that is, that his own principles are untrue in the abstract. (Cheers.) Did you ever hear of a father teaching his children to obey the ten commandments—in the abstract? (Loud cheers.) Did you ever know the plea to go down at the Old Bailey, after a verdict of guilty had been returned, of "Oh, I did steal the pocket-handkerchief—but only in the abstract?" (Renewed cheers.) Is monopoly an abstraction? (Laughter.) If it be, I have done with Mr. Baring and this election; but the abstraction presents itself in bodily form under the shape of certain monopolists, who diminish, by one-half, your supply of sugar, and cut off large slices from your loaves. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, that is no abstraction. Let us for a moment condescend to meet the arguments of our opponents, although, in point of fact, these gentlemen have put themselves out of court by their own admission. What are the grounds upon which they refuse to carry into practice principles which they admit to be true in theory? Why (they say), to start with that, if you do give up monopoly, it will be impossible for you to raise the national taxation. Now, if I understand this, it is, that we have so much taxation to pay to the Queen for the support of our naval, military, and civil establishments, that we never can get on unless we place a burden of nearly equal weight on our shoulders in the shape of contributions payable to the Duke of Buckingham and Co. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) What does it mean, if it does not mean that? It is a poor compliment to the present age that this argument was never discovered until our own day; for when monopoly was first established, nobody thought of making use of that argument. Now, let us see how imposing monopolies can aid the revenue. Take corn, and go back only to the time of your own memory. During the four years of 1834, 1835, 1836, and 1837, the average price of corn was 45s. It so happened that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had, during those years, a surplus of revenue; he could afford to come forward and remit taxation. But then we had the four years of 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, when monopoly did its worst for the people, but when according to the arguments of its supporters it should have done its best for the revenue. And what was the result? Why, a declining revenue. And when corn cost 66s. per quarter, the Premier admitted that the ability of the working classes to pay any more taxation was exhausted, and that he had no alternative but to levy an income-tax upon the middle classes. Now, I like to go to facts and experience in preference to authority. And I take this experience as a much better guide in forming my opinions, than anything Mr. Baring can say. (Hear, hear.) And now then for sugar. Here we have another great monopoly. And let me remind you, citizens of London, that you are fighting sugar monopolists in the City rather than bread monopolists—that aristocracy of the sugar hogshead to which I have so often referred—that is the monopoly which you have now to deal with—a most ignoble oligarchy. Mincing-lane cries aloud for protection. And what has sugar done for the revenue? What is the price of sugar in bond? Why, 21s. per cwt. What do you pay for it? Why, 41s. per cwt. Here you have 20s. additional on three or four millions of cwts., an item worth fighting for, is it not? (Loud cheers.) And you, the shopkeepers, butchers and bakers, grocers and drapers of London, what good do you obtain from this monopoly? There is this mysterious character, Monopoly, sitting at your tea tables, and for every lump of sugar put into your cup, *presto*—there is another taken out of the basin. (Loud cheers and laughter.) And when your wives and children look up and ask for the lump of sugar which they have earned, and which they think fairly belongs to themselves, why then this mysterious assailant, Monopoly, says he takes it for your protection. (Laughter.) Well, now, what does the revenue lose by sugar? Why, Mr. Macgregor, the secretary to the Board of Trade, in his evidence before the import duties committee in 1840, showed that, if the monopoly in sugar were abated, the people would have double the quantity at the same price, and that three millions of money additional would be poured into the Exchequer. (Cheers.) Mr. Macgregor is still the secretary of the Board of Trade, and most fit he is to fill the situation. Such was his evidence, and in it is published to the world our condemnation. (Hear, hear.) Now, what is the pretence for monopoly in sugar? They cannot say that it benefits the revenue; neither is it intended to benefit the farmer in England, or the negro in the West Indies. What, then, is the pretence set up? Why, that we must not buy slave-grown sugar. (A laugh.) I believe that the ambassador from the Brazils is here at present, and I think I can imagine an interview between him and the President of the Board of Trade. (A laugh.) His excellency is admitted to an interview with all the courtesy due to his rank. He delivers his credentials; he has come to arrange a treaty of commerce. I think I see the President of the Board of Trade calling up a solemn, earnest, pious expression—(a laugh), and saying, "You are from the Brazils—we shall be happy to trade with you, but we cannot conscientiously receive slave-grown produce." His excellency is a good man of business (most men are who come to us from abroad to settle commercial matters). (Hear, hear.) So he says, "Well then, we will see if we can trade together in some other way. What have you to sell us?" "Why," returns the President of the Board of Trade, "cotton goods; in these articles we are the largest exporters in the world." "Indeed," exclaims his excellency, "cotton, did you say? Where is cotton brought from?" "Why," replies the minister, "hem—chiefly from the United States," and at once the question will be, "Pray, is it free-grown cotton or slave-grown cotton?" (Loud cheers.) Now, I leave you to imagine the answer, and I leave you also to picture the countenance of the President of the Board of Trade? (Cheers.) (At this moment something gave way at the back of the stage, and a trifling interruption ensued.) Do not be afraid, continued the hon. gentleman, it is only a form which has fallen, it is symptomatic of the fall of the monopolists. (Loud cheers greeted this allusion.) The honourable gentleman continued:—Now, have any of you had your humanity entrapped and your sympathies bamboozled by these appeals against slave-grown produce? Do you know how the law stands with regard to the sugar trade at present? We send our manufactures to Brazil as it is; we bring back Brazilian sugar; that sugar is refined in this country—refined in bonding warehouses, that is, warehouses where English people are not allowed to get at it (a laugh)—and it is then sent abroad by our merchants, by those very men who are now preaching against the consumption of slave-grown sugar. Ay, those very men and their connections who are loudest in their appeals against slave-grown sugar have bonding warehouses in Liverpool and London, and send this sugar to Russia—to China—to Turkey—to Poland—to Egypt; in short, to any country under the sun—to countries, too, having a population of 500,000,000; and yet these men will not allow you to have slave-grown sugar here. And why is it so? Because the 27,000,000 of people here are what the 500,000,000 of people of whom I have spoken are not—the slaves of this sugar oligarchy. Because over you they possess a power which they do not over others. Oh, hypocrites! The Mahometans have gradations of punishment in a future state for different kinds of sins, and the very lowest depth of all is assigned to hypocrites. I should not wonder, when the Turks hear of Mr. Baring, and the arguments in the House of Commons, if they were to offer up prayers for the poor hypocrites of this country. (Cheers and laughter.) And these are the grounds on which in this eighteen hundred and forty-third year you are called upon to return a man to Parliament to uphold monopoly, in order that a few men in the City may sell you your sugar 20s. per cwt. dearer than the natural price of the market of the world. (Cheers.) It is a dirty, a base and sordid conspiracy. (Cheers.) I have said it before, and I will say it now, I would rather be governed for a time by a despot like Mehemet Ali—a despot yet a man of genius—than I

would knuckle down to a sordid aristocracy such as the sugar oligarchy. (Tremendous cheering.) Thus the men who maintain monopoly by such arguments are the men from whom you might expect to hear complaints, that we, happening to have for half the year our domiciles in Lancashire, should presume to have a voice in the election here. (Hear, hear.) I see by to-day's paper that Mr. Baring says that we have no direct interest in this election. What, is there a law passed which I am not called upon to obey in Lancashire, as well as here? Does the sugar oligarchy content itself with plundering its own constituents and neighbours? No, they plunder Lancashire too. And oh, this comes well from the monopolists. It is but consistent that the men who would cut us off from the intercourse of the world, should attempt to cut off Middlesex from Lancashire. (Cheers.) The project shows the extent and range of their intellects. It is carrying out their principles, it is letting us know fully and clearly what they would be at. (Loud cheers.) But when I speak of these men, do not let me be misunderstood as having implied that the larger, or even a large portion of the merchants of your city—I deny that the monopolists of the City have the best or richest men in their ranks. (Cheers.) I can appeal to the declarations and writings of some of the most eminent and wealthy men among them for proof that they possess different sympathies from the monopolists—and very different grades of intelligence. There are men in the City who know well the direct and the immediate connexion between the prosperity of the great manufacturing districts and this great metropolis. There was one man in particular—I allude to Mr. Rothschild (cheers)—who was a man possessing an intellect that would have made him great in any walk of life, and who saw and grasped the commercial operations of the world. He knew well that he, sitting here in London, was but the minister, the passive instrument for effecting the exchange between the manufacturing districts and the great producing countries of the Continent. In his evidence before the Bank committee in 1832, are these words:—"What I receive in large sums, other people receive in small sums; I buy on the Exchange bills drawn from Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, and other places, and which come to every banker and merchant in London. I purchase £6000 or £7000, and sometimes £10,000 of those bills in a week, and I send them to the Continent to my houses; my houses purchase against them bills upon this country, which are purchased for wine, wool, and other commodities." Mr. Rothschild, had he been living now, would not have come forward and said, "Lancashire, I have no sympathy with you" (hear, hear); and I am happy to add that one bearing his name, and I believe his son, is one of the warmest supporters of Mr. Pattison. (Loud cheers.) There is another gentleman in the City, who, if wealth commands respect, has riches enough, and who, if intelligence has any claim on your admiration, can bear comparison with any that can be opposed to him—I allude to Mr. Samuel Jones Loyd. (Loud cheers.) In a pamphlet written by this gentleman in 1840, he says—"Who can fail to feel an interest in that great hive of industry? That noble, though new-born metropolis of trade, which presents so splendid a concentration of the most ennobling qualities of man, honesty, industry, intelligence, energy, enterprise, steadiness of purpose, freedom of thought, liberality of sentiment. As an Englishman, I may be proud of the town and trade of Manchester. Again, the prosperity of Manchester is another expression for the well-being of England. When that great town, and the immense population dependent upon it, cease to advance in prosperity and wealth, the star of England has culminated. Failing trade will soon undermine the foundation on which every other interest rests. Our teeming population, deprived of employment, will soon convert this fair and happy land into a warren of paupers. Nor can the retrograde movement stop even at this stage. A dense population, maddened by disappointment, and rendered desperate by irremediable want, will soon fall into a state, from the contemplation of which one may well turn away." I am reading the opinion of one entitled to take his place with the wealthiest and, I opine, with the most intelligent of your city merchants and bankers; but this is not a question which has to be settled by great, rich merchants only. Are there not other classes as deeply interested in the matter as are these? I see in this election a disposition to make it a property election; and, by way of stimulating the zeal of men of property, we are told that this is an Anti-Corn-Law League election, and that the men of the League have a disposition to subvert property; and I am specially charged with having said something calculated to loosen the bonds which bind men to observe the rights of property. Now, gentlemen, I think if anybody in the country can say he is the advocate of the rights of property, I am the man. Why, my whole labour in public, for the last five years, has been to restore the rights of property to those unjustly deprived of them. (Loud and vehement cheering.) As there is one particular property which Mr. T. Baring seems to have lost sight of, I don't know that I could do better than refer him to Adam Smith. That writer says:—"The property which every man has in his own labour, as it is the original foundation of all other property, so it is the most sacred and inviolable. The patrimony of a poor man lies in the strength and dexterity of his hands, and to hinder him from employing this strength and dexterity in what manner he thinks proper, without injury to his neighbour, is a plain violation of the most sacred property. It is a manifest encroachment upon the just liberty both of the workman and of those who might be disposed to employ him." Now, having thus the countenance of Adam Smith for the assertion, I must say I think that Mr. T. Baring, his aiders and abettors, in so far as they support the Corn Laws and other monopolies, violate the right of property in the labouring man; and by so doing, I tell them now, as I did at the last meeting, that they thus undermine the rights of property of all kinds. (Great cheering.) But allow me, gentlemen, to recal your attention for a moment to the interests of the great body of the electors of the metropolis. I will leave these millionaires to take care of themselves, which they can do very well; but will take the shopkeeper, skilled artisan, and labourer, and ask what interest they can have in any support of monopoly? Can you, in the metropolis, be any longer hoodwinked by those who say that the abolition of the corn and sugar monopoly is a manufacturers' question? I should like to ask the shopkeepers what kind of trade they have had for the last five years? I would ask them, when communing with their wives and families, what do they calculate as the return of the year and the prospect of the next? They might not have felt the revulsion as soon as the manufacturers; but how, I should like to know, how long was it after our first deputation of 1829 that the cause which was at work with us began to prey on their interests. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Why, is there a trade you carry on in the metropolis, of the wholesale and manufacturing kind, that has not the best customers in the manufacturing districts? Take the bookselling trade, which appeals to the minds of the people. I venture to say that one half of the popular literature that is furnished by London finds its way into the manufacturing districts. I take the distillers, the brewers, the wholesale chemists, the silversmiths and jewellers; and do you find that the travellers of those houses go to the county of the Duke of Buckingham for orders?—are they not rather packed off straight for Manchester, or Glasgow, or Liverpool, or some such emporium of manufactures? (Hear, hear.) Well, take again your domestic trade. Do you depend for customers on the half score of gentlemen who are sugar monopolists, or on the general passers-by before your doors? How often do you see one of those sugar lords in your shop, and when you do, do they give you twice the price for your goods that they make you pay for their sugar? Your traders are supporters of traders; but not a twentieth, or fiftieth, or one hundredth of those who uphold trade and manufactures are landlords or sugar lords, who, nevertheless, cause all the mischief they can to the community. And when that mischief has gone so far that it reaches the revenue, your business is overhauled—you have a tax upon income to meet, and pleasant surcharges, in order to make up what the great monopolists have taken from the Queen's Exchequer. (Loud cheers.) Will you have again skilled artisans—men who surpass all other workmen in the more delicate and refined manufactures, and whose full employment can be alone secured by a full demand in the manufacturing as well as in other districts? How can any one, then, have the impudence and effrontery to draw a distinction between the interests of the people of London and of the people of Lancashire? (Loud cheers.) I will take your most fashionable streets—Regent-street, if you choose—and I will ask, do the shopkeepers in that street number amongst their best customers the landlords or the sugar lords? I called on a jeweller there the other day, and I asked him what sort of season he had. "Very poor," he replied. "How is that," said I, "rents are pretty good this year?" "I don't care," said he, "if I never see a lord come into my shop, for even if they buy they don't pay me. (Loud laughter.) The people we rely on for custom are," added he, "those brought up by the Birmingham Railway, but there lately have not been so many as there used to be, and our trade will never be what it was until we get these summer birds again to pluck." (Cheers.) But I should only waste your time if I adduced any arguments to prove that your interest, or any interest in the community save that of the monopolists, is benefited by monopoly. And the object of this meeting is to call upon the electors to vindicate your rights, and to assert the interests of the whole community. Now, how are you to do that? Why, first, every voter will, I hope, promptly register his vote in favour of Mr. Pattison. Oh, what a bright muster-roll of votes we shall have against monopoly! (Cheers.) I trust that those who live at a distance will make a pilgrimage in the cause of Free Trade. If you who have not votes live outside the City districts, look to the liverymen, and see they vote in favour of Free Trade. I see, by the papers, that the Attorney-General has turned canvasser. (Laughter, and cries of "Shame.") Well, now, I should think that any of our friends of the League would make as good a canvasser as the Attorney-General. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) It is not merely Lancashire that looks to you. This meeting is an unique mode of canvassing. The attention of the civilized world is fixed upon our struggle. A friend of mine went to America some time ago for the purpose of indoctrinating them with a horror of slavery. The first thing he saw in the newspapers was a denunciation of his proceeding, and a desire expressed that he should go home and emancipate the white slaves of England, who were taxed in their food. (Cries of "Right too.") What does Commodore Napier say as to his reception in Egypt by the shrewd old Turk, Mehemet Ali? "Our system," said he, "may be a bad one, but we have grown under it, and when I send wheat to England I find I cannot sell it at a profit, for there is a monopoly in bread there." In the *National* I was reading the other day this statement, and that, be it remembered, is the ultra-Liberal journal of France: "You (speaking of England) should erase from your standard the lion, and place in its stead the starving operative craving a morsel of bread." This is the way that foreigners speak of us; this is the way in which our missionaries are met. It is now for you, the voters of London, to decide whether you will submit your necks voluntarily to this bondage—whether you will bow before this Juggernaut, or, by an effort worthy of yourselves and of the occasion, strike off for ever the fetters that have manacled this country? Gentlemen, it may be done, and it will be done. (Loud cheers.) I tell you it is a winning game. It is a 100 to 1, if we all exert ourselves, that we shall succeed; but our opponent, on this occasion, is one who, if we credit reports, either by himself or his agents, resorted, in another place, to practices which we must not allow in the city of London. Now, we must all know what was done in Yarmouth in '35. I may be told that our present candidate knew nothing about it. The question naturally arises, who did it? (Loud cries of "Hear.") It is my firm belief that no corruption ever takes place but that the candidate knows it and pays for it. I say that after having been a candidate myself. I never paid £10 without knowing for what; and I don't think that £12,000 would be advanced by a candidate without value received. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, I see by the newspapers that the same practice is likely to be resorted to in a small portion of London. Considering that it is the largest, it is one of the honestest constituencies in the kingdom; but there is a slight canker eating into one of the extremities of the metropolis. Now, I think it right to warn all parties likely to be implicated of the danger which they will run now, beyond what they ever did before, in taking bribes or treats. In the first place, if a poor voter be told "Let it be: 'twill be all right, when the time fixed by law after the election is over;" I must tell him that there is no time after the election for head-money or any other money. The League is determined on putting down bribery as one of its noble objects; and the plan we have determined on for effecting this purpose we mean to put in force at the present election. It is our intention to prosecute criminally every one against whom we think can be established the charge of taking, offering, giving, or offering to take a bribe. (Loud cheers.) It is, in the next place, the intention of the League to offer a reward of £100 for such evidence as may lead to the conviction of such parties as are charged with those acts. (Much cheering.) Now let the poorest voter know, that if he offers his vote for a sum of money it is an indictable offence; and if any one offers money to him, that is also an indictable offence. Indeed, if any one should offer a poor voter money, I should recommend him instantly to seize him by the collar, hand him over to a police-officer, and take him before the nearest magistrate, seeing that he does not destroy any papers, or take anything out of his pocket by the way. (Laughter and cheers.) Now I think we shall succeed in putting down bribery in the City. I shall not say anything about petitions to unseat a candidate, because we do not intend that Mr. Baring shall win; but whether he win or lose, every man against whom a charge can be established of taking a bribe, giving a bribe, or offering a bribe, shall be prosecuted criminally in a court of law. (Loud cheers.) The penalty has been, in ordinary cases, that the culprit should kick his heels for twelve months within the four walls of a gaol. Now we should much prefer to prosecute the man who offers the bribe, to him who receives it; and, therefore, I advise the poor elector, who may get 30s., to keep a sharp look out and see if he can't honestly get £100. (Cheers.) Now, is it not astonishing that we should have acts of Parliament on acts of Parliament, that we should have hundreds of them, in fact, one after another, until they have become a laughing-stock in the House of Commons, and that yet no one should have thought before of this plan of putting down bribery? An anecdote is told of Chancellor Thurlow, before his elevation to the peerage, that, defining bribery very minutely, and after the fashion of technical lawyers, some wag said of the display, "he has taken a great deal of pains to define what bribery is, as if there was anybody in the house that did not understand it." (Laughter.) And this, gentlemen, is our plan for putting an end to bribery—not going to a committee of the House of Commons, but straight to a jury of our countrymen. We will do that in every place where bribery is carried on, and we have a list, and pretty minute particulars, of all the transactions that took place at the last election. Now can any man deny that the object we seek is as pure as the means by which we hope to effect it? They may talk as they please of our violence, and of the revolutionary character of our proceedings. Why, our tactics from the first have been most peaceable. We have been accused of being, on that account, somewhat lukewarm, and that, having some property, and belonging to the middle classes, we did not appeal sufficiently strong to the physical force of the country. I can forgive a candidate at a losing election for some fictions; but Mr. Baring has not exhibited a very brilliant fancy in his inventions. When he talked of the guillotine and a sanguinary revolution, it was but a poor travestie of a travestie acted in the House of Commons—the assassination farce. ("Hear," and laughter.) Gentlemen, our object is what I have always declared it—the benefit of the whole community. I admit that some may suffer a temporary loss from the abolition of a monopoly, but I venture to say that, in the end, there will be no class that will not be permanently benefited by the removal of those unjust laws. (Cheers.) Mind you, I do not come here as the opponent of the farmers and agriculturists; I come charged with the authority of 25 county meetings in the open air, every one of which pledged itself to seek the abolition of those laws. I say, therefore, that, in voting for Free Trade, you will not be merely promoting your own interest, but the best interests of every class. With such an object I expect you will act like men having justice and humanity to guide and direct you; and the next time I appear before a London audience, I hope I shall have to congratulate you on that triumph which will be hailed through the length and breadth of the land; for the result of your contest will be as a knell of despair throughout the

kingdom, or the proud signal of a speedy triumph. (Loud and long-continued cheering.)

Mr. Bright, upon coming forward, was received with loud plaudits from all parts of the theatre. He said—In coming forward to address this meeting, I confess that I feel oppressed with a sense of the heavy responsibility which is imposed upon me, as one of those by whom this vast assemblage has been convened, and standing here to discuss this important question of Free Trade, and to exhort my fellow-countrymen to a steady and faithful discharge of their great and onerous duty as holders of the elective franchise, I feel how little I am qualified to give counsel, and how much more likely the electors of this City are to teach me, than I can possibly be to give good advice to them. But the appearance of this meeting is sufficient to dispel any sense of oppression, and the recollection of the past, and the prospect of the future, are enough to cause some exultation of feeling in the mind of any one who has an interest in the great question at issue. (Hear, hear.) A long day's march is made by steps, and each step is but a small advance; but after an hour's march, or some hours' march, if we stand and turn round, and look to the point from which we started, we are able to form a correct opinion of the progress we have made. And now my mind reverts to the commencement of this great struggle with feelings of no ordinary kind. I am just now looking into that small room in Manchester, where, on one memorable evening, seven men met—men not of title—not of wealth—not pretending to brilliant genius—but men of honest character—men of common sense (cheers)—men having deep sympathies with their fellow-men, and men of high resolve. (Loud cheers.) They met, and determined that that meeting should be the commencement of a struggle which should never terminate but with the termination of the existence of the accursed Corn Laws. (Cheers.) And from that hour to this I have traced, step by step, the progress we have made. We have seen fallacy after fallacy scattered to the winds—we have seen foe after foe driven from every field—we have seen triumph after triumph achieved, and now from that small room in which seven men met we are here assembled in this gorgeous building, and with this great, this magnificent audience. (Loud cheers.) And it can but be the harbinger of the triumph of this great cause. (Cheers.) I am persuaded there is no law, by whomsoever it may be supported, if it have not truth and justice for its foundation, that can long resist the attacks which are being made on it by these continued and periodical assemblages of our countrymen (loud cheers); and is it not true and just, this cause we are now advocating? All intelligent men who are not interested in the support of wrong admit it is so. (Hear, hear.) In every country under heaven but this there is but one opinion with respect to the character of our Corn Law—it is, with all thinking men in foreign countries,

"The fixed figure for the hand of scorn
To point its slow unmoving finger at!"

(Loud cheers.) You have heard already of the authorities which we have on our side. You know that the very Ministry placed in power to act against us are themselves compelled to admit that we are right and they are wrong. (Hear, hear.) We are charged with all sorts of misdeeds—with rebellion against the Crown, and with a desire to overturn all the time-honoured institutions of the country. We have no dislike to the monarchy under which we live. (Cheers.) We would wish that there should be a mild and beneficent monarchy, under which the population of this country could prosper and be happy. (Cheers.) We wish not to destroy the just rights of the aristocracy of this country. If they have privileges which are favourable to human happiness—which are just in themselves—which are in accordance with the great interests of the community—those privileges we would in no degree impair. (Loud cheers.) But if they have privileges which are opposed to the well-being of the people—if they assume to themselves the right to degrade and plunder the greatest nation on the face of the earth—then we say we are opposed to such privileges, and that they shall be abolished. (Loud cheers.) We come forward especially as the guardians of the rights of industry: we ourselves are of the middle class; and by the order of the great body of the middle and working classes of this country we are contented and resolved to stand. (Loud cheers.) We owe little to the aristocracy. Men of trade very much mistake their position if they fancy the aristocracy love them. Aristocracy scorns trade. (Cheers.) Is it more sordid to deal in cotton than to deal in bullocks and wheat? And yet those men who, in their legislative assembly, make it but a club for regulating their own markets, scorn the men who get their living by honest commerce and honest industry. (Tremendous cheers.) Those hucksters (cheers)—those dealers in provisions, have the liberty to export their produce to any part of the world, and they have the liberty to bring back any article that they may think profitable—a right that I would never deny to them or to any other men, but a right which I would claim for myself and for every other man in the kingdom. (Loud cheers.) The time was when the landowners were not greatly hostile to exportation; they themselves exported the produce of their soil, and so very fond of exportation were they that they passed a law to give to landowners a bounty of 5s. for every quarter of wheat they were able to export to foreign countries. Here were the millions wanting bread, and wanting it as cheap as they could get it—there were the few landowners making the law; and to make those millions buy it dear, they took the bounty of 5s. per quarter from the taxes, to enable them to sell their produce in foreign markets at a profit, thus keeping down the foreign markets by abundant supplies—selling to every foreigner cheap, and to their own countrymen dear. (Cries of "Shame, shame," and hisses.) That is a sort of exportation for which we have no affection, and we claim no such privilege as that. (Cheers.) From 1688 to 1773 that landowners' law existed; and in one ten years, from 1740 to 1750 or 1751, the landowners got from the people of this country, by this single tax, more than one million and a half sterling, as a bounty to enable them to make wheat dear at home, and to enable them to get profit by selling it cheap abroad. (Hisses, and marks of disapprobation.) And when, by reason of the increase of population in this country, the exportation of wheat became unnecessary and impossible, because they could not supply the population of their own country, then they stand forward and deny to us the right to import, to increase that produce of our own soil which is insufficient for us. (Hear, hear.) Now the difference to the landowners between our exporting corn and importing it is immense. If the landowner sell his corn abroad, he must sell at the foreigners' price, and must pay the expense of taking it abroad, and therefore get less than the foreigner by the amount of the expense of the transit. It is clear, then, that without a Corn Law the English landowners, in supplying us, would receive for their corn a price equal to that which the foreigner gets abroad, and as much more by the expense of the transit of the foreigners' corn to this country. (Cheers.) Now what is the consequence? The expense each way cannot be less than 7s. or 8s. per quarter, and that is the difference between being an exporting and an importing country, being not less than 14s. per quarter gain to the land under the circumstances in which it is now placed, and that 14s. per quarter on all wheat grown cannot be less than thirty-six millions sterling per annum of increased value to the produce of the soil of this country. (Cheers.) Now we have no objection to any legitimate increase, and this is legitimate; they have an undoubted right to it, and I would not deprive them of a farthing of it (cheers); but beyond that legitimate increase they shall not go with my consent, and I ask if they shall with yours? (Shouts of "No, no," from all parts of the theatre.) But still they allow us to export. The surplus produce of the population of this country is sent to every country under heaven, and we are permitted to bring back the choicest luxuries which the earth's surface produces; but that which the men want, by whose labour and by the sweat of whose brow those exports are produced—that which is the chief article of human subsistence—food, these beneficent, and paternal, and just, and to be worshipped legislators forbid us to bring in at all. (Loud cheers.) I might draw a picture of what is going on now in many a house in London. I might go to the west-end, those handsome streets, those splendid squares; look at the magnificent mansions, see the gorgeous apartments, the massive dinner-table, now spread, and the social circle gathered round it. What are they at—what are they doing—what are they eating? The very table comes from abroad, purchased by the labour of the men whom they scorn and trample on. (Cheers.) Those choice viands, that beautiful dessert, the costly wines you see there, many of the ornaments with which the room is decorated, have come from abroad, not in exchange for wheat and oxen, but in exchange for the produce of the spindle and the loom, and the anvil and the forge and the mine, and of the hard-working people of this unfortunate country (loud cheers); and yet they deny to this people the right to purchase food. (Loud cries of "Shame, shame.") While seated round their table, they congratulate themselves as members of a society highly respectable, against whom no word must be said, doubtless imagining that we here assembled are engaged in a most unlawful and evil work when we are showing up the wickedness or error of the course which they are pursuing, and when we call on our countrymen to join with us in extirpating this great injustice. (Cheers.) We might lay the whole world under contribution if we had Free Trade. All nature lies extended before us—her vast treasure-houses are open to us—there is nothing that is good for man under the sun that may not be brought to England in return for the produce of England's industry. (Cheers.) I would not lay the world under contribution by marauding and buccaneering expeditions; it should not be by ships going forth filled with England's thunder and with deadly weapons, but by merchant ships, which should carry abroad the thousand things you make, which in a kindly manner you would exchange with every people under heaven, bringing in return all they have to spare, to nourish and cherish and prosper the people of this country. (Loud cheers.) When Free Trade comes, there will be another change or two. We shall not, some years after that, be much inclined to worship heroes, whose fame is written in letters of blood. (Loud cheers.) We shall not have the columns of the newspapers filled with horrible details at which the heart shudders—

"Oh, then innocently brave,
We will wrestle with the wave,
Where commerce spreads her daring sail,
And yokes her naval chariots to the gale."

(Loud and long-continued cheering.) I suspect that we hardly picture to ourselves what are the consequences arising from the scarcity of food in this country. We are often bewildered by the circumstance of money going between us as a medium of exchange, and we fancy that by an increase of money-wages we may remedy to the working-classes the evils arising from a scarcity of food. But, for the sake of illustration, we will suppose we have no money to pay wages in; that whenever a man has performed his week's work he shall be paid in those articles on which he would have expended his silver and gold, had he received any. The chief article is food. If there be a law which makes a scarcity of food, and you have to divide that scarce supply amongst the labouring population in the place of wages, how is it possible that in a case of scarcity you can give in return for labour as much food as you could if food were more abundant? And recollect that, when there is a scarce supply, the rich must be fed before anything can be given to the poor. (Cheers.) Now we are in this condition. We have a population constantly and rapidly increasing, whilst the supply of food does not increase in proportion to the increase of the people. We find them working harder and harder, and yet sinking lower and lower into misery. (Hear, hear.) We find that the stock of food, out of which their wages are to be paid, grows every year smaller in proportion to the number to be fed out of it. And divide as equally as you will—and the monopolist divides as unequally as anything can be divided—still you must see that a great mass of the working class in this country must be every year receiving less of good and nutritious diet in exchange for their labour, which would not be if no such law as this existed to check the supply of food. (Hear, hear.) Seeing, then, that we have taken our stand on the justice of this question—seeing that we have avowed a relentless hostility to the injustice on which the Corn Law is based—to what point are we necessarily driven? Can we stop at any proposition for a fixed duty which may hereafter be made? (Cries of "No, no.") Is it possible for men who are determined—who have spoken language sometimes, it may be, violent, I hope always sincere, against the injustice of this law—is it possible for such men to rest content with any proposition short of absolute justice to the people? (Tremendous cheering.) And shall we wait for reciprocity treaties? Shall we wait till other countries are willing to do something, heedless of the cries of the suffering millions, before we act, waiting till some foreign country comes to its senses, and offers that justice to its people which is refused to ours? (Cheers.) We do not ask the Government of this country to find us markets; all we ask is, that we should be permitted to become the customers of any people who will give us anything we want. (Hear, hear.) Let Parliament allow us to buy where we will, and we will not trouble any government to find us markets for our goods. (Cheers.) I have sometimes thought what a beautiful illustration this wonderful city affords of the truth of the principles which we advocate. You have two millions of a population—two millions, or some large proportion of that number, rise every morning from their beds, and look out for a supply of the necessaries of life. Food they must have—breakfast, dinner, supper. How do they get it? I have heard men praise the beautiful machinery, so complex yet so simple, of the Post-office establishment in this country; but if a man were dropped into your country, ignorant of these matters, and were told that these two millions every morning required breakfast, and that all the arrangements of life should be carried on with something like regularity and precision, he would wonder what gigantic intellect had formed the system; whose was the master mind that touched the spring, and caused all to work in harmony—no confusion and no delay? (Hear, hear.) But when he looks in your streets and sees the countless coaches, carriages, wagons, carts, vehicles of every kind, and men walking to and fro, engaged in the avocations of life, he would be led to discover that there was some great and all-controlling principle by which those two millions were enabled to provide themselves with their daily bread. (Hear.) Now, you citizens of London require no government to arrange all this for you. If the Government were to interfere, there is no doubt that, badly off as many of you are now, and many as there are who now get a scanty supply of food, the chances are a thousand to one that the evils which now exist would be wonderfully multiplied, that all the advantages which you now enjoy would be diminished, and the scarcity of food be still greater than heretofore. (Loud cheers.) But we want this beautiful principle of nature carried out over the whole world. We are persuaded that the law of nature, by which the population of this great metropolis subsists, is sufficient, if it were allowed free way, for the population of the empire, and competent to regulate the affairs of commerce between all nations upon earth. (Cheers.) One of the candidates for your city charges us with high crimes, but I think that those men who, seeing dangers and breakers ahead, point them out to the people are not their very worst friends. (Hear, hear, hear.) I think all must admit, who regard the present condition of this country, and the state of things we have lately passed through, and the disturbances now existing in some portions of the empire—I think all must admit that there are breakers ahead, and that there is necessity for having, if possible, a good pilot at the helm. (Loud cheers.) The pilot we have seems disposed to run aground; there are rocks which few can see, and some which all can see, but he goes on, careless alike of the one and of the other. (Cheers.) He appears to me to be coquetting with the storm. (Renewed cheers.) He knows what is right—he has acknowledged it. To mitigate the sufferings of the people, he mitigated the stringency of the Corn Law; and, if that were the effect of a slight relaxation, does he not know that by abolishing the law altogether he might almost altogether abolish the sufferings of his fellow-countrymen? (Hear.) But we have no hope from this pilot (cheers); we have very small hope from his crew (cheers); and we have still less hope from the additional hand they propose to take on board. (Reiterated cheering.) We turn for help to another quarter. We may not get assistance from the monarchy, or the oligarchy under whom we suffer. The evil-disposed of the aristocracy, the desperate portion of them, have one foot upon the Crown, and the other upon the neck of the people. (Cheers.) Unhappily for Britain, the desperate portion of the aristocracy are now in the ascendant, and would seem to care not for the rest of the empire, so that they keep afloat. (Hear, hear.) I am astonished at the conduct of the better portion of the aristocracy. There are men amongst them who have sympathies with the people; there are many men,

I am sure, who, in their closets and in their own homes, are conscious that we are right, and that our warfare is righteous against the injustice of a portion of their order. And what a glorious opportunity for such a man, if there be such! (Cheers.) Why is there not a man found amongst them—

"High his title, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish could claim"—

why is there not such a man found to stand out from his order and say, "What has passed is sufficient, the people have suffered enough from the wrongs which my order have committed; they have done evil long enough, and if they choose not to repeal that odious law, I will wash my hands of that injustice, and throw myself into the ranks of the people, and fight their battles against the men who should have been their guardians and defenders?" (Loud and long-continued cheering.) I could imagine no prouder position than the one I have pointed out for such a man. There are of them who show you in books the histories of their noble families—who boast to turn to the lives, and show the great events in which their ancestors were engaged, and some of those events are such as any posterity may well be proud of—but, I ask, is the blood of those families chilled? is it become plebeian, in the worst sense of the term, rendering its possessor sordid and unsympathising with his fellow-creatures? (Loud cheers.) I am not so great a foe to the aristocracy as they may imagine me to be. I would gladly hail a band of such men joining the ranks of the people. I would gladly act with them, yield to them, and defer to their opinions. (Hear, hear.) But it may be that we must fight this battle ourselves—and we have now applied to that class who compose the electoral body of this country—the great mass of the middle classes—on them we call—on you, citizens of London, who should now raise your voices in condemnation of the worst law that ever disgraced the statute-book of your country. (Cheers.) Whose interests are now at stake? Whose fate is trembling in the balance? It may be that the interests of the Crown—it may be that the interests of the aristocracy may be affected; but a far dearer interest than either of these is at stake—the interests of the commonalty of England. (Tremendous cheers.) I recollect, in my boyish days, reading books, and stories, and histories, in which the character of London merchants were portrayed. Your merchants were princes, your traders nobles of the earth. The London or the British merchant was pointed out as a man, above all others, remarkable for industry, integrity, generosity, and an unquenchable love of everything noble and just. (Loud cheers.) To the merchants and traders of London we appeal. I know not how it is that a man, advocating monopoly, dare stand before the electors of this commercial city. (Cheers.) I ask you, if it should happen that the supporter of monopoly were returned to Parliament, to obliterate the records of your ignominious conduct—burn all your newspapers—let not a line remain to tell to your children the shameful treachery in which you were engaged. (Loud cheers.) Who are these merchants, and who are these traders who are in favour of monopoly? Have you an interest in monopoly?—then unite to support it; but if you have not, what conceivable interest have you in supporting a man who is in favour of it? (Hear, hear.) Is it not the cause of the starvation of thousands and millions of your countrymen, and do you not think that the very stones in your streets will cry out against you if you heed not the call of those starving millions, and commit your privileges to the keeping of a man whose first vote would be to betray the commercial interests of the kingdom? (At this sentiment the audience rose *en masse*, and cheered the honourable member for several minutes.) Is it the aristocracy or the people by whom your merchants are supported? You have had the question answered already; but it cannot be brought before you too often. Are you of the aristocracy or of the people? Answer—you may, perhaps, by toadying the aristocracy, some one of you, be at length lifted into the ranks of the peerage—like a so-called "noble relative" of one of the candidates. You may, by betraying the interests of your order, become one of another order, perhaps less honourable than your own. (Cheers.) There was an election at Taunton once, and a certain Alexander Baring was a candidate, and two sacks of flour were made into one huge loaf, and that loaf was carried in procession through the town, and that was "Baring's loaf," and an unfortunate labourer was brought in procession also, with his hands manacled, and the said Alexander Baring was the "people's candidate," and in the presence of the assembled multitude he struck off those chains, as he said he would do those that confined the country's industry—and that man is now a peer—a fit reward for treachery like his. (Loud cheers.) And who knows but if you send his nephew to Parliament, that, by a like subserviency to the powers who are hostile to the rights of the people, you may have the credit of having set your honourable representative in that channel which may end in the glory and honour of a peerage granted in such behalf. (Reiterated cheering.) But this will not be—it cannot be. (Cheers.) If I heard that this monopolist candidate was sure to be returned, I would not believe it till I had read the return of the poll. (Hear, hear.) I would never believe so much ignominy of my fellow-countrymen as that. (Cheers.) It may be that some rich individuals, whose hearts have been rendered callous and unfeeling, may support the monopolist candidate in your city, and such I have heard of as being on his platform; but I will never believe that the great bulk of the traders of London—those who occupy the thousands of shops which are at once the wonder and admiration of every man who comes into your city—I will never believe that such men—traders like myself, in the same order as myself—will betray the millions on whom they depend, and who call on them for deliverance, at the word of any minion of aristocracy, or of any man whatever. (Loud cheers.) What are we to do if you should thus betray your trust? What can we say at the next election for the next borough in which we may present ourselves? Can we refer to the city of London? On the contrary, we should be asked "What did the citizens of London say to you?" And what need has the minister to care much of what we say of them and of this law, if the most powerful constituencies in the empire are resolved to support this great iniquity in opposition to the interests of the people? (Hear, hear.) Individually, I call on you electors—there are some thousands here, I doubt not, who will vote next week, or who have interest with the voters—I beseech you to think what you are called on to do. This is no ordinary occasion. We cannot allow politics to sink into the shade. One vote may turn the election for the city of London, and one vote may seal the fate of the infamous Corn Law. (Loud cheers.) I would like this vast meeting to call itself one great committee. I would have every man attending here to-night, and applauding the sentiments now uttered, to make up his mind without any reservation, that, at daylight to-morrow, or as soon after as practicable, he will consider himself a specially appointed canvasser for the election of the city of London on behalf of James Pattison. (The meeting here cheered the speaker vociferously.) No man in his senses denies that the majority of the electors are opposed to monopoly—the man ought to go to Bedlam who would assert the contrary for a moment. Four men out of five have long ago made up their minds on the question of the corn and provision laws. Why, then, should there be in the mind of any one the slightest supposition that the electors of London would return a monopolist to Parliament? A great deal depends upon organization. You have a large majority in favour of the Free-Trade candidate; but if you be apathetic—if there be no good organization—no method by which the unscrupulous tricks of the adversary may be defeated—it may be, even with a majority of 1000 or 2000, the Free-Trade candidate may be defeated; but, from what I have seen for some days past, I suspect there has never been so great a spirit amongst the body of electors, and so many men canvassing from the mere love of the great cause in which they are engaged. (Hear, hear.) I have seen them in many wards, and have heard of them in more—I have heard of conversions from the party generally termed Conservative, but I do not now want to convert them from any of their opinions except those which they entertain in favour of monopoly. (Hear, hear.) Let them cast away party feeling. Let this be an election on what Mr. Baring calls "commercial grounds"—let them forget all the old war cries, and the old banners, which are no longer worth marching under—let them know the power which they now have, in a greater degree than any other constituency, to strike off the galling fetter and set the industry of their country free. (Loud cheers.) I would talk to you as to a single elector. I would ask every single shopkeeper what is to be gained by going on in the old track? Nothing. Did not your ancestors protest against the introduction and the continuance of this law? True, some of them have fallen back into the ranks of those who did the mischief; but that is no reason why the great body of the citizens of London should not protest again, and join with men of other cities and towns who have emphatically denounced this odious and grievous law. (Loud cheers.) We ask your support—we think we have a claim upon you—we think we have a strong claim upon you. Our labours, our sacrifices, in this great cause—the voices of your countrymen at a thousand meetings—the cries of the suffering millions, that rise from earth to heaven—all should bid you give us your strong support in this great struggle. (Cheers.) We have need of the sympathy and co-operation of our fellow-men—of every friend of truth and justice. Our foes are subtle, unscrupulous, and well compacted together; they trade in ignorance, prejudice, error, and crime (cheers); but, knowing that—

"Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just,"

we press on with unfailing confidence that the end is approaching, and that the victory is certain. And when our labours are over, when our warfare is accomplished, our consolation and reward shall be, and every man who has helped us shall participate in it, that in our day and generation we have been permitted to advance at least one great step towards that glorious and that promised time, when human laws shall harmonise with the sublime injunctions of the Christian code, and when man, as an individual or in communities, shall accept and obey that divinest precept of them all, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." (The honourable member resumed his seat amid loud and long-continued cheering.)

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. W. J. Fox will now have the honour to address the meeting. (Immense cheering.)

Mr. W. J. Fox then advanced to the table, and was greeted with several rounds of applause. The cheers having subsided, Mr. Fox spoke as follows:—In the important choice which the electors of the city of London will in a few days be called upon to make it is remarkable that the strongest ground for the return of one candidate is set forth in the address of the other candidate. "If I were asked" (said Mr. Baring, in the explanation of his views and principles to his supporters last Friday)—"if I were asked whether I concur in the abstract justice of Free-Trade principles, I should answer, yes; and if I were asked whether I wished that commerce should be unshackled from all unnecessary restrictions that prevent its extension, I should answer—yes." Here, then, are his professed principles—his professed wishes; and they are the principles that Mr. Pattison pledges himself to carry out into practice—they are the wishes that it would be the object of his parliamentary career to transform into realities. (Cheers.) Why, then, is not Mr. Baring among the supporters of Mr. Pattison? (Cheers and laughter.) Why is he not for the accomplishment of his own desires? Why is he not for the application of his own principles? Is it cowardice, or is it hypocrisy? (Cheers.) Is he one of those who are ever "letting the I dare not wait upon the I would, like the poor cat i' the adage," or is he one of those who throws out good sounding phrases to catch the simple and unwary? Does he parade his general principle to catch your votes, and make his particular exceptions to guide his own? (Cheers.) It is one of the commonest tricks of sophistry, when a man is flying directly in the face of a great principle, to acknowledge it in reverent phrase, and to put the antagonist principle in the form of an exception; and this is the trick that runs through the whole of Mr. Baring's address. His statement of his adhesion to the Free-Trade principle is clear and broad, while the entire speech is made up of showing where and how this principle is not to be applied, showing how it is to be compromised for the sake of this or that class—for the sake of party—for the sake of revenue—the pretence of national defence—the pretence of humanity to the negroes. But he advocates—the right name of which is monopoly—what in his own phrase is called protection, which is not really an exception to Free-Trade principles, but is the antagonism of those principles. What he calls protection is that which enhances the price of your subsistence. Protection means that which diminishes the ability of your customers to buy. Protection is that which prevents the honest labourer from receiving the whole amount of his earnings. Protection means the varied forms which monopoly assumes from morning till night; and at the present moment, among other things, protection means the imposition of the income-tax. (Cheers.) Whom would he protect? Look at his votes. He protects ecclesiastical establishments in their power and splendour, but he does not mean the protection of the poor Dissenter from having his bed or his bible seized for church-rates. (Cheers.) He protects the wealthy voter who can go to the poll assured that he shall suffer neither in pecuniary means nor in social standing; but he leaves unprotected the man whose straitened circumstances may make him a defaulter for a quarter in the payment of his taxes, or who needs the protection of the ballot to insure him from the threats and persecutions of the powerful. (Cheers.) In short, his protection is protection for all that is powerful, but not for that which is feeble. It is protection for the oppressive few, but not for the oppressed and plundered many. (Cheers.) I would endeavour, if you would give me your attention, to pursue the reasoning of his speech through the succession of his exceptions to his own general principle. He says—"Free-Trade principles must be modified by the need of defence of the country, by the necessities of the revenue, by the interests of particular classes, and by the dictates of humanity." That is to say, according to his own account, the Free-Trade principles to which he professes his adhesion are principles which he also thinks come in collision with the defence of the country, with its resources, with its important classes, and with humane and philanthropic feelings. (Cheers.) An odd way this to recommend a principle. (Cheers.) What does all this mean? His object I apprehend to be, under the name of a general principle which is good, to do something for a particular and monopolist interest. He quotes Adam Smith, saying the navigation law was among the wisest of all the commercial regulations of England. But he only quotes a portion of that great man's opinion, and by no means that portion which has best stood the test of examination and experience; for the navigation law of which Adam Smith spoke was not the law that now exists. It was a law which it was found impracticable to carry out, without injuring the interest which it professedly intended to promote. It was a law which the interference and reprisals of America and Prussia compelled the Government of this country most materially to modify, until it has left only certain rags and fragments of it behind. It was a law which many of those statesmen whom Mr. Baring professes to revere felt it impossible to retain on the statute-book, Sir Robert Peel, I believe, having had a hand in reducing it to its present limited dimensions. But the paragraph which Mr. Baring quoted from was one which, if quoted wholly, would have given a very different colouring to the argument. I can scarcely call it logical honesty that he should have quoted Adam Smith's opinion from a lengthened passage, omitting not only the "perhaps" coupled with the words, but also the preceding sentences, which ran thus:—"The act of navigation is not favourable to foreign commerce, or to the growth of that opulence which can arise from it. The interest of a nation in its commercial relations to foreign nations is, like that of a merchant with regard to the different people with whom he deals, to buy as cheap and to sell as dear as possible. By diminishing the number of sellers, we necessarily diminish that of buyers, and are thus likely, not only to buy foreign goods dearer, but to sell our own cheaper, than if there was a more perfect freedom of trade." And what, after all, is done for the defence of the country by this exception? Does the mercantile navy of England owe any of its real superiority to monopoly? Can we not, if it were not for other monopolies with which this is leagued, can we not build ships as stout and strong, and, without the Corn Laws, victual them as cheaply, and have we not sailors to compete with any others that are to be found on the shores of any country in the world? How, too, did the navigation laws make the mercantile navy subservient to the defence of the country? How, but by that violence which the navigation law generated, that foul disgrace to the civilization of this people that it should so long have

been endured—the practice of impressment. The defence of the country was such as can be wrested from the ranks of industry by the violence of a press-gang. (Cheers.) We need no such interference as this to repel any hostile attack on this country, and a much surer way to provide for us at all times, and, under all circumstances, the best of defences, would be to give the great mass of the people something more to defend them than they possess at present. (Loud cheers.) They will not fight for a bread-tax. They will not fight for a state of subserviency to the oligarchy that rides over them. They will not fight for institutions that work well for the rich but ill for the poor—well for the powerful, but badly for the feeble. In the extension—the rapid and wide extension—that would take place by the abolition of commercial restriction, would be found a surer defence than arms have ever bestowed; the defence of mutual dependence, and, growing out of that, mutual kindness. It is not by navigation laws and press-gangs. The question which a pugnacious youth once asked a veteran boxer may have its answer in this case. "What," said he, "is the best attitude of defence?" "Why," said the old champion, "the best attitude of defence at all times is, to keep a civil tongue in your head." (Laughter.) The peaceful operation of commerce entwining together the interests of nations, making them minister to each other's wants, and to each other's enjoyments, the progress in than oneness of feeling and spirit, and that desire for the common welfare, that would be generated by the universal communication of mercantile energy and enterprise, in these are found a far better defence than any other which, in a conflicting and jealous spirit, has ever yet been devised; and if Burke was justified in calling honour the cheap defence of nations, we may say more of free commerce: it is not only a defence that is cheap, but it is a defence which tends to the abolition of poverty, and the enriching of all classes of the community. Mr. Baring's next exception to Free-Trade principles is that which, he says, must ever be dictated by the revenue of the country. The gross ignorance which this displays has been already exposed. You have been told again, what has been so often said before, that with the taxes imposed for the purposes of revenue—honestly and wisely imposed for that purpose—this agitation has nothing to do; but with taxes that are imposed not for the necessities of Government, but to gratify the rapacity of a class. I think that his instances are scarcely happy. He says if Free-Trade principles were carried out, it would be impossible to tax tobacco from 800 to 1000 per cent., or to tax tea from 200 to 300 per cent. Over this impossibility he seems to shudder, and in so fearful a result, from which he shrinks back aghast, he finds amply sufficient reason for the modification of his principles. (Hear, hear.) The horrible event would happen that you would not have to pay four guineas for a pennyworth of tobacco, and get for 6d. the tea for which you now have to pay 2s. This is a consummation—a state of things—not to be endured, and which he asks you to send him into Parliament that he may prevent his own principles from realizing in your experience. (Laughter.) In coming to the exception to his principle derived from class interests, Mr. Baring—put forward as a commercial candidate of the city of London—fixes at once on a class; and what class think you is it? Not the merchants of the metropolis; not the traders and retail dealers; not the hard-working man. He pitches at once upon the agricultural class as a specimen of class interest, before whose monopoly Free-Trade principles are at once to bow their head, and to be passed by, as finding that there is no occasion whatever for their application. But this is only one instance of the disposition which has been repeatedly shown by the candidate on whose claim I am now commenting. The Ashburton spirit is strong in him. (Laughter.) As you have been told, his foot—if you send him into Parliament as a member for the city of London—will be on the lowest round of that Jacob's ladder which rises up over the stages of knighthood or baronetcy, until it ascends to the third heaven of the peerage of this country. (Laughter.) In his first address he speaks of being placed in the House of Commons to render service there to mercantile interests, "which have in this country a national importance." He speaks of them as something which has so grown up that it deserves to be noticed in a patronising manner—something which may be thought worthy of being at least recognised as an appendage to the higher ranks and gradations of society here—something which is to be condescendingly taken by the hand, and not that which, as a citizen of London, he should have been most proud of—not that which has infused a spirit into the minds of men of independence and frankness, and which induced an answer some time ago, when, in a conference with royalty, the monarch threatened, as if it was utter destruction to the place, that he would remove himself and court from London, and a citizen respectfully replied: "I hope it will please your Majesty to leave the river Thames behind." (Cheers and laughter.) Why, this city has bred up men who know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain them; in whose honest and independent ranks we find a lustre that aristocracy never has bestowed, nor ever can—the appreciation of which should surely be marked in the man that aspires to be its representative, and who goes, not to wriggle his own way into other classes of society, but to tell all the other classes what are the wants, the wishes, and the rights of the great mercantile and middling classes that constitute the bulk of his constituency. (Cheers.) In conformity with this general leaning of his mind, he pitches, I say, at once, on the agricultural class as that whose particular interest is to form an exception to the application of his own general views. How is it worked out? By nibbling in succession at sophisms, which have been exploded until even the reiterations of the daily press have shrunk from their repetition. He looks at them wistfully, and says of each that it will not do; turns away to another, and finds that equally worthless; hints that, perhaps, the agriculture of the country may be protected into finding a sufficient supply of food, but is not sure; remarks that independence of foreign nations, if not a sound and valid argument—indeed, he does not say that is still clung to by many as a most desirable condition of things; looks at the question of wages, and thinks that it may follow the price of food, but recollects that it is not so in America; and at last, endeavouring to make something of this argument, he pursues it from one stage to another, until at last it all comes to this—that he is very much afraid, were the Corn Laws repealed, that some agricultural labourers would be thrown out of work, and that the multitudes in Lancashire may be injured by their competition. (Cheers and laughter.) It is, indeed, but a little mouse to be brought forth by such a mountain of an argument. And, then, how remarkable it is that Mr. Baring should be in a difficulty about this, that he should not know what to do with his surplus agricultural labourers in such a position of things, that he should find nowhere to put them but in Lancashire, among the manufacturing operatives; because, if we turn to another part of his speech, we find that he has a remedy for the overwhelming population of this country. He is not embarrassed by the birth of a thousand infants every day; he has no difficulty in propounding for the entire population a plan of colonization—he will transport the surplus population from the manufacturing districts—and yet, having so summarily disposed of those who would much rather stay here and earn the bread which they can earn from the remotest countries, he is yet involved in such a terrible difficulty about the minute portion of agricultural labourers thrown out of employment by the supposed agency of Free Trade, that for them he can find no other remedy but the sacrifice of Free-Trade principles. But then we have too much power, he says; and this is one of his arguments for supporting the present monopoly in food. "He would venture to say that, with their present machinery, the manufacturers of this country were in possession of a power of production quite equal to any demand that could be made upon us from any country which, under such circumstances, might furnish us with their corn." Now, if if it is as he says, this must be a very wonderful power which does not employ, when it is set to work, more hands. I have heard of no machinery, however powerful, that would work without human superintendence; that having produced a certain quantity under the direction of the human mind, and with the application of human labour, would then go on to produce half as much more, and yet neither man, woman, nor child be wanted for the operation. But, suppose it is so, what is his remedy? This power of production, which one might think among the best gifts of Heaven, while there are people to be fed and clothed, and the means of food and clothing are provided in such power—what is his remedy for it? Keep it idle—practically annihilate it. We have too much power of production, which must not be exercised, because the landlords of this country do not produce enough for those to purchase who would be enriched by this application of the machinery. (Cheers.) What a state of things, that an immense power of production of the conveniencies and luxuries of life should ever be thought a thing that requires repression, that should be coerced into inertness! Why, if this were carried out to its full extent, to what absurdities might it not lead us. If one machine be too powerful, it would make us use a less powerful one. Do not produce more than the landlords require to be produced, in order that you may treat with them for the produce of their soil. And if machinery is thus to be reduced in power, why not the human machine that works it? If men will labour so much—if they will have the power of earning bread from foreigners, and claim to have it when they have earned it—why, then, diminish that power—cut off their arms, and let them labour only within the reasonable limits which protection demands of them. We should be somewhat surprised if a traveller were to tell us that, in his wandering over the face of the globe, he came into a country where all the working class had had two of their fingers amputated, and his surprise would be by no means diminished if some politician in the country—some representative of its metropolis, or would be so—were to tell him that the people had been guilty of over-production (laughter); they laboured so much with those restless five fingers of theirs, that there was no bearing it; that the land of the country would not grow enough to satisfy them if they toiled so much; that, it being necessary to protect this landed interest, he had diminished their power by this amputation; and that this nation of "Three-fingered Jacks" were accordingly the noblest specimen that could be furnished of the wisdom of protection and of the beauty of excluding abstract principles from the commerce of the country. (Loud cheers.) And what is Mr. Baring, after all? (Laughter.) He cannot dismiss this part of the subject without telling us that, supposing the country wanted regularly an importation of foreign corn for the subsistence of the population, it would then become a question—nay, in his mind it would be more desirable—that there should be a fixed duty than a sliding-scale, inasmuch as in that case there would be an artificial deluging of the country at a time when it was least needed, and a scarcity when it was most strongly felt. Now, who does not know that this is really the state of things—that for fifty years this has been an importing country; that the average want of about 1,000,000 quarters has been felt, year after year, through a large portion of that time; that it can be marked out distinctly as a regular national want? Mr. Baring, accordingly, in meaning to support a sliding-scale, does so in opposition to his opinion in favour of a fixed duty; both the spirit and the opinion being also in violation of his professed adhesion to the principles of Free Trade. And this man is supported by those whose whole power was, not long ago, put forth most energetically, in order to demolish an administration that had dared to propose a fixed duty. (Hear, hear.) I pass on from this to his next point of exception, which is on the ground of humanity. Now, if one's feelings of humanity come into competition with any principle, one may well hesitate, although it is a strange case to suppose. But what is this plea of humanity? Why, that the sugar of this country must be free from the taint of slavery. He feels so much for the negroes that he will not allow slave-made sugar to come into this country, while those very negroes for whose emancipation we have paid so amply sweeten their own grog with the slave-made sugars that have been sent to this country from Brazil, to be refined and re-exported. (Hear, hear.) Humanity, indeed! The feeling is not for the negroes. It is for the possessors of estates in the West Indies, which yield not a satisfactory profit to their owners. The negro does not want their sympathy in this way; he does not want to be bullied or flogged into a cane-field; he likes his present situation much better. Nay, we find complaints made that he has grown wealthy. We have been told that his wife wears silks, and that he rides in a gig, and is a "respectable" man; that he bids for the property on which he once toiled, and laughs to scorn the pretended humanity that would bring him down by competition, practically, to the condition of a slave. (Hear, hear.) And this is the pretext—the shallow pretext—under which a system is kept up that actually stops the consumption of sugar in this country; that keeps it for years, notwithstanding the great increase of the population, precisely where it was, and thus invades the common comforts of life, and inflicts a privation that must be severely felt by the poorest classes. Through all these exceptions, we find one spirit and principle reigning. Tear off the mask from each, and you find the foul and disgusting feature of Monopoly underneath. Shipping monopoly, corn monopoly, sugar monopoly, there they are, veiled as defence, veiled as revenue, veiled as humanity, but all meaning the same thing, all meaning the enrichment of small classes at the expense of the toiling and the industry of the larger. And is it to support such a system as this that we are invited to blink our own principles as he disregards his? Is it to support such anomalies, such absurdities, such oppressions and injuries that we are to turn away from the man who will work out his principles, and give our votes to one who practically confesses that his whole political conduct is an exception to, I should say more properly, a violation of the principles he professes to hold, as just and true? I am not one of those who have their homes in Lancashire, a residence which seems to bear something of offence upon it in certain quarters; but I would much rather be identified with any class, whatever their abode, that makes the just and noble appeal that has been made to the citizens of London by these denizens of Lancashire, than I would to a class who shall, if it be a supposable case, disregard that appeal, and give their votes in favour of monopoly, and against their fellow-countrymen. (Cheers.) What matters it where they come from? Is London grown so narrow and restricted that it has no citizenship to spare for those whose generous efforts in behalf of the laborious and oppressed should make them free of any city, however proud its community? I had thought better of London before this declaration was put forth—I had imagined that if there were men who could point the path of improvement, which could lay their hand on a law and say this is bad, wrong in principle, and injurious in operation, and ought to be repealed—that when they could say such is the course by which commerce may be extended, labour more amply rewarded, and industry more sufficiently encouraged, I should have supposed that the home of such men, their natural abode, should have been in London. I had supposed that when there was an appeal to be made against the infliction of wrong—that when the cry of justice was to be raised—that when the favouring spirit of public opinion, manifested by the daily organs of the press, or by the voices of assembled multitudes—was it to be looked for that those who sought such things, and entertained such objects should be sure of finding their homes in London? (Cheers). Such, I trust, will London be, and not a cistern for the foul toads of monopoly to knot and gender in. (Loud cheers.) The feeling of the people with these men of Lancashire has crowned their heretofore honourable labours; and it now will, I trust, add a more brilliant victory than any which they have yet achieved as preparatory to the great final triumph. In our response to the appeal of these people I feel that their home is wherever the principles of truth and justice can prevail. (Cheers.) They are not for abstract justice merely—the meaning of which I take to be simply an abstraction of justice from the people; and wherever knowledge penetrates—wherever the multitudinous tracts which they put forth find their way to men's intellects and hearts—wherever, by the growth of information, sound principles are generated, and the progress of social improvement is advanced, there the League has its home; wherever there is hard endurance of imperfectly remunerated toil—wherever the artisan in the populous city has to grieve over the pittance which is all that he has to bestow on his family—or, in remoter districts, wherever the agricultural labourer looks around on the tattered vestments of his wife and children, and feels that they cannot even appear decently at church to receive the ordinances of their religion—there is the home of the League to inspire despondency itself with hope, and to give the prospect of relief. Wherever in distant regions nature's fertility runs to waste—where, for want of a demand for the power of human labour, ingenuity is not

put forth, but the soil is doomed to artificial barrenness through the power of monopoly in this country, preventing the interchange for that which the cultivator would gladly make—there, too, is the home of the League, bringing the promise of richer harvests; there to clothe the distant cultivator, and to feed the artisan. (Cheers.) And wherever, on all future occasions, the battle of principles is to be fought in the electoral contests—wherever monopoly may raise its head and make its last expiring efforts against Free Trade—there will be the home of the League to see fair play, to encourage the timid, and to cheer on the candidate who shall honestly advocate those measures which shall ensure food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, and give life, spirit, and power to all classes of society, and thereby showing that this country has yet to run its career of prosperity and glory. (Loud cheers.) And I trust that the result of this election will be to show that where there is a legislature having in its hands the destinies of a great empire, there likewise will be the home of the League, proving that justice—no longer an abstraction—justice to all classes, from the highest to the lowest, is the surest guidance of legislative enactments, as it is the amplest resource of national prosperity.

On Mr. Fox returning to his seat, amidst the most enthusiastic cheering, calls were made for Mr. Moore, but —

The CHAIRMAN said, he was sure the assemblage would not object to submit to the arrangement that had been made on this occasion. (Cheers.) It was not the last time that this great and important subject would be discussed in that building. (Cheers.) He trusted that within a fortnight they would have the gratification of hearing the gentleman whose name they had just called. (Cheers.) I have now (said Mr. Villiers) to inform you that this meeting is dissolved; and I cannot help expressing the great gratification that those who have called this meeting together have experienced from observing the patient and intelligent attention that you have given to the arguments which have been advanced, and we cannot help expressing the hope, if there was any elector of the city of London who, at the beginning of the evening, was wavering in his judgment, that the object of the meeting may have been so far realized as to have given his judgment a right direction. (Cheers.)

The vast assemblage then quietly dispersed.

GREAT LEAGUE MEETING AT WORCESTER.

On Saturday last, October 7th, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and John Bright, Esq., M.P., met the agriculturists of Worcestershire, in the Guildhall, Worcester. The meeting was convened by public placards posted throughout the county, inviting the farmers, landowners, and freeholders, to hear the general question of Free Trade and the influence of the Corn Laws on the interests of farmers and farm-labourers fully discussed. The meeting was a highly respectable one, attended by large numbers of the tenantry of the county, and was quite equal in importance and interest to any of the agricultural county meetings previously convened by the League. The chair was taken at half-past twelve, by E. Holland, Esq., a large landed proprietor, and late high sheriff for the county. The Guildhall was crowded in every part with from two to three thousand persons, and though a very great proportion was composed of farmers and landowners, the speakers were listened to throughout with the most intense interest, and frequently interrupted with the reiterated cheers of the auditory.

Amongst the gentlemen on the platform we observed—E. Holland, C. E. Hanford, T. C. Hornyold, R. Berkeley, F. Eyston, J. and W. King, W. Boultbee, W. B. Collis, R. Hardy, J. M. G. Cheek, T. White, A. New (Mayor of Evesham), C. New, E. Baldwin, E. Wood, W. Doogood, E. Corles, T. Waters, J. Jones, G. Munn, J. Knight, F. T. Elgie, R. S. Martin, Esqrs., &c. &c. The Revs. W. Crowe and T. Davies. Messrs. G. Barrett, H. and G. New, — Crowther, J. B. Crane, T. Wheeler, W. F. Corbett, J. Hill, W. R. Allen, H. Sill, E. Wall, J. Hawkins, D. George, T. and S. Burlingham, I. Arrowsmith, S. Darke, H. Stone, R. Baker, J. and M. Abell, T. E. Edmonds, H. Hughes, J. J. and E. H. Pace, J. D. Coucher, J. Coates, J. D. Stevenson, W. Blew, D. Condle, &c. &c. In the body of the hall, the courts, lobbies, windows, &c., we noticed Sir Thomas Winnington, Bart., M.P.; the Revs. Dr. Redford and J. Foley; C. H. Hebb, J. Horne, T. N. Foster, B. Workman, P. V. Onslow, T. Walker, E. Marriott, G. B. and H. Hudson, F. Woodward, W. Dent, W. Laslett, C. Talbot, G. D. Hazlewood, J. Turley, D. Everett, T. Stephenson, H. B. Clifton, R. Gillam, G. Allies, L. Ledbrook, R. Rising, C. Bedford, M. Pierpoint, A. Hooper, C. Sturge, W. Allen, T. Wight, T. Pickernell, Esqrs. Messrs. J. Redgrave, R. Newman, J. Harding, G. Grove, C. Tovey, J. G. Cripps, E. Webb, W. A. Greening, J. Wall, — Mears, W. D. Lingham, J. and T. Lingham, W. Stallard, R. Winnall, J. Blurton, W. Akroyd, H. Hughes, J. Wall, R. Clarke, L. Maybury, — Farmer, J. Trevis, J. Stallard, J. Chandler, T. Lewis, T. Locke, — Barnard, J. H. D'Egville, J. Dowding, — Lilly, J. Lane, J. Smith, Joseph Williams, W. Price, A. Wells, W. Chamberlain, W. Mannering, Joseph Wright, W. Pugh, — Dighton, &c. &c.

J. KING, Esq., moved that E. Holland, Esq., be requested to take the chair.

Mr. COBDEN: I put it to the show of hands that Mr. Holland take the chair. Almost every hand in the meeting was held up, amidst loud and prolonged cheering, and—

Mr. HOLLAND immediately came forward and said: Gentlemen,—It is my duty to act impartially, whatever may be my feelings on this question. (Hear, hear.) And I wish not to lord it over any body of my county fellows to prevent a fair expression of their feelings. Whenever I have presided over a meeting hitherto, I have generally found that I could obtain a fair hearing to all parties; and I see no reason—if I meet with the support I ought—I see no reason why I should be less fortunate now. Gentlemen, I have been blamed by my fellow landlords for coming forward on this occasion. Now, I may be deserving of that blame; but still I must hear and be convinced of it. I think that I cannot be wrong in coming to the conclusion, that a question which affects our tenants and labourers is one which affects us landlords (hear, hear); and if it affects the landowner, if a landowner be anxious that justice should be done, and the truth be heard, I see no reason why he should be afraid to come to hear it. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I willingly consent to take the chair, and I will endeavour to act impartially to all parties, so long as they address themselves to the question, and so long as I am supported by the meeting; but unless you assist me in keeping order, and keeping the speakers to the subject, I fear that it will be in vain—I fear that our pros and cons—I fear that all that affects the landlord and the tenant will not be fairly discussed, but lost in a mere contest of party. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I beg to introduce to your notice Mr. Bright, of Rochdale. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. BRIGHT, M.P., was received with loud and general applause. He spoke as follows:—Perhaps it may be desirable that I, as one of the deputation from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, should state, in the beginning, the precise object of our visit to this city. We believe it to be pretty nearly settled in the minds of all intelligent men, that the Corn Law, and the system of protection generally, are injurious to the manufacturers and artisans of this country. In all the boroughs in England, and in Scotland, and in Ireland, we believe that there is a majority, and a very large majority, of the inhabitants who agree with us in this opinion. We have found great obstacles to our progress in the different sentiments which have been held by landowners and by tenant farmers; and, after having pretty nearly settled this question in the towns, we are now making excursions into the counties for the purpose of conferring with the tenant farmers, and with the landowners whenever they may come, upon this great and most important question, in the hope that, by a free and open conference with them, we may come to a conclusion which shall be likely to bring about a satisfactory settlement of this much vexed question, and to put the industry of this country, whether agricultural or manufacturing, upon a safe and satisfactory footing. Now, we seek not triumph in these visits and at these meetings; we should never have put any resolution to these meetings, had it not been for those who were opposed to us; and who wish to obtain a triumph over us. Our object has been simply to lay before meetings of our countrymen the arguments by which we ourselves have been convinced, in the hope that these arguments might convince those who have hitherto opposed us. We want truth upon this great question, not triumph. (Applause.) For we believe that truth upon this great question is most important to the well-being of this great country. We are satisfied that this question must soon be settled, either for the well-being, or for the most disastrous consequences to this country; and we are anxious, therefore, that it should be settled in such a manner as that all shall agree, hereafter, that the step which the Legislature must soon take was one that was wise, and calculated to advance all the great interests of the country. (Applause.) Mr. Bright then went into a full statement of the whole question of monopolies as they affected the interests of all classes. He showed how intimately the interests of the farming classes were identified with those of the community at large; that the "protection" on corn, specially imposed for their advantage, was a gross delusion; and that, whilst they could by no possibility pocket the proceeds of their own monopoly, they were justifying by its maintenance the tax on sugar, timber, and coffee, by which they were injured equally with the rest of their countrymen. After a most effective and eloquent address of upwards of an hour and a quarter's duration, Mr. Bright sat down amidst the most enthusiastic cheering.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced Mr. Cobden to the meeting, who spoke for nearly an hour and a half, with even more than his usual power and effect. A resolution in favour of Free Trade was moved in an excellent speech by C. E. Hanford, Esq., and seconded by W. B. Collis, Esq., which being put by the Chairman, was declared to be carried by an overwhelming majority.

After the usual complimentary formalities to the Chairman and Deputation, the meeting separated with a round of hearty cheers for the repeal of the Corn Laws.

A dinner was subsequently held at the Unicorn Hotel, which was attended by several large landowners and farmers. Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright were present, and spoke at considerable length. Several of the agriculturists also spoke in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws. Mr. Wright, a large farmer at Bentley, said he had been a farmer ever since the Corn Law of 1822 was passed, and he was quite satisfied that any attempt to legislate for what was called protection would be futile. The laws hitherto in operation had been anything but a protection to the farmer, for they had only raised the price of corn when he had none to go into the market with.

The proceedings terminated about nine o'clock.

ILFRACOMBE, October 5, 1843.—At a meeting of the Ilfracombe Anti-Corn-Law Society, held in that town on the 3rd inst., Mr. Dickinson addressed the members, congratulating them on the steady advance of Free-Trade principles, and the persevering energy of the National Anti-Corn-Law League in the good cause. The crying evil and gross injustice of the Corn Law were clearly shown from the way in which it affected two of the members then present, wherein Mr. D., a working tradesman, established the melancholy fact that he, with a family, after labouring from Monday morning to Saturday night, actually paid more by nearly 25 per cent. on account of this unrighteous tax, than Mr. ——, an independent gentleman of upwards of £1000 per annum. "He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessings shall be upon the head of him that selleth it."—*Prov.* xi., 26.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.

The following letter, accompanied by a chec r £50, and addressed to the Anti-Corn-La League, by Mr. Samuel Jones Lloyd, is mos important. The character of the writer, and the truth of the sentiments, will give it due weight with every reader:—

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE.

Sir,—The part which the Anti-Corn-Law League has taken in the present contest for the representation of the City, is complained of by its opponents as an unprecedented and impertinent interference by "strangers from Lancashire and other parts." The League, however, I cannot doubt, already numbers amongst its members many persons directly connected with the city of London, on whose behalf it is fully entitled to act. To these may I request that my name may be added. Hitherto I have refrained from connecting myself with the proceedings of the League, from an unwillingness to share the responsibility of measures over the details of which I could exercise no personal superintendence or control. But I feel that the time is now arrived when this must be overruled by other considerations of overwhelming importance. The great question of Free Trade is now fairly at issue; and the bold, manly, and effectual efforts which have been made by the League in its support, command at once my admiration and concurrence.

Upon the satisfactory settlement of this question depends, as I firmly believe, the internal peace of the country, as well as the security of property, which can only be preserved by a general conviction that the various interests of the community are equally and impartially dealt with; and also the permanent prosperity of our trade and commerce, which can flourish only in the atmosphere of freedom, and maintain its superiority in the existing competition of the world, when relieved from every artificial and unnecessary restraint.

With Mr. Burke, I believe that "of all things an indiscreet tampering with the trade of provisions is the most dangerous." With Lord Granville, Lord Wellesley, and the other statesmen who signed the memorable protest against the Corn Bill of 1815, I believe that "irresistible indeed ought to be the necessity which could authorize the Legislature to impede the free purchase and sale of that article on which depends the existence of a large portion of the community; and to confine the consumer of corn to the produce of his own country, is to refuse to ourselves the benefit of that provision which Providence itself has made for equalizing to mankind the varieties of season and climate."

With the merchants of the city of London who, many years since, presented their petition to Parliament in favour of Free Trade, through the medium of the then head of the house of Baring, the present Lord Ashburton, I agree that "freedom from restraint is calculated to give the utmost extension to foreign trade, and the best direction to the capital and industry of the country."

With Mr. Huskisson, I believe that "the attempt to uphold Corn Laws (those now in existence equally with those which were in existence in his day) is inconsistent with the increase of national prosperity and the preservation of public contentment."

With Sir Robert Peel I agree—"that we should purchase in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market."

It is the steady and dauntless manner in which the League has, in all places, and under all circumstances, advocated these principles; and more especially its efforts to impress them on the citizens of London, at the present critical moment, which compels me to overcome every minor consideration, and to request permission to enlist myself in its ranks. Of the personal tendencies and convictions of those members of the present administration, whose authority is generally supposed to be most influential on questions of commercial legislation, there is little room left for doubt. But the confidence or the hesitation with which those views will be carried out by them, may be materially influenced by the turn of future elections, and especially of that which is now in suspense. On the one hand we have a candidate singularly guarded and indefinite in his own statements, and supported by interests notoriously disposed to check the Minister in every liberal tendency which he may evince; on the other hand, we have a candidate who has thrown himself wholly, unreservedly, and cordially into the cause of Free Trade. By the election of the former the principles of Free Trade will sustain an apparent defeat, whilst the success of his opponent will tend to strengthen the liberal tendencies of the better part of the present Cabinet, and to accelerate the period at which the country may hope to enjoy the inestimable advantage of further and larger measures than it has yet obtained of liberal, and only liberal legislation I trust, therefore, that the exertions of the League will not be relaxed; and that, novel as the sight may be, "strangers from Lancashire and other parts" will continue to disseminate amongst us truths of incalculable importance with a perseverance worthy of the occasion, and which is becoming offensive to your opponents, in proportion as it is felt by them to be effective.

I beg you will accept the inclosed draft, as my contribution to the funds of the League. For the details of its measures, as they cannot be controlled by individual members, the Council alone I conceive to be responsible. With those I have no wish to interfere; my concurrence is given to the principle in support of which you are

united—Free Trade, and to your determination to seek every opportunity for forcing that question upon the public attention, and submitting it to the ordeal of free discussion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your faithful and obedient servant,
Lothbury, Oct. 14, 1843. SAMUEL JONES LLOYD.

We may also state that Rankes Currie, Esq., M.P., has this day presented to the Anti-Corn-Law League, a donation of £50, thus practically declaring his adhesion to the principles of Free Trade, and his enmity to monopoly.

At a meeting held by the Free-Trade Committee, Bristol, Oct. 9th, moved by S. P. Jackson, Esq., seconded by C. J. Whittuck, Esq., and carried unanimously:

That this meeting, grateful for the very opportune assistance afforded to the association by the Anti-Corn-Law League, in the attendance of Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Moore at its last meeting, desires to express a hope that the League will receive an earnest of its future success in the return of Mr. Pattison as member for the city of London.

THE REGISTRATION.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE BOROUGH REVISION.—On Wednesday last C. N. Marshall, Esq., revising barrister, held his court for revising the borough list in the Old Court-house. Mr. Henry Gartside, solicitor, appeared for the Free Traders; the Monopolists were not represented by any professional person. The Free Traders objected to 40 Monopolists, and succeeded in striking off 36. The Monopolists did not make any objections to the Free Traders. The forthcoming register will contain 700 electors; the last year's register contained 730.

BATH.—An analysis of the revision which has been sent to us gives the following result:—

Free Trade claims allowed	17
Monopolist ditto	2
Free Traders majority ..	15
Total Monopolist names struck off ..	129
By Monopolists having votes in other wards	72
Monopolist votes struck off, *bonâ fide*	57
Total Free Traders' names struck off ..	10
By Free Traders having votes in other wards	3
Free Traders' votes struck off, *bonâ fide*	7
Clear gain to Free Traders	—65

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.—The revision of the lists of voters for this borough took place on Monday and Tuesday, the 2nd and 3rd inst. The barrister was Erasmus Deacon, Esq. The legal agents were Mr. Cooper for the Anti-monopolists, and Mr. Bond, of Leeds, for the Monopolists. The following are the results:—

Persons who were on the last year's register, but not on the lists for the present year:—

Free Traders.	Monopolists.	Neutral or Doubtful.
100	120	15

Gain to Free Traders on this head .. 28

New names on the present list:—

Free Traders.	Monopolists.	Neutral or Doubtful.
149	75	14

Gain to Free Traders on this head .. 76

Voters struck off on objections:—

Free Traders.	Monopolists.
46	12

Gain to Monopolists on this head .. 34

Voters put on upon new claims:—

Free Traders.	Monopolists.
29	13

Gain to Free Traders on this head .. 16

Total gain to Free Traders	128
Deduct Monopolist gain on new claims ..	34
Clear gain to the Free Traders ..	84

BEVERLEY.—The revision of the lists for this borough took place on Friday, Sept. 29, before W. Greig, Esq. The Free Traders were supported by Messrs. Leeman and Clark. The Monopolist interest was represented by Messrs. John Blythe Robinson and Thomas Shepherd. The Monopolists had hoped this year to retrieve their position on the register, but they have failed, although they were by no means nice in the number or character of their claims and objections. We have no doubt our friends will now be able to return two members whenever a general election may happen. Mr. Hogg could not accept office under the Government last session because his friends could not ensure his re-election, and this is now rendered still more hopeless:—

Free Traders:—

Claims, 17	Sustained, 13	Failed, 4	Gain, 18
Objections, 12	Sustained, 5	Failed, 7	
Monopolists not on the lists, or struck off on account of removal, &c, who were on the old register			24
Total gain			—42

Monopolists:—

Claims, 28	Sustained, 11	Failed, 15	Gain, 25
Objections, 30	Sustained, 14	Failed, 16	
Free Traders struck off, &c., who were on the old register			7
Total gain			—32
Clear gain to the Free Traders on this year's revision			10

BURY, LANCASHIRE.—The revision of the lists of voters for the borough of Bury has been completed by C. H. Marshall, Esq., the revising barrister; the results of the revision are as follows:—

Free Traders' claims allowed	3
Monopolists struck off on objection ..	13
Total gain	16
Monopolist claims allowed	4
Free Traders struck off	2
Total gain	6

The clear gain of the Free Traders, therefore, in this borough on the revision is 10. Bury is quite safe for a good man and true.

COUNTY REGISTRATION, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISTRICT.—The Free Traders placed 30 new claims on the list on the 20th of July last, and have objected to 50 Monopolists. The Monopolists placed 15 on the list, and objected to two Free Traders. The result of the revision, including new claims, overseers' objections, and party objections, gives the Free Traders a gain of 82 on the register for this district.

HASTINGS.—The court for the revision of the list of voters for this borough was held at the Town-hall on Wednesday, Sept. 27, before R. Richmond, Esq., the barrister appointed for that purpose. Mr. W. D. Cooper appeared to support the Free Traders. No advocate appeared on the part of the Monopolists. The following are the results:—

Claims of Free Traders allowed	12	
Objections " "	6	
		—18
Claims of Monopolists allowed	1	
Objections " "	2	—3
Gain to Free Traders on the revisions		15

NORTH LANCASHIRE COUNTY REVISION.—The revision for this division of the county is concluded, and will show the most gratifying result in favour of Free-trade prospects. The following is a tabular statement of what has been effected:—

POLLING DISTRICTS.	New Claims by Anti-Monopolists.	By Monopolists.	Overseers.	Struck off on Objs. by Anti-Monop.	Struck off on Objs. by Monopolists.
Hawkeshead, Lancaster, and Ulverston	146	45	124	0	35
Garstang	62	4	51	0	0
Kirkham and Poulton ..	67	19	81	0	0
Preston	190	29	118	0	4
Chorley	73	52	126	1	44
Whalley	20	18	9	3	12
Blackburn	30	60	68	27	4
Burnley	158	47	113	0	21
	746	274	690	31	110

Gain on new claims	472	
Do. on objections	79	
Do. on overseers' objections	406	
Clear gain of Free Traders on this year's revision		957

MIDDLESEX.—Statement of the result of the revision of the county of Middlesex, taking the whole of the parishes in their polling districts:—

FREE TRADERS.

POLLING DISTRICTS.	Objections taken.	Objections withdrawn	Objections disallowed	Objections Claims corrected.	Objections sustaind & expunged.	Objections Claims sent in.	Tot. result of gain or loss.
Brentford....	42....	12....	2....	18....	10....	2	
Bedfont.....	125....	53....	8....	40....	24....	2	
Uxbridge....	48....	5....	7....	19....	17....	0	
Edgware.....	35....	15....	3....	5....	12....	0	
Enfield.....	59....	30....	4....	13....	12....	0	
Hampstead..	48....	1....	12....	9....	26....	0	
Hammersmh.	126....	33....	9....	31....	53....	8	
Bethnal-green	71....	25....	0....	14....	32....	2	
Mile-end.....	58....	1....	1....	17....	39....	2	
Westminster.	98....	11....	0....	22....	65....	5	
Islington.....	72....	6....	2....	8....	56....	3	
Marylebone..	108....	6....	2....	29....	81....	5	
London.....	349....	36....	19....	71....	223....	17	
	1249	234	69	296	650	46	
Deduct reclaims sent in which retain the voters' names on the register, the new claims not having been objected to....					46.....		604

MONOPOLISTS.

POLLING DISTRICTS.	Objections taken.	Objections withdrawn	Objections disallowed	Objections Claims corrected.	Objections sustaind & expunged.	Objections Claims sent in.	Tot. result of gain or loss.
Brentford....	31....	3....	2....	9....	17....	10	
Bedfont.....	13....	2....	0....	0....	11....	1	
Uxbridge.....	9....	0....	0....	2....	7....	0	
Edgware.....	15....	0....	2....	1....	12....	0	
Enfield.....	16....	1....	2....	3....	10....	1	
Hampstead...	7....	1....	0....	2....	4....	0	
Hammersmth	111....	3....	4....	15....	99....	54	
Bethnal-green	54....	2....	8....	14....	30....	3	
Mile-end.....	141....	7....	39....	13....	82....	27	
Westminster.	43....	5....	6....	3....	29....	13	
Islington	51....	6....	6....	9....	30....	7	
Marylebone..	28....	4....	7....	4....	13....	1	
London.....	83....	5....	5....	14....	68....	4	
	602	39	83	89	392	124	
Deduct reclaims sent in ..					124.....		268
Majority and clear gain to the Free Traders of.....							336

LECTURES.

During the last fortnight Mr. Acland has completed courses of lectures on the Corn Laws at Macclesfield, Buxton, and Chapel-en-le-Frith. The attendance on all the occasions was numerous, and the feeling thoroughly in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the famine laws. At Chapel-en-le-Frith the room was crammed to excess. John Slack, Esq., formerly a magistrate of Stockport, and now a landowner in the neighbourhood, occupied the chair on the two evenings on which Mr. Acland lectured.

On Thursday, October 5, Mr. Finnigan lectured on the Corn Laws to a numerous and respectable body of farmers and townspeople at Garstang, in North Lancashire. On Saturday, the 7th, he delivered a lecture in the Corn Exchange at Preston, to a mixed audience of farmers and tradesmen; and in the evening of the same day he gave a second lecture to a meeting of the working-classes of Preston. After the lecture the machinery question was discussed; the lecturer proving, to the satisfaction of his hearers, that the Corn Laws, and not machinery, were the cause of manufacturing distress.

On Monday last Mr. Finnigan addressed about 300 persons at the Market-cross, Poulton; many of the farmers of the neighbourhood were present, and after the lecture, 200 copies of Mr. Cobden's speech at Lancaster were distributed amongst them.

Mr. Falvey delivered two lectures on the Corn Laws on Monday and Tuesday last in the Temperance Hall at Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

OLD SHILDON.—On Monday evening last, Mr. D. Liddell delivered a lecture on the Corn and Provision Laws, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The lecturer directed the attention of his audience to the laws which regulate wages, and showed that wages depended upon the supply of labour and the demand for it; that the restrictions upon the importing of food into this country created a scarcity, and rendered it more difficult for the working classes to obtain a sufficiency of food; and that restrictions upon the exporting of goods from this country had the same tendency. In proof of these opinions, the lecturer showed that, by reducing duties upon food imported into this country, the quantity imported had increased, and that by lessening the restrictions upon our exports, labour had become more abundant, wages necessarily had risen, and the condition of the operatives improved. The unavoidable inference from this was, that the operatives should endeavour to open up the markets of the world as the best means of securing the necessaries and comforts of life. As many of the working classes seemed to be of opinion that their misery and destitution was owing to the conduct of their employers, Mr. Liddell showed that the interests of employers and employed were of the closest and most intimate relation, and that when operatives were in the receipt of very low wages, the profits of the employers were very small; and that, on the contrary, when the employed were in full employment, and in the receipt of good wages, the profits of employers were then increased. As employers and employed are frequently not on friendly terms, Mr. Liddell showed that the various classes of society were dependent upon one another—that the working classes in this country could not construct railroads, sink pits, or build mills without the aid of men of capital, and referred to the description of the condition of the people of New Zealand as given by Mr. Binns, late of Sunderland, in corroboration of the statements he had made with regard to wages, and the dependence of operatives upon men of capital. Mr. Binns, in his letters from New Zealand, a fertile country, had asserted that in that country "*numbers of men were compelled to work on the roads, and wages were falling*," and assigned as the cause of this that "*capital is wanting in New Zealand*." In this country a set of politicians would have the working men to believe that they could be totally independent of capitalists, and another class would look upon the working classes with contempt. The lecturer considered that the criminality of those persons was very great, and that it was not to be wondered that they in a short time lost the confidence and power which they once had over their followers, as they recommended a course based on unsound principles, and would not therefore succeed. We must add that a great number of the audience looked upon the lecturer as anxious to break up the pitmen's union; and a few declared that machinery was injurious to the working classes, *except in the coal districts.—Sunderland Herald*, October 6, 1843.

FREE TRADE AND THE NATIONAL DEBT.

We are accustomed to hear men exclaim, "Free Trade! Yes an excellent thing in theory; but,—the debt!" Others cry out, "If we have Free Trade, how are we to raise the revenue?" And others, "How can industry exist without protection, or how can we compete with foreigners while we have such taxes to pay?"

These remarks show clearly that men have an idea, and we are aware that some have even publicly contended, that the adoption of Free-Trade principles would reduce, if not entirely abolish, the income from the customs duties, and could, therefore only be carried into execution coexistent with a system of direct taxation to the whole amount of the revenue required. This, however, is a strange misconception of the arguments on which Free-Trade doctrines have been supported; for Free Trade seeks only to abolish those duties which have the effect of raising the price of commodities to the benefit of individuals, and not to interfere with any duties which have only the effect of affording revenue to the state.

Free Trade seeks only to abolish the system by which, either from prohibition, or by the exaction of higher rates of duty, the supply of commodities is limited and the price maintained thereby higher than it would be if a *free admission* were permitted subject only to the same duty. It is true that import duties raise the price to the consumer in every instance, but when the duty is of a uniform rate, the whole additional price which is paid goes to make up the revenue, in which all consumers are supposed to have an interest. Whether this is—or is not—the wisest way of raising revenue, when considered not only in reference to the bare cost of its collection, but more especially in reference to the indirect effect it has on industry, is a question to the importance of which we are not insensible, but which has really no bearing whatever on our present consideration.

That for which Free Trade really and practically does contend is the privilege of "*buying in the cheapest market!*" This right may be frustrated and an artificial price maintained in two ways: either by a direct prohibition of the produce of the cheaper country, or by loading it with such higher rates of duty, which though cheaper before the duty is added, yet is thus rendered to the consumer dearer, and enables the producer of the favoured article, which is charged with the lower rate of duty, to obtain a price from the consumer as high as that which the article paying the higher duty will command.

It must be plain, therefore, that the difference between the two duties, though paid by the consumer in the higher price, yet does not go to the revenue but to the favoured producer; and it often happens that the differential duty thus imposed is so so high as to be in fact prohibitory, and to give a monopoly of the market to the favoured grower as completely as if all other produce were actually prohibited. Every article, therefore, on which *different rates of duty are chargeable* is subject to this serious objection. The higher rate of duty cannot properly be called a revenue duty, for it is a mere accident of price whether it gives any revenue or none—it is more properly termed a protective duty. If it gives any revenue, then produce on which the lower rate of duty is chargeable is raised to the consumer as much as the difference of the duty, and a tax equal to such difference is charged on the consumer without benefit to the Exchequer. But it may even be that the higher rate of duty yields no revenue, and still imposes a high tax on the country.

For example:—Sugar grown in our own colonies is subject to a duty of 24s. per cwt.; that grown in foreign countries is subject to a duty of 63s. per cwt.; foreign

sugar can be bought *in bond* at 21s. per cwt.; while that grown in our colonies sells for 41s. per cwt. Free Trade demands the privilege of buying the cheapest article, but is prevented by finding that that which can be bought for 21s. must pay a duty of 63s., making the cost, with the duty added, 84s.; while the dearer sugar at 41s., being chargeable with a duty of 24s., will make the entire cost only 65s.; but if the same rate of duty were chargeable on each, the foreign sugar would cost only 45s. per cwt. The consumer thus pays 20s. per cwt. more than he otherwise would, not to the revenue, but to the grower of the favoured produce, who thus maintains as strict a monopoly of the market as if all other sugar were prohibited; unless, indeed, the price of sugar rises to 84s. per cwt. (the lowest rate at which foreign sugar could pay the higher duty), and then the consumer would be paying a tax equal to the whole difference between the two duties,—that is, between 24s. and 63s., or 39s. per cwt. on all the sugar used; not one shilling of which would go to the revenue, but all to the protected grower, and would, on our annual consumption, amount to a sum of *eight millions sterling*. This sum is the lowest cost at which the public of Great Britain can extend the supply of sugar from the limited and insufficient growth of our own colonies to that of other countries.

The same objection prevails where an article grown at home, not subject to any duty, has a similar article of foreign growth brought into competition with it, chargeable with an import duty. As long as we import and consume the foreign article, with the duty added thereto, it is self-evident that the price of that produced at home will be maintained as much higher as the amount of the duty, as it would otherwise be if the foreign article were imported without any duty, and that, therefore, the public would pay a tax to the *revenue* for what they *imported*, and an equal rate of tax on all the *home growth* to the *producers*, in the form of enhanced price; or an excise duty equal to the import duty might be imposed on the home growth, and a large revenue raised, without increasing the price to the consumer at all. Thus, if a duty of 8s. per quarter were placed on foreign wheat, as long as we continued to import any, so long the price of the whole wheat in the country must be kept that much higher than it would be if wheat were imported free, and while the revenue gained 8s. per quarter on one or two millions, the consumer would pay a similar tax on the whole home growth to the producer; or if the home-grown wheat were charged with an excise duty of 8s. per quarter, a revenue of *seven* to *eight* millions a year would be received, without adding further to the cost of wheat.

These are the evils which Free Trade seeks to correct; not to interfere with the revenue, but to take care that no tax shall be charged to the consumer but for revenue purposes. For example:—*Free Trade* does not object to the duty on tea, because all tea, of whatever growth, pays the same duty; therefore, all that the consumer pays goes direct to the public revenue, and no part of it to protect or favour individual interests. Again, Free Trade would not object to an import duty on any article brought from abroad, to countervail an excise duty charged on similar home produce. For example,—malt pays an excise duty to the state; it would be perfectly in keeping with the principles of Free Trade if foreign malt on importation were chargeable with an equal duty.

It must, we think, be very plain, therefore, that Free Trade, instead of hazarding the revenue, is seeking constantly to support it, and that the existence of the *debt* is the strongest ground for the adoption of Free Trade, by which we would avoid any other unnecessary increase of prices.

In support of this view, the evidence given before the Import Duties Committee by James Deacon Hume, after an experience of 38 years in a high situation in the Custom-house, and 11 years as Secretary of the Board of Trade, is very conclusive. He says—in reference to protection thus given to particular interests—"While it operates in favour of the party intended to be protected, it is a tax upon the community."—"I cannot analyze the charge which I pay in any other way, than that part of it is the price of the commodity, and part is a duty, though it goes out of my private pocket into another private pocket, instead of into that of the public."—"It appears to me that the very circumstance of our being so highly taxed for the good of the state, is a reason why we should not be taxed between ourselves."—"I conceive that, having paid the private taxes, they are the less able to pay the public taxes."—"I must beg to submit, in the strongest terms in which I can give any opinion, that the general taxation of the country is no ground whatever for protection: any attempt to relieve any interest from any portion of that general taxation by raising arbitrarily the price of the article which they make, is only a violent manner of shifting their share of the burden to others' shoulders."—"I conceive that the prosperity of the revenue is greatly impeded by the protective system."—"I am not aware of any case in which the revenue would be injured by removing the protection." These are the matured opinions of a man of unusual ability, aided by the most extensive observation and high official experience of nearly half a century: of a man who has been acknowledged as a great authority by every minister from Huskisson down to the present Premier.

By the equalization of all differential duties, which is strictly and practically the demand of Free Trade, we should not only lessen the cost of the article to the consumer, but we should at the same time add greatly to the revenue. Our reasoning may be rendered a little more distinct by furnishing the following illustration of what would be the effect of such a course; and in a way so simple that it cannot fail to be obvious to every one.

Our consumption of sugar last year was 3,876,465 cwts., at a cost of 65s. per cwt. (wholesale price); and consequently, at this rate, the country paid for sugar £12,598,511. Now there is every reason to believe that, if sugar were cheaper, the same sum would still be expended upon it, and a correspondingly increased quantity consumed. In this opinion we are supported by the very extraordinary fact, that the annual consumption of sugar, which in 1811 averaged 23¼lb. per head on the whole population of Great Britain and Ireland, was reduced in 1842, in consequence of the restriction of quantity, to the rate of 15⅞lb. per head;—while the paupers in our workhouses are allowed at the rate of 22¾lb., and the seamen in her Majesty's service 34lb. per head.

Well, then, assume that the duty upon foreign sugar were reduced to 24s., the same as we now pay on colonial sugar, the price of sugar would be lowered thereby to 45s. per cwt. instead of 65s.; then the sum of £12,598,511, which we last year expended in sugar, would command 5,599,388 cwts. in place of 3,876,465 cwts., being an additional consumption of 1,722,873 cwts. at precisely the same entire cost.

Now, at present all the revenue which is derived from sugar is from the duty of 24s. on that of colonial growth (the high differential duty excluding all other), and on the quantity consumed last year yielded the sum of £4,651,758. By the proposed equalization of duties this sum would remain untouched, but an additional quantity (which at present gives no revenue at all) of 1,722,873 cwts. would, at the rate of 24s. per cwt., raise the revenue to £6,719,205.

The result, therefore, would be, that for the same sum of money which the country expended last year on sugar, an additional quantity of 1,722,873 cwts. would be enjoyed by the community, which would only restore the average consumption of 23¼lb. per head of 1811; an additional revenue of £2,067,447 would be given to the state, and an increase of trade, amounting to nearly £4,000,000 annually, would be experienced by the dealers, merchants, and carriers of sugar.

We trust, therefore, that we have not only shown that the national honour is not staked by the adoption of Free-Trade principles, but that every approach thereto only renders the obligations of the country more secure. —*Economist.*

DR. BOWRING AT EXETER.

The following is an extract from an eloquent address, delivered at a public meeting at Exeter, and reported in the *Western Times*. Exeter is the birthplace of the honourable and learned gentleman:—

"Dr. Bowring assured them, with all sincerity, that he received the invitation to meet them on this occasion with no small degree of satisfaction. Though a generation had come into the world of activity since he left this, his native town, yet, without affectation, he might say that he had watched all that passed here with strong affection, and with recollections associated with the happiest days of infancy, childhood, and boyhood—watching the progress of the public mind with great anxiety, proud whenever this place distinguished itself by efforts in the great cause of political emancipation and civil and religious freedom—dejected when a cloud had hung over them, but rejoicing when he saw the formation of this society—(hear, hear)—which represented to his mind the struggle of the labouring many for the furtherance of that great object which occupied all the thoughts of all well-intentioned minds throughout the whole community, and delighted to find that they were cemented and bound together for a great object—an object worthy of all their sympathy and support. The history of ancient despotism was found in a single phrase—divide and conquer. The people of this country had discovered that they must take a different view of things. They must associate and resist. And in the spirit of association, and in the power of association, he looked for the regeneration of mankind, and the resuscitation of liberty in every part of the world. Nothing was more weak, more fragile, more transitory, than individual man: he was born, he lived, and passed away. When he stretched out his hand to his neighbour he was connected with the past and with the future. Great principles were safe in his keeping. The greatest discovery of modern times was the discovery of the power of that principle of association; by that the weak became strong, and the humble influential; the poor were enabled to resist the encroachments of the rich, and the oppressed were mighty against the oppressors. (Great cheering.) And no alliances, in his mind, were so interesting as those which sprang up among the labouring classes. They were the strength and real greatness of this island. (Loud cheers.) What came from the higher orders might be found elsewhere. Other nations had had warriors, other nations exercised great political power, other nations had had mighty monarchs; but no nation ever possessed what England possessed in the middle and labouring classes. (Hear, hear.) Of these we had a right to be proud. (Cheers.) He had naturally been watching the influence and position of England in foreign lands. She had done much mischief by her power—by her military triumphs she had created much misery. Over many a battle field had he walked, hanging his head in silent sorrow, but where he had seen England truly great and glorious, was where she had been represented by the arts of peace, and the triumphs of her manufacturers and merchants, dispensing blessings, regarded as general benefactors, aiding the happiness of millions of every race and tongue. That was once the destiny, they were aware, of this their native city. She gave her tribute to the greatness of their common country, and then, in the vicissitudes of time, the peculiar power and influence which she possessed had passed away. It was for the glory of Exeter to be connected with the pacific triumphs of England. He had heard the name of his native town in places which he should not have dreamt it would have reached. He felt proud—prouder far in being told that the cannons of England had overthrown fortresses, or that the warriors of England had devastated the fields, or the navies of England had destroyed the ships of an adversary's country—far prouder, and, he hoped, far more Christian was the feeling that there was something in England that entitled her to be honoured and loved, that she had been sometimes the tyrant, but more frequently the benefactress of the human race. (Cheers.) It was in her pacific pursuits—it was the power of her manufacturers, the enterprise and character of her commercial men—that she was looked on with honour and respect by the nations of the world. He was pleased when he looked round and saw that testimony of Free Trade. That was a question unassociated with any other party. (Hear.) He could not believe that there was any honest Conservative who did not look at the honest labouring artisan, whose bony hands are hardened with every toil—who could not look on the position of that man without great and peculiar interest? The question of Free Trade was one of the great questions of the day, and way was it become so? Because whatever way they turned, they found this country had been gifted by Heaven with peculiar means of production. Look back—it was populated by savages; it was now covered by the most advanced, the most instructed people of the world. And to what did it owe this greatness?—to what but its commercial power?—to what, but that it had been the means of communicating blessings to other lands, and of this, he thought, they had a right to be proud. In his long experience, to which his friend in the chair had referred, he confessed he grew more and more weary of mere political squabbles, the sole object of which was to bring this or that faction into power. (Hear.) He disregarded these political squabbles. He did not care to whom he lent his allegiance, whether the minister were Sir Robert Peel or Lord John Russell, if he were inclined to advance the general weal and remove the general abuses. He was satisfied with neither. He believed that frequently from Peel they might extort something. They had extorted something already. He had recognised the great truth—that truth which he would hear again and again, and which he would be forced to make practical—the right of every man to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market. (Cheers.) From that opinion he (Sir Robert Peel) could not be allowed to retreat, however he might hesitate to give effect to his declaration. It had sown a seed which was growing up, and would become a healthy and goodly tree (cheers), which would produce good fruit. He felt deeply on this Free-Trade question; it was connected with peace; it was connected with benevolence. The commercial man was an universal benefactor. He gave blessings, and received them. He advanced his own interest, no doubt; but this was by communicating good to others. He (the hon. gent.) did not know in fact what was to be said against the principle of Free Trade. But a day or two ago his mind was reverting to divers circumstances which had come under his observation, and a little oriental tale which he had read came to his mind. It was this:—There was an oriental emperor, a very mighty man, who was seeking for what had been called 'our being's end and aim,' happiness, which all his wealth, power and sovereignty did not give him. He consulted a certain magician of his court, and asked him how he could obtain this incomparable treasure, called felicity. He, after some deliberation, said he must find the man who was supremely happy, and get from him that garment which was next his skin. The sovereign then sent his ambassadors into all the regions of the earth. At length they came to England, where they reported that the climate was very damp and gloomy, and that there was no hope of finding happiness there. They found, however, that there was a distant part of the kingdom which they had not visited, and determined therefore to cross the channel and proceed to Ireland. (Laughter.) They arrived at the festival of Donnybrook fair: they visited it, and found it in all its glory. Proceeding through the fair, they found a man in an ecstasy of happiness, dancing about, flourishing a shillelah, and exclaiming, 'Who in the world is so happy as I?' (Laughter.) 'Now we have got the man,' said they, 'give us your shirt.' The man said, 'I have not a shirt to my back!' (Great laughter.) Now it occurred to him that the only damage Free Trade could do, would be to destroy the merit of that oriental tale. There would not be found in her Majesty's dominions a man who had not a shirt to his back. (Cheers.)"

COMMERCE, THE PATRON OF THE ARTS AND REVIVAL OF LITERATURE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.—"I have ever found, as far as the page of history could guide me, that literature and the fine arts, and that the sciences, have ever discovered that their most munificent patrons are to be sought in the busy hum of industry. Why, we all know that it was a merchant of Venice that called forth the genius of Titian and of Tintoretto; that it was a merchant of Venice who raised those noble palaces and those solemn temples that have commemorated—that will for ever commemorate—the genius of a Sansovi'no and a Palladio. Why, it was the manufacturers of Flanders, dwelling in such cities as Bruges, and Ghent, and Mechlin, under whose genial patronage the most beautiful inventions in the art of painting were discovered; and, by the consecration of their accumulated wealth, raised those great fabrics that we now look at with a sentiment of mournful admiration. The very basis of commerce, for instance, is adventure; the very soul and spirit of manufacturing skill; the very thing which inspires it, is invention; and, therefore, it does seem most extraordinary that we should for a moment assume that the merchant and the manufacturer are the two very characters who cannot sympathise with the poet, with the man of science in his researches, or with those who, by their exercise of the inventive parts of painting and sculpture, have adorned and illustrated the annals of human nature. Why, it was once said, that it was the proud boast of a merchant prince of the middle ages,—that beneath the roof of his villa, the first of living poets sounded his lyre; while the greatest philosophers pursued the investigation of nature into her inmost mysteries; the historians of the age chronicled the annals of his country, and the most refined scholars of the day pursued their researches, and fed their meditations by the libraries and museums which the merchant family of Medicis had accumulated. I, for one, could not believe that a doom less brilliant—and I hope far more permanent—is destined for those great cities of Lancashire, in one of which I have now the honour of addressing you."—*Speech of Mr. D'Israeli at Manchester.*

THE TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm. Being Letters from England. Edited by REUBEN.

These letters having been written for private perusal, are necessarily altered where some of the names are mentioned in connection with events and personal comments which could not be, with propriety, published. Otherwise they are given to the world as their author wrote them from time to time to his friends in Scotland, during a journey in the midland and southern counties of England. The want of a faultless style will be compensated for, it is hoped, in the frequently-occurring descriptions, graphically drawn, of English agricultural customs and social rural life; also, it is not less to be hoped, in the solid arguments used by the travelling stranger in favour of a change in the management of English estates, and in that momentous law which, while it cramps commerce, unsettles and retards agriculture by unsettling the prices of corn.

The letters shall appear in this paper from week to week, according to the space disposable to such matters, until they are exhausted. Meantime I shall only preface them further by saying, that the writer is from a district south-east, or east, from Edinburgh, and that he proceeded, in the first place, to London, from whence his correspondence commences.

FIRST LETTER.

London, July 29th, 1842.

MY DEAR UNCLE,—Mary's letter will have informed you of our safe arrival here by the Leith steamer, and of our friendly meeting with Mrs. Clarke, of Peckham. Therefore in giving, as I promised to give, an account of our adventures as we go along, I need not say anything of our sea-passage, nor our first arrival. I shall begin with my first interview with Lord B. and his agent, Mr. V.

I saw his lordship first; it was at the House of Commons, in a place where a great number of persons stand apparently idling about, called the lobby; but where people are not so idle after all as they look like. Many lawyers and others, agents for parties residing in the country who are interested in bills before the House, meet the members there; and many people are there every day seeking to see members to obtain from them orders of admittance to the gallery of the House; others are there, as I was told, and easily believe, seeking an interview with members who have promised fine things to the electors when canvassing—places in the Customs, in the Post-office, and so on, but have never fulfilled these promises.

That afternoon, when I went down to the Parliament House (every one calls it "down to the house" here, no matter whether it be up or down), that afternoon that I went, young John Clarke came with me from Peckham. He seems to know a great number of the members by eyesight, and also a great deal of the small things connected with Parliament and political tactics. So, when I told him that it was my wish to speak to our member if I saw him, and also to Lord B. if I saw him, John advised me not to do so publicly; giving, as a reason, that gentlemen and lords were not so free in London as at a country election; and that people who noticed me speaking to them would at once say, "There comes a country fellow dunning his member for the price of his vote." And John added to this, that, as I had letters to them, I should call at their houses.

Feeling indignant that any one should have it in their power to suspect me of hunting members of Parliament for any favour that they have to bestow; and not being sure but in such a place at such a time our man (for I never, as you know, had any personal acquaintance with him,) or his lordship might speak shy, I resolved to take no notice of them, but just let them go by and follow their own business, should I see them, and reserve my letters until I called at their own houses.

So John and I stood looking on at the members going in, he telling me who they were, and I passing a remark every now and then, according to who the man might be that went out or in. There were a good many of them, though not so many as at an earlier part of the year; for they are all escaping as fast as they can to the hills, none being left but those who, being connected with the ministry, cannot get away, and those who, being determined opponents of the ministry, will not go away.

I need not now fill my letter with an account of what the men were like whom I saw entering the House, I have so much to say of other things; and as I may, perhaps, have more room to describe them hereafter, so I shall only now say that, while in the lobby of the House, who should I see come out of a side door but his lordship. Of course you know he is not a member of the Commons, but the Lords and Commons are not far separate, and those of either House connected with the Government meet going back and forward; and even when the House of Lords is not sitting, its Government members are always going about the Prime Minister. At least I was told so; and though I do not know what his lordship was doing there, there he was.

As I have said, I did not intend to speak to any of them, owing to what John Clarke had said to me about their being shy at such times. But his lordship looked hard at me as if he knew me, and I looked as hard at him. So he stepped forward to me, and says, "Are you Mr. Brown from Scotland?" and I at once replied that I was; and, without more to do, he shook hands as kind-like as could be. He said he had a letter from the earl, saying that I was in London, and that I was thinking of taking some land in England should I see a place to suit me; and that he had expected me to call on him. I answered that it was my full intention to call, but I had not yet made up my mind about taking a farm in England. I said that I had been thinking of going to America, and buying an estate of my own, rather than pay rent for the estate of another landlord; but that, as America was not in a very promising condition, I had hesitated. I also told him that, from all I had seen and heard, England was not well farmed; and that such a sum of money as I could command, together with my experience in agriculture, might be more profitably invested in England, as regarded an immediate return, than in America. But, at all events, I was resolved to see some parts of England and judge for myself. He agreed with me in opinion, and said, that if I would call at his house next morning, at any time between nine and ten, his agent (that is what we call the factor in Scotland) would be there, and they would talk with me on the subject of my southern visit, and also give me introductions to gentlemen in parts of the country that might be worth my attention.

Accordingly I got up next morning, and shaved, and had breakfast in time to walk from Peckham to Pimlico, a distance of several miles, and nearly all through streets. I was at the house door at five minutes past nine; I could have been there at nine precisely, but as he said between nine and ten, I let it be past nine. His lordship was in his library, a very fine place, with more books than any man would be able to read in a lifetime, as one would think at the first glance. His agent came a few minutes after me. He seems a free enough man, but was, either from habit or while in the presence of his superior, backward in giving a decided opinion on any subject which came before us in conversation, and we talked of matters equally varied and important. His lordship asked him as he did me for opinions on the subjects we talked about, but if they understood each other I did not understand them. So far as I was concerned, however, I told them freely what my views were about English farming. I repeated what I said on the previous day that both myself and others of my relations (meaning you and cousin Andrew) had serious thoughts of going to America, but as my lease was out and yours had yet two years to run, and as we had resolved to go to America together if we went at all, I intended spending a part of the intermediate time in looking through England, to see if anything could be done without needing to cross the Atlantic.

His lordship told me that he himself had no farms to let, but a noble friend of his had several in a very good district, which I afterwards learned was in Oxfordshire. And he added that we might have one, or two, or three of them, or more if we liked. I put some questions about the distance from markets, and the qualities of the soils, which were replied to by their saying that the markets were convenient, and the soils good; but that as the distance was not far, and conveyances cheap, I should go and see them. I said I had not the least objection in the world to that, not the least; that it was my intention to go and see farms which might be to let in every part of the country; but that it would probably save some trouble if I were told the terms on which the land was to be let. And his lordship said to this that he himself did not know but that the gentleman present, Mr. V., would take me to another gentleman, the agent of the Duke of M., whose farms they were, who would give us particulars. And he added to this that, for his part, he had no farther interest in getting me or any of my friends to come to England to take farms than in the hope that we would do good to ourselves, and improve the quality of English agriculture.

He then entered into many questions relating to Scotch farming, the growing of turnips, the stall-feeding of cattle, and so on, and ended at last on the tenant-at-will question. This was what I wanted to be at when I asked about the terms upon which the farms were to be let in Oxfordshire. He said that he thought leases had their advantages and disadvantages; that if there was a fair understanding between the landlord and tenant, the landlord as an honourable man would not take advantage of the tenant; but that, to keep a tenant at his ease, he himself would have no objection to give, say a seven or ten years' lease. And when he said that, he turned to his agent, Mr. V., and asked if he did not think that those of the English farmers who were seeking leases would consider such a period as equitable. The agent said he thought so; and that leases of such duration had been found to work well. That may be true, please your lordship, says I; but I would expect my profits to be but beginning at the end of seven years. And then I told him that I knew farmers who had laid out six thousand pounds above the ordinary expenses of working the farm during the first five years of a lease, and that it was not until after the tenth year that the capital and interest were repaid; but that during the remainder of the nineteen years' lease the farmer was enabled not only to pay his rent in times of unsettled markets, but lay past him in the bank a clear eight thousand pounds. In saying this I was speaking of myself, but I did not say to them who I was speaking of.

And I told them that I knew of another farmer who had laid out nearly ten thousand pounds at the beginning of his lease, and would probably leave the farm with a capital of twenty thousand pounds, if he left it at all: that was yourself, uncle; but I did not say who I was speaking of. I, however, pointed out to his lordship that neither would the capital have been expended nor the profits realised without the leases.

We went on to some other topics; but I have not room to enter on them in this letter, as it is already bordering upon twopence-worth of postage, light as the paper is. With kindest love, I am yours, dutifully,

ADAM BROWN.

THE FARMER OF KENT.

I.

Good farmers give ear, for this tale is for you,
And it's one, as you'll find, not too strange to be true,
It relates to a farmer of Kent—
Who complain'd to himself, as he walk'd out one day,
"Here I've toil'd many years on this cold hungry clay,
And what money I had that's not melted away,
Will soon all be swallow'd in rent,
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
Will soon all be swallow'd in rent."

II.

Then he went to his landlord, and "Landlord," quoth he,
"That farm on the hill has well nigh ruined me,
For my capital's nearly all spent;
What to do with that soil, in these times, I can't guess,
And the truth is, I'm now in that state of distress,
That unless you are willing to take one half less,
I never can pay you your rent,
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
I never can pay you your rent."

III.

"Worthy farmer," the landlord replied, "understand,
That the one thing we want is protection for land—
We must keep foreign corn out of Kent;
Come with me to the poll, vote as I shall advise,
And then open your mouth (but be sure close your eyes),
And what good things will drop in you'll see with surprise,
But pray say no more about rent,
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
But pray say no more about rent."

IV.

The landlord was civil, the farmer obeyed,
With his help a monopolist member was made,
And straightway to Parliament sent.
Laws were pass'd to decree that the poor man might die,
But that food from abroad should no starving wretch buy;
"And yet," said the farmer, "no better am I,
For my profit goes always in rent,
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
For my profit goes always in rent."

V.

But in vain to his landlord again he complain'd,
The landlord said, knowing his object was gain'd,
"You may quit if you can't be content.
As to lowering your farm, that's all fiddle de dee;
(Then aside) don't you wish you may get it," said he;
"Protection, you fool, was intended for me,
And its use is to keep up my rent!
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
And its use is to keep up my rent."

VI.

"Welladay," said the farmer, "let those laugh that win,
But I'll not be a second time so taken in,
By monopolist landlords of Kent;
Try an old bird with chaff, and to catch him you'll fail,
I now see through the juggle of Peel's sliding-scale—
Protection's a cheat, and the end of the tale
Is—the Corn Laws mean nothing but rent!
(Chorus)—
Rent, rent, rent!
The Corn Laws mean nothing but rent!"

THE EAST LOTHIAN FARMERS.

The following requisition has been sent to Mr. Cobden. With the exception of three small proprietors, the whole are the signatures of *bonâ fide* tenant-farmers, none of them paying less than £700 a year of rent, and one or two upwards of £2000. Two of them pay fixed money rents—the one £1400 a year, the other £1200. The rents of the others are regulated chiefly by the price of grain.

Haddington, Sept. 1843.

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.,

Sir,—We, the undersigned farmers in East Lothian, beg to request the favour of your coming to Haddington, with any friends you may choose to bring, publicly to discuss with us the important subject of the Corn Laws. In the event of your acceding to our wishes, we venture to propose as a suitable day, any Friday during the ensuing month that would answer yourself, and of which due notice will be given to the public, that all parties may have an opportunity of attending, to hear both sides of the question.

We are, respectfully, Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

JAMES HALL,	K. M'KENZIE, Jun.,
JAMES MILLER,	GEORGE HOPE,
JAMES ROBERTSON,	JAMES AINSLIE,
CHARLES AMOS,	JAMES WATTERSTON,
JOHN VEITCH,	JOHN MARTINE, Jun.,
JOHN DEANS,	ALEX. DIXON.
ARCHIBALD HEPBURN,	JAMES W. MITCHELL,
JOHN SKIRVING,	ROBERT HOPE,
WM. BOGUE,	ANDREW JOHNSTON,
ROBERT ANDERSON,	JOHN CRAWFORD.

Mr. Cobden, M.P., and Mr. Bright, M.P., have, we believe, made arrangements for meeting the East Lothian farmers on the last Friday in October, at Haddington.

AGRICULTURE.

MONOPOLY'S DEATH-WATCH.

There is a superstition prevalent in some provincial places, that just previously to the dissolution of an individual a ticking noise is heard, which is denominated the "Death-watch." Now some of the recent speeches of men in authority have a note of solemn warning about them, which seems to bode a speedy dissolution of the Corn Monopoly. The most recent tick of monopoly's "death-watch" was heard in Lord Stanley's speech at the agricultural meeting at Liverpool, in tones which tell that monopoly's hour is at hand; and though landlords will probably cling to their "protection" till the latest moment, the tenant-farmers of England will do well to understand the exact position of the question. It is plainly their interest to shorten the present period of transition, which is to them one of unmitigated anxiety and suffering.

It is necessary to the farmers that this question should be settled. Even had the Corn Law been as beneficial to them as, in fact, it has been injurious, it could never compensate them for their present state of uncertainty. Scarcely one farmer in fifty knows what to be at; and that one finds that the habits and systems which have grown out of a thirty-years' struggle for a delusive monopoly present almost insuperable obstacles to successful exertion in his business. Nobody, except, perhaps, such unreasoning squires as Mr. George Bankes of Dorsetshire, imagines there can be any other mode of settling the question of the Corn Laws than by throwing the trade in grain open. Politicians, indeed, for party or personal objects, may seek to turn the subject to their own purposes. One party may dream about a fixed duty, while the other may contemplate, as a higher bid for public support, a duty gradually diminishing, year by year, until it ceases altogether; but neither the one scheme nor the other has any support amongst the agricultural classes.

They are all for "adequate protection" or Free Trade. Even those who most strenuously advocate protection know that there can be no resting-place between the two points, and if they cannot maintain the one would rather go at once to the other. Every tenant-farmer sees that a fixed duty can be no such settlement as will place the relations of landlord and tenant on a stable footing, and that, until that has been effected, their business must be fluctuating, hazardous, and unprofitable. He sees that the last Corn Law is as obviously delusive in its promises as all its predecessors have proved, and asks, where is now the price of 56s. a quarter for wheat which Sir Robert Peel promised so confidently? Last week's average was 49s. a quarter, and the corn markets are again falling! And the tenant-farmer's inquiry is either evaded or met by exhortations to improve his land, and so prepare himself for competition! Yet longer trial of the law may be intended, and fresh experiments attempted, if the tenant-farmers do not speak out. On them it chiefly rests to decide the question whether the actual state of doubt and uncertainty shall be prolonged—whether the anxious period of probation shall be long or short. The trading classes and the educated portion of the public have made up their minds to insist on a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws; the landlords, cowardlike, are trembling in fear of a large reduction of rent; and the Government is only waiting on events to maintain or abandon "protection." Let the tenants of England speak out, and a new era of prosperity will open upon them by the abolition of all artificial restrictions.

We know that it is somewhat difficult to surrender

hopes of easy gain from high prices, which have been cherished through life by nine-tenths of the farmers of the present day; but the occurrences of the last two years have proved that there is no alternative. Sir Robert Peel came into office pledged to maintain the Corn Laws, and found it necessary to *profess* the broadest doctrines of Free Trade. Lord Stanley made himself notorious, if not ridiculous, by the wildest assertions of an unlimited foreign production of grain; yet Lord Stanley's recent speech at Liverpool (the important parts of which will be found in another column) is conclusive of the temper which prevails in the Cabinet on the question of the Corn Laws. The party interests of Ministers now alone prevent an immediate abolition of the bread monopoly.

Lord Stanley is a man of considerable ability, one of those aristocrats who have some knowledge of things in general, but very little of that close practical knowledge of details which is only to be acquired by mixing with the business of every-day life; he has, therefore, to read up, or to be crammed with, the particular details with which the exigencies of his party require him to deal in public. Thus, when it was the object of his party to excite the farmers to rally round the professing advocates of protection, he committed the absurdity of attributing a much larger surplus produce of grain to the small Russian province of Tamboff than the whole continent of Europe could furnish. So now his lordship's very able lecture at Liverpool on the text that agricultural improvements are the sole reliance of the farmers, indicates that the time is at hand when he must be subjected to open competition. We may despise the party prostitution of talent evinced by this alteration of tone, this paltering with principle; but we cannot let the farmer neglect the warning afforded by the new phase of the monopolist minister. When Lord Stanley tells his agricultural constituents "this is no time for the farmer to stand with his hands behind his back, going on half asleep, just as his father and grandfather have gone on before him," and that "it will not do for the farmer to be less active in the cultivation of the soil than others were in their particular lines of industry," it needs no gift of prophecy to foretel that ere long we shall have the Government confessing that the Corn Laws can no longer be maintained; and that Lord Stanley's late speech is, indeed, the DEATH-WATCH OF THE CORN MONOPOLY.

THE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS.

We have, at this season, a great number of meetings of agricultural societies crowding upon our notice, each of which affords some peculiar illustration of the evils farmers endure from the artificial system begotten by the Corn Laws, and of the struggles landowners are making in all directions to keep up their rents, without that full and fair surrender of their sinister influences and feudal privileges which can alone secure to them the full commercial value of their land. But though our space will not permit us to deal with them all at once, we shall not omit to notice each of them in turn. We have this week given a full analysis of the Liverpool agricultural meeting, as being one of the most important, both in point of numbers, and from the official station of the chairman and principal speaker of the day.

LIVERPOOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

"Coming events cast their shadows before," and he must be a careless observer of passing events who does not see in Sir Robert Peel's late speech at the Lichfield Agricultural Association—jesuitical and balanced as it was—and in that delivered by Lord Stanley at Liverpool (the important parts of which we shall reprint) pretty plain intimations that the days of the Corn Laws are numbered.

After the cattle show and the usual business matters of an agricultural society had been gone through,

"About 400 gentlemen sat down to dinner. The chair was occupied by the Right Honourable Lord Stanley, M.P., and at the principal table were observed the following gentlemen:—Hon. R. B. Wilbraham, M.P., the Hon. E. Stanley, Sir Richard Brooke, Bart., J. Ireland Blackburne, Esq., M.P., Richard Brooke, Esq., T. Weld Blundell, Esq., William Blundell, Esq., Clarke Hillyard, Esq., Joseph Brooks Yates, Esq., Adam Hodgson, Esq., John Formby, Esq., Harold Littledale, Esq., J. Shaw Leigh, Esq., Peter Greenall, Esq., M.P., John Sheppard, Esq., James Parker, Esq., John Hayes, Esq., Wm. Hayes, Esq., Wm. Rowson, Esq., Rev. R. Batteraby, Peter Wright, Esq., S. B. Chadwick, Esq."

The routine toasts having been disposed of, the noble Chairman gave "Prosperity to the Liverpool Association;" and alluded to the pecuniary affairs of the association, which had become somewhat deranged, by reason, as was alleged, of his (Lord Stanley's) absence for the two preceding years. Official duties, of course, formed his lordship's ready excuse; but it bespeaks very plainly the forced and artificial conditions on which most of these local agricultural societies exist, that "wax or wane" with the presence or absence of the great men of the locality under whose fostering patronage they may happen to have been instituted. We know that, in most localities, some of the best farmers never belong to them, or send any stock for exhibition, and treat the whole as a "landlords' humbug." This, however, is a narrow, and therefore inaccurate, view of the subject; for though the societies have been usually got up to serve some purpose of the landowners, they have certainly given farmers the opportunity of comparing notes, and, above all, have been amongst the means of bringing out the difficulties by which a farmer's business is beset. At this moment they are, one and all, most effective occasions for *Anti-Corn-Law lectures*. In this field Lord Stanley has become a promising *debutant*. Having disposed of the money matters, he said,—

"These meetings were intended to bring all parties together for the promotion of no narrow or individual, but of a great national interest, by increasing the capacity and increasing the skill by which the productive powers of the soil might be augmented, and by emulation to excite in the minds of the farmer and the farm labourer a proper competition in the great object which they were the instruments of Providence in promoting. It was impossible to cast round their eyes about the country in which they lived and not acknowledge *that there had been a vast improvement in the practical agriculture of this country within the last ten or fifteen years.* In producing that improvement he firmly believed that this society had borne its full share, and he should deeply regret if any circumstance whatever deprived it of that support which all who were engaged in the cultivation of the soil ought to render it."

That improvements to a very considerable extent have been made within the last fifteen years we believe to be undeniable, but they have been of that partial and isolated character which renders them the exception, not the rule; and they rather serve, at present, to show what may be advantageously done by improvement, and how much it is required, than as indications that improvement is going on amongst the mass of farmers. There is the bud and promise of future progress in agriculture, but it has yet, we fear, some period to encounter the *harsh winds* of insecure tenure and the sickly *blight* of the delusive Corn Laws.

Lord Stanley then proceeded to tell the tale, though he omitted to point out the moral:—

"Perhaps they would permit him to make a few observations on two subjects which were of primary and vital importance in the science—for it was now becoming a science—of agriculture, without which all others were comparatively worthless. *A real, effectual, and thorough draining of the soil was of vast importance in the first instance, and it was the foundation of all improvement.* Now, it was quite true that agriculture was not capable of that indefinite extension by which the manufacturing interest, in its rapid progress, had astonished the world, and astonished itself; but it was equally true that agriculture was capable of vast extension and improvement. The surface of the soil was limited, and the capacity of the soil was also limited, *but they were limited in a much less degree than was generally supposed;* and he spoke with the greatest confidence, when he said that of the waste lands of this country a vast proportion was capable of producing *a large profit on a large—an immensely large—outlay of capital expended upon it.*"

This is true; but the question is, who will expend the capital? The landlord has not done it, and, in most cases, he is afraid to undertake it. The tenant has seldom an interest in soil sufficiently permanent to justify him as a prudent man of business in undertaking such outlays.

See the latent wealth the landlords possess in the following account of improvements at Knowsley. His lordship said,—

"In the course of the last two or three years they—he spoke for his father as well as for himself—on behalf of themselves and their tenants, had put under ground *nearer three than two and a half million of tiles*, and had thus fairly indicated their belief and confidence in the success of a great experiment. (*Loud applause.*) And why had they done so? Every month that passed over his head convinced him that, *so far from having done all that could be done, they had only made a beginning, and were only doing that which it was their bounden duty but still more their abundant interest, to do.* He would state one instance of the practical returns which might be expected from thorough scientific draining. In 1841 his father was about to enclose in the Park at Knowsley a tract of about 80 acres. Of this 80 acres about 20 were strong clay land, with a very retentive sub-soil, and the remaining sixty he remembered from his boyhood as the favourite haunt of snipes and wild ducks, and never saw there any thing else. In the course of the first year the 60 acres maintained—and maintained very poorly—during the summer, six horses; and on the 20 acres there was a very small crop of very poor hay. It was impossible for land to be in a poorer condition; and they would agree with him when he told them that, in breaking it up, they had some two or three times to dig the plough horses out of the bog. In 1841 the whole of this land was thoroughly sub-soiled and drained; and in 1842, *what was not worth* 10*s. an acre the year before, was in turnips, and on that land they fed off in five months, and fattened for the butcher*, 80 *beasts and* 300 *sheep, and afterwards carted into the farm-yard* 350 *tons of turnips.* (Loud and vehement cries of 'Hear, hear.') In the present year they had a very fair crop of barley and oats. *Now he did not hesitate to say that that land was, at that moment, worth* 30*s. an acre.* The outlay upon it, for pulling up old fences, thorough draining, tiling and breaking it up, amounted just to £7 10s. per statute acre, *just giving* 20*s. for every* 150*s. of outlay, and giving to the landlord a permanent interest of* 14 *per cent. on the money laid out on that unpromising ground.* (Loud applause.) It happened that in the same year they took into their own hands land which had been abandoned by the tenant as perfectly worthless. It was a large field of twenty-two acres of very poor sandy soil. It was drained at an expense of £2 per statute acre, and in the first year they fed off on that land 120 sheep, the remaining part of the turnips being carted to the farm-yard; and he ventured to say that, at the expense of £2 per acre, the land was increased in permanent value 10s. per acre to the landlord, and 10s. to the tenant. He might mention many more instances of the same kind, but they would probably hear something on the subject from Mr. Robert Neilson, who had more practical knowledge of the subject."

We can entirely believe the statement of Lord Stanley as to the beneficial results of his improvements, and the comparatively small expense at which they were effected. But then, though the comparative expense was small, the actual outlay was considerable, which in the case of a farmer must be undertaken over and above his ordinary expenses; and, as an old farmer observed to us the other day, when urging him to adopt a more expensive system of cultivation, "Saturday night even now comes often enough for the farmer." Lord Stanley then said—

"Over and over again he had heard from tenants that their land had been doubled in value by draining and tiling with slate soles, which had a great advantage over tile soles, being lighter, and less liable to break in the carriage. *They would tell him, perhaps, that these were very expensive operations, and that the farmers could not conduct those operations.*"

To which the meeting vociferously responded "*Hear, hear, hear!*" And what said his lordship? Why, precisely what the Free Traders have been saying for years:—

"Well, perhaps, they could not, unless they had perfect confidence in their landlords, or unless they *had the security of a long lease. (Loud, repeated, and marked applause, the object being apparently to elicit something further on the subject of leases from his lordship.*")

But nothing more on the subject of leases was elicited from his lordship, except—

"He would say, he would much rather that the tenant was not at the original expense of this outlay, because having the whole of the improvements conducted under one hand, and under one management, there was security that the work would be done so as to promote the permanent and not merely the temporary benefit of the estate; and though he was quite aware that a tenant could not afford the outlay on two or three miles of tiles, yet when the work was done by the landlord, the benefit was so great *that every tenant, out of his increased produce, would be able to pay interest at 5 per cent. on the money laid out.*" (Loud applause.)

There is no doubt that any good farmer would readily pay a fair per centage on the money judiciously laid out by the landlord in draining; but his lordship and his fellow-monopolists must not hug the idea that such an arrangement can form any substitute for a lease. Draining is properly a landlord's improvement; and the time will come when tenants will as much require to have their farms completely and permanently drained (that is, with tiles and stone), as to have a house and homestead ready built to their hands; and, when they are required to drain themselves, they will require as ample an allowance for the trouble and inconvenience attending such work as they would now do had they to superintend and wait for the erection of farm-buildings. But a lease is required to enable the farmer safely to make the requisite outlays *in strictly farming operations.* Lord Stanley then proceeded to observe on the injury done by timber and hedge-rows, saying—

"*He had observed in some parts of this county fields of two acres, one acre, and even three quarters of an acre, and the number of fences this required could lead to no profit, but did much mischief.* (Hear, hear.) The other day he called for a particular return of the quantity of land gained in a district of 291 acres by the mere removal of the fences, and laying the fields properly together, and what did they suppose it amounted to? Why to 22 statute acres, or nearly one-seventh of the whole surface of the soil. But this was not the only evil, nor even the greatest evil. There were the old rotten cops, and the old disused marl pits, which only harboured vermin; the result was, that the fields thus intersected, the sun and the due circulation of air were excluded, and not only were the crops smaller in quantity, but also later in time, and it was absolutely impossible that they should ripen simultaneously, part of them being unripe, part over ripe, and the whole very much inferior in value to what it might otherwise be."

These matters no doubt looked like new discoveries to his lordship, who had evidently been "cramming" for the occasion of this meeting; but the farmers quite understand these things. And there are two reasons why they do not "remove the fences:" first, they always were prohibited from doing so; and secondly, the expense is more considerable than yearly tenants can, or at least well, venture to undertake.

It must be remembered that in every hedge-row timber trees are growing for the *landlord's benefit at the tenant's expense.* Not many days ago, the occupier of a farm of 350 acres told us that at least 20 acres of his land were rendered entirely unproductive by the timber. Notwithstanding Lord Stanley's speech, it is probable that a prohibition to "grub up hedge-rows" forms a standing clause in his tenants' agreements.

One more extract from the Free-Trade speech of the monopolist Minister, and we shall leave it to the reflections of the tenant-farmers of England:—

"There were many other topics which he might press upon their attention, *but this was the main maxim. This was no time for the farmer to stand with his hands behind his back, going on half asleep, just as his father and his grandfather had gone before him.* Fresh demands were coming upon him; all classes, in this stirring age, were striving in the race of competition; and it would not do for the farmer to be less active in the cultivation of the soil than others were in their particular lines of industry. It was of importance that the operations of the farmer should be conducted with true economy in time, labour and cultivation; that he should apply all the energies of his mind to apply both labour and capital to the best advantage. He did not think it economy when he saw a farmer lumbering along with a large heavy plough, requiring four horses and two men, to save the expense of a lighter and better plough; *and if the farmers thought they could carry on their business with such notions as these, they were very much behind the rest of the world, and they would soon find out to their cost that they were so.*"

True, my Lord Stanley, most true; but who have induced the farmer to think he could succeed in his business by "going on half asleep, just as his father and grandfather had done before him," but the landlord legislators, who, for twenty-eight years, have been telling him to rely on legislative protection? Who raised the bugbear of foreign competition? Who talked of Tamboff, and 38,000,000 of quarters of wheat grown in a *single county* (so to speak) of Russia?

Possibly Lord Stanley's official duties during the last two years have been so onerous, as not merely to interrupt his attention to the agricultural societies of Lancashire, but to make him oblivious of the events in that county of the general election of 1841. But let us whisper in his lordship's ear that the farmers, whose minds may be less fully occupied, are not so oblivious. He concluded this *useful* speech with the assertion, that—

"With a judicious application of capital, with the application of science, with a good understanding between landlord and tenant, he did not hesitate to say, that, so far from being exhausted, *the productive powers of this country were capable of being increased to an extent astonishing to all who had not carefully examined the facts.*"

We have not space to notice the report of the committee, and other matter worthy of note at this meeting, but must conclude with a few passages from the able speech of Mr. Robert Neilson, to whose "practical knowledge" of agriculture the noble president had previously referred. Mr. Neilson, after confirming much that Lord Stanley had said on the improvements made by draining and otherwise, said,—

"He strongly advised them to keep the cattle in the house. From the experience he had had, he was convinced that cattle gave more milk, and were kept fatter by being kept in the house than by being turned out, besides, they made three times the quantity of manure, and the land produced three times more green stuff. He had this year taken three cuts of ryegrass from a field with fifteen tons to each cutting. The only manure he used was liquid manure, which he strongly recommended to all the farmers."

It is notorious that cattle in the fields spoil, by treading, as much as they consume; and no one who has observed the improvement in the cattle, when constantly sheltered, can question the advantage of feeding in the house; but then it is more trouble, the animals require more attention, and the expenses of labour in attending them are greater; and the *law says*, farmers are to live without trouble or outlay. But does the law perform its promise?

Hear Mr. Neilson's commentary on Lord Stanley; and here, let us remark, the thrust of the practical agriculturist goes home:—

"His lordship has said, a material improvement in the agriculture of the county had been seen; and, as far as his (Mr. N.'s) observations went, these improvements had principally *taken place on farms where the landlord had come forward with a liberal hand, and he did not hesitate that, with some exceptions, the landlords were more deserving of blame for the way,*

of improvement than the tenants themselves. Look at the state of the land when the tenant first got possession of it! Look also at the terms on which it was let to him. (*Hear, hear.*) *They asked rent without legalised terms of possession, or they had a lease abounding in clauses for the protection of the landlord, but none for the tenant. In many instances these were totally restrictive of cultivation,* tying them down from ploughing a certain part of their land, or restricting their cultivation to one ninth of fresh land each year. These terms were not likely to induce a farmer to expend his money on property not his own. Far be it from him to make any deprecatory remarks on that noble system of *mutual confidence* which enabled estates to be handed down from generation to generation of tenants under the same family, *but, looking at the uncertainty of human affairs, and the fluctuations of property, this was not a general system, one under which a man was justified, with a proper consideration of his family, in expending his money.* Seven years were not a sufficient time to enable a man to repay the outlay of improvement, without doing injustice to the land during the latter period of his lease. (*Loud applause.*) Give him a long lease, and he would freely stretch out his hand with a certainty of getting it back again."

Bravo, Mr. Neilson!

"Mr. Neilson continued by saying that there was a tide in the affairs of agriculture, whose onward progress they must keep up with, or they would be left behind. He would say to landlords, set the example of liberality to your tenants, *and thereby gain a claim for liberality towards the land; decrease the conditions of the leases, and enlarge their periods;* let their only restrictions to cultivation be to a certain amount of manure produced on the farm—let him try all the best improvements, and be not backward in putting your shoulder to the wheel of general improvement. To the tenant he would say—You richly deserve a great portion of the blame *of which you have before borne the whole. Obtain long leases.* Make improvements; and whatever improvements they did make, complete them at once, for the result would more than compensate for the outlay."

This is most instructive, and it appeared to be coming to rather closer quarters with the monopoly than the noble chairman liked; for, on the conclusion of Mr. Neilson's speech, he made a hasty diversion into the region of personal compliment.

REDUCTIONS OF RENT.

At the Marquis of Westminster's rent-days during the past and present week, a reduction of 10 per cent. has been made from the last half-year's rental, and per cent. to such tenants as are willing to expend the amount returned in procuring artificial manure for thei lands.—*Chester Courant.*

A CONSIDERATE LANDLORD.—Mr. Thomas Wyse, member for the city of Waterford, has, in consequence of the depression of the times, notified to his numerous tenantry upon the manor of St. John's and Ballincourtney, in the county of Waterford, and Cuddagh in the Queen's County, his intention of abating their rents, commencing with those that became due on the 29th of last September, *twenty per cent.—Evening Freeman.*

The Earl of Dunraven has allowed a reduction of 20 per cent. to be made in receiving the rents of a great part of his lordship's extensive estates in this county.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

LANDLORD OF THE RIGHT SORT.—We feel pleasure in recording the following acts of beneficence exercised towards his tenantry by Alexander M'Mullan, Esq., of Cabra House, Castlewellan. He called a meeting of his farmers, and, without any application on their part, made a reduction in their rents of ten per cent., commencing the 1st of November, 1842. *In addition, Mr. M'Mullan proposed to grant leases to all holding lands under him at these reduced rates.—Belfast Vindicator.*

[There can be no doubt that this gentleman will find that his own interests, no less than those of his tenants, have been promoted by this act of liberality.]

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

"A BOLD PEASANTRY OUR COUNTRY'S PRIDE."—We give the following account of an inquest from the *Brighton Guardian* of October 4, with the editor's brief comments:—

"On the 25th ult. an inquest was holden at Greatham before Mr. Ellis, coroner, on the body of Henry White, who had been found dead that morning in a barn. Deceased worked for Mr. Robert Chatfield, and had done so for a year and a half; he had his meals, and during the day, when not at work, he was at the house of his aunt, Mary Forsy, and at night slept in a barn close to her cottage. During the latter part of Saturday and the greater part of Sunday the 23rd and 24th, deceased was not very well; but in the afternoon of Sunday he became better, and was very cheerful, and went to his bed in the barn about eight o'clock. Not making his appearance on Monday morning at his usual time, the aunt went to the barn to call him, and found him a corpse. He appeared as if he had died in his sleep.—Verdict, 'Died by the visitation of God in a natural way.'"

[Here is a fine illustration of the poor labourer's reward for his toil. In regular and constant work,—and with a *great* farmer too,—for a year and a half, and no sleeping-place out a barn! Let agriculturists come into our towns and see if they can discover a parallel to this barbarian cruelty.—*Sol. local paper.*]

In the same paper we observe an account of a dinner of the Arundel and Bramber Agricultural Association, which the chairman, the Duke of Norfolk, informs us was formed to "reward their honest agricultural labourers," and at which Mr. Robert Chatfield, the employer of Henry White, received a prize of £3 for the "ten best two-tooth South Down ewes." We wonder what would be said of our mill-owners and manufacturers if they allowed their operatives to die like dogs in barns, and then got up great showy meetings to make speeches about rewarding their "honest *manufacturing* labourers!"

THE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS.—When the League holds a county meeting the Monopolists try to be very facetious at the expense of the tradesmen and mechanics who attend, and who are sneeringly called "town-made farmers." By some of our opponents we are charged with deception for describing as "farmers' meetings" those gatherings where all classes and callings are allowed to attend. If we wished to turn the tables upon our adversaries, we should bring forward some lists of the persons who figure at "farmers' clubs" and "agricultural societies." Take, for instance, the following description of the guests at the dinner of the South-East Hants Agricultural Association dinner. Our readers will be amused at the list of right reverend, honourable, noble, gallant, and venerable *farmers.*

"At three o'clock, about 150 gentlemen sat down to an abundant and sumptuous dinner in the Assembly Room at the Red Lion Inn, at which H. P. Delmé, Esq., presided, supported by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Hon. John Carnegie, W. Garnier, Esq., Admiral Sir F. Austin, Rev. Sir Henry Thompson, Hon. W. Gage, Ven. Archdeacon Wilberforce, W. Abbott, Esq., Rev. W. Harrison, J. Barney, Esq., John Deverell, Esq., Capt. Purvis, Capt. Agnew, &c. &c. A large number of prizes were awarded, in the distribution of which the Lord Bishop took an interesting part."

LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.—A number of estates have recently been vacated, and many tenants have given notice to quit, and it is evident that in very few instances the farms are resigned because the occupiers have saved a competency. On the contrary, it is in most cases because their capital is sunk or sinking. In the majority of instances the rents are higher than under existing circumstances can possibly be raised; in some a due economy is not exercised, and in others the land is not most profitably cultivated. The want of economy, where it exists, cannot be excused, *but the bad or neglectful cultivation frequently results from poverty. The farmer, finding himself straitened for ready cash, dispenses with the service of some of his wonted labourers, and this, though a present saving, evidently leads to a future loss.* We know of no remedy for this increasing evil but the considerate forbearance of the landlords. In short, the connection between landlords and tenants should be drawn closer.—*Correspondent of the Sherborne Mercury.*

[It is not by "drawing closer the connection between landlords and tenants" that the prosperity of the latter is to be secured, but by making them independent by means of long leases. One of the effects of the pressure of high rent is to make the farmer over-crop his land, which, like the discontinuance of labour, is a momentary gain at the expense of a great future loss. Not many days ago we had occasion to converse on agriculture with two elderly men, farmers of the old school (and good ones, according to ordinary practice), who both declared that, generally speaking, the land was kept cleaner, and the farmers as a body were better off, before 1792 and the subsequent high prices than they are now; and they attributed this to the pressure of high rents, which induced the farmers to grow corn too often and with too little preparation. The Corn Laws will be found to have had much to do with this state of things. Both the farmers we allude to seemed to entertain the most exaggerated notions of the low price at which wheat can be grown abroad; and said they could never compete with such low prices without incurring much greater expense in cultivation than they do at present, of which they said the *landlords would soon take advantage.* On leases being mentioned, they admitted that a lease would make a material difference, but seemed to regard the practice of leases as a remote and almost impracticable possibility.]

EMPLOYMENT OF LABOUR.—At the Liverpool Agricultural meeting, Mr. Binns, one of the judges of stock, said,—

"With respect to agriculture, he thought the extent to which it might be carried was almost unlimited, as, by a judicious mode of management, the *land might be made to produce double what it does at present;* there would also be another advantage, that more food would be produced, *and a considerable amount of surplus labour brought into operation.*"

[It is confessed on all hands that, if the ordinary price of corn should be lower under a Free Trade, the farmer can only meet the change by increased production; to effect which he must employ more labourers and expend more capital upon a given quantity of land. The present obstacles to those outlays are the variations in price and the uncertainty of tenure.]

At the late meeting of the North Derbyshire Agricultural Association a prize was awarded to Mr. Samuel Nuttal, of Darley, as "the occupier of a farm in the northern division of the county, of not less than 20 nor more than 40 acres, who shall have the same in the best state of cultivation, with the drains, gates, fences, and premises in the best order, given by the Duke of Rutland." The Secretary remarked that Mr. Nuttall keeps a great deal of stock upon the ground in proportion to the acres he occupies. He raises a considerable quantity of green food, and has the manure collected from the grass fields. He has three reservoirs in which he collects the urine from the cow-house, which he applies as a top-dressing. By these means he has been able to keep 12 milch cows, 7 heifers, 3 calves, 7 sheep, 10 lambs, 1 horse, and 1 pony. During the last eight years he has laid down a large proportion of his farm in grass, it having been severely ploughed and much exhausted by the previous tenant. To this the editor of the *Derby Reporter* adds,—

"That Mr. Nuttall is one of the few intelligent farmers in this country who do not consider agricultural improvement to consist in attempting to force grain crops in a climate ill-adapted for the growth of corn."

[This is a good example to larger occupiers. But whilst the law offers a premium on corn-growing, it is vain to expect the most judicious, and, in the long run, the most profitable system to be generally adopted: as one of the witnesses examined before the Committee of 1836 said—"The great fault of ordinary farmers is, *that they go to the barn's door for every thing.*]

The Archbishop of Canterbury, a few days ago, signified his intention of becoming a member of the East Surrey Agricultural Association. Last week the Bishop of Winchester, for the first time, attended the Hants Agricultural Society. Peers, members of Parliament, esquires, and dignitaries of the church, seem to vie with each other doing lip service—at all events—to the cause of agriculture. What does it all mean? Is it to keep the farmers out of the hands of the League? Do the noble, and honourable, and right reverend patrons of agriculture imagine they can thus stay the progress of Free-Trade opinions amongst the farmers?

There is an evident desire amongst several great men on the Continent, who take an interest in agricultural pursuits, to improve their stock by a mixture of the best English breeds; and we find that Mr. W. Fisher Hobbs, of Marks Hall, who was some time since applied to, has recently despatched some very valuable bulls and heifers of the Hereford and Durham breeds, together with a number of superior Leicester tups and ewes, to the King of Sardinia, and Marshal Soult, the Duke of Dalmatia, whose agent, M. Aderer, has been for some time staying at Marks Hall. The animals were all for breeding purposes.—*Chelmsford Chronicle.*—[Yet the imaginary *importation* of foreign cattle a year ago frightened all the farmers from their propriety. What has become of the bugbear now? and where is the benefit promised to consumers by the measure?]

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Oct. 11, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Mr. James Dear, Maidenhead-street, Hertford ..	£1	0	0
Mr. W. A. Portal, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street ..	1	0	0
Mr. W. M'Millan, 59, London-road	0	10	0
Mr. Deeks, 8, Porchester-place, Paddington ..	1	0	0
Mr. E. F. Teschemacher, 2, Park-terrace, Highbury	1	0	0
Mr. G. H. Oelrichs, 46, Commercial Sale Rooms, Mincing-lane	1	1	0
D. Johnstone, Esq., High-street, Peckham	1	1	0
Mr. Charles Marsh, Messrs. Holdsworth and Sons, New Wells, Wakefield	1	1	0
Richard Holdsworth, Esq., New Wells, Wakefield..	1	1	0
Mr. J. Darkers, 13, Prospect-place, Kingsland-road	0	5	0
Mr. Samuel Pring, Newport, Isle of Wight	1	0	0
Mr. Joseph Sayer, ditto	1	0	0
Mr. Edward Henry Back, Camberwell	1	0	0
Mr. George Smith, 24, Duke street, Smithfield ..	0	2	6
Mr. Gibson, East Dulwich, Peckham Rye	0	2	6
Mr. G. Raves, 30, Frederick-place, Hampstead-road	1	0	0
Captain Bowyer, R.N., Southampton..	1	0	0
Mr. Robert Miller, 34, Trinity-square, Tower-hill..	1	10	0
Mr. J. W. Barr, 12, Apollo-buildings, Walworth ..	1	0	0
T. Hawes, jun., Esq., Commercial-road, Lambeth..	5	0	0
William Hawes, Esq., Montague place	5	0	0
J. S. Wilson, Esq., 11, Maiden-lane, Wood-street ..	1	0	0
Mr. Richard Searle, 13, Clarendon-place, Vassall-road, Brixton.	1	0	0
Mr. John Jones, Sale, Buttington, Montgomeryshire	0	2	6
Mr. George Moss, 29, Burton-st., Burton-crescent	1	1	0
Mr. Buckmaster, Swan Tavern, Hungerford-market	1	1	0
G. Borrell, Esq., 3, Blechynden-terrace, Southampton	1	0	0
Richard Allan, Esq., 62, High-street, Dublin ..	1	0	0
Mr. John Quick, North-street-mews, Tottenham-court-road	1	0	0
Samuel Barton, Esq., 3, Strand	1	0	0
Mr. Charles Harsant, 229, Ditto	1	0	0
Mr. J. Allen, 16, Tooley-street, Borough	1	0	0
Mr. Charles Daly, 17, Greville street, Hatton-garden	0	10	0
Mr. R. Hall, jun., 130, London-wall	1	1	0
T. B. James, Esq., 18, King-street, Cheapside ..	1	0	0
Mr. P. Crosty, 47, York-road, Lambeth	1	1	0
Mr. G. Cox, 9, Glasshouse-street	1	1	0
Mr. George Morley, 48, Gerard-street, Soho.. ..	1	0	0
Mr. Francis Merryweather, 42, Bedford-street, Commercial-road East	1	0	0
Mr. M'Donnell, 124, St. John's-road	0	5	0
Mr. George Booth, 6, Devonshire-buildings, Great Dover-road, Southwark	0	2	6
Mr. W. A. Fisher, 9, Warwick-place	1	0	0
Mr. George Mason, 5, College-hill	1	0	0
Mr. Israel Phipps, 176, Upper Thames-street ..	1	0	0
J. A. Bennett, Esq., 27, Peckham-grove, Camberwell	1	0	0
Mr. John Hunt, 31, King-street, Cheapside.. ..	1	0	0
Charles Davy, Esq., 100, Upper Thames-street ..	1	1	0
Mr. John Clarke Stevens, Riley-street, Chelsea ..	1	1	0
Jonathan Angus, Esq., Bromley, Kent	1	0	0
Mrs. Adams, Vale Royal, Maiden-lane, King's-cross	0	2	6
Mr. E. Drake, 1, Vale Royal, Maiden-lane, King's-cross	0	2	6
Mr. Matthias Mull	0	2	6
Mr. W. Jeffrey, 33, Charles-street, Hampstead-road	1	0	0
T. Ashwin, Esq., 6, Upper Penton-street, Pentonville	1	0	0
James Ayling, Esq., 25, Collier-street, Pentonville..	1	0	0
Thomas Lutt, Esq., 43, White Lion-street, ditto ..	1	0	0
John Fish, Esq., 4, Henry-street, ditto ..	1	0	0
Mr. Henry Pannell, 2, Myddelton-street, Clerkenwell	1	0	0
L. W. Ash, Esq., 54, White Lion-street, Pentonville	1	0	0
W. S. Burton, Esq., 30, Brougham-terrace, Camden-town	5	0	0
Mr. Groves, 8, King-street, Snow-hill..	0	10	0
Henry Penny, Esq., 8 and 9, Old Bailey	1	0	0
Mr. E. Jackson, 51, Broad-street, Golden-square, per Mr. Hutchinson	1	0	0
Mr. James Jackson, 3, Kemp's-court, Berwick-street, per Mr. Hutchinson, ...	0	2	6
Mr. James Bowell, 19, Little Pulteney-street, Golden-square, per ditto	0	2	6
Mr. Henry Cox, 13, Middleton-road	0	10	0
Mr. W. Westcott, 31, Church street, Spitalfields ..	0	10	0
Mr. W. Young, 76, Church-street, Bethnal-green ..	1	0	0
Mr. James Goodwin, 129, Bethnal-green-road ..	1	0	0
Mr. J. Hall, 10, Bedford street, Commercial-road East	1	0	0
Mr. W. D. Bates, 129, Whitechapel-road	1	0	0
Mr. W. Corney, 55, ditto	1	0	0
——, 1, Vale Royal, Maiden-lane, King's-cross ..	0	2	6
Mr. Theodore Drake, ditto	0	2	6
Mr. H. Acland, Southwood Cottage, St. Laurence, Ramsgate	1	0	0
Mr. W. Mills, 25, Drury-lane	1	0	0
Mr. Dagnall Ellis, 105, Chancery-lane	0	5	0
Robert Huckvale, Esq., 3, Regent's Villas, Avenue-road, Regent's park	1	0	0
W. Lister, Esq., Lincoln's inn-fields	5	0	0
Mr. Robert Gayford, 129, Regent street	1	0	0
Henry Woodfall, Esq., Foot's-cray, Kent, per St. Mary Cray Anti-Corn-Law Association	1	0	0
Mr. Samuel Rigg, Dunstan's-terrace, Canterbury	1	0	0
Mr. Joseph Neville, at Mr. Pulman's, North Parade, Bradford	1	0	0
James Haughton, Esq., 34, Eccles-street, Dublin ..	2	0	0
Markes Lambe, Esq., Yeovil	1	0	0
Mr. W. H. Jones, 9, Barbican-terrace, Barnstaple	1	0	0
A. K., Hackney-road	0	2	6
An instalment	1	0	0
Mr. Richard Nelms, 109, Week-street, Maidstone	1	0	0
Mr. J. Huxham, King's Arms Hotel, Launceston	1	0	0
Mr. R. Moore, 43, Clay-path, Durham	0	10	0
Mr. Alfred Novello, 69, Dean-street, Soho	1	0	0
Rev. H. Turner, Hindley, near Wigan	1	0	0
R. ——, Macclesfield	5	0	0
J. G ——, Manchester	0	10	4
Messrs. B. Whitworth and Co., 11, Cannon-street, Manchester	2	0	0
Preston, per George Smith, Esq.	20	0	0
Mr. John Alston, 13, Castle-street, Liverpool ..	1	0	0
Mr. John Ormond, 3, Old Mill-gate, Manchester ..	1	0	0
Mr. William Wood, White-cross-bank, Salford ..	1	0	0
Messrs. George Globs and Co., Arbroath, N.B. ..	25	0	0
Small Subscriptions	0	1	6

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, October* 14, 1843.

Through more than seven centuries of English history, London has taken the lead at every great crisis in maintaining the rights of the people against

the usurpations of the crown, the mitre, or the coronet. Its citizens were foremost in breaking the chains of Norman feudalism, Plantagenet tyranny, and Stuart hypocrisy; and on three great occasions—the trials of Throckmorton, William Penn, and Horne Tooke—the men of London saved the right of trial by jury from being destroyed by open violence on one side, or insidious artifice on the other. To the citizens of London we are indebted for Elizabeth's retractation of the monopolies craftily obtained from her by rapacious courtiers; to their support of the Long Parliament we owe the very existence of a representative system in this country; by their energetic exertions, principally and almost alone, the Stuart dynasty was expelled, the Revolution effected, and the house of Brunswick placed upon the throne. In fact, from the days of the Norman conquest to those of the Reform Bill, which may be called the Saxon reconquest, the British metropolis has afforded the best protection to British rights, and yielded the most efficient support to British freedom. Were London ever to adopt a contrary course, it would be for ever stigmatized as a city false to its past history, its existing position, and its future destinies.

And now another opportunity is afforded them of striking a great, it may be a fatal, blow at a tyranny not less galling than any which their forefathers overthrew. Before our next number issues from the press, the fate of the City Election will be decided. We would that our voice could penetrate the ear and the heart of every man who has a vote to give. Great is his responsibility on this most important occasion; and great are the interests that are trembling in the balance! The millions who toil are the clients whose defence is in the hands of the electors of London. Shall these millions and their sacred cause be protected or betrayed? Electors! we ask you, in the quiet of your own hearts, to think and to feel for the multitudes who suffer. Their cry is to you, and you may save them. Come forward, then, in the strength of principle—in the power which is derived from the consciousness of well-doing—make up your own minds—canvass, confer with, and strengthen your neighbours—perfect your organization and arrangements for the contest. When the poll shall open, be found in crowds ready to record your votes for JUSTICE AND PERFECT FREEDOM OF TRADE. What it is right to do, it is best to do at once. Head the poll from the onset, and triumph over monopoly and wrong.

You have the power—humanity urges you to exert it. We commit our cause into your keeping! We have a strong confidence that it will not be betrayed!

London! to the rescue! ho!
There's the field, and there's the foe!
O'er th' awakened land our cry
Fills the earth and shakes the sky;
One strong purpose—passion—prayer—
One great impulse everywhere
Rules with ever-strengthening sway—
What will London—London say?

Freedom's spirit is alive
In the hum of Labour's hive;
Nottingham hath spoken out,
Durham echoes back the shout
From her proud and ancient towers—
Commerce freed! and Freedom ours!
Now 's the hour—and now 's the day—
What will London—London say?

THE REVENUE.—The quarterly statement of the Revenue made up to the 10th instant exhibits an increase of £2,017,624: arising from Excise, £240,515; Stamps, £18,886; Taxes, £16,663; Income-tax, £1,734,060; and Crown Lands, £7500. From which must be deducted a decrease of £502,414: which occurs in Customs, £414,469; Post-office, £8000; Miscellaneous, £3180. Leaving £1,565,031 actual increase.

REVIEW.

We have received the 31st number of the "British and Foreign Review," containing a more than ordinary variety of interesting articles on subjects of great and immediate interest. We were more particularly struck with the article on Rent and Profits, the writer of which displays a rare amount of dialectic skill, combined with a sound knowledge of economic science. The suicidal influence of the Corn Laws on landlords and farmers—the classes for whose nominal protection these laws were enacted—is demonstrated with great power and clearness; the food-monopoly, like the hug of the bear, has been fatal to those whom it was designed to cherish. We shall occasionally make some extracts from this admirable article, which will amply justify the praises bestowed upon it. This number also contains sound articles on the controversies on the Church of England and Kirk of Scotland, the Law of Debtor and Creditor, the Historical Literature of France; and a very elaborate account of the circumstances under which the province of Scinde was annexed to our Indian Empire.

☞ Press of matter compels us to postpone till next week several interesting articles under this head.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Oct. 7	Mon. Oct. 9	Tues. Oct. 10	Wed. Oct. 11	Thurs Oct. 12	Fri. Oct. 13
Bank Stk. Ex. div.	—	—	—	180 179	179½	180
3 per Cent. Con.	94½	94½	94 95	94½	94½ 95½	95½
New 3½ per Cent.	101 102	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities..	—	—	—	12 7-16	12½	12½
S. Sea New Ann..	92½	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	—	70	—	71 73	75	76
Exchequer Bills..	64 61	64 61	61 64	61 64	61 64	62 65
Consols for Acc..	94½	94½	94½ 95	95	95½ 95	95½
Brazilian	72	—	72½	73 72½	72½	—
Mexican	34½	34 32½	—	—	32½	33
Portuguese	42½	43½	—	43½ 44	44½ 44	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	26½	27	27½	27½	27½ 28	28½
Chilian 6 p. Ct. df.	—	43½	44	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	—	—	115
Dutch..	—	52½	52½	53½	52½	52½
Belgium	—	105½	—	—	—	—
Colomb. 6 per Ct.	—	—	—	—	—	26½
Austrian	—	—	—	—	115½	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Oct. 9.—There was a good supply of new English Wheat at market this morning, and again in very indifferent condition. The best samples were sold readily at a decline of 1s. from this day week; but inferior qualities were taken off very slowly at 2s. less. Foreign Wheat being held at late prices, only a moderate amount of business was done. The supply of Barley was not large, but last week's prices were barely maintained, even for the best samples. Beans and White Peas were in good demand at fully last week's rates. Grey peas were 1s. cheaper. The arrivals of Irish Oats were again large; among them was a good proportion of New, these being offered at 6d. to 1s. under the prices of last Monday: extensive sales were effected chiefly to country buyers. There was a fair sale for Old at about last Monday's rates. English and Scotch Oats are scarce, but their value is of course affected by the low price of Irish.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 2nd to the 7th of October, 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	9602	2537	1721	1081	1918
Scotch	—	189	212	—	—
Irish.....	—	562	39181	—	—
Foreign	9118	1540	4230	—	26

Flour, 5841 sacks, 800 barrels. Malt, 6229 sacks.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do, Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple.....	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk.....	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin.....	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting....	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed ..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old....	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

FRIDAY, OCT. 13.—The duty on Wheat advanced yesterday to 19s., and on Oats to 8s. The supply of Wheat since Monday is short. There is not much inquiry either for English or for free Foreign Wheat, and prices are the same as on Monday. The supplies of Irish Oats have fallen off, only 1700 qrs. having arrived during the week. There is a better feeling in the trade, and Old Oats are 6d. per qr. dearer than on Monday. There is no alteration in the value of Barley, Beans, and Peas.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 9th to the 13th of October, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	4,430	—	—
Barley.....	1 980	—	—
Oats.....	1,110	1,700	2,000

Flour 3,620 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 7, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	154,629	50 6	27,019	30 2	45,107	17 10	5374	30 1
Aggregate Averages..	..	51 2		31 2		18 10		31 1
Duty.....	..	19 0		7 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 2. G. Sadler, Cheltenham, linen draper—Nov. 1. G. Fisher, Bradford, Yorkshire—Nov. 1. R. Watson, York, silk mercer—Nov. 2. J. R. Pearson, Sheffield, wine and spirit merchant—Nov. 9. R. Campion and J. Campion, Whitby, Yorkshire, bankers—Oct. 31. J. Brown and T. B. Powell, Stubbin within Tottington, Lancashire, calico printers—Oct. 31. A. W. Hillary, Ewanrigg Hall, Cumberland, iron founder.

CERTIFICATES.

Oct. 27. J. Slatter, Oxford, boot and shoe maker—G. Salter, Davies-street, builder—Oct. 27. T. Fortune, late of Lower Whitecross-street, Cripplegate, but now of King's Cross, Battle-bridge, cabinet manufacturer—Nov. 9. W. Pullen, formerly of Trowbridge, brewer and cooper, and now of the Great Western Hotel, St. George's, Gloucestershire—Nov. 2. S. F. Parsons, Pontardawe, Glamorganshire, iron founder—Oct. 28. W. Reynolds and J. T. Fairbank—Oct. 28. G. Heathcote, Sheffield, knife manufacturer—Oct. 31. T. Parry, Mold, Flintshire, draper—Oct. 28. T. Bull, Dilhorn, Staffordshire, farmer—Oct. 27. J. Webber, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman—Oct. 27. J. Watts, Holborn, licensed victualler—Oct. 27. W. Henderson, St. George's, Gloucestershire, chemist—Oct. 27. A. Thompson, Leadenhall-street, merchant—Oct. 27. J. Bowie, Shoe-lane, grocer—Oct. 27. D. Bolton, Kingston-upon Hull, corn merchant—Oct. 27. R. Crosbie, Sutton, Cheshire, tea dealer and linen draper—Oct. 27. J. L. Dobson, Kidderminster, carpet manufacturer—Oct. 27. J. Gallop, the younger, Bedminster, Bristol, painter—Oct. 27. W. Aslett, South Stoneham, Hants, grocer and baker—Oct. 27. C. Maidlow, Finchley, and St. John's Wood, builder—Oct. 27. C. Beasley, Birmingham, draper—Oct. 27. C. Cooper and T. Cooper, Strood, Kent, fellmonger—Oct. 27. J. Butt and E. Butt, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, linen drapers—Oct. 27. J. Oram, Chard, Somersetshire, lace manufacturer.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

G. BARRETT, Red Lion-passage and Red Lion-street, poulterer.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. BENNETT, Shiffnal, Shropshire, druggist.

BANKRUPTS.

J. and R. DAVIES, Chiswell-street, drapers. [Sole, Aldermanbury.

F. W. E. BARANDON, Philpot-lane, merchant. [Phillips, Clement's-lane.

J. MALLET, Hadley, Middlesex, miller. [Sadgrove, Mark-lane.

J. MILLINGTON and T. SALTER, Manchester, and Low Mills, Lancashire, calico printers. [Milne and Sons, and Cooper, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 8. C. H. Weigall, Conduit-street, tailor—Nov. 3. A. Winton, D. Winton, and J. Webber, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehousemen—Nov. 3. J. Baylis, jun., and J. Baylis, Gutter-lane, Cheapside, crape manufacturers—Nov. 1. R. Burton, Wood-street, Cheapside, silk warehouseman—Nov. 1. J. Bancroft, Salford, Lancashire, grocer—Nov. 1. R. Goolden, Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, carrier.

CERTIFICATES.

Nov. 2. D. Hannay, Cavendish-square, banker—Nov. 2. J. Varty, St. Paul's Churchyard, merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. MERCER, Glasgow, merchant—M. ANDERSON, Glasgow, spirit dealer—J. COUTTS, jun., Aberdeen—G. THOM, sen., Airdrie, cattle dealer—G. THOM, jun., Airdrie, cattle dealer—R. THOM, Airdrie, cattle dealer—A. THOM, Clarkston, cow feeder.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

BANKRUPTS.

S. HARRISON, Brighton, coach builder. [Cross, Surrey-street, Strand.

W. R. FILBEY, Norwich, wine merchant. [Hill and Matthews, Bury-court, St. Mary Axe.

J. L. WOODRUFF, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, innkeeper. [Paterson, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

J. RIDGWAY, Manchester, merchant. [Barlow and Aston, Manchester; Bower and Berk, Chancery-lane.

J. W. HARRISON, Stockton-on-Tees, Durham, grocer. [Maples, Pearse, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry, London; Conwell and Ridley, Newcastle upon-Tyne.

T. J. WHIDBORNE, Liverpool, chemist. [Hall, Bishop, and Co., Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn, London.

J. SMALLEY, Nottinghamshire, iron founder. [Bowley, Nottingham; Smith, Birmingham.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—Quarterly Average of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of England, from the 15th day of July, to the 7th of October, 1843.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation	£19,561,000	Securities.....	£22,193,000
Deposits	11,466,000	Bullion.....	12,078,000
	£31,027,000		£34,271,000

Downing-street, Oct. 12, 1843.

RECIPROCAL CONFIDENCE.—"Reciprocal confidence" is an excellent feeling;—one which ought always to subsist between landlord and tenant; and it is, moreover, one which we are proud to say, to the honour of both, in this country, is seldom abused. Still we look upon a great minded proprietor in something of the same light as we regard an absolute monarch; he may himself be a most benevolent ruler over those under his control, but he cannot possibly answer for the character and conduct of his successor. When the relative rights of the parties are distinctly defined, uncertainty as regards the possible effect of changes dependent upon the contingencies of human life is removed; and although such probably seldom occurs to landlords, they may be assured that, albeit not often acknowledged, it frequently occasions much anxiety to tenants.—*Farmer's Journal.*—[The reciprocity, like the power, in this instance is all on one side, as hundreds of farmers have found to their cost.]

ALBERT REVERSIONARY INTEREST AND LOAN COMPANY, FRITH-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

CASH advanced to respectable Persons upon the Security of two suitable Housekeepers, resident in London or its vicinity.

Terms moderate, and no charge made, unless business be done.

Payments may be made by instalments as may best suit the convenience of the parties.

Printed Particulars Gratis.

All communications are regarded as strictly confidential, and business is transacted without delay.

Office Hours Eleven to Five daily.

EVERY MONARCH that has wielded the British Sceptre, since the reign of George II., had the misfortune to require a Truss, but they had not the good fortune to get ONE OF COLES'S INVENTION. Their pages, coachmen, and postillions, wore them, and are now on their legs.

The greatest barrier to a wealthy man is his riches; there were thousands of persons, in humble life, who could have told their Majesties, if they had the same access to them the rich have, that it would be as easy to judge between the properties of Coles's Patent, and those of other Inventors, as to judge whether it is more comfortable to ride in a state carriage or a dung cart.—Manufactory, 3, Charing-cross.

DELICACY OF COMPLEXION.—The use of GOWLAND'S LOTION is speedily followed by the disappearance of every species of cutaneous defect and discoloration, and the establishment of a pure surface of the Skin, accompanied by the brilliant circulation which constitutes the tint of Beauty, whilst, as a refresher, it preserves the most susceptible complexion from the effects of variable temperature, and sustains in all cases to a protracted period the softness of texture and vivacity peculiar to earlier years.—"Robt. Shaw, London," is in white letters on the Government Stamp, without which it is not genuine. Prices, 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d. quarts, 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Venders.

H. WALKER'S NEEDLES (by authority the Queen's Own), in the illustrated Chinese boxes, are now in course of delivery to the trade. The needles have large eyes, easily threaded (even by blind persons), and improved points, temper, and finish. Each paper is labelled with a likeness of her Majesty or his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in relief, on coloured grounds. Every quality of needles, fish-hooks, hooks and eyes, steelpens, &c., for shipping. These needles or pens for the home trade are sent free, by post, by any respectable dealer, on receipt of thirteen penny stamps for every shilling value.—H. Walker, manufacturer to the Queen, 20, Maiden-lane, Wood-street, London.

CAUTION.—The ROYAL HOWQUA'S MIXTURE TEAS must not be confounded with any other Howqua's Mixture, or any other mixture of Black Teas. This was the chosen tea of royalty when others were rejected. The copy of the first order for the supply of this tea to the Royal Family is on every genuine package. This tea is thus described in "Blackwood's Magazine" for this month:—

"We had a sample of this tea from G. Willsher, confectioner, 382, Oxford-street, corner of Regent-circus. The flavour is delicious, combining all the most exquisite fragrances of the richest teas under cultivation. A mere handful is a perfect bouquet."

It is now sold at the reduced price of 6s. per lb., though 17s. per lb. was obtained for it when first imported.—Sold by G. WILLSHER, confectioner, 382, Oxford-street, corner of Regent-circus; T. WEBBER, confectioner, 81, Lombard-street; F. DAVIES, confectioner, 10, High-street, Islington; and B. LAWRENCE 98, Strand.

PIDDING and Co., 2, Botolph-lane, sole importers, to whom applications for agencies must be addressed. Only one agent appointed in any town out of London.

SYDNEY PAPERS are received at DEACON'S Coffee and Chop House, 3, Walbrook, near the Mansion-house (opposite the church door of St. Stephen's).
Sydney, Launceston, and West India Papers of late dates.
Advertisements punctually inserted in every London and Provincial paper.
*** Advertisement Office, first floor.

STUDENTS' NOTE-BOOKS.—J. LIMBIRD, Stationer, 143, Strand, has always on sale an extensive assortment of manuscript Note-Books, in every variety of size, shape, thickness, and binding; Students' Reporting Cases, from 1s. each; Scribbling Paper, 4d. the quire; Name plate engraved, and 100 cards, for 4s. 6d.; Travelling Writing Desks, Dressing-cases, and Blotting-books in great variety Writing Papers, and every article in Stationery, of the best quality, and lowest prices, at Limbird's, 143, Strand, facing Catherine-street.

HENRY PENNY'S PATENT METALLIC MEMORANDUM BOOKS, warranted, if written on with his prepared pencil, TO BE AS PLAIN AND DURABLE AS INK. They will be found of great advantage to travellers, artists, and all persons who wish to preserve their writing, AS THE FRICTION OF THE LEAVES DOES NOT AT ALL DEFACE IT. To be had in great variety of sizes and bindings, ruled or plain, at the Manufactory, 8 and 9, OLD BAILEY, LONDON; and of all the principal stationers in Town or Country. The Trade supplied direct, or through any wholesale stationer.
Also, H. Penny's new printed PARCEL BOOK for the use of Merchants, Manufacturers, and all persons concerned in forwarding goods by vessels, waggons, coach, railway, &c. &c. Bound in strong red basil, clasped and lettered, price 3s.; double thickness, 5s.

COACH LINERS, Undertakers, Cap-makers, and Shoe-makers, will find an extensive assortment of Cloths, Lastings, and other goods kept expressly for their trades at H. BARDWELL and CO.'S, 73, 74, and 75, HOLBORN-BRIDGE.

BUYERS of WOOLLEN and MANCHESTER GOODS, who wish to lay in their stock at the lowest possible price, and at the same time to secure first-rate designs and quality, can do so by selecting from the stock of H. BARDWELL and CO., 73, 74, and 75, HOLBORN-BRIDGE; which consists of Cloths, Pilots, 6-4 Tweeds, fancy Doeskins, Woollen and Cotton Cords, and an unequalled variety of Waistcoatings and Tailors' Trimmings, at such prices as will at once show the close principles on which this establishment is conducted.
73, 74, and 75, Holborn-bridge.

REALLY WATERPROOF.—BERDOE'S VENTILATING WATERPROOF FROCK. This established and gentlemanly garment has already been adopted by a long list of the nobility, gentry, professional gentlemen, &c., and will prove well deserving the attention of all who regard a respectable and gentlemanly appearance, in opposition to slang, vulgarity, and meanness. Made to measure in the first style, but a large assortment always ready, of which an inspection is confidently invited. Warranted waterproof, without confining perspiration Made only by W Berdoe, tailor, waterproofer, &c., 69, Cornhill, eight doors from Bishopsgate-street.

TWEEDS, DOESKINS, AND CASSIMERES.
BURNET and CO., 2, Piazza, Covent Garden, have upwards of Four Hundred Patterns of TWEEDS, DOESKINS, and CASSIMERES, for Trousers, to be sold cheap. A large lot of best West of England DRAB CLOTHS, for Coach-makers, measuring 60 to 62 inches wide, at 8s. 6d., worth 12s. Also a great variety of PILOTS, FLUSHINGS, and BROAD CLOTHS.
BLANKETS invariably sold by Weight.

PRESENT PRICE:—

Good	1s. 4d.	per lb.
Sulphured super	1s. 6d.	"
Best sulphured superfine.....	1s. 10d.	"

Floor Cloths, 2s. 4d. per square yard, cut to any size.
Yard-wide passage, 2s.; half-yard, 1s.

GENTLEMEN'S SUPERIOR CLOTHING, at prices much lower than any respectable house in the trade has hitherto offered to the public, where cut and quality, the true test of real economy, are considered. J. ALBERT and CO., Tailors, established upwards of 26 years, respectfully invite families and gentlemen to an early inspection of an extensive and fashionable stock of entirely new articles for gentlemen's and youths' outer garments for the approaching season, made to order in a superior style, at prices not quite so astonishingly low as those by which the town is at present inundated by bills and pamphlets from hosiers and slopsellers, to delude the public with slovenly made-up rubbish called garments, but much cheaper in the end, by the satisfaction given in the wear. Every description of the most recent improved waterproof coats, in every shape and quality; shooting and fishing coats, waistcoats and trousers, in endless variety; uniforms, liveries, &c. Families waited upon, by addressing a line per post, 52, King William-street, City.

BOOTS and SHOES for the MILLION, at the Devonshire Shoe Mart, 18, Skinner-street, Snow-hill.—Best Wellingtons, 12s. 6d. and 13s. 6d.; Clarence, or Cloth Boots, 9s. 6d; Bluchers, Light or Stout, 5s. 6d., 6s. 6d., and 7s. 6d.; Oxonian Shoes, 7s., and 7s. 6d.; Calf Shoes, 5s. 6d.; Dress Shoes, or Pumps, 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 6d. per pair. Keep your eyes open, and recollect the number 18, nearly opposite St. Sepulchre's Church, for there is more deception practised among the improvers of the understanding in Skinner-street and neighbourhood than any other part of London. Approving customers will please to recommend their friends to JOEL HEARDER, Proprietor.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE.
BOOTS AND SHOES.—The immense Sale now on at the CITY BOOT and SHOE DEPOT, 17, ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND, and which will continue the whole of next week, excites the surprise and astonishment of all, every one wondering how goods of so superior a quality can be sold at the price. The fact, however, is, that this immense stock must be turned into cash immediately, and, to prevent the expense of a sale by auction, the goods are selling at the tremendous sacrifice of 40 per cent. Persons going abroad, shopkeepers, captains, working men, and heads of families, will find this an opportunity that may never occur again. Lose no time, and lay in a stock as large as you can. 5 per cent. discount allowed above £10.—City Boot and Shoe Depôt, 17, St. Martin's-le-Grand, opposite the Post-office.

Comfort for Tender Feet, &c.
Wellington-street, Strand, London.
HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes, for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.
The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.
Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 10s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

MISS WICKHAM'S ESTABLISHMENT.
TWO VACANCIES in a select Establishment for Young Ladies, in an open and healthy situation north of the Royal Exchange, where every attention is paid to the moral and intellectual improvement, health, and comfort of the pupils. Terms moderate.—Apply, or address by letter, post-paid, to Miss Wickham's, No. 2, Belle Vue-terrace, Ball's Pond-road, Kingsland.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Great improvements having been recently effected in this interesting and extraordinary science by Mr. BEARD, the patentee, in the process of TAKING and COLOURING LIKENESSES, the public are particularly invited to an inspection of varieties, at the establishment, 85, King William street, City; Royal Polytechnic Institution; and 34, Parliament-street, where exchanges for new in lieu of old portraits may be had, on payment of 5s. Colouring small busts, 5s.

WEST'S MICROSCOPE for the MILLION.—A newly-constructed Microscope, particularly adapted for aquatic and botanical research, packed in a neat mahogany case 4½ inches by 5½, with apparatus and dissecting instruments complete. Price 26s. to 30s. With a Description and Calendar of the most interesting objects to be viewed by the Microscope. Power 8000 times. To be had of all Booksellers, can be sent by post, or at the Manufactory, 83, Fleet-street, and 41, Strand, near Charing-cross. A Cabinet of objects prepared for the above, price 8s. 6d.

BRETT'S SAMPLE HAMPERS, 20s. each.—These favourite little packages will be highly appreciated by those who can distinguish between the USE and the ABUSE of the good things of this life; inasmuch as they contain specimens of only such SPIRITS as are perfectly free from deleterious adulteration. Their contents are three bottles of pure Geneva, one of Jamaica Rum, two of Brett's Improved Cognac, and two pint bottles of the Liqueur Ginger Brandy: the eight bottles and Hamper included for a Sovereign. A half-dozen Hampers of either kind of BRANDY (or a portion of each) on similar terms. Order by post.
HENRY BRETT & Co., Old Furnival's Inn, Holborn Bars.

DRESS COATS, superfine cloth, 30*s.* to 40*s.*; extra quality, 50*s.*; frock coats, silk facings, 35*s.* to 45*s.*; ditto, silk velvet collar and silk facings, 5*ns.*; waterproof wrappers, 10*s.* 6*d.* to 21*s.*; fashionable York and Chesterfield ditto, 18*s.* to 25*s.*; waistcoats, 5*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*; silk, satin, and cassimere, 10*s.* to 14*s.*; trousers, 8*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*; stout doeskin and cassimere, 16*s.* to 25*s.*; shooting jackets, 10*s.* 6*d.*; boys' and youths' tunic and hussar suits, 30*s.*—At FISHER and Co.'s, tailors, 31, King William-street, city, ten doors from London-bridge. A suite of superfine black cloth, 3*l.* 3*s.*; best quality, 5*l.*, warranted to retain its colour.

MACINTOSHES SUPERSEDED.—Important to all classes exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather. The NEW BRITISH WATERPROOFING COMPANY render goods of every fabric, either in the piece or made-up garments, thoroughly impervious to the most drenching rains, and yet the escape of perspiration remains unimpeded. Books of Testimonials, with list of prices, may be had gratis at their offices, 15, Skinner-street, Snow-hill (late 343, Strand).

TESTIMONIAL.
"Metropolitan Police-office, Whiteball-place,
February 23, 1839.
"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.
"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. ROWAN."
N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

BRONZED FENDERS.—R. WILLIAMS is now SELLING his BRONZED FENDERS and FIRE IRONS at unprecedented low prices. Bronzed Fenders, from 6s.; ditto with Steel Spears and Rests for Fire Irons, from 18s. Bright Steel, with Bronze or Ormolu Mountings, of superior make and appearance; also a great variety of Cast-iron Kitchen and Green Fenders. Fire Irons of good quality, for bedrooms, at 2s. the set; ditto of Polished Steel, with cut heads, at 6s. 6d.; ditto, with superior Bronze heads, at 13s. 6d. A great variety of elegant Fire Irons. Very superior Tea and Coffee Urns, Papier Maché and every other kind of Tea Trays, Knives and Forks, Japanned Tin, and all goods necessary for furnishing, considerably below any other house, at R. WILLIAMS'S "ORIGINAL LITTLE DUST-PAN," 174, HIGH HOLBORN.

GILLOTT'S PENS.—Steel Pen Manufacturer in Ordinary to her Majesty.—JOSEPH GILLOTT'S very superior PATENT and other METALLIC PENS may be had of all Stationers, Booksellers, and other dealers in Pens throughout the United Kingdom.
The great superiority of these Pens, and the public's approbation, are attested by the continually increasing demand for them, and their entire adoption at the Bank of England, and her Majesty's Public Offices, where it is known the best articles only are admitted.
JOSEPH GILLOTT believes that his New Improved Machinery (now brought into active operation) is unequalled by any other establishment in the world for making Steel Pens; and he has sincere pleasure in announcing to Merchants, Bankers, Dealers, and the Public at large, that he has made such an important reduction in the prices of his Pens as will bring the cost within reach of all classes of writers.
It is requisite to state, as a general "Caution," that the name, "JOSEPH GILLOTT," is marked in full on every Genuine Pen.
Wholesale and for Exportation at the Warehouse, 95, New-street, Birmingham; also, at 37, Gracechurch-street, London.

MORISON'S HYGEIAN MEDICINES.—An agent for the sale of the above medicines is to be found in every town throughout the empire. See that the words "MORISON'S UNIVERSAL MEDICINES" are engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to each box, in white letters on a red ground, without which none can be genuine. No chemists or druggists are allowed to sell Morison's Medicines.
The following are the principal depôts in London:—

Medical Dissenter Office, 366, Strand.	Messrs. Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street.
Mr. Field, 65, Quadrant, Regent-street.	Mrs. Baucher, 128, Tottenham-court-road.
Mrs. Good, 53, Cambridge-street, Edgeware-road.	Mr. Norbury, Post-office, Brentford.
Mr. Lofts, 3, Park-place, Mile-end-road.	Mr. Loose, 7, Sloane-square, Chelsea.
Mr. Chappel, 84, Lombard-street, Cornhill.	Mr. Batten's library, Clapham.
Mr. J. Kaines, 20, New-road, St. George's-in-the-East.	Mr. H. Langley, 53, Gt. Chart-street, East-road, Hoxton.
Mrs. E. Dare, 55, Watling-street	Mr. R. Johnston, perfumer, &c., 68, Cornhill.
Mr. Baldwin, 35, Great Tower-street.	Mr. William Hallet, 83, High Holborn.

All those who are desirous of becoming acquainted with the Hygeian or Morisonian system of medicine, should read the abridged "Morisoniana," price 6d; also the "Hygeist," and other Hygeian publications, which may be had of all the Agents for Morison's Medicines throughout the country, and at the office, 366, Strand, London.
British College of Health, Hamilton-place, New-road, London.

RELIEF from TORMENT.—LEFAY'S GRANDE POMMADE cures, in most cases, by one application, tic-douloureux, gout, and all painful affections of the nerves, giving instant relief in the most painful paroxysms. Patients who had for years drawn on a miserable existence, and many who had lost the use of their limbs from weakness, brought on by paralysis and rheumatism, to the astonishment of their medical attendants and acquaintance, have by a few rubbings been restored to strength and comfort, after electricity, galvanism, blistering, veratrine, colchicum, and all the usual remedies had been tried and found useless. Its surprising effects have also been experienced in its rapid cure of rheumatic pains of the head and face, paralytic affections, weakness of the ligaments and joints, glandular swellings, sore throat chronic rheumatism, palpitation of the heart, and difficult respiration. It requires no restraint from business or pleasure, nor does it cause any eruption, and may be applied to the most delicate skin without fear of injury. Sold by the appointment of Jean Lefay, the inventor, by his sole agent, J. W. Stirling, chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in metallic cases, at 4s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. each.—N.B. A Post-office order for 5s. will pay for a 4s. 6d. case and its carriage to any part of the United Kingdom.

TO MERCHANTS, CAPTAINS, AND OTHERS.
THORN'S TALLY-HO SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Chops, Cutlets, Made Dishes, and all general purposes, is the richest and most economical Sauce now in use, imparting a zest not otherwise acquired. In bottles 2s. and 4s.
"We have tried (crede experto) Thorn's Tally-ho Sauce, and can pronounce it exquisite. We know nothing of the ingredients—that we leave to such as are more 'curious in Fish Sauce' than we are; but we speak to the richness of its flavour, which, to our thinking, would create an appetite under the ribs of death."—Satirist.

THORN'S POTTED YARMOUTH BLOATERS.
The increasing demand for this most delicious preparation proves, beyond all doubt, it is far superior to anything of the kind ever yet offered to the public for Sandwiches, Toasts, Biscuits, &c., and an excellent relish for wine. In pots, 1s. and 2s each.
"We certainly give it a decided preference over anything of the kind that ever came under our notice. None of our friends proceeding to India or the Colonies should be without a supply."—Alexander's East India Magazine.
Wholesale and Retail, at his Italian Warehouse, 226, High Holborn, and of all Sauce Vendors in the World. Beware of piracy.

PATRONIZED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN; H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT; THE ROYAL FAMILY; AND THE SEVERAL COURTS OF EUROPE.
ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, for the Growth, Preservation, and for beautifying the Human Hair.
CAUTION.—The words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" are engraved on the wrapper of each genuine bottle; and on the back of the wrapper 1500 times, containing 29,028 letters,—without this NONE are GENUINE. The lowest price is 3s. 6d.; the next 7s; family bottles (containing four small), 10s. 6d.; and double that size 21s. per bottle.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR,
for the Skin and Complexion. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.
ROWLAND'S ODONTO, OR PEARL DENTRIFICE, for preserving and beautifying the TEETH. Price 2s. 9d. per box.
NOTICE.—The word "ROWLAND'S" is on the wrapper of each genuine article, and A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, HATTON GARDEN, is engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to the KALYDOR and ODONTO.
*** All others are SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!
The genuine articles are sold by respectable Chemists and Perfumers.

STIRLING'S PILL FOR HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.—Sir William's Advice.—It is well known that the late Sir William Blizard paid the highest deference to the efficacious merits of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS, and earnestly recommended that no family whatever should be without them; for, said he, in all cases of sudden illness, they could be at once safely administered to the sufferer, who, perhaps before medical assistance could arrive, might be carried off, or placed in imminent danger. Stirling's Stomach Pills have, in all cases, proved superior to every other medicine in the cure of stomach and liver complaints, loss of appetite, indigestion, gout, sensation of fulness and oppression after meals, shortness of breath, and an excellent restorative after any excess at the table, as they gently cleanse the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and invigorate the constitution. Females, who value good health, should never be without them, as they purify the blood, remove obstructions, sallowness, pimples, &c., and give the skin a beautiful, clear, healthy, and blooming appearance. Persons of a plethoric habit, who are subject to headache, giddiness, dimness of sight, drowsiness, attended with apoplectic symptoms, should take them frequently. They may be safely administered to children and persons of all ages, as they contain no mercury, nor any ingredient that requires confinement, or restriction of diet.
Prepared only by J. W. Stirling, Chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in boxes at 1s 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and may be had of all respectable medicine venders.

SPRING AND FALL.—The spring and fall of the leaf have been always remarked as the periods when disease, if it be lurking in the system, is sure to show itself. The coldness of winter renders torpid the acrimonious fluids of the body, and, in this state of inactivity, their evil to the system is not perceived; but at the spring these are roused, and, if not checked, mix up and circulate with the blood, and thus the whole system is contaminated. PARR'S LIFE PILLS, taken three every night for two or three weeks, will rid the body of all that is noxious, and produce health and comfort. Persons troubled with scorbutic affections are strongly advised to try them at this time of the year; in a few days they will see the powerful clearing properties they possess, and thus be induced to continue them. Recently, a remarkable case, where a gentleman was so dreadfully afflicted with a scorbutic affection as to be quite unsightly, by a patient undeviating course of these pills his system has undergone a thorough change, and his skin is now as fair and sound as that of a healthy child. The fall of the leaf is also a time when the system, relaxed by the heat of summer, would be highly benefited by a few weeks' course of the pills, two or three every night; these will clear off the sour and bad humours which heat invariably generates. The liver, which generally gets sluggish, will be put into healthy action, and thus be able to perform the functions allotted to it; the body altogether will be re-invigorated and prepared to undergo whatever change the winter may bring on.
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CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—The CENTRAL COMMITTEE for conducting the ELECTION of JAMES PATTISON, ESQ., for the City of London, SIT DAILY at Charlotte's Coffee House, 15, Poultry.

JOHN TRAVERS, Chairman.
London, Oct. 3, 1843. GEORGE WANSEY, Secretary.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—The Committee for conducting the Election of JAMES PATTISON, Esq., for the City of London, have the satisfaction to report that the result of a week's canvass fully justifies the most sanguine expectations of success.

The Electors of London feel deeply the importance of the contest, as regards their interest, between Monopoly and Class-aggrandisement on the one hand, and Free Trade and generally diffused Prosperity on the other; and, without attaching undue weight to the nominal distinctions of Whig and Tory, they can fully estimate the claims of the competing Candidates to the support of the Liberal Constituency of London, by referring to the Votes which they have severally given on questions affecting the Rights of Conscience and the Liberty of the People.

The Committee earnestly call upon the Electors not to rest satisfied with merely obtaining the victory; but to exert all their energies to make their cause triumphant by such a majority as shall extend its powerful moral influence through every part of the kingdom.

JOHN TRAVERS, Chairman,
GEORGE WANSEY, Secretary.
Committee Room, 15, Poultry, Oct. 10, 1843.

TO THE ELECTORS of the CITY of LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The lamented death of my friend, Sir Matthew Wood, has caused a vacancy in your Representation. On two occasions you have returned me to Parliament; and, at the last election, 6070 votes were recorded in my favour.

A large number of influential Electors urge me, at this time, to come forward as a Candidate for your suffrages, and I feel that, under the present critical circumstances of the country, I ought not to hesitate.

My opinions on all great political questions are well known to you; my votes are on record; and my sentiments remain unchanged.

On the subject which now chiefly occupies the public mind, the Corn Laws, my views are clear and decided, and the votes I have invariably given in favour of Mr. Villiers' motions sufficiently attest their sincerity.

There is no question affecting the Rights of the People in which I shall not continue to feel a deep interest; and, should you place me in the honourable position of your Representative, I trust I shall ever prove myself the firm supporter of Civil and Religious Liberty.

With respect to the important Local and Commercial Interests of this great City, it shall be my constant study to attend to them, as heretofore, with zeal and fidelity.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,
Your faithful and obedient Servant,
Dolgelly, October 2, 1843. JAMES PATTISON.

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3

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20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 1	2 7 4	2 17 6
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Age.	For One Year.	For Seven Years.	Whole Term.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	0 17 8	0 19 1	1 11 10
30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 0 10

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 4.] SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

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WHO ARE THE TEACHERS OF ANTI-PROPERTY DOCTRINES?

A very dishonest use has been made, for electioneering purposes, of the impressive warning to the aristocracy of this country, which was uttered by Mr. Cobden at the first Covent-garden meeting of the League. Mr. Baring and his worthy fellow-labourers have incessantly reiterated the charge of anti-property and revolutionary doctrines at their canvassing meetings in the city of London. Refutation in this case we hold to be utterly unnecessary. To our readers it is unnecessary, simply because they *are* our readers, and can refer to Mr. Cobden's recorded words in our columns. For the parties repeating the accusation, we must also hold reply to be needless, until some stronger proof is forthcoming than any which has yet appeared of their sincerity in its repetition. And for the dupes, if such there were, who were actually taken in by the assertion, any appeal to common sense must be utterly superfluous. Their pockets, we may guess, are much better provided for than their heads. The effect upon men of station, intellect, and opulence, was well represented by the fact that, in several instances, the same daily newspaper contained the report of Earl Fitzwilliam's presence at the Doncaster meeting (where he moved a vote of thanks to Messrs. Cobden and Bright), or Mr. Jones Lloyd's letter of adhesion to the League, together with Mr. Baring's denunciation of the imaginary crusade against property and order. The conjunction was an unfortunate one for the vituperators.

But although we waste no time in reply to the accusation, a few words in reference to the answers may perhaps be in season. We wish merely to let them see how they degrade themselves by the pains they have taken in the employment of this topic. To aim at getting honour by false pretences is not far remote, as a moral though not a legal offence, from getting money under false pretences. A craving after the dignity of a legislator will not justify means that would not also be justified by the craving after a ten-pound note. Parliamentary tactics, we know, reckon anything fair upon the hustings; but parliamentary morality is not the standard of the public conscience; at any rate so far as sound ethics and Christian principles predominate in the community. The growth of a dishonest candidate into an honest representative will not readily be received as a natural process. Whatever the result of the struggle which will be pending when these remarks issue from the press, Mr. Baring and his copartners in the anti-property allegation may be assured that their conduct in its repetition will neither be atoned for by defeat, nor varnished by success. It will stick to them as a brand. Their retreat into obscurity will not hide it; and it will be only the more conspicuous in the blaze of triumph.

What do these people think of the impending dangers against which Mr. Cobden raised the voice of warning; are they real or unreal? We will suppose they take those dangers to be imaginary. In that case they see no risk in refusing the repeal of the Corn Laws; apprehend no popular discussions upon rent and other topics of similar delicacy; and take the aristocracy to be too firmly fixed in the love of the many for any agitation to render them odious. Well, then, if this be the fact, Mr. Cobden and the League are perfectly harmless. The horror and alarm that have been so solemnly expressed by Messrs. Baring and Co. are all sheer affectation. They have been acting a part before the electors just to win their votes. There was no more reality than in the street exhibition of a puppet-show: the main point in both being the sending round of the hat or the canvass-book for the collection of pence or of promises.

But if, in their judgment, the dangers are real, why abuse the prophet who warns of their approach? Is calamity the more likely to be averted for not being foreseen? Or, being foreseen, for not being pointed out? In this view of the matter, Mr. Baring denounces Mr. Cobden and the League for saying that which he himself believes to be true. He aims at the paltry advantage of currying favour with those to whom the truth is unpalatable. He descends to the meanness of maligning another for that which, in his own heart, he knows to be right. He contends against confessed truth, and would leave the country in danger to get his own election out of danger.

Will they pretend that the prediction creates the peril? that because Mr. Cobden says that in the prolonged discussion of the Corn Laws, should unadvised resistance enforce its prolongation, other and delicate questions may be mooted, therefore people will proceed to stir such questions for no other reason than because he said so? Will they pretend that Mr. Cobden's telling the landed aristocracy it will fall into odium by persevering in wrong, will of itself bring the aristocracy into odium? The pretence is absurd. There is no such power in man. Public thought and feeling will not obey individual guidance. The landed aristocracy cannot be hated unless it make itself hateful. Questions on the rights of property are the last that will ever be mooted in such a country as this, unless under glaring abuses of the *mights* of property. And then the foresight no more creates the evil than the well-founded prophecy of a storm in harvest would destroy the crops. The accomplishment of his own predictions, or, as they might be more correctly termed, his deprecations, is beyond Mr. Cobden's reach. It is contingent on the obstinacy of the monopolists. They may effect what he cannot. And Mr. Baring may aid them, thus involving himself in a portion, and no slight portion, of the responsibility which he would fix on another. He does aid them by the encouragement of his language; and will, yet more disastrously, should he succeed in his election. His pretensions to the representation of the city of London, on the ground of his fraternizing with monopoly while he disavows it as an "abstract principle," are a bribe to the most perilous obstinacy. He cheers it on to hatred and ruin. The fault he imputes to Mr. Cobden is inferior to what he incurs himself, as the foreteller of ruinous wrong can never be so culpable as the participator in its perpetration.

Is it possible that any set of educated men should be so confused in their intellects as really not to discriminate between foresight and approval—between the anticipation of a fact and the assertion of a principle? It would seem so, unless electioneering logic is allowed a license that frees it from all restraint of mental truthfulness. And what would they do? They would have Mr. Cobden retract; *i. e.*, falsify his own mental convictions. Such is the morality they teach. They would have the League abandon its agitation; *i. e.*, cease to struggle for justice, lest the violators of justice should become objects of hatred. Such is their patriotism. If this be correct, no wrong can ever be redressed while the world stands. It has been asked, "shall Truth be silent because Folly frowns?" and such reasoners ought to reply, "Certainly; and if Folly is likely to grow angry and incur odium, Truth should immediately recant to avert the consequences." Where this would lead is obvious. It would hedge round every powerful class with impunity. It transfers guilt from those who commit the wrong to those who protest against its infliction. By implication, it condemns Christianity, which was promulgated with full foresight of its occasioning bad passions and bitter persecutions. And it gravely decides that the crime of contention is not in the oppression that provokes, but in the humanity that is roused to reaction.

We have gone through this analysis because, in the too prevalent mode of conducting electoral and parliamentary discussions, there is a deeper and more latent, yet not less pernicious vice, than that of gross overt acts of falsification and corruption. There is a mental untruthfulness that eats into the very core of manly and honourable character. Until it is corrected by exposure, legislation will never work well, nor political morality take that high tone which alone befits a great and Christian nation.

The charge itself, of anti-property doctrines and revolutionary purposes, is entitled to nothing above contemptuous disregard. We exist as a League for the defence of property and the prevention of disorder. The real enemies of property are those who invade the profits of the producer and the food of the labourer. In what can there be property, if not in labour and its earnings? The owners of land are safe in its possession, safe in its rents, safe in its improvement. These are property, and they are sacred. But when they interpose between the artificer of certain products (silk, cotton, wool, or whatever the material may be,) and the food which those products are worth to others, and which others are willing to give in exchange, they stretch the idea of property beyond all bounds of right. The property which they then claim is, in fact, a property in the skill and industry of the producing party. They act as if certain acres in Buckinghamshire conferred a title to share in the products wrought out by the minds, money, or limbs of certain persons in Yorkshire. It comes, eventually, to the lord of the soil being also the lord of the people. And that not, as in old times, of serfs upon his estate, but of all people within the kingdom, however remote, whose industry is exercised to earn food in other ways than by cultivating the ground. Could anything bring the legitimate rights of property into discredit, it would be done by this monstrous usurpation. The bread-tax is nothing better than a disguised form of property in human beings. It is a quitrent which the artisan pays for the use of his own limbs. It is the lord's due out of the vassal's labour. It denies that man is his own master, free to support himself upon food purchased of any from whom he can honestly earn its price. It is the confiscation of a part of the profits of industry (in the form of an artificially enhanced price of food) for the advantage of the landowner. The rights of property are practically denied in their most elementary form, that of man's right in himself, in his bones and muscles, and the produce of their exertion. The Corn Monopoly strikes at the very root of property. Its upholders are the real preachers of anti-property doctrines, and they have availed themselves of their position to confer the abused sanction of legal form upon practices in accordance with their doctrines.

And is this to be patiently borne, lest those who deny us justice should fall into hatred or contempt? Let them and their abettors see to that. The path of penitence is open to them. Time yet allows their choice between the blessing and the curse. The good we seek is the universal good. Our class is the community. And the particular phase of the rights of property for which we agitate, and agitate by instruction only, is that which has the completest coincidence with the harmony of society, the interests of industry, and the most sacred claims of humanity.

THE NEW CHINESE TARIFF.—NO CORN LAWS IN CHINA.

The last intelligence from China brings the ratification of the treaty of peace, and also the particulars of the arrangements entered into between the two countries for conducting their future commercial intercourse. The tariff puts to shame most of the countries of Europe who boast of their superior intelligence and civilization, and, instead of shutting out the productions of foreign countries by restrictions and prohibitory duties, the tariff does not contain the prohibition of a single article; on the contrary, everything, both raw materials and manufactured articles, are admitted at very low rates of duty.

But the most striking part of the tariff, and the one which shows with what care the Chinese Government attend to the comforts of their people, is, that *rice, paddy (rice in the husk), and all kinds of grain, are admitted* DUTY FREE. In the Celestial Empire the owners of land are not allowed to step between the bounties of Providence and the people, and to say, "Thou shalt not eat but of the food grown on our land." No Knatchbulls in China are permitted to tax the people's bread under the plea of providing marriage settlements for their daughters. No Mountcashels to tax it under the plea of paying the mortgages of money squandered in extravagance and profligacy. No; in China, though to our disgrace be it said not in England, landowners must provide for their daughters in some other way than plundering the people through Corn Laws to raise rents, and extravagance is punished, not by allowing others to be robbed to pay their debts, but by the just penalty of poverty.

The doom of the Bread Tax is, however, sealed; the day is at hand when the hard-working people of England and their children shall, like the Chinese, sit down to their tables and enjoy the just reward of their labour, and eat untaxed bread.

CITY ELECTION.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES.—FRIDAY.

This being the day fixed for the nomination, the friends of both candidates were stirring at an early hour. The day was remarkably fine, so that the sight-seers congregated in the neighbourhood of the Guildhall in considerable numbers. There were various practical jokes played off among the crowd, and rather more than the usual number of placard-bearers. One man made himself particularly conspicuous by carrying a number of damaged and rotten bloaters upon a pole, surmounted by the following inscription—"The refuse of Yarmouth." This allusion to Mr. Baring's former connection with the borough of Yarmouth excited a great deal of mirth. The arrangements for obtaining admission to the hall were excellent. Admission to the hustings could be obtained by tickets only; and those who were furnished with them were admitted through the Chamberlain's office. At eleven o'clock, the doors leading from the Chamberlain's office to the hustings were opened, and, on our admission to the hall, we found that every arrangement had been made for the accommodation of those connected with the press, for which we beg to return our best thanks to Mr. Secondary James, to whom, we understand, the superintendence of the fitting-up of the hall was committed. The doors of the hall were opened shortly before twelve o'clock. The greatest precautions were taken to admit none but electors. Liverymen were admitted by the beadles of their respective companies. The interior of the hall is fitted up with desks, &c., preparatory to the polling to-morrow, and the names of the different companies, painted in white letters upon a black ground, are suspended over the respective polling places; strong barriers are erected at intervals across various parts of the hall, so as to prevent any inconvenient crowding. The hall began to fill but very gradually; at the commencement of the proceedings it was not much more than half full. Mr. Baring appeared upon the hustings, accompanied by his friends, at about a quarter before twelve o'clock. He was not recognised by those in the body of the hall, and his appearance consequently created no excitement. Shortly afterwards George Wilson, Esq., the Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League; Dr. Bowring, M.P.; Colonel Thompson; P. A. Taylor, Esq., of the Common Council; H. Aglionby, Esq., M.P., and several other friends of Mr. Mr. Pattison entered, but they were not recognised by those in the hall, and consequently there was neither approbation nor disapprobation expressed at their appearance. Among those present on the hustings we observed W. Prescott, Esq., John Travers, Esq., Henry Bescott, Esq., John Dillon, Esq., Stewart Majoribanks, Esq., Archibald Hastie, Esq., — Perkins, Esq., — Coates, Esq., W. Cumming, Esq., — Mottram, Esq., W. Nicholson, Esq., George Ebsworth, Esq.. J. P. Burnard, Esq., Arthur Pattison, Esq., and F. Pattison, Esq.

At ten minutes after twelve the Sheriffs entered the Hall, and the proceedings commenced, by Mr. Harker reading the writ for the election of a citizen to serve in Parliament for the city of London, in the room of the late Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., deceased.

Mr. Secondary Potter then handed the Bribery Act to Mr. Harker, who proceeded to read it aloud. The title of the Act was received with loud cheers from those in the body of the Hall, and there was a cry of "Speak out, Harker," raised during the time it was being read.

Mr. Sheriff MUSGROVE then came forward. He wished to say a few words with respect to the subject of the present election. Much had been said, in the way of censure, with respect to the arrangements made for conducting the proceedings; he, therefore, on behalf of his colleague and himself, begged to state to the electors the circumstances attending the arrangement. On Saturday last Mr. Secondary James attended him, and stated that he expected the writ on that day, or at the latest on Monday; his (Mr. Sheriff M.'s) reply was, that if it came that day (Saturday) he would proclaim it immediately, in order that the nomination should take place on Thursday, and the polling on Friday; but the writ did not arrive till Monday, then he said he would not proclaim it till Tuesday, that the nomination should take place on Saturday, and the polling on Monday. (Cheers.) The writ was received on Monday morning, and upon that occasion Mr. James attended him, and stated it was usual that proclamation should take place immediately, in order that no delay should take place either in the nomination or the poll. He then said, that if the committees of the respective candidates would agree that the nomination should be Friday and the polling Saturday, he would consent to it, although he stated his opinion that the nomination should take place on Saturday and the polling on Monday, thinking that the adoption of such a course was due to the electors, particularly those of the Jewish persuasion. (Cheers.) He made these statements, because Mr. James, on Monday, brought to him a letter from the secretaries of the committees of both candidates, urging him to lose no time; and, under those circumstances, he had no alternative but to adopt the course that had been pursued, because he could not take upon himself the responsibility of keeping up the excitement for two days, after the receipt of the letters he had referred to. (Cheers.) One word with respect to the election itself. The electors were assembled to exercise one of their most important and sacred privileges, and of this he was sure, that they would select a gentleman in every way qualified to represent all the varied interests of this great metropolis. (Cheers.) He had now only to solicit at the hands of the electors, as a personal favour to himself, a patient and attentive hearing to all parties who might address them, including the respective candidates. (Cheers.)

Mr. PRESCOTT then came forward to address the electors, and was received with much cheering, accompanied with hisses. He had the pleasing task imposed upon him of proposing his friend Mr. Pattison—(great cheering)—as a fit and proper person to represent that great city in Parliament. (Cheers.) He came forward to propose him for many reasons, both public and private. (Cheers.) He had known Mr. Pattison for a long time; in short his name was associated with the earliest period of his life, and, from the knowledge and experience he had had of him, he was sure that the citizens of London would not be disappointed in him. (Cheers.) His character was already well known to them; he was an upright merchant of the City, and his ancestors had been so for centuries. (Cheers.) It was not, however, on private or public grounds alone that he proposed Mr. Pattison; his sentiments were in accordance with his own, and he believed also of that of a majority of the electors of the city of London. (Cries of "Yes," and "You'll see to-morrow.") If the electors would look to Mr. Pattison's address, and the votes he had given in the House of Commons, there could be no doubt in their minds that he was a Liberal in politics, and a genuine and consistent supporter of the principles of Free Trade. (Great cheering, accompanied with hisses.) He had always given his support to those measures that were calculated to benefit mankind, and make man happy. (Cheers.) The people were now struggling for a great principle, and it was fortunate for them that the citizens of London had such a candidate as Mr. Pattison (cheers), one, he would venture to say, in whom they might place implicit confidence, as the determined advocate of their best and dearest interests. He was a man whose word was his bond (cheers)—and who would do all in his power to carry out any great principle that he advocated. (Cheers.) In praising Mr. Pattison, he wished it to be understood that he was not prepared to censure Mr. Baring, his opponent. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring, who had come forward in opposition to Mr. Pattison, was, like Mr. Pattison, a merchant of the city of London. (Cheers.) Mr. Pattison was an upright man, and so also was Mr. Baring. (Cheers.) The Tory party, by whom Mr. Baring was supported, could not have had a better candidate, or Mr. Pattison a more powerful opponent. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring's family were eminent in the City, and he was sure that Mr. Baring by no act of his would ever do anything to tarnish the name which he inherited. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring had taken pains to explain to the electors of London what his sentiments were. (Cheers.) He had done so honestly and fairly—(cheers)—and those sentiments he (Mr. Prescott) took to be in accordance with the great body of his supporters. He had the confidence of the whole Tory party, and was willing to support those restrictions which they had imposed on commerce and the industry of the country. (Cheers.) Mr. Pattison, on the contrary, was the steady and consistent friend of his fellow-citizens (cheers), and he had always supported the extension of the suffrage and the vote by ballot. (Great cheering.) In addition to this, he had always given his vote in the House of Commons in favour of the principles of Free Trade. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring was willing to admit the principles of Free Trade upon what he called proper occasions. (Laughter.) But he would support the restrictions on the importation of corn. (Cheers.) He was the advocate of the sliding-scale, and he would also prohibit the introduction of Brazilian sugar into this country. (Cheers.) Now, he would ask, were such restrictions for the advantage of the public, or could the man who would support them be a fit representative for the city of London? (Cries of "No, no," and "Yes, yes.") He certainly was not. (Cheers.) He was the friend of the few, but the foe of the many. (Cheers.) Mr. Pattison, on the other hand, was the advocate for the abolition of all restrictions (cheers)—and duties imposed otherwise than for revenue; and least of all would he support any tax upon so important an article of life as corn. (Cheers.) He hoped the electors of London would not be imposed upon by the general, sounding word "protection." The protection Mr. Pattison advocated was the protection of the general trade of the country—that protection which would ensure more steady profits to the manufacturers, more wages to the labourer and artisan, and lower prices of the necessaries of life for all. (Cheers.) Such, in a few words, were the principles on which the present contest turned (cheers)—and such were the principles of Mr. Pattison. (Cheers.) If the electors of London did not like such principles—if they were for monopoly instead of Free Trade—they would vote for Mr. Baring. If, on the other hand, they were convinced that Free Trade was for their benefit, and that monopoly was for their injury, then they would vote for Mr. Pattison. (Cheers.) Mr. Pattison had openly declared himself to be a subscriber to the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Loud cheers, which lasted some minutes.) He would not occupy their time further, but conclude by proposing James Pattison, Esq., as a fit and proper person to represent the city of London in Parliament. (Cheers.)

Mr. TRAVERS then came forward to second the nomination of Mr. James Pattison. (Cheering.) He could assure the electors that the task he had now to perform was a most pleasant one, that of seconding the nomination of their friend Mr. Pattison. (Cheers.) In performing that task, he wished to drop a word upon the occasion of the vacancy that had taken place in the representation of the city of London. It was a subject, he was sure, of deep regret to all present. They were all largely indebted to their late friend and representative, Sir Matthew Wood, and it was, he was sure, impossible for them to say how much they respected his memory. They would always, he was sure, cherish, with lively recollection, his faithful services. (Cheers.) Mr. Pattison had been invited by the electors to supply his place, and he thought that he need not remind them that Mr. Pattison was well known. (Cheers.) He had done the citizens of London much good service in former years, and was ready to do so again. He was the friend of order and good government. (Cheers.) The supporter of all the free institutions of the country. and the unflinching advocate of popular rights. Mr. Pattison stood forward as the man they needed. (Cheers.) He would support those measures which the present condition of the country rendered necessary. (Cries of "The League," and of "No starvation.") Where could they find a fitter man? (Cheers.) From his position as a Bank Director (cries of "monopoly") and as a merchant of the city of London, he possessed as great a knowledge of the trade and commerce of the country as any man. (Cheers. He was fully sensible of the folly of those restrictions on trade which pressed like a nightmare upon industry. (Cheers and hisses.) What was their present situation? Let them look at their bankers and merchants. They had for a long time been compelled to fall back upon their resources—upon the accumulated capital of past years. (Hear, hear.) The shopkeepers toiled unceasingly without profit; the industrious artisan, able and willing to work, was obliged to go about and beg for employment, while the masses of the population were subsisting upon the most miserable fare, and, in too many instances, starving. (Cries of Shame!) Were these things to be endured without repining. (Cries of "No, No," cheers, and hisses.) How was trade to be restored? How was agriculture to be stimulated? How were the people to be set to work? How was the money, cooped up in masses, to be set free and diffused among the community? (Cheers.) Was not the remedy apparent to all? (Loud cheers.) It must be apparent to every one who would but divest himself of party feeling. (Cheers.) Could any one doubt but that the adoption of Free Trade would obtain all these benefits? (Loud cheers, minged with cries of "No, no," and some hisses.) The remedy was a free intercourse between all nations. But we said to other nations. We wish you to take our commodities, but we will not take your commodities in return. (Cheers and hisses.) Could anything be more absurd? ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Would the sliding-scale relieve the country from its distresses? (Cries of "No, no," and hisses.) Would the Income-tax do that, with its petty tyranny. ("No, no," and cheers,) Or would the silly tariff of Sir R. Peel do so? (Cheers, laughter, and hisses.) Few men knew the condition of the country better than Sir R. Peel; few better knew the remedy for the evils under which we were suffering; but he wanted the moral courage to carry out those measures which he well knew to be the remedy. (Loud cheers.) Let them look at Ireland—(cheers)—at Wales—(cheers)—at Scotland—(cheers)—let them look at England herself, at the vast quantity of pauperism existing in England, at the distressed condition of all classes of the community, the monopolists alone excepted. (Cheers and hisses.) They might live a little longer, but they would be broken down at last. (Cheers.) Even now they were preparing to quit a house which they saw evidently was falling about their ears. We were the victims of monopoly and class legislation. (Cheers.) We heard a great deal about the colonial interests, and the East and West India interests, and the shipping interest, and the landed interest, but they heard nothing of the general interest. (Cheers.) The precious babes of monopoly had been swaddled up long enough; let them now take off their bandages, and let them grow up and increase. The present was not a contest of party or of person. It was a contest of principle. (Cheers.) The hustings was the battle-field, the watchword should be the general good. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring told them he was content with things as they were—(cheers and hisses)—Mr. Pattison with things as they were not—(cheers)—and he thought the constituency of London would agree with Mr. Pattison. (Cheers.) Extensive changes were inevitable. (Cheers.) They were essential to the national safety. (Loud cheers.) How else could they pay the national expenses, or provide for the payment of the interest of the national debt? (Loud cheers.) Trade must be unshackled. (Loud and continued cheering.) The lungs of commerce must be unladen, and then they would experience some relief. (Cheers.) There was blood enough at the heart, but it was wanted at the extremities. (Loud cheers.) If they were not now enabled to breathe more freely, they must as a nation soon die. (Loud cheers.) However much they might love Mr. Pattison for his own sake, they loved him still more for the principles which he advocated (loud cheers); and however much they might differ from some of Mr. Pattison's other opinions, they must nevertheless feel that their own interests were bound up with his success. He seconded the nomination. (Loud and long-continued cheering, mingled with expressions of disapprobation.)

Mr. Alderman BROWN then came forward to propose Mr. Baring. The worthy alderman was greeted with hootings, hissings, yells, and cries of "No starvation — No Baring" — which rendered him quite inaudible. It was evident that the feeling of the hall was one of strong opposition to the Tory candidate and his supporters. The worthy alderman, however, withstood the storm manfully, and persevered for more than ten minutes in his futile attempts to make himself heard. From the few words which we could catch amidst the storms of cheers, hisses, groans, and laughter, we understood the worthy alderman to pour out some invectives upon the Irish agitator, and the democracy, which he said was more tyrannical than the Crown. He concluded by nominating Thomas Baring, Esq., as a fit and proper person to represent the city of London in the Commons' House of Parliament.

Mr. RUSSELL ELLICE came forward to second the nomination of Mr. Baring, and was greeted with the most deafening tumult of applause and disapprobation that ever shook the walls of the City Council-house. He was understood to say that, whether they looked to the personal character of Mr. Baring, or to his position in society, and his connection with the trade and commerce of this country, there could scarcely be found in the whole range of the metropolis a man better fitted to represent this city. (Cheers and indescribable uproar.)

Mr. Sheriff MUSGROVE then came forward, and said, that at the commencement of the day's proceedings he had requested his fellow-citizens, as a personal favour to himself, to listen with patience and attention to all the gentlemen who would present themselves to the electors in favour of either of the candidates. (Cries of "The League—it was the League that broke the condition.") He would now repeat the request, and he hoped that the candidates would receive an attentive hearing. (Cheers.)

Mr. PATTISON was then introduced by the worthy Sheriff, and was greeted with the most tumultuous cheering and waving of hats, which lasted several minutes. He said, that, in offering himself for the suffrages of the citizens of London, he must declare himself to be the determined friend of that cause of civil and religious liberty, of which their late representative, Sir Matthew Wood, had been all his life the unflinching advocate. He would devote his own life to that cause—(loud cheers)—and he looked upon the cause of the Anti-Corn-Law League to be the same. (Cheers, hisses, and great uproar.) When he stood upon these hustings on a former occasion, he avowed himself the friend of those principles of Free Trade which it was the object of the Anti-Corn-Law League to advance. (Cheers and hooting.) He was a friend of the League. (Cheers and hisses.) He was a subscriber to the League (cheers), and he was earnest and hearty in the cause. (Cheering.) He need not tell them that the last election for the city of London was carried by cajolery and misrepresentation—such as was used in every county, city, and borough in the kingdom. (Here the tumult was so great, that Mr. Pattison, who was very indistinctly heard throughout, was for some time totally inaudible.) There was a very large part of the electoral body in London who were desirous of promoting the interests of the whole community, and it was to that portion of the electors he offered his services as their representative. He offered himself as their representative upon the principle of Free Trade—principles which he had always avowed, and from which he would

never swerve. (Cheers, and great interruption.) He was the determined friend of the vote by ballot. (Tremendous cheering.) He was a friend of the extension of the suffrage, and he would not hesitate to declare himself a friend of the repeal of the Septennial Act. (Loud cheers.) These were the opinions which he had always expressed, and he was resolved to abide by them. (Cheers.) He had one word more to say; it was this—he had no confidence in the Peel Government. (Cheers, groans, and extraordinary confusion.) Nothing that the Peel Government could do would ensure his confidence. What had Sir Robert Peel done? (Cheers.) When he came into power there were only eight or nine thousand troops in Ireland; now there were thiry-four thousand, and they were not considered enough. (Loud cheers.) Let them look to Scotland, and there they would find a schism in the Church, which the party who put forward his opponent were not likely to heal. (Great interruption, and cries of "You abuse Mr. Baring; he did not attack you personally.") He (Mr. Pattison) did not abuse Mr. Baring, but Mr. Baring and his friends abused the credulity of the citizens, when they led them to expect great things from the Administration, which, powerful as it was, had as yet given the country nothing but an Income Tax. (Cheers.) He would repeat that he was an advocate of Free Trade, and of the total repeal of the Corn Laws. It was on these principles alone that he came forward. What he wanted was cheap bread, cheap sugar—cheapness of all the necessaries of life. (Great uproar.) He wished to mitigate the sufferings of his industrious fellow-countrymen; and he had no interest or ambition which could be so dear to him as their welfare. (Cheers.) In conclusion, he would remind the electors that to-morrow would be the anniversary of the great victory won by our immortal Nelson at Trafalgar (great cheering); and he would say to them, in the words of that hero, "England expects that every man will do his duty." (Tremendous cheering.)

Thomas Baring, Esq., then came forward. His appearance was the signal for the commencement of cheering and counter-cheering, which continued throughout his address. So vociferous were the outcries, that Mr. Baring could not possibly be heard beyond the few individuals around him, and he addressed himself exclusively to the reporters. We are thus enabled to give a report of his address, which was not audible to more than a dozen persons at the utmost. He said he had the honour to seek at their hands a high position, and he was well aware of the duties and responsibility attached to the office he sought. He trusted he should be acquitted of the charge of rashness or presumption in seeking that office, when he told them he came forward at the demand of a great portion of the electors of this commercial city, and that in the canvass which had been carried on by his committee he had found the opinions of that large portion of the constituency in every respect in unison with his own. In the contest on which he had entered he was quite ready to sink his own personal insignificance in consideration of the principles which were involved in it. His opponent had so thoroughly identified himself throughout the speech which he had just made with the principles, the conduct, and the axioms of the Anti-Corn-Law League, that he was perfectly ready here to meet him on those grounds, and also to appeal to-morrow to the state of the poll. (Hear, hear, hear.) In reply to what they were told by some of his opponents he would say to them, "Do not allow yourselves to be imposed upon, do not believe that the abstract principle of Free Trade would necessarily, if carried out, give you either a fair trade or a good one. Do not believe that cheap bread or cheap sugar will be really cheap if, by any convulsion of society, sweeping changes are made which would deprive the labourer of those wages by which alone he could procure those articles, however cheap, if a want of confidence and credit throughout the country were to strike a fatal blow at the prosperity of trade abroad." He was equally well aware that it had been said he was for protection to private interests only. He confessed that he was for protection, because he believed it was for the benefit of the country at large, producing beneficial results, which were shared by all classes of society. They were told to look likewise at the situation of the country. He did look at the situation of the country, and what did he see? A revival of trade—a renewal of activity in their manufactures, and a return of confidence throughout the agricultural districts of the empire. He would ask them whether, for the sake of the assertion of the abstract principle, they would, by any sweeping changes, seek to shake that confidence, diminish that activity, and destroy that credit? During his canvass he had been met undoubtedly on one side by assurances of support if he would pledge himself to a fixed duty on corn in preference to the sliding scale. By others he had been met by a declaration that they could not go the full length in his support, nor give him all the advantage of a vigorous public co-operation, because he would not vote for the abolition of the Poor-law. He thought he should best consult their interests, as he was sure it would be acting the best for his own reputation and credit, if he went into Parliament unfettered by a pledge. He believed that, for protection or non-protection, the comparative merits of a fixed duty or a sliding-scale were of minor importance. While he recognised the convenience to commerce of a fixed duty—for what was fixed must prove an advantage to trade—he at the same time thought this advantage would be dearly bought by a renewal throughout the country of that struggle which had paralysed agriculture, and inspired commercial despondency, and which must therefore injure every class of society. (Hear, hear, hear.) He said, likewise, that, while the general and great object of legislating for the poor was not merely economy in saving rates, but relieving the wants of the poor—while he maintained that they ought to legislate upon that point, not looking merely at the landed interest, or any other interest, but to their real wants and feelings—ay, and the prejudices of the poor—(hear)—he was still not prepared to pledge himself to a revival of the old law, in the administration of which there had been many abuses. The question at issue between him and his opponent was not merely that of Free Trade. His opponent had declared himself a supporter of other innovations. He was for a reduction in the national establishments; against the maintenance of a religious establishment, excepting on the voluntary principle. On this and other points he was at issue with him, and upon them he was ready to go to the poll to-morrow. He could assure the electors of London that, if he were defeated in this contest, and that disappointment to him should be the result of to-morrow's poll, he should retire from the field with no hostile feeling towards his political opponents. He would rest satisfied with the result of the contest, whatever that result might be. If he should be triumphant, he would go to Parliament as the servile supporter of no minister, nor as the factious opponent of any administration; but he would go to the House of Commons with a sincere desire, which would be evinced by his future conduct, to merit the good-will and the approbation of those kind friends who had supported him. He would endeavour, by the course he should pursue, to earn for himself, not only the approbation of his friends and supporters, but also the respect of his political opponents. He would endeavour, by every attention he could pay, to discharge faithfully the important duties which would be intrusted to him—to protect and promote the welfare of this great commercial metropolis, and to protect and advance particularly the interests of all the various branches of commerce connected with the City, feeling that he would thereby be advancing and protecting the interests of the country at large. (The hon. gentleman retired amidst the enthusiastic cheers of his friends on the platform.)

Mr. Sheriff Musgrove then came forward to the front of the hustings, and called for a show of hands for James Pattison, Esq.

About three-fifths of the meeting held up their hands, amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Sheriff Musgrove then called for a show of hands in favour of Thomas Baring, Esq., and, after consulting with Mr. Sheriff Moon, declared that the show of hands was in favour of James Pattison, Esq., the announcement being received with loud and continued cheering.

The Sheriffs then announced that a poll had been demanded in the usual form on the part of T. Baring, Esq., and,

Mr. Harker announced to the hall that the polling would commence to-morrow morning at eight o'clock and terminate at four o'clock. The meeting then separated.

As the candidates passed through the hall on retiring from the hustings, Mr. Pattison was loudly cheered by his supporters, while Mr. Baring was greeted with groans. The hall was by no means crowded during any portion of the proceedings; and the behaviour of those assembled was characterised by the greatest possible good humour.

WARD MEETINGS IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

During the past week, meetings of the most important character have been held every evening in the principal wards of the City, and addressed by Mr. Bright, M.P., and R. R. R. Moore, Esq. The respectability and enthusiasm of these assemblies have contrasted powerfully with the meagre and lukewarm district meetings of the friends of monopoly in support of Mr. Baring. We regret our inability, from the overcrowded state of our columns, to give reports of the two last most important meetings of electors in the Bakers' Hall, Tower ward, and at the City of London Theatre, Norton Folgate. The attendance on both these occasions was most numerous, and of the highest respectability. On the latter occasion especially, the theatre was crowded to suffocation, and perhaps in no public assembly was popular enthusiasm ever expressed with more heart-stirring vehemence. Not less than 2500 persons were present; and we never remember to have witnessed such a tumult of fervid excitement as during the brilliant speech of Mr. Bright. The chair was occupied by the Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P., and he opened the proceedings of the evening with a most effective address. Dr. Bowring followed in an excellent speech, and Mr. Bright and Mr. Moore spoke for two hours, in a strain of earnest eloquence that told with electrical force upon the auditory? The meeting separated after pledging itself to use every exertion to secure the return of Mr. Pattison, as the Free-Trade candidate for the city of London.

GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

ADDRESS OF MR. COBDEN, M.P.

Manchester, Friday Morning.

The League opened its campaign in Manchester—or rather its campaign in the manufacturing districts—by a meeting in the Free-trade Hall, last night, which, without exception, was one of the most magnificent demonstrations ever witnessed here. The meeting had been announced for half-past seven o'clock, and Mr. Cobden, M.P., and Mr. Bright, M.P., were expected to speak. The doors were thrown open at half-past six o'clock; and from that moment people began to pour into the hall in a continuous stream, till every seat was occupied, both in the body of the hall and in the galleries; and the standing-room in the passages and behind the seats was also soon filled up. Witnessed from the platform, the spectacle was imposing almost beyond conception. The audience, to a very great extent, consisted of people in the middle ranks of society, including a great many ladies, and, in addition to those on the platform, we observed in the body of the hall many gentlemen very extensively engaged in commerce and manufactures. The number present was estimated at 10,000 persons, of whom at least 300 were seated on the spacious platform. Among the most prominent and well-known gentlemen on the platform were—John Brooks, Esq., Alderman of Manchester, who had been requested to take the chair; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; James Heywood, Esq. (banker); C. J. S. Walker, Esq.; Jos. Brotherton, Esq., M.P.; Thos. Bazley, jun., Esq.; Wm. Rawson, Esq.; R. C. Callender, Esq.; Wm. Bickham, Esq.; Thos. Woolley, Esq.; T. Harbottle, Esq.; Benj. Pearson, Esq.; R. Mathley, Esq.; Thos. Bright, Esq.; J. Scott, Esq.; T. Plint, Esq., Leeds; H. B. Schofield, Esq., Littleborough; J. Kershaw, Esq., Mayor of Manchester; T. C. Williams, Esq.; G. Horsefield, Esq.; G. Nelson, Esq.; John Jackson, Esq.; J. Barrett, Esq., Newton Heath; Isaac Crewdson, Esq.; Dilworth Crewdson, Esq.; J. Burd, Esq., Alderman; J. Mayson, Esq.; R. Platt, Esq., Staleybridge; Jos. Simpson, Esq.; Wm. Madeley, Esq.; Jos. Higgins, Esq.; Wm. Morris, Esq.; S. Eveleigh, Esq.; Wm. Lockett, Esq., Borough-reeve of Salford; J. Woodcock, Esq.; T. Labrey, Esq.; T. Nicholson, Esq.; Wm. Evans, Esq.; J. Galloway, Esq.; A. Binyon, Esq.; W. Wood, Esq.; Henry Rawson, Esq.; Henry Ashworth, Esq., Bolton, and son; David Ainsworth, Esq.; Wm. M'Call, Esq.; John Hampson, Esq.; — Agnew, Esq.; Andrew Drummond, Esq., of Glasgow: J. Swindells, Esq.; Rev. Wm. Gaskell; Rev. C. Thompson, Stockport; Rev. R. Bradley; Rev. D. Hearne; Jas. Chapman, Esq.; S. P. Robinson, Esq.; J. Heron, Esq.; Wm. Shuttleworth, Esq.; J. Whitlow, Esq.; J. Charlton, Esq.; Robert Barbour, Esq.; R. P. Livingstone, Esq., &c.

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., took his place on the platform about half-past seven, and was received with loud and enthusiastic cheering, which lasted nearly two minutes, the whole audience rising and waving their hats, while many of the ladies in the galleries displayed their handkerchiefs, giving to the assemblage a most striking and animated appearance.

The Chairman then rose and said: Ladies and gentlemen, a few of our friends around me asked me to take the chair, and I have done so: is it right? (Cries of "Yes," and loud cheers and laughter.) Well, gentlemen, we'll waste no time about that, then. We have tried this question a good many years, and I think we have proved to every body's satisfaction by this time that we are what we professed to be in the first instance—simply Free Traders. (Hear, hear.) So far we have advanced; we have proved ourselves not to be actuated by political motives; we have proved ourselves to be neither Whigs, Tories, nor Radicals, but simply Free Traders, as opposed to monopolists. (Applause.) But we must not expect that every body will forget their prejudices all at once; why, men are prejudiced and attribute political motives upon every conceivable thing. Why, in our neighbourhood, Mosley-street, there is a gentleman who has invented and taken out a patent for a machine to sweep the streets, and a very good invention it is (hear, hear), and it was thought desirable to have it out on trial in Mosley-street as an experiment, to see how it answered. Well, the patentees—Messrs. Whitworth are their names—having thus exhibited it, went to their neighbours, those who had witnessed the experiment, and asked their opinion of it. "Oh, it's a capital machine;" "its an excellent machine," was the answer; "its sure to answer, it will be sure to be adopted in every town and city in the kingdom!" Well, they were requested to sign a paper to that effect, and most of them did so most willingly; but one gentleman, on being asked, though he said it was a capital machine, after looking at the names already down very suspiciously, asked, "Are you sure there are no politics here?" (Laughter.) Oh, he was assured there was not, and as a proof he was shown the names of a Whig with that of a Conservative opposite. "Well, but" said the gentleman, there's a great many of them all on one side" the question: I think it has a political aspect." (Renewed laughter.) He was told he had admitted, politics or no politics, that it was a good invention, and that all they wanted was his signature to the opinion; but no, it had a political aspect, and he would not sign it. ("Hear," and "Shame.") Now, gentlemen, our association is something like a sweeping-machine itself, and its design is to sweep the country of all monopolies. (Loud and reiterated cheering.) And people acknowledge this to be a good thing, who yet refuse to join us because they say we are political. (Laughter.) Well, gentlemen, but if these smaller men are deterred from avowing their opinions for party's sake, I think we have had some symptoms of progression from the leaders of their party. There is Lord Stanley to wit. You will recollect, in 1841, at the election for North Lancashire, I met Lord Stanley, when he vacated and stood again as Minister, and put some questions to him. I, having property in North Lancashire, felt an interest in this election, and thought I would put some questions to his lordship on the Corn Laws, not that I expected a straightforward answer; I expected he would try to shirk the questions; but then I determined, as fast as he crept to the other side, to meet him there. (Laughter.) I asked his lordship whether he thought land would let for more money with a Corn Law than without it? and his answer was, that the rich land would pay for the poor land. I said, "My lord, that's no answer;" and when I put the question again, he admitted that the land did let for more with a Corn Law. "Well, then," I said, "you admit that the landlords get the profit of the Corn Laws." (Hear, hear.) I knew before I put the question that this must be his answer. I was quite sure of my game before I began. He tried to get off the question by asking me if it would not be better or men to stay at home and mind their own business: but I told him that I was minding my business in coming there. Now, do you know, from that day I believe a fatal blow was struck in his mind against this law ("hear, hear," and laughter)—for since that day he has never opened his lips scarcely in the House upon this Corn Law; though, of course, you know, being mixed up with a party, he was obliged to go and vote with his party. He is now one of the most thorough repealers we have. ("Hear," and laughter.) He said at Liverpool, the other day, there was land on his father's estate—which in 1841, besides affording a shelter for snipes and wild-ducks, summered six horses—had now been brought to such a state of cultivation, that, besides sending 80 beasts from it to the butcher, and 300 sheep, 350 tons of turnips had been carted from it to the farmyard. He says that this land, the original value of which was not 10s. an acre, was now worth 30s.; and that thus an expenditure of £7 10s. per acre had increased its value 20s., giving him a return of 14 per cent. for the outlay upon it. (Hear, hear.) He afterwards got talking about leases; but there he came to a full stop, and they gave him a cheer. However, afterwards, his man Friday took up the subject of leases, and said it was not so much the fault of landlords as of farmers that land was not in a better condition generally. There is another circumstance I had intended to mention, and that is about sugar; but it is not customary for chairmen to make long speeches. (Cries of "Go on, go on.") It appears that, while we are neglecting to improve our position with the Brazils in relation to the sugar question—for our treaty expires next year—France is taking advantage of our folly, and they are actually making the growers of sugar from the beet-root at home compensation, in order that they may be at liberty to make a treaty with Brazils to admit their sugar into France, and thus create an opening for the extension of their manufacturing trade in Brazil. (Hear, hear.) I have it from good authority that, unless we look out, that

trade will very speedily be taken from us. I was speaking of the political prejudices of men; why, the other day I happened to be on the Exchange in Liverpool when the China news came, and some of the gentlemen came up and said, "Well, Mr. Brooks, what do you think of this: this is capital news." "Yes," I said, "it is; they have got Free Trade there, and you seem to rejoice in it,—why not seek to get Free Trade, and rejoice in it at home. (Laughter, and loud cheers.) Gentlemen, I beg to call upon Mr. Hickin, the secretary of the League.

Mr. Hickin read an abstract of the report presented to the great meeting in Covent Garden Theatre, a few weeks back.

Benjamin Pearson, Esq., was then called upon, and addressed the meeting at great length, combating the arguments of the Anti-Slavery Society, who proposed to consider the sugar question as one of slavery or freedom of labour; whereas he contended that the question was only a question of monopoly opposed to Free Trade, and that the Government, in supporting the protection in favour of British grown sugar, were actuated only by a wish to protect the monopoly.

Alderman Callender next addressed the meeting, and the Chairman then called upon Mr. Cobden, who was received with great and long-continued cheering.

Mr. Cobden, M.P., on rising, was received with several rounds of most enthusiastic cheering, the whole of the company rising and standing some time. When the applause had subsided, he spoke as follows:—Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen—After many wanderings in distant counties, I really feel myself revived on finding myself once more amongst my old friends, with the same smiling faces, the same hearts in the same places, and in this cradle of the agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League. You have heard something said of the labours which some of us have had in this cause. I don't know—if we could have foreseen, five years ago next month, the arduous duties upon which we were entering—whether we should have had the moral courage to undertake them. (Hear, hear.) I believe we are all now willing to admit that, when we commenced the agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League, we had not the same comprehensive views of the interests and objects involved in the agitation that we now have. I am afraid, if we must confess the truth, that we most of us entered upon this struggle with the belief that we had some distinct class interest in the question, and that we should carry it by a manifestation of our will in this district against the will and consent of other portions of the community. I believe that was our impression. If there is one thing which more than another has elevated and dignified and ennobled this agitation, it is that, in the progress of the last five years, we have found, gradually, but steadily, that every interest and every object, which every part of the community can justly seek, harmonises perfectly with the views of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Applause.) I cannot help referring to the remarks which have been made by my friend Mr. Pearson, upon a subject which does not usually come under our consideration; but if there was one point which might be considered more than another likely to be a stumblingblock in the way of Free Traders, it is that question which he has so ably handled to-night; and as I know that monopoly has been drawing upon the humane feelings of the community in order to sustain its sugar monopoly, by pretending commiseration for the slaves, I am very glad, indeed, that this ground has been so completely and effectually cut from under them by one whose motives must be above suspicion, for he took a part in the abolition of slavery many years ago. (Applause.) But how few of us there were who, five years ago, believed that, in seeking the repeal of the Corn Law, we were also seeking the benefit of the agriculturists. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") And if we had not had the five years' experience we have—if we had not persevered for the five years that we have been in existence as a League—we should not have had the opportunity of demonstrating the benefits which agriculture will receive from the adoption of the principles of Free Trade. This only proves, gentlemen, that what is true requires but time to establish it in men's minds. (Hear. hear.) Time and truth against all the world. (Applause.) But you must have time; and that time which destroys everything else only establishes truth. (Hear, hear.) We had at the commencement of our career to encounter the agriculturists, flushed with prosperity from high prices; and they believed that their prosperity would be permanent, as many of us believed that our adversity would be permanent. But it has been found that what then injured us reacted upon those who thought that they had an interest in injuring us. There is nothing inconsistent in our position to say that the agriculturists have derived no benefit from the injury inflicted upon us. We are told sometimes that we are inconsistent, because we don't admit that the agriculturists benefit by our injury. Why, it would be very monstrous indeed, in the moral government of this world, if one class of the community could permanently benefit at the expense of the misery and suffering of the rest. (Applause.) But, gentlemen, here is this important distinction to be borne in mind, that although agriculturists may not benefit themselves ultimately, that is no reason why they should not inflict great misery upon us. You may strike a blow, and though that blow may be mortal to another, its recoil may be mortal to yourselves; but it is no less a mortal blow to him you strike, because you strike yourselves also. Now, we required this experience to show the agriculturist that his permanent interest is in the prosperity of his customers, and if we have done nothing else in the five years that we have been in existence than to show the agriculturists what is their true interest, and to show them also what they are capable of doing upon the soil, we should have spent all our money and all our labour to very good purpose. (Applause.) Why, I have been into most parts of the country amongst the agriculturists, I may say, by the way, that I have been exceedingly well and friendly received by the great body of the agriculturists (applause)—that I have no reason to complain of the courtesy either of the landowners or the farmers in any part where I have been (hear, hear)—that I have found men, noblemen and gentlemen, directly opposed to me and my views, who have yet not hesitated on many occasions to take the chair at my meetings, and to secure a fair hearing and fair play for all parties. (Applause.) And this I venture to say, that there is not a county in England where I have been to address a meeting, where I should not be as well received as any farmers' market ordinary, as any landowner professing to be a "farmer's friend" in that county. (Applause.) Well, I have naturally taken some interest since my return in what has been going on in the counties that I have visited; and I say that, if our agitation had had no other advantage than in the stimulus it has given to the agricultural community, our money and our time would have been well expended. I never take up a newspaper now from the agricultural districts, containing a report of one of their agricultural meetings (and this is the period of the year when they are holding them in all parts), but I find, mingled with occasional apprehensions of what the League is going to do, one universal cry—"Improve your agriculture." (Hear, hear.) There is not one of the members of Parliament, who sit on the monopolist benches, that has gone amongst his constituents to attend their agricultural dinners, but has carried with him some one panacea or other that is to enable farmers to brave the rivalry which they now see is inevitable with foreign countries. One says, "Subsoil your land;" another, "Thorough-drain your land;" another, "Grub up your fences;" another, "Take care and improve the breed of stock;" another, "You have not good farmsteads for your manure;" and one worthy gentlemen of my own county, Sussex, Sir Charles Burrell, has gone back to the nostrum, that the farmers must take to growing white carrots. (Applause and laughter.) Well, it is something, at all events, to find that there is now acknowledged to be room for improvement in British agriculture. But we have further acknowledgments, which are very important indeed in our case. I took up a newspaper—I had one sent to me yesterday—from Essex. There I find that a meeting has been held in Colchester, and the gentleman who presides (the president of the East Essex Agricultural Society, is the gentleman who signed the printed circular that was sent round throughout that division of the county, begging the farmers and agriculturists generally to come up and put me down when I visited Colchester. (Hear, hear.) Now, I'll give you the opinion of this gentleman upon the Corn Law. "Mr. Bawtry said he had no pretensions to be a prophet; but if so, he should predict that, at no very distant period, agriculture would be left to stand upon its own legs (applause and laughter)—that the adventitious protection which it now derived from legislative enactments would be withdrawn (hear, hear); and, therefore, the question for the farmers was, how should they be best prepared to meet the crisis!" (Loud cheers.) Now, what is his remedy. "He thought it would be at once admitted that their sole consideration must be to make up the deficiency in the value of agricultural produce, by increasing the amount of production." ("Hear," and loud cheers.) Now, gentlemen, this is an important admission—that they have not hitherto done as much as they might have done to improve the cultivation; and it is an admission, too, that they are only now stimulated to make by our agitation. (Applause.) Now, what can be done? I don't come here to talk agriculture to you on my own knowledge; but I quote from the speeches of gentlemen opposed to us at their agricultural meetings. Now, what can be done? I see that a Mr. Fisher Nobbes (and I may tell you that Mr. Fisher Nobbes wrote a letter in the newspapers against me at Essex, and that he is one of the most eminent agriculturists there,) says, at the same dinner, "He was aware that a spirit of improvement was abroad. Much was said about the tenant-farmers doing more. He agreed they might do more: the soil of the country was capable of greater production, if he said one-fourth more he should be within compass. (Hear, hear.) But that could not be done by the tenant-farmer alone: they must have confidence (loud cheers); it must be done by leases (renewed cheers); by draining, by extending the length of fields, by knocking down hedgerows, and clearing away trees which now shielded the corn. They did not want trees, which, if they stood for forty years, were not in a much better position, but were only worth, perhaps, 2s., while at the same time they were reducing the value of the crop from 20s. to 30s. a year." Well, gentlemen, here is some homage paid, at all events, to the Anti-Corn-Law agitation (applause)—the admission, by one of the highest authorities in Essex, that the land can produce one-fourth more than it has produced. I see at the meeting of the Liverpool Association Lord Stanley makes a similar statement; and a Mr. Binns, who was one of the judges of stock, at the same meeting declares that the land is capable of producing double as much—as much again as it now produces. Well, now, let us take the lowest estimate—let us suppose that one-fourth more can be produced. We produce only about twenty million quarters of wheat; it appears, now, that the land can produce. and ought to produce, five million quarters of wheat more. Why, that would have saved us all the famine we went through for four years after the beginning of our agitation. Why has this not been produced? Lord Stanley says, in his speech at Liverpool, "The farmers must not, nowadays, stand, as their fathers and grandfathers did, with their hands behind their backs, fast asleep." But I want to ask Lord Stanley why the farmers' fathers and grandfathers stood fast asleep, with their hands behind their backs? I charge Lord Stanley, who came down to Lancaster and talked about Tamboff being able to send here an enormous quantity of wheat (loud cheers and laughter)—a man who, knowing better (I cannot charge him with ignorance)—a man who, knowing better all the while, pandered to the very ignorance he is now complaining of in the farmers, by telling them that a single province in Russia could send 38,000,000 quarters of corn here to swamp them. (Applause.) I say it is Lord Stanley, and others of his class and order, the politicians, who tell the farmer not to rely upon his own exertions, but upon Parliamentary protection; it is those men, and those only, who are responsible for the farmers having stood with their hands behind their backs. (Loud applause.) Well, gentlemen, then it seems that one of the effects of the agitation of the League is, that agriculture is to improve, and we are to have at least one-fourth more of corn produced at home—we may have double; with all my heart, and we may then do very well without going 3000 or 4000 miles for corn; but, in the name of common sense and common justice, I say, don't starve the people here till your prating statesmen, that come down once a year to talk at their agricultural dinners, have devised some plan by which the people may be fed at home, according to your notions of production—don't presume entirely to stop any inlet for corn from abroad which the people here may require to keep them from starvation. I have never been one who believed that the repeal of the Corn Laws would throw an acre of land out of cultivation. (Hear, hear.) But not only now does it appear that land is not to be thrown out of cultivation, but, if we may take the testimony of these gentlemen themselves, all that is required is free trade in corn, in order that they may produce one fourth more than they do now. (Applause.) And that, recollect, when we are told by the very same parties—and their newspapers are now rife with the same arguments—that our object is to bring agricultural labourers into the manufacturing districts in order to reduce wages there. (Hear, hear). Why, what do these very gentlemen admit? That you must increase cultivation, and that increased cultivation, as they well know, can only go on by additional employment of labour upon the soil. (Applause.) You must have more labour to lay down the draining tiles of which Lord Stanley speaks, and which he recommended to the landowners of Yorkshire and Lancashire. You cannot grub up hedges, you cannot grub up thorns, you cannot drain or ditch, or make any improvement, but you must call into employment more agricultural labour. (Applause.) Our object, therefore, is not to diminish the demand for labour in the agricultural districts, but I verily believe, if the principles of Free Trade were fairly carried out, they would give just as much stimulus to the demand for labour in the agricultural as in the manufacturing districts. (Applause.) Oh, but it is pleasant to find gentleman who have been asleep (for they have been quite as much asleep as the farmers have), going down to their agricultural dinners, and paying these tributes to the men of Manchester, who, by these fly-flappers, have managed to rouse them into a little activity. (Applause.) These squires at dinner remind me of the story of Rip Van Winkle, who awoke from his thirty years' sleep, rubbing his eyes, and looking about him for his old scenes and old connexions, and wondering where he was. So these squires are rubbing their eyes, and opening them, for the first time, to a sense of their real situation. (Applause.) Having worked round our agitation to this point, I think that, so far as argument goes, our labours are nearly at an end. I think the whole case, so far as discussion goes, is given up, by the reports of the late agricultural meetings. (Applause.) We are the great agricultural improvers of this country. (Applause.) Amongst the other glories which will attach to the name of Manchester will be this, that the Manchester men not only brought manufactures to perfection, but that they made the agriculturists also, in spite of themselves, bring their trade to perfection. (Loud cheers.) Now, though the agriculturists have much to learn, and many improvements to make, they are doubtless very much in advance of most of the agriculturists in other countries. The only fault is that they don't keep so much in advance as the manufacturers do. (Applause.) But that they are in advance of most other countries I think we have sufficient proof; and I was reading an American paper this very morning which gives an illustration of that in a way that must be quite consolatory to those squires who are afraid that they cannot compete with the Americans. I see that at an agricultural meeting in the state of New York, held at Rochester, on the 20th September, Mr. Wadesworth, their president, in the course of his speech, said, in speaking of this country:—"We have tried the English in the field of war and on the ocean, and the result had been such that neither might be ashamed. But there was a more appropriate field of contest—the ploughed field—and while England could raise 40 bushels on an acre, whilst we could raise but 15, we must acknowledge that she was pretty hard to whip, meet her where we may." (Applause.) Well, then, gentlemen, we are constantly met and taunted with this objection:—"If you are not going to get corn cheap, and if you really can carry on the corn trade at home, what's the advantage to be?—how are you to get corn so low that you'll be able to reduce wages, and so compete with the foreigner?" Now, you know this has been a weak invention of the enemy, in order to lead the working classes upon a wrong scent; but I think the experience of the last twelvemonth has had the good effect, at all events, of convincing the working people in this district that lower priced food does not mean also employment at lower wages. (Applause.) The object of Free Trade is not to take foreign corn, and to prevent the home-grown corn from being sold; but we have gone upon the assumption—I don't know whether we are correct or not, but I am afraid we are—that the people of this country have never been sufficiently fed with good wheaten bread. (Hear, hear.) We have had a notion that, to four millions at least in Ireland (and Ireland has its Corn Law as well as England), wheaten bread is a luxury only seen occasionally, and never tasted (applause); and we have a notion that there are one and a half or two millions at the least in this country, who eat a great deal too much of that root, which I join somewhat in Cobbett's prejudice against—the potato—unless it is accompanied with a good joint of roast beef, and too little wheaten bread. (Applause.) Now, the object of the Free Traders is (it may be very trite to tell you, but we must reiterate these old arguments, for they are always the best arguments), that these people may all be able to get a bit of wheaten bread if they like to work for it. (Applause.) And this, without preventing the farmers at home from sending their corn to market, but by enabling the whole of the working classes to purchase more of the necessaries and comforts of life. Now I heard this case put at Doncaster the other day, by Mr. Wrightson, the member for Northallerton—a most estimable man and a large landed proprietor in the West Riding of Yorkshire—as properly as I have heard it put for a long time. He says:—"The great delusion of our landed gentry is this: they think, if they can prevent the hand-loom weaver exchanging his web for the corn of America, that they keep that man at home, a customer to themselves. Now (he says) that is our greatest delusion. If we would allow that man to exchange his web for American corn, he would then have a considerable surplus of earnings to lay out with us for fresh meat, for vegetables, for butter, milk, cheese, and other things. (Hear, hear.) But if we prevent that man exchanging his web for the corn of America, we deprive ourselves of him as a customer for those articles, and we are obliged to subsist him altogether as a pauper." (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I may say it is a matter of proud congratulation to us that we find in this country men of the stamp of Mr. Wrightson, and of that noble Earl who joined him on that occasion at the meeting at Doncaster. (Applause.) It is a subject of proud congratulation for us that we have men of that stamp belonging to our landed aristocracy. I have myself always had the impression that we should find such men come out to join us. It is something peculiar to the English character, to individuality of character, that you will find men, what-

ever may be their apparent motives for going with their order, who will have the moral courage to come out and join the people; and I augur well from the presence of Lord Fitzwilliam at our meeting. (Loud applause.) I hope Lord Spencer will be the next to follow. I hope that such a manly example as has been set by Mr. Samuel Jones Loyd in London (loud applause),—for most manly it was in a gentleman of his reputation, and of his notorious wealth, to join the League at the very moment that it was suffering under the opprobrium attempted to be fastened upon it by a millionaire of the City (hear, hear),—a most manly act it was of Mr. Samuel Jones Loyd at that time to throw himself into the ranks of the Leaguers; and, I say, I hope the example of such men as my Lord Fitzwilliam and Mr. S. J. Loyd will be followed by others nearer home, in Manchester. (Applause.) I can make allowance for, and can duly appreciate, the causes which may deter gentlemen of influence, gentlemen to whom parties look up, whom a wide circle respect and follow in every movement; I can make allowance for the caution with which they may hesitate to join such a body as the Anti-Corn-Law League; but I put it to them, whatever their political opinions may be, whether the time is not now come that they can with safety and propriety join us as a body, and whether we have not given them guarantee sufficient by the prudence and the caution, and, I will say, the self-denial with which we have carried on our proceedings (applause); that they will run no risk, whatever opinions they may have on other subjects than that of Free Trade, of having those opinions in the slightest degree offended, or prejudiced in any way by joining us forthwith in this agitation. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I think our proceedings have now been brought to that point where we have disseminated sufficient knowledge through the country, that we see the harvest now ripening for the sickle, and we must be prepared with the husbandman to gather in the harvest. (Hear, hear.) It has been under that impression that the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League has determined on a course of action which I will just now briefly refer to, as the course which we intend to pursue in future. It has been thought that we have distributed information sufficient amongst the electoral body to have given us a very considerable and preponderating strength among the electors. (Loud cheers.) The next step must be to organise and render efficient that strength amongst the electors. (Hear.) Now, we have gone to work in this agitation with the full conviction that we may carry out the principles of Free Trade with the present constitution of Parliament. We may be right, or we may be wrong; we are not responsible for the Parliament as it exists; we did not make the present constituencies as they are; we did not distribute the franchise as it is distributed; but as we find the constituencies, we, as practical men, must go to work upon them; and through the constituencies, through the electoral body, is the only righteous and just means of carrying the repeal of the Corn Laws. (Applause.) Now, I have never doubted that the object may be gained through the present electoral body. I have always found, on looking back to the history of past events, that public opinion, when well expressed, could carry its end in this country, even when the constituency was not one-hundredth part so favourable to the expression of public opinion as it is now. Well, on looking at the present state of the constituencies of this country, the Council of the League remembered that we have certain very large constituencies, which are generally favourable to Free Trade. We have such places as Manchester, Glasgow, Birmingham, and a great many others, where there will never be another contest on the subject of Free Trade. (Applause.) I venture to say, too, that not one of the boroughs in Scotland will have to fight a battle in favour of Free Trade. (Applause.) But the representatives of these large boroughs are countervailed in Parliament by the votes of smaller constituencies, like St. Alban's and Sudbury. How do you get over that difficulty? Why, do you believe that the electors of Sudbury and St. Alban's are more favorable to monopoly in their hearts than the electors of Manchester or Birmingham? No; they are just as intelligent, just as rightly disposed as we are; but they are not placed in such a favourable position for giving expression to their opinions. How is that to be remedied? I say, lay Manchester and Birmingham alongside of St. Alban's and Sudbury, and you will give them a moral influence and support, and, by persevering in a local way, you will beat down the influence of the local monopolist squire who has been hitherto able to domineer over the inhabitants of those small boroughs. I speak of these boroughs merely as a type of others, where there has been no countervailing power to step in and prevent the neighbouring tyrants from domineering over the constituencies. (Applause.) The Council of the League have, therefore, determined that their future operations shall be strictly electoral. You have heard that we intend to arrange in London a collection of all the registration lists as soon as they are published in December; we will have in a central office in London every registration list in the United Kingdom. (Applause.) We will have a ledger, and a large one too, and we will first of all record, in the very first page, the city of London, provided it returns Mr. Pattison (applause)—and if not, we'll have Manchester first. (Applause). In this ledger we shall enter first, in due succession, each in a page, every borough that is perfectly safe in its representation for Free Trade. There will be a second list—a second class—those boroughs that send members to Parliament who are moderate monopolists, who have notions about differential duties and fixed duties; and we will have another class for those who are out-and-out monopolists. Well, we may tick off those boroughs that are safe; we go to work in the next place in those boroughs that are represented by moderate monopolists, to make them send Free Traders, and we will urge upon them in particular to canvass the electors, and send up a majority of their signatures requiring their members to vote for Mr. Villiers's motion at the beginning of next session. (Applause.) We'll make a selection of so many boroughs as shall be sufficient to give us a majority in the House, and I take it that those boroughs will not require to have more than 300,000 electors, and upon those three hundred thousand electors we will begin our fire. We will give them, through the penny-postage, full acquaintance with all our proceedings; we'll furnish them with arguments, put them in possession of the latest tactics of the enemy, so that they shall have the refutation of the youngest-born fallacy always at their fingers' ends. (Applause.) We intend to visit them by deputation. If my friend Bright takes one set, and I take another, we may get over a great many of them. (Applause.) And we'll take somebody else with us. We'll convene these meetings from London; we'll send our circulars from London; there shall be no party work, the business shall not go into the hands of local cliques at all. We will take a room, and meet the electors by appointment there, without the co-operation of any local leaders, so as to excite no jealousy on either side. And when we have got them there, we shall try and put this Free-Trade question upon natural grounds, and see if we cannot find honest men in all parties who will join us in putting down monopoly. (Applause.) We'll organise them; we will not go without leaving traces behind us, and we will leave an organisation to work after we are gone; and we shall take care to bring away with us a list of the best men in the borough, with whom we may correspond on particular business. (Applause and laughter.) I was told by an old electioneerer in London, one who had dipped his fingers pretty deep into the system we are going to put down,—"You'll frighten them more than anything if you carry out that part of your plan of going down to see the electors." It is the very thing we intend to do; and we'll do it ourselves too. It is not merely intimidation we have to contend with in these small boroughs; the system of bribery at the last election was carried out to an extent which few people in this hall, perhaps hardly one, have ever dreamt of even in your worst suspicions. The boroughs were literally put up to auction at the Carlton Club—ay, and at the Reform Club, too—at the last general election (hear, hear); a price was fixed upon them; and men went up to London to these cliques and coteries to know how much they could buy boroughs for. (Applause.) We have got an alteration of the law, which enables any public body that determines to take that patriotic task in hand, to prosecute these bribers in a way that they very little dreamt of when they passed that law. (Applause.) Now, we intend, as one of the glorious objects of the Anti-Corn-Law League, to put down for ever the system of bribery in this country. (Loud applause.) We can expose the intimidators, and raise a pretty loud cry against them; we will expose them wherever they are found exercising their tyrannical acts. But the bribers we can and will put down by a jury of our countrymen. I have often expressed my astonishment that no society was ever formed similar to the Anti-Felony societies in the agricultural districts for the prosecution of sheep stealers, whose object was to put down bribery. Nothing is so simple; it ought to be done in London by the House of Commons. But what is the process now? A man gets into Parliament by bribery; the defeated candidate petitions the House to unseat him; a committee is appointed to examine into the case; the whole system of bribery is laid bare in that committee; the scoundrels who have been the actors in it are there, blocking up the lobbies of the House, enough to make a man's blood run chill as he passes them; there they are, day after day, exposing their acts of perjury and subornation; while the result is, the committee declares the sitting member unseated; the candidate who petitioned has to pay just the same expense as the man who is unseated, and he may go and stand again if he likes, and go through the same ordeal for his pains. (Applause.) What does a committee of the House of Commons do when these men are proved guilty of the worst crime that can be conceived,—for what crime can be more henious than buying and selling the franchises, by which the laws of this country are framed? If a man has his pocket picked of his handkerchief, if the felony is made public, he is bound to prosecute, otherwise he is held to be an accessory after the fact; and if he had taken his passage to America, the magistrates would make him stop and prosecute the felon. Yet the House of Commons allows all these nefarious practices to go on under its own roof, and never takes one step to vindicate its character with the country. (Applause.) I told them in the House on the occasion of Lord Dungannon's exposure, Sir Robert Peel was present, "If you don't order your Attorney-General to prosecute these men, I'll belong to a society out of doors that shall undertake that task for him." (Loud applause.) The thing can be done; you may put down bribery. It has been practised to an extent of which you are perfectly unconscious of. With the exception of some of the new boroughs—and even some of them have been touched with this canker—there is hardly a pure borough to be found in the south of England. To put the system down there will require a vigorous effort; and the plan that the League has now adopted in London will, I hope, do more than anything else that could be done to convince these traffickers in seats that we are in earnest. There is a placard now spread throughout London, headed with the Queen's arms, offering a reward of £100 for the evidence that shall go to convict any one who is guilty of either offering or taking a bribe. (Hear, hear.) The course is by indictment in a criminal court, and a conviction ensures the offender twelve months' imprisonment, at least; and I hope that we shall manage to bring some high game before a jury of our countrymen. (Applause.) You will not convict men before a committee of the House of Commons. There was Lord Dungannon, who wrote a cheque for £700, and sent to his agent; that agent was proved to have just handed over the money to the men who voted for Lord Dungannon; Lord Dungannon is unseated, he is incompetent to sit again during this Parliament, and yet the committee declared there is no proof that bribery was practised with the cognizance of Lord Dungannon. Now, I would like to see some of these Lord Dungannons brought before a jury—an honest jury—of twelve of our countrymen. (Loud applause.) Well, gentlemen, the object we have in view is to remove a mighty injustice, and the effort that it will require will be commensurate. The hon. gentleman then alluded to the proposal for raising £100,000, invited contributions, and concluded by expressing his firm conviction that, by the aid and assistance of the people, the question must soon be carried. (Loud cheers.)

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. Plint, of Leeds, and Joseph Brotherton, Esq.

GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT DONCASTER. ATTENDANCE OF EARL FITZWILLIAM.

This meeting having attracted more than ordinary notice, from its having been honoured by the presence of Earl Fitzwilliam, and some slight inaccuracies having appeared in the London papers as to the preliminary arrangements, we think it advisable to state exactly the circumstances under which it was held. Soon after the appearance of the placards calling the meeting, a letter was received by Mr. Cobden from Mr. Childers, M.P., intimating that if a similar resolution to that which was adopted at the Lancaster and Knutsford meetings were brought forward at Doncaster, Lord Fitzwilliam, and some of the leading gentry of the West Riding of Yorkshire, would support it. The resolution in question went in favour of Free Trade *in everything*, and against all protective duties. To this proposition Mr. Cobden at once acceded. On the morning of the day of meeting a resolution was drawn up differing slightly in the phraseology from that agreed upon, but identical in meaning, with the exception of the substitution of the word "*promptly*" for "*forthwith*;" the words of the Knutsford resolution declaring that "all protective duties ought to be *forthwith* abolished." The word *forthwith* was, at the instance of Mr. Cobden, inserted with the consent of all parties; but owing to some error in transcribing it for the press, the word *promptly* appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* report. We find the resolution correctly given in the *Sheffield Independent*, from whose able report we have abridged the following account of the proceedings. We have been thus minute in our explanation, at the risk of being thought hypercritical, because it involves a point of some importance, especially at the present moment. The League has its *creed*, to which innumerable converts have been made, and which is now gaining more rapid ascendency than ever over men's minds: its creed is the faith in the *immediate practicability as well as justice of the principles of Free Trade*; and we may add that never were the leading advocates of commercial freedom more convinced of the truth of this doctrine, and consequently less willing to swerve from it in the slightest degree, than at the present time, after it has undergone so triumphantly the test of nearly five years of incessant discussion.

On Saturday last, Richard Cobden and John Bright, Esqrs., M.P., visited Doncaster, as a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, in accordance with their plan hitherto so successfully carried out, of applying themselves especially to the task of demonstrating to the farmers the fallacy of the protection on which they have been taught to rely. The meeting was called for the Town Hall, where it took place *pro forma*, but was immediately adjourned to the Vicarage Croft, a spacious area adjoining the Cattle Market, where commodious hustings had been erected. By invitation from Earl Fitzwilliam, Mr. Cobden slept on Friday night at Wentworth House (Mr. Bright, having been detained in London, was obliged to travel all night to the place of meeting); and on Saturday forenoon, accompanied by his noble host, they passed through Doncaster to the seat of J. W. Childers, Esq., M.P., of Cantley, where they lunched. It happened to be the day for the dismissal of the Yeomanry regiment, who had completed their eight days' training at Doncaster, so that the Lieut.-Colonel of the regiment, the Hon. J. Stuart Wortley, M.P., was at Doncaster, where the other Riding Member, E. B. Denison, Esq., resides. It was rumoured, very absurdly, that Mr. Denison meant to encounter the deputation on the hustings; and it was also stated that Dr. Sleigh, who has been making some attempts at notoriety, by the advocacy of more monopoly under the name of protection, had arrived in Doncaster. Dr. Sleigh, however, no more showed himself than Mr. Denison; but there were distributed about the town a number of small handbills, printed at Wakefield, in which the valorous doctor challenged the deputation to discussion, not in Doncaster that day, but at Wakefield, at some future time.

A little before two o'clock, Earl Fitzwilliam, with the deputation, and John Parker, Esq., M.P., W. B. Wrightson, Esq., M.P., and J. W. Childers, Esq., M.P., arrived in Doncaster. The meeting was formally constituted in the Town Hall, where, on the motion of Earl FITZWILLIAM, seconded by ROBERT MILNER, Esq., of Doncaster, Thomas Johnson, Esq., the late Mayor (in consequence of the illness of the present Mayor), was called to the chair.

Mr. MILNER then moved the adjournment of the meeting to the Vicarage Croft, which was seconded by Mr. CHILDERS, and carried. The meeting then adjourned to the Vicarage Croft. Besides the gentlemen we have named, we observed on the hustings W. Aldam, Esq., of Warmsworth; the Rev. Mr. Simpson; W. Chadwick, Esq.; Willoughby Wood, Esq.; Mr. Alderman Clark; T. S. Badger, Esq.; George Chambers, Esq., of Highgreen; W. Bradley, Esq., of Sheffield; Mr. Price and Mr. Hastie, of Doncaster; and many other gentlemen with whose names we were unacquainted. We estimate the number of people present at about three thousand.

After able speeches had been delivered by Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. COBDEN,—the former expounding the principles of Free Trade generally, and the latter applying them more directly to the cases of the farmers and farm labourers,—who were listened to with an attention only interrupted by repeated cheering, a resolution was moved by Mr. W. B. WRIGHTSON, M.P., in a speech of remarkable clearness and ability, from which we extract the following:—

"I am happy to come forward to propose a resolution in which I hope for your full concurrence. It is a resolution, of course, favourable to the principle of Free Trade. I am happy to come forward as one of those connected with land, and dependent entirely upon it, to tell the public what my own opinion is. We have no

interest adverse to Free Trade; but, on the contrary, our interests are connected closely with it. It may be very well for land agents in the south of England to tell tenants that the law can secure them a certain price; but it will not do to tell the farmers of Yorkshire the same story. We live on the edge of the manufacturing districts; and we know well that the price we obtain is dependent on the number and wealth of those who come to market to buy our produce. (Cheers.) Therefore it is that I am most desirous to see the complicated, and, as it appears to me, the unjust system of the present Corn Laws utterly and entirely removed, and the noble principle of Free Trade substituted in its place." (Loud cheers.)

We do not remember to have seen the following view of the Corn-Law question put in so clear a light before.

"I wish that we who are living near to and are feeding the active and industrious population of the West Riding should consider for a moment how this law works. I ask you to look at it, not in the noble point of view in which it might be regarded, but in relation to the lowest and most selfish considerations. Take the case of the hand-loom weaver, who earns his bread by weaving webs of cloth, and having supplied the home market to the utmost of its capacity, sends his further supply to the foreign market. He wishes to exchange his cloth for the corn of the foreigner. But you interfere by a law, and say, he shall not do it. When I say you, I do not mean that the farmers are the authors of the Corn Law, for it is the landlords who are its authors. These laws interpose and prevent the exchange of the cloth for the corn of the foreigner. In passing Corn Laws, men have acted on the pleasing delusion, that if they prevented the man from exchanging his cloth for the corn of the foreigner, he would be a customer of theirs. But there cannot be a greater mistake. If you prevent the exchange, you consign the man to misery and starvation; you do not make him a customer for food at home; but if he were allowed to exchange freely his goods at home, as he ought to do, for foreign corn, so that he might live comfortably, he would become a customer to the farmer for milk, butter, cheese, potatoes, &c. It is impossible not to see the advantage, even in this narrow and selfish view of the subject, of allowing the man to exchange his manufactures freely; and the moment the subject is looked at in this point of view, it is decisive of the question, and can leave no doubt on the mind of the farmer, or of any one else. You know that it is on the prosperity of the manufacturers that the prosperity of the farming interests in this part of the country depends. Those among us who are old enough to remember the price of different kinds of produce during the time when manufacturing prosperity was at a lower ebb than of late years, must be aware, that in practice the price of corn depends upon this, whether orders come from Leeds or Wakefield; and the price of meat depends upon whether Manchester butchers come to Rotherham or not; so that the farmer has clearly an interest in the number, wealth, and prosperity of manufacturers. Yet, notwithstanding this, we find men supporting measures, founded on anti-commercial principles, and as hostile as possible to the real interests and increase of trade."

Mr. WRIGHTSON administered the following rebuke to his order:—

"I am under the full impression that, by adopting more liberal views, we shall not only do justice to those classes of society with which we have connexion, but an actual benefit to ourselves, and shall recover ourselves in the good opinion of other classes of society, whose good opinion, I am sorry to say, we have lately lost. We have done a deal to lose it, and it is time we took a new turn and made some attempt to regain it. By doing so we shall conform to every principle of morality and every sanction of religion, and we shall recover the ground we have lost, and contribute to the peace, happiness, and welfare of the human family, and of the British empire in particular." (Loud cheers.)

The following resolution was then submitted to the meeting:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the principles of Free Trade would be clearly conducive to the prosperity of the British empire, and the general welfare of mankind; and that all laws that interfere with free intercourse on the pretence of protection to local and partial interests, should be forthwith abolished." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. DENT DALE of Balby, said, as a tenant farmer—I second the resolution.

Earl FITZWILLIAM stood forward, and was received with several rounds of universal and enthusiastic cheering. The noble earl proceeded to speak with a degree of energy and emphasis which indicated the strength of his convictions. We have not heard the noble lord speak with so much animation since he addressed the people of Sheffield in 1830, on the rejection of the Reform Bill. He said—

"Gentlemen,—It was my intention to have abstained for some minutes from addressing you, and I should then have proposed to you a vote of thanks to these two gentlemen who have been exposing to you the principle on which they ask you to support the resolution moved by my hon. friend, Mr. Wrightson. It has, however, been suggested to me, that I should best consult the interests of this cause by presenting myself to you at the present moment; and while I thus once more express the pleasure I feel in addressing an assemblage of Yorkshiremen, and in addressing them on this particular subject, I shall take the liberty of adverting to some particular parts of this question to which none of those gentlemen who have preceded me have alluded; and here, in the first instance, I will ask the attention of the farmers in particular, to what is called the sliding scale. You will probably have observed, that if you examine the different months of the year, the month immediately preceding the harvest is, in nine cases out of ten, that in which the highest price of corn is to be obtained. Now, mark the effect that produces upon the farmers, and particularly upon the small farmers. (Hear, hear.) The small farmer has generally none of his stock left in the twelfth month. It frequently happens, it has frequently happened—I know it from particular circumstances with which I am connected—that in the purely agricultural districts, it has been necessary in the twelfth month, actually to import corn into those districts for the support of the population. (Cheers.) Now, mark particularly what happened last year. In 1842, there was a great rise in price immediately before harvest. I will be bound to say, that not one in twenty of the farmers profited by this rise in price. That, I will be bound to say. What happened? There was a large quantity of bonded corn in the warehouses of this country. The price rose, the duty fell. It pleased Providence to bless us with one of the most remarkable harvests this country ever experienced. The harvest was not a very great crop, but it was a most remarkably prosperous harvest. What was the consequence? I dare say you can tell me the exact quantity. (Mr. Bright: Nearly 3,000,000 quarters.) Mr. Bright tells me it was nearly 3,000,000 quarters of bonded corn that was introduced the month before harvest. The consequence was, that for several months afterwards the price was low. What were the farmers obliged to do? They must thrash out between harvest and Christmas, and the very farmers themselves who had been paying a high price for their own subsistence in July and August, were obliged to sell their own corn that they had reaped in August, at a low price in September and October. That, I say, is the damning proof against the sliding scale. (Hear, hear.) It is proof of more. It proves that whenever man, in the wretched pride of his intellect, endeavours to struggle with the arrangements of the Almighty, he is powerless to effect it. (Cheers.) It pleased God, that for the rest of the year after harvest corn should be cheap. Sir Robert Peel had told you that you should have 58s. a quarter, and you sold for 46s. a quarter. It is a strong proof, that whenever man struggles against his Maker he is sure to be baffled. That is the history of all these attempts, these wretched, these proud attempts to interfere with the dispensations of Providence. You have been truly told by Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden, that the real prosperity of the agricultural interest depends on the prosperity and extension of manufactures. Now, gentlemen, it is very probable there are some facts into which I may have inquired that may not have come within your cognizance. How many quarters of corn do you believe to be yearly carried up the Don to the town of Sheffield? I wish some farmer to answer this question. I pause for a reply. Well, I have no reply. I will tell you. I inquired into that matter ten or twelve years ago. I think it very probable many of the farmers present will be surprised when I tell them that there pass up the Don from Doncaster every year no less than 100,000 quarters of wheat. These 100,000 quarters pass through Doncaster, and are the produce of the fertile soil on the borders of Yorkshire and Lancashire. Why are these 100,000 quarters wanted? Why is it that what is represented on the old maps as Hatfield chase and Thorne waste, have been cultivated? and why does that corn traverse the Don? Is it not for the support of the 120,000 people who throng the streets of Sheffield? Now, gentlemen, what do you think is the state of Sheffield now? Do you think it as good a market as when it had a prosperous trade? Do you know how many houses there are in Sheffield? I will tell you. There are 20,000 houses in Sheffield; and how many of these are unoccupied? Two thousand of them. That is, one-tenth of the houses in Sheffield were unoccupied the last time I inquired. There are 2000 houses unoccupied—(I am informed the number is 2800); and do you think that the state of things in Sheffield can cause as active a demand for food in the Doncaster market as when there is an active trade; do you believe that? (No, no.) Do you think that when the men who lived in the front houses have been driven into smaller, and the men who lived in smaller into cottages, and those who lived in cottages into lodgings—do you think that, under these circumstances, there can be the same demand for agricultural produce as when the trade is prosperous? Now, gentlemen, I will go a step further, and endeavour to lead you to a consideration of the reasons why the town of Sheffield is not prosperous. Somewhere about the year 1820, a little before or a little after, I forget which, the United States were framing a new tariff. You know what tariff means? (Laughter.) That tariff was hostile to English manufactures. Now, why was it hostile? I suppose you will believe our Ambassador, and these are the words on that subject of Mr. Addington, our Minister at Washington, while that tariff was under consideration. Writing to the Ministry in England, he said—"The hostile character of the tariff now being enacted arises entirely from your Corn Laws." Why then, I say, what has the hostile tariff of America effected? It has robbed Sheffield of its trade. What is the article most wanted in America? The tool necessary to destroy the forests, and to turn them into cultivated plains. That tool is the axe, and the axe trade of Sheffield has been lost. The axes which are now wielded in the destruction of the forests in the back settlements are not now manufactured in Sheffield, but in Pennsylvania. It is thus that to the Corn Laws Sheffield owes the loss of one of its trades. This it is that has caused 2000 of the houses of Sheffield to be uninhabited, and the loss of the prosperity of that population injures—I will not exaggerate—injures—I will not say destroys—the market of the farmers, and reduces their prices. I think I have proved to you that this restrictive Corn Law, pretending, as was truly said by Mr. Bright, to be enacted for the benefit of the farmer, but in the belief of those who have enacted it, though not in my belief, for the benefit of the landowner,—I say not in my belief, for I do not believe that, although it may temporarily produce a somewhat higher rent to the landlord, but I do not believe that in the long-run even the landowner is benefited by this law—(loud cheers)—therefore I say this law that has been enacted on pretence of benefiting the landlord does not benefit the landowner or the farmer, and is unjust to the manufacturer, and therefore to all the best interests of the country. On that ground I shall propose to you to thank those gentlemen who have taken the trouble to come here to enlighten you on this subject. I think they have let some light in. I think that I could observe in the countenances of many that they have awakened some thoughts which have not passed through your minds before. I am sure that when the proper time shall come you will agree with me in tendering to them our thanks." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. CHILDERS, M.P., next addressed the meeting. He began by referring to his former opinions, which he said had been in favour of protection:—

"I can remember the time when that was my opinion. Although of opinion that Free Trade was desirable in all articles of manufacture, yet I thought Free Trade in corn was a thing that could not be done. I thought the land was not prepared for it, and it would not do. That opinion I have totally abandoned. I am now of opinion that protection is worse than useless, and that it is positively injurious to the farmer. (Cheers.) I come to this conclusion from no feeling of hostility to the farmers. My property consists in land, and I am myself a farmer: more than that, I say, in the knowledge of many around me, that a considerable part of my time is devoted to subjects which I think will be advantageous to the farmers, and will tend to the improvement of agriculture, by the only legitimate means by which it is or can be improved. I am convinced that protection will produce the same effect on the farmer and landlord as it has done in other trades to which it has been applied. Monopoly and protection have always injured the trades to which they have been granted. They tend to make people rely on monopoly and protection, and seek their subsistence and wealth from the favours they believe to be granted to them, instead of putting their confidence in the true source of success in every undertaking—persevering industry, and unceasing exertion. This is the true basis for farmers, and instead of relying upon protection, they should apply themselves to the object of increasing the corn they can raise, and improving the animals they produce. But when they are thinking whether their protection is to be interfered with, they lose much of the stimulus of industry and the spring of action, and they do not make that progress which they would if the humbug of protection was abolished. So far I go with the gentlemen who have appeared before you. The only point on which I differ from them, in a very slight degree, is as to the mode of carrying the change into effect. I would not totally abolish the Corn Laws at this moment—but from this cause alone, that the farmers are not yet divested of the idea that protection is their salvation, and therefore I think that an immediate change to abolition might produce a panic which would be injurious to us for a short, or perhaps for a longer period. Though I am prepared to throw this absurd sliding scale to the winds, I am not prepared for total and immediate abolition at this very moment. I think the farmers are, to a certain extent, like a weakly plant nurtured in a hothouse, which cannot at once bear exposure to a cold breeze. (Laughter.) I am more strongly of this opinion from what occurred during the last year, in the very slight changes which all persons now agree in believing could not of themselves have produced any effect in lowering the price of cattle or corn. Yet such was the panic of the moment, that many farmers lost hundreds of pounds, believing that they should never see cattle at a good price again. But passing this, which I merely mentioned that I might be perfectly honest, and express my exact opinions, I cordially agree in the principle of this resolution."

Mr. CHILDERS made the following interesting statements respecting the wages of labour in different countries.

"It has been well put by Mr. Cobden, that the price of labour in the agricultural districts varies from 6s. to 10s. a week, and that the competition is the greatest where the price is the lowest. I have been in various parts of the country, and have lately returned from Ireland, where the price, instead of being six shillings a week, is considerably lower. I have found there noblemen of great wealth employing thirty, forty, fifty, or sixty labourers, at tenpence, eightpence, or even sixpence per day, and these noblemen, let me remark, are not considered as inflicting an injury, but as conferring a great benefit, and giving the regular wages of the country. I inquired in those places the prices of mowing, ditching, and other kinds of labour, and, to my my surprise, I found it was not only equal to, but considerably higher than the price of labour in this district, where the weekly wages are generally 12s. Such is the state of things, and I have a strong opinion, supported by many facts, which the hour is too late to enumerate, that the price of labour is nearly the same in every part of Europe. When we talk of the low untaxed labour of the Poles, if we compare it, as I have now done the labour of Ireland with that of England, we shall find, in fact, that the labour of the Poles, when tested by what it will produce, is dearer than the labour of Englishmen. Regretting that we have not met to-day, the opponents of these views, I give my hearty support to the resolutions." (Cheers.)

Two men, strangers in Doncaster (one of whom had in other places attempted to do the work of the Monopolists by opposing Mr. Bright), now made their appearance, and, after trying to get a hearing, which was reluctantly given them, for their stale fallacies against Free Trade, moved an amendment in favour of the Charter, *as a means of abolishing all monopolies!*

The CHAIRMAN then put the amendment, in favour of which from twelve to twenty hands were held up from a small knot of persons who had applauded the Chartists. When the resolution was put to the vote,

there was a general show of hands throughout the meeting.

The Chartists complained that the matter was not understood.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution again, when it was carried by a still larger show of hands than before.

The Chartists, however, still objected that it was not understood.

Mr. BRIGHT said it was quite absurd; for when the meeting saw him hold up his hand on one side, and West on the other, the meeting knew perfectly well what they meant.

The CHAIRMAN declared the resolution carried by an immense majority.

Earl FITZWILLIAM—(Cheers)—I now ask you to come to the resolution of which I gave notice when I before addressed you. I propose that the thanks of this meeting be given to Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and John Bright, Esq., M.P., for their clear exposition of the effects of the protective system in the Corn Laws and other monopolies, and for their convincing demonstration of the advantages that would result from the adoption of the principles of Free Trade in every branch of our commercial intercourse with foreign nations. (Cheers.)

WILLIAM CHADWICK, Esq., of Arksey, came forward to second the resolution. (Cheers.) He had always professed to be the poor man's friend. (Mr. Chadwick swung his arms so violently as to endanger the gentlemen near him.) Mr. Bright says I must not strike so wide, or I shall be hitting him. I can assure you, that if there is one man that I would rather not hit than another it is Mr. Bright, unless it be friend Cobden. (Cheers.) I must tell you a little circumstance that has occurred on these hustings, which has damped my spirits. When I met Mr. Cobden on the hustings he said, "Do you think that they won't come?" I said, "Who will not come?" He said, "Why, Beckett Denison is not come." (Laughter.) I replied, "Beckett Denison never comes but to talk nonsense, and this is not the place for him to come to." (Laughter.) He replied, "But you send him to the House of Commons." I replied, "Ah, but he does not speak in the House of Commons. (Laughter.) If he came here, he must come as a speaker, and that would not suit him." They may say, why is not Baxter here? But it is easier for Robert and Edmund to get together in a back closet, and write slanders about my Lord Fitzwilliam, Cobden and Bright, Chadwick, Milner, and Hastie, than to come here like honest men. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously, with cheers.

Mr. BRIGHT: I beg, on behalf of my colleague and myself, to return thanks to Earl Fitzwilliam, to the Chairman, and to the meeting, for their expressed approbation of our labours here to-day. In conclusion, I beg to move a vote of thanks to the Chairman, whose conduct has been unexceptionable. He has heard all who wished to speak, and given the fairest chance to every one, and I trust you will be unanimous, and hold up your hands in favour of a vote of thanks. (Cheers.)

The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged it, and the meeting broke up with three hearty cheers for Free Trade, followed by three cheers more for Earl Fitzwilliam.

MEETING OF THE GLASGOW ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday evening, a meeting of the members of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association was held in the Trades' Hall, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors in reference to the proceedings of the past year, the expenditure of the funds, &c.; and also to take into consideration the address recently issued by the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League to the people of the United Kingdom. There was a very respectable attendance of members. The chair was taken by Mr. Walter Buchanan, president of the Association. On the platform, and in its immediate vicinity, we observed the city members, James Oswald, Esq., M.P., and John Dennistoun, Esq., M.P., Provost Bankier of Calton, Bailie Anderson of Glasgow; Councillors Hamilton, Cross, Brodie, and Orr; also John Ure, Esq., of Croy; Alex. Graham, Esq., of Lancefield; John Tennant, Esq., C. J. Tennant, Esq., Thomas Davidson, Esq., Robert Wilson, Esq., G. C. Dick, Esq., Dr. Lightbody, and other gentlemen, well known supporters of the repeal cause.

We regret that we are unable to do anything like adequate justice to the many excellent speeches of the evening. The spirit manifested throughout was of the most gratifying description. The progress of the cause during the past year was commented upon as the harbinger of speedy success, and powerfully urged as a motive to redoubled exertions both pecuniary and personal.

The CHAIRMAN, in a long and able speech, reviewed the proceedings of the past year; the campaign in Parliament; the agitation of the agricultural districts, through county meetings, and the diffusion of information in every way among the tenantry; the Durham election; great changes of opinion among all classes; the condition of the people and the improvement of trade and wages, and its obvious connection with a more abundant supply of food at a low price. After a warm eulogy of the activity and universal energy of the League, he appealed to the meeting for redoubled exertions in its support, and sat down amidst great cheering.

Mr. MURRAY, the secretary, then read the annual report, from which it appeared that the association had contributed £1927 10s. to the £50,000 League Fund, and in addition had spent £280 in lectures and local expenses. Deputations had been sent also several times to Greenock, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Paisley, and other towns in support of the cause, and had attended the great League meetings in London and Manchester.

JAMES OSWALD, Esq., M.P., then moved the adoption of the report in an able speech, which was seconded by JOHN TENNANT, Esq., of St. Rollox, and carried unanimously.

JOHN DENNISTOUN, Esq., M.P., next addressed the meeting. He said the resolution which had been put into his hands was rather a long one, but with their permission he would state the substance of it. It approved, first, of the address recently issued by the Anti-Corn-Law League, and of the time chosen for publishing it. Secondly, it approved of the wisdom of the plan laid down by the League, and called upon all to emulate so worthy an example, and pledged them to continue their exertions until the cause in which they were engaged was successful. And lastly, it admired the boldness of the proposition of the League in demanding £100,000 from the country, and it pledged them to leave no stone unturned to follow up the exertions that would require to be made to enable the League to realise the sum. He commented at considerable length on the policy of Sir Robert Peel, and spoke of the utter impossibility of any fixed-duty settlement of this question.

Bailie ANDERSON seconded the resolution, which was carried by unanimous acclamation.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM, Esq., of Lancefield, then moved the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Cobden, M.P., and Mr. Bright, M.P. It was impossible, he said, to obtain a complete view of the merits and services of these two distinguished men in this cause without looking at them, in the first place, through the medium of the League, and what that League had already accomplished. He had no doubt they were all familiarly acquainted with the report which was given in at the late great meeting of the League in London, and which contained so full an account of their by-past transactions. They were no doubt aware that no less than nine millions of tracts and pamphlets, amounting to 100 tons weight, had been circulated in 140 towns, and 87 counties; that 680 lectures had been delivered; that deputations had visited 140 towns and 27 counties; and that agricultural meetings had already been held in 25 counties. But while it was impossible to calculate the beneficial effects of what had been done, when they looked at the prospective plans of the League they might augur still more important and decided consequences to follow from its efforts. The main principle of its future operations was to bear on the Parliamentary constituency, and that was the grand vulnerable point of their enemies—at least the point they must render vulnerable by the proceedings it was their intention to adopt. It was impossible to separate the great advantages their cause had derived from the names of Cobden and Bright, especially the former, who had been indeed the father, the life, and the very soul of the League. (Cheers.) He was far from concluding that, if no League had existed, this great question would not have made progress in the country. The great principles of Free Trade—the great principles which imply the iniquity, the injustice, and impolicy of monopolies—were now more than a century old, and had been gradually making their way in public opinion. There was no closer affinity between any two physical substances in nature—none more surely guaranteed by the laws of nature—than the affinity that subsisted between truth and justice and the human intellect. And this being so, they might have been assured that the great question in which they were engaged would, as it actually did, make progress before the League existed; but the efforts of that League had not only given strength and energy to its principles, but had concentrated them, and given them power and vigour in quarters where they might be brought most powerfully to bear. (Cheers.) The resolution he had to propose, however, had a more special reference to the services of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, as individuals not necessarily connected with the League as its office-bearers. They saw these gentlemen elevated to Parliament by the operation of that very flood of public opinion they had been instrumental in raising; and there what did they see them do? They saw them, especially Mr. Cobden, throwing aside every other question before the House; they saw that man absorbing his whole soul in this great struggle; and, looking at his exertions in the House, they might say that he stood forward there as the embodiment and representative of this great cause in Parliament. (Great cheering.) Mr. Bright had already taken up the same line; and he had no doubt, from the appearance he had made, that his future efforts would crown him also with honour. (Loud cheering.) After referring to the incessant labours of Messrs. Cobden and Bright in the towns and counties of England on this question, Mr. G. proceeded:—It seemed to be a general law of Providence, for carrying forward all great struggles for the amelioration of the human race, to raise up some mighty master mind, and to inspire it with enthusiasm in the cause—to send forth some great apostle to preach and to battle for that cause in all the strongholds of its enemies. (Cheers.) And he might say that the names of Luther, and Calvin, and Knox had not come down to posterity more surely interwoven with the Reformation of Religion—that the names of Wilberforce and Clarkson had not come down more surely interwoven with the Abolition of Slavery—that the name of O'Connell would not descend more surely interwoven with the Catholic Emancipation—that the name of Earl Grey would not go down more surely interwoven with Parliamentary Reform—than the names of Cobden and Bright would descend to posterity interwoven with the Abolition of Monopolies, and the universal spread of Free Trade. (Cheers.) Mr. Graham then went into the general question of Free Trade, and, after many happy illustrations of its advantages and the practical effects of the application of its principles to our commercial policy, sat down amidst general applause.

G. C. DICK, Esq., seconded the motion, which was carried with great acclamation.

On the motion of Provost BANKIER, a vote of thanks was given to Walter Buchanan, Esq., for his conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated.

PAISLEY YOUNG MEN'S FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION.

On the evening of Wednesday, the first half-yearly meeting of this association was held in the New-street Chapel,—Mr. Hugh M'Farlane, jun., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN introduced the business with a few remarks on the future prospects of the great cause they were united in aiding.

Mr. J. G. PATRICK, one of the secretaries, then read the report of the society's proceedings for the last half-year.

The Treasurer's account was then read and approved of.

The CHAIRMAN stated that it was in contemplation to hold weekly or fortnightly meetings of the society, at which interesting and important information might be read from the publications of the League, and other means adopted whereby the cause might be promoted.

Directors and councillors for the ensuing half-year were then chosen.

Provost HENDERSON said he was glad to hear that it was in contemplation to hold meetings frequently: such a plan was well calculated to rouse attention to the objects of the association. It was by such means that the agitation for the Reform Bill became so effective, and we had the pleasure also of looking back to the emancipation of the slaves in our colonies as the result of well-directed public opinion. Even with the present Parliament we ought not to despair of gaining our wishes: no government could long withstand the united and determined wishes of a people. He suggested the propriety of opening up a correspondence with the Anti-Corn-Law Association of Glasgow and other places, so that an exchange of speakers might be effected, &c. He was most anxious to see the objects of the association carried, and therefore he had made these observations. (Applause.)

Mr. MELVIN stated that Messrs. Cobden and Bright were expected to be in Haddington about the end of this month, to discuss the question of the Corn Laws before meetings of the farmers in that agricultural district. It might be proper for the directors to take into consideration the propriety of inviting these gentlemen to Paisley.

The meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

UTILITY OF COMMERCE.

The following beautiful passage from an old work, entitled "God's Plea for Nineveh, by Thomas Reeve, B.D., 1657" (p. 165), has been sent to us by a correspondent:—

"A city is a place of honour, because there is a daily mart, where, by exportation and importation, she doth supply other countries, and store her selfe with all manner of necessaries; for a citizen doth not content himselfe with what he doth find within his own walls, but, like a laborious bee, he doth fly to all the quarters of the world, to gather hony for his own hive; he hath a magnetick vertue in him, to draw commodities to him from the farthest zone; yea, he will search all the store-houses of Egypt, the ware-houses of *Persia*, the perfuming-shops of *Arabia*, and treasuries of the Indies, to be replenished with all the rarities which the earth doth afford; the citizen is the great cosmographer, he is most skilfull in the terrestriall globe. If ye would see the map of the world, go to a citizen's shop; for merchandise is vast and copious, it bringeth home things from all places, yea from unknown lands, it filleth the land with all nature's wares and wonders. By exchange it doth lend and borrow, and so by permuting for native commodities, it gaineth the varieties of all countries; for the nature of merchandise *is to carry out superflous things, and to bring in necessary things*. Therefore to pull down the merchant, and the citizen, it were to turn the whole kingdom into a plowshare, or a grazier's hide, or a weaver's shuttle; we must eat nothing but our own fatlings, drink nothing but our own cider, wear nothing but our own wooll, physick our selves with our own druggs, mint out of our own mines; yea, it were to unrigge a great part of our own shipping, to embargo our own nation, to build blockhouses against our selves, and to bar up our havens; we can walk then no further than the seashore, or to the land's end, and there upon our own cliffes bid adiew to all our neighbour-nations, and proclaime our selves strangers to all the world; it were to put an end to the difference between Free Trade and companies' trade, and to unty one of the strongest twists that ever was in the world, namely, that of humane and nationall society; for merchandise is by the law of nations, as the *civilians* hold. Did I say by the law of nations? I might say by the law of God. For wherefore dothe the scripture say, that God hath *made a path in the sea*, and *that men may go down to the sea in ships, and do their businesse in great waters*, and *that the wise woman is like a merchant ship, that bringeth her food from afar*, and *that the kingdome of heaven is like unto a merchant man seeking goodly pearls*: if merchandise by God's law were not justifiable and honourable? Yes, this calling is requisite, and exquisite; it is the nation's head-servant, high-steward, sent out to all the earth as to a generall market and fairstead, to buy her provisions, and things of the highest price (value) to furnish her, and adorn her. And what she meetith withal for her use, she transmittith home, nay brings in her own hand to her dear city, that the city might be a spring within her selfe, and a conduit to the whole country. Merchant and citizen, therefore, still stand thy ground with reputation, for thou maist be looked upon as a person of fame."

THE REGISTRATION.

LEEDS.—The following is the result of the Parliamentary revision for this borough :—

Monopolists struck off on objection	73	
Free Traders struck off on objection	50	
	—	23
Monopolists put on by new claims	54	
Free Traders put on by new claims	87	
	—	33
Total gain of Free Trade Votes		56

We believe that this statement is under rather than over the mark; and, from the state of the list previous to revision, we confidently anticipate the return of two Free-Trade candidates, should an election occur upon the present register.

BOROUGH OF MANCHESTER.—Thomas Horncastle Marshall, Esq., and the Hon. Richard Denman, the barristers appointed to revise the lists of voters for this borough, held their court for that purpose on Monday and Tuesday last. The number of cases for consideration was less than in any preceding year, being—Claims, 65; objections, 133. Mr. Charles Gibson and Mr. Webb attended on behalf of the Free Traders, and Mr. Calstor for the Monopolists. The following is the result of the revision :—

CLAIMS ALLOWED.

	Free Traders.	Monopolists.	Doubtful.	Struck off on objection. F. T.	M.	D.
Ardwick	1	1	0	0	5	0
Bradford and Beswick ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cheetham	4	0	0	0	2	0
Chorlton-upon-Medlock.	3	0	0	0	19	0
Harpurhey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hulme	7	0	0	0	8	0
Manchester	17	1	1	0	76	0
Newton	0	0	0	0	0	0
	32	1	1	0	110	0

Gain to Free Traders on claims	30	
Do. do. on objections ..	110	
Total gain		140

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH REGISTRATION.—

Free Traders' claims made	44
Do. allowed	34
Do. disallowed	10
Monopolist claims made	21
Do. allowed	12
Do. disallowed	9
Free Traders rejected upon objection	0
Monopolists do. do.	20

Making a total of 51 in favour of Free Traders.

BOROUGH OF SALFORD.—On Tuesday last a court for revising the lists of voters for the borough of Salford was held at the Town-hall, Chapel-street, before Thomas Horncastle Marshall, Esq., and the Hon. Richard Denman, the barristers appointed for revising the lists of parliamentary electors for the several boroughs in the southern division of this county. The hour fixed for commencing the business was ten o'clock; but, after the overseers had delivered in their lists to Mr. Denman, none of the parties objected to appearing, he adjourned the court to one o'clock, when both the learned barristers were present. Mr. Charles Gibson and Mr. Philip Yandall attended in support of the objections made by the Free Traders, but no advocate appeared on behalf of the Monopolists. The following are the claims and objections in each of the townships within the borough :—

	Claims.	Objections.
Salford	15	61
Pendleton	4	9
Broughton	3	2
	22	72

With few exceptions, the parties objected to did not appear, and were struck out of the list. The revision of the lists was completed at twenty minutes past two o'clock, when the court adjourned.

BOROUGH OF WAKEFIELD.—The game of monopoly in this borough is played out, and henceforth the cause of Free Trade must be paramount. The court for the revision of the lists of voters was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., before E. E. Deacon, Esq., barrister. Mr. Nettleton and Mr. Terry appeared as advocates for the Free Traders. The Monopolists were unsupported, and very few attended to defend their votes. They did not venture to make a single objection, and of seventeen Monopolist claims not one was substantiated. The following are the results :—

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Orange electors on overseers' lists, exclusive of double entries	362	
Blue electors do. do. ..	240	
		122

ALVERTHORPE-WITH-THORNES TOWNSHIP.

Orange electors (as above)	49	
lue electors (do.)	24	
		25

STANLEY-CUM-WRENTHORP TOWNSHIP.

Orange electors (as above)	7	
Blue electors (do.)	6	
		1
Add gain on the day's revision as under:—		
Blues struck off	16	
Orange do.	0	
		16
Orange new claims	12	
Blue do.	0	
		12
Gain of Free Traders		170

WARRINGTON BOROUGH REVISION.—The revising barrister held his court here for the revision of the list of borough voters on Friday last, and the following are the results of this revision :—

Monopolists struck off in Warrington by objection ..	22	
Do. in Latchford	5	
		27
Free Traders struck off in Warrington	5	
Do. in Latchford	2	
		7
Gain in objections		20
Free-Trade claims sustained	2	
Monopolist claims sustained	1	
		1
Total gain to the Free Traders in the revision ..		21

IMPORTATION OF AMERICAN PROVISIONS.

Within the last few days not less than 204 boxes of American cheese have been received in Liverpool; a fact which will be more agreeable to cheese eaters than either to Cheshire farmers or landlords; and as the trade has sprung up without any change in the tariff (which, as far as cheese is concerned, remains as it was before Sir Robert Peel reduced the duties on so many kinds of provision), there is every reason to expect that it will continue and extend. Every year the quality of the American cheese improves, and though very little of what has yet come is equal to the best Cheshire, yet much of it is very good, and is likely to be consumed, not only by the poor, but by people in tolerable circumstances.

Another article, which is arriving in very large quantities, is American lard, which is coming into use for many purposes for which salt and even fresh butter has been employed, and which, when it becomes generally known, will take its place for those purposes in families of small or moderate means.

Very excellent salted beef is also beginning to arrive from the United States in considerable quantities, and a gentleman of our acquaintance, well acquainted with the provision trade, informs us that the American salt beef is likely, in a great degree, to take the place of the Irish for shipping purposes. What is remarkable is, that the American pork and hams, which were expected to be so very superior, have so far turned out very indifferently; but this must be chiefly owing to bad curing and bad packing, for it is generally allowed by those who have tasted the American pork in America, that it is particularly good.

If these importations continue and extend, as they seem likely to do, the owners of the pasture lands of Cheshire, Gloucestershire, North Wiltshire, and of Ireland, will have to change their systems of farming, and to introduce the plough, together with a mixed system of husbandry, in the place of perpetual grass; and as that will increase the amount of employment for the poor, and double or treble the value of the produce of the soil, competition will in this, as in all other cases, prove a general benefit, though it will compel both landlords and tenants to look very sharply about them for some time.

Should the fall in the prices of salt meat, butter, cheese, and similar articles, drive the Irish dairymen and graziers to turnip husbandry and a mixed system of farming, for which that country is better suited than any other in the world, owing to the mildness of its winters and the moisture of its climate, it would do more for the Irish poor than a hundred acts of Parliament. What they want is employment; and that they never can have in a purely agricultural country, so long as the greater part of the soil is divided into graziers' farms and potato gardens. We are glad to see, from the proceedings at the Ballinasloe agricultural meeting, that turnip husbandry is spreading rapidly in that part of the country amongst the small farmers, and trust that in course of time it will become general throughout Ireland. Its introduction would double the wealth of the country and the amount of employment for the labouring classes.

[The above is extracted from the columns of the *Morning Post*, and we are delighted to observe that our courtly contemporary, heretofore the stanch supporter of monopoly, begins at length to recognise the doctrine, that the best incentive to profitable tillage and increased employment for the agricultural labourer is the wholesome stimulus of foreign competition.]

THE REVENUE.

(From the *Economist*.)

The revenue returns show a total increase of income, on the year ending October 10th, of £4,076,346, and on the quarter of £1,565,931. Considerably more than this increase, however, arises from the income-tax; the increase of which on the year being £4,738,213, and on the quarter £1,734,060; so that, leaving the income-tax out of the calculation, the whole income of the year would show a reduction of £661,876, and of the quarter of £168,129.

The chief deficiency on the year, as well as on the quarter, is in the customs duties. After so much has been said respecting an improvement in trade, this will doubtless appear strange at first sight; but a closer examination will show that this result is, under the circumstances of the case, in no way at variance with the symptons of improved business. The new tariff, by which duties to a large amount were reduced, came into operation on the 1st of July, 1842. The present return, consequently, embraces in the first year, 1842, three quarters at the old rates of duty. The corresponding quarters of this year, at the new rates, show a reduction of £711,686. The last quarter of each year, from July to October, exhibits the result of the same rates of duties, and that of the present year shows a decrease of £414,469. It must, however, be remembered that two very important and accidental circumstances tended greatly to swell the income of that quarter in 1842. First, the new tariff was under discussion from April to July: during that period the clearances at the Custom-house were very trivial; towards the close of the quarter business was almost at a stand; with the new quarter commenced the new scale of duties, and a rush of business to replenishh exhausted stocks was felt at the Custom-house, such as had never been before experienced. And second: During that quarter last year duty was paid on upwards of two millions of quarters of wheat and flour, while this year the quantity does not reach one-third of that of last year. The difference in the receipts of these corresponding quarters is more than accounted for by this item; on all other articles there is an increase. Leaving out of the account the article of corn, and allowing for the diminished rates of duty, the income from the customs exhibits an increase.

The Excise, which showed so great a decrease in the first quarter of the year (upwards of £700,000), has progressively improved during the year, until on the last quarter there is an increase of £240,515.

The Stamps show a decrease both on the year and on the quarter. As far, however, as commercial stamps are concerned, there is no evidence against an improvement in business; it may have been, and no doubt has been, created by the great abundance of money, which has caused business transactions to be conducted more with *cash* and less by acceptances than when money is more scarce.

The decrease exhibited in the Post-office we must own surprises us more than any other item. On the year it is £1000, but on the quarter £8000. That which most increases our surprise on this head is, that while the two first quarters of the return show a considerable increase, the two last, notwithstanding the acknowledged improvement in trade, exhibit an increasing reduction.

We must acknowledge ourselves quite unable to account for this (what we hope will prove to be only temporary) interruption to the gradual and steady progress of the revenue under the great experiment which has been made.

However, as Sir Robert Peel acknowledged, the benefits resulting from this experiment are to be considered more on great social and mercantile grounds than on those of mere revenue.

On the whole, we cannot but express ourselves satisfied with the exhibition of the returns before us, and especially at the striking evidence they afford of the improved condition of the great mass of the consumers in the country, as exhibited by the Excise returns.

We have here one more evidence, added to that which the history of the revenue for the last twenty-five years exhibits, that when the first necessaries of life are abundant and cheap, the revenue increases; while, on the other hand, high prices and scarcity have invariably deranged and endangered the commerce and industry of the country, and with them the revenue.

TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

SECOND LETTER.

August 4, 1842.

DEAR ANDREW,—I wrote to your father a few days ago: I write to you to-day. It will be all one to whom I write: you will see the letters sent to him; he will see the letters sent to you.

This London is a strange place to a stranger; but I will not, as yet, if ever I do, offer you any written account of it. Indeed I cannot describe it. It is one endless, ceaseless whirl of noise and confusion, and my head whirls with it. If I may use a simile familiar to you, London is a great monstrous threshing-mill at full work, standing on as much ground as from Tyne Sands to Deuchrie Hill—from Dunbar at one end to Haddington at the other. Wheels upon wheels dirl and deave you on every side. People bustle and crush to their business as if their work would overwhelm them if they stopped but a minute. I never go to bed at night but with my head ringing as if your steam-mill had been threshing beans all day, and me feeding in.

The day after I wrote to your father I went to see the farms which are to let in Oxfordshire. They will not do for me; neither for your father nor yourself, Andrew. But, nevertheless, I will give you some account of my journey to them, and what I saw, and said, and heard others say.

I took my seat on the outside of a coach called the Blenheim, which goes once a day between London and Oxford. We went through part of Middlesex, a large part of Buckinghamshire, and a small part of the county of Oxford. The distance altogether to where I made a full stop, at Woodstock, is fifty miles, or thereabout. It was a fine day, and I had an opportunity of seeing the English farmers, with their shearers and mowers, in the fields. The crops are fully farther on here than in the Lothians, and the farmers are all in full course of cutting down, so I was told. I say, "so I was told," for I did not see what we would call harvest work. Every ripe field had some one in it: a man mowing at one end; two women shearing at another end; three or four men, women, and children in the middle of the field—all making clips here and holes there, as if the grain were not ripe; while, in reality, it was drooping to the ground in its deadness. Sometimes I saw as many as five mowers together, but these were rare; the more common sight was to see two or three persons shearing in one place, and as many at the distance of three hundred yards mowing in another place. They seem to be good mowers, and perhaps they are good shearers; but the ability of the work people is not so much a question as the strange custom of fiddle-faddling with large fields of ripe grain as they do, instead of cutting it down with a sufficiency of hands at once.

For instance, there are yourselves now. You will have thirty or forty rigs of shearers.* You have them all in one field—your ripest. You sweep it down in a day's time; and next day you make choice of your next ripest. If one field is more exposed to the wind, and more likely to be shaken than another which is riper but better sheltered, you move your thirty rigs of shearers at your will, and down at once with the crop which the wind endangers. Not so here. They work by the piece. One man takes a few acres for himself and family to cut; another does the same, and another and another, until we see them in every part of nearly every field, doing a little to all, but powerless to save any single field in a case of emergency.

The crops are pretty good in these parts, but I am much surprised to see so little wheat grown. Barley is the commonest crop. I do not see, however, how they can produce wheat to advantage, unless they purchase manure for it; and what farmer can do that continually? The cattle they feed are grazed on old meadow land, which (will you believe it?) they are bound under heavy penalties not to break up with the plough. Thus they have no means of manuring their corn land, because the turnips they grow are only eaten by sheep.

But I am wrong to insinuate that turnips are grown at

* A ridge (or rig) of shearers in the Lothians consists of three. But to each six shearers or two rigs, there is a man who binds up the sheaves, who is called the bandster.

all. We would never let such trash encumber the soil as I see here under the name of turnips. You remember the year 1826, how dry it was, and how early the harvest? You may remember that I sowed several fields of turnips after taking off the corn and ploughing the stubble. Your father thought the result hardly paid my expenses. But I can tell you my second crop of that year was superior to any turnips I have seen in the counties I have just travelled over. They do not understand the turnip culture at all. The seed is sown broadcast. In thinning them, the soil around the roots is trampled; and, if properly hoed and cleared of weeds, the roots would be still more trampled. But the crop is not cleared of weeds. So, besides there being no farmyard dung made by house-feeding, to enable the corn crops to grow fruitfully, the weeds are generated also—either as if they were profitable, or, at the least, not harmless.

We could make a good thing here if we had a good lease, that is, a sufficient period with as few restrictions as possible. But they are all yearly tenants here; or, if not, they are so bound by their leases as to be worse than if they were yearly tenants rationally free. They are restricted in their cultivation of the land to a degree that excites pity and ridicule: pity for the poor farmer, ridicule for his absurd landlord. But more of this by and by, when I have seen more of the country and its customs.

Meantime I will only tell you what I have seen on my journey. The nearest stage to the district of the farms to be let, I found to be a little town called Woodstock. I put up at a very comfortable house, called the Royal Oak, a house celebrated both in history and romance, which you may see by looking into Scott's novel of Woodstock, which you have at home.

It is a poor-looking town as respects business. It is not quite so large as Haddington, yet it sends a member to Parliament: its present man is one Thessiger, a lawyer of London. I am informed that had we been tenants of the farms I have been looking at we would have had to vote for this member, as some of the farms lie within the boundary of the Parliamentary borough. Several of the tenants, who are about to leave their farms, have been dismissed because they were refractory voters, so I hear. Now, just imagine what your farm would have been, what its rent, and what its worth; what your father and yourself would have been; what the honesty of the working people would have been, if, instead of a lease, with liberty of conscience, and an inducement to spend £10,000 during the first few years of the lease—just imagine what the difference would have been had your father been a tenant-at-will, and obliged to vote for any Mr. Thessiger that his landlord might have thought fit to send to the borough. Your father makes a free boast of having made £20,000 from an expenditure of £10,000 at the commencement of his lease. I myself cleared £8000 out of an expenditure of £6000 in the first five years; but would we, or any one like us, have expended that money, chiefly in wages; would we have been enabled to pay the rents we have paid; would we have filled the corn-markets and the bakers' shops, and the bread-eaters' mouths as we have filled them, had we been yearly tenants, and, in preference to a substantial tenure of our farms, been obliged, in the first instance, to bind ourselves to vote, or, which is all the same, leave ourselves open to be forced to vote, for some insubstantial shadow of a lawyer?

No, truly. Our farms might have remained what those near Woodstock borough are now, as ill cultivated and as profitless, with as poor a population.

I soon learned in Woodstock what the primary duties of a tenant under the house of Marlborough are; and I as soon resolved that I would be no tenant there. Nevertheless, I went over some of the land to let, and came to a decided opinion that, to a capitalist with security of tenure, it would be an excellent bargain at a rent considerably above what the tenants-at-will pay. At all events, I would rather pay five-and-twenty or thirty shillings an acre for it than I would have land in the back woods of America, where there is no market, at a shilling an acre. The market is everything in estimating the value of farms. But if our commerce and manufactures do not revive, of which there is little sign, we shall soon have no markets in England, or at least a very bad one.

This town of Woodstock had once a good trade, they tell me, in the finer kinds of leather gloves, and also in steel trinkets. It has little trade now. It has a market and two or three fairs; but, not having seen either of them, I cannot say what they are worth to it. One of its chief attractions and sources of income, if not the chiefest, is its proximity to Blenheim Park and Palace, to which and to itself, in consideration of historical associations, many visitors pay their respects and stay for brief periods.

I got up by times in the morning, and, passing up one of the three streets of Woodstock, I, at a place where there seemed no outlet from the street, turned suddenly to the right hand through a lofty gateway, and all at once found myself in Blenheim Park.

There is a beautiful softness and grandeur at this first view of it, which strikes one with sensations very new and very strong. The stranger has approached Woodstock, and passed through it, as he would pass through the commonplace pages of a book of travels, until, all at once and unexpected, he turns as if turning a leaf, and a page of Shakspere—the most grand in loftiness and depth, the most beautifully intricate and poetical in breadth and variety—opens upon his eye, and commands him to admire.

It is said when George III. visited Blenheim he, on entering this gate, caused his carriage to halt, and asked eagerly if it were not possible to carry all this park, its deep valley and water, its woods and palace, and set them down at Windsor to be looked at every day! But it seems that even the wishes of a King could not be complied with when so ponderous a load as the gigantic piles of Blenheim, its miles of wood and water, and hill and valley, were to be moved; so there they stand, now as then, the noblest of parks and palaces.

Perhaps you are aware that this was originally a royal park, and only received the name of Blenheim when it was given as a residence and reward to the warrior Duke of Marlborough. One of his great battles was called the battle of Blenheim, and from it this palace of Woodstock received its changed name.

This was also the scene of Fair Rosamond's Bower. No trace of the bower exists now. Near the place where it is said to have been, a tall column in honour of John, Duke of Marlborough, and his victories, is erected, bearing an elaborate inscription.

The timber in the park is all very old; and in many parts the trees are branchless and decayed—decayed as some great-grandfather is, whose bald head outlives all his offspring and all his friends.

I have not left myself room to say how I got back to London, farther than this, that I came by Oxford; from that to the Steventon station on the Great Western Railway, by which I soon found myself in the metropolis.

Send me word how the harvest gets on, and how uncle is. Mary is well, and desires her love to you all; which, with mine, except, and believe me yours, as ever, your cousin,

ADAM BROWN.

AGRICULTURE.

BIT-BY-BIT REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

It has been lately said that "the farmers are like a weakly plant-nurtured in a hothouse, which cannot at once bear exposure to a cold breeze;" but the analogy is a false one, founded on a total misconception of the way in which the Corn Laws affect the business of a farmer.

If the Corn Laws had really secured to the British grower of grain the permanently high price, upon which he has founded his calculations and incurred his obligations, and if the repeal of the Corn Laws would simply deprive him of that high price, as is supposed by those who would accustom him gradually to free competition with foreign growers, the proper remedy would be not a fixed but a yearly diminishing duty. But the Corn Laws have done nothing of the kind.

From the difference of seasons, especially in this country, the produce of grain in different years varies so much, that in very abundant seasons the home growth is fully adequate to the home consumption; while in seasons of deficiency our demand for supplies beyond the home growth is so urgent, that the price of corn might be forced up to any conceivable amount. Now the principal direct effect of a Corn Law is to enlarge the range of this fluctuation in prices. And it does so in two ways: first, by postponing, in deficient years, our supply from abroad until the price of corn has risen to the limit fixed by the law for its admission, always much higher than the point at which corn would be imported under Free Trade; secondly, by offering, in the occasionally artificial price, an inducement to all the farmers to grow more grain, particularly wheat, than they would otherwise do, and thus increasing the abundance and consequent cheapness of wheat in productive years. That these fluctuations are injurious to the farmers is scarcely denied by the monopolists, but they attempt to conceal the fact that they are caused, or very much aggravated, by the Corn Laws.

Just consider how a bit-by-bit removal of the Corn Laws would operate. Take, for example, a fixed duty. Within the last ten years, in 1835 and 1836, we have had wheat so abundant and cheap, that it was substituted to a great extent for the inferior grains in feeding cattle and in distilleries; and during the same period in 1839 and 1840, the same grain has been so high, that the average prices, notwithstanding very large importations, were nearly double those of the abundant years. In the cheap years any Corn Law would have been inoperative. Whether the duty had been five shillings or fifty, no foreign corn would have been imported. In the dear years corn must have been imported whatever might have been the importation limit fixed by law. Had the old law of 1815 existed, all the wheat of the country must have been for six weeks at the famine price of 80s. a quarter before we could have obtained relief from importation, yet that limit, or any higher one, would have been as certainly reached as was the average of 73s. of Sir Robert Peel's sliding scale. Had there been a fixed duty, say of 8s. a quarter, that would have been the measure of the tax imposed, for the home grower's benefit, on all the wheat, native and foreign, consumed in the country. Whether the *farmer* would have actually received that tax is another question.

In the present temper of the public mind such a tax, in the naked form of a fixed duty, could scarcely have been maintained after the price of wheat had reached 60s.—a fact which must always be kept in view by the farmers. At this moment the average price of wheat here is 49s. a quarter, little, if at all, above the Continental price, the cost of carriage and expenses of bringing it to this country, about 10s. a quarter, being added to that price. And the Continental price is now comparatively low, from the improbability that there will be any chance of importing to this country, at all events, for several months. Had we a fixed duty of 5s. a quarter, it would at this moment as effectually prevent importation as Sir Robert Peel's *maximum* of 20s. And this is in no way contradicted by the fact that some wheat has been imported at a 14s. duty, for such importation was entirely speculative, or was the result of a speculative purchase at a former period when the foreign markets were depressed by the prospect of extraordinary abundance which our crops presented in the early spring.

Let it also be remembered that now and for the last ten years all the farmer's burdens and calculations have been based upon an expectation of, at least, 60s. a quarter for wheat, and that the pressure of his engagements is now compelling him to force his corn to market with as much eagerness as the greatest panic, which some seem to apprehend from an immediate abolition of the Corn Laws, could induce. An immediate repeal, when prices have been forced up by the restrictive operation of the Corn Law, might produce the same kind of fall in prices which a good harvest does, but it would do no more. Now it could do nothing of the sort, for the fall from the monopoly price has been already occasioned by home competition. What say the monopolist organs of the present prospects of the farmers?

We take the first which offers, the *Berkshire Chronicle* of last week; and in the agricultural report for Berks we find that "the thrashing out of the corn is proceeding at a rapid rate; and nearly every farmer seems anxious, *in some way or other, to make a little money;* and the consequence is, that the markets are crowded with sacks and samples; many farmers have been obliged to send their teams with little more than half the number of quarters, in consequence of the badness of the yield, and their *eagerness to make a little money.*"

Now, every one knows that this "eagerness for a little money" is caused by the necessity of meeting rent at this season of the year, a necessity which is quite as stringent as any panic could be. In fact, a panic is a mere bugbear, the offspring of minds which have only lately become aware of the imperative necessity of abolishing the Corn Laws at no very distant day.

We again refer to the monopolist authority before cited for the protectionist views of the present state of the farmer, and we meet with the following significant passage:—"We are sorry we cannot congratulate our brother farmers on a prospect of better times; *for, with a crop of wheat of about 20 bushels to the acre, anything like 50s. per quarter must be ruination to the tenant farmer;* and with such a crop and price there will not be sufficient to pay labour and other expenses; *and the whole of the rent must be paid out of capital, or go unpaid;* and we shudder to think of the consequences that will ensue to many an honest and industrious occupier of the soil."

Again, "There is not a doubt but, before another harvest, that the price of grain will advance; but the needy farmer, *at the present time,* is obliged to sell; and the lower the price is, the greater is the quantity that he is obliged to dispose of; and this, of course, helps to cause a glut, and the evil increases itself."

Here we have a description of the condition of "the needy farmer," which proves that, let the consequences of Free Trade be what they may, nothing could deteriorate his circumstances; and *this happens during the legal existence of his "protecting" law.*

Such a farmer can only go on either by increasing his produce or by a reduction of his rent. To enable him to effect the former, he must have some aid in the way of draining or otherwise from his landlord, and he must become himself awake to the necessity of improving his system of husbandry: mere reduction of rent alone would never effectually help such a tenant. Now, let us obtain an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, which would probably render the price of wheat steady at about the present rate, and both the "needy" tenant and his landlord would see that it must be beneficial to both to make some permanent arrangement. Under the influence of the Corn Laws, they both dwell on the delusive prospect of what they call "better times," which means a recurrence of bad harvests and monopoly prices, instead of putting their shoulders to the wheel, and at once surmounting their difficulties. The landlord makes a trumpery and temporary abatement of rent; and the tenant, leaving his other obligations to accumulate, goes on in the system by which "about twenty bushels of wheat to the acre" are grown, in the hope that he may next year or the year after sell it for 70s. a quarter. That any system of farming, by which only about 20 bushels of wheat are grown to the acre, can be successful is utterly impossible.

It would be difficult to meet with a more complete illustration of the absolute inutility, to say the least, of Corn Laws to the farmer, than that furnished by the monopolist organ; and it shows how futile is the fear, "that an immediate abolition would produce a panic injurious to the farmer." We believe that the panic, if it occurred at all, would be amongst the landlords, and that not merely equitable but advantageous terms might be made by all farmers who understand their business. Some proofs that such a feeling has already begun to operate on the landlords have lately fallen under our observation.

BEDFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

In selecting illustrations in favour of Free Trade in Corn from the numerous reports of the sayings and doings at the agricultural societies with which the provincial papers teem, we are influenced by the wish to show that the causes which retard agriculture and render farming a hazardous or losing business, are universal. That whether we go north, south, east, or west; whether we refer

to the best or the worst cultivated districts; whether we look at populous Lancashire or Staffordshire, or the agricultural counties of Buckingham or Bedford, the same evils are felt and the same remedies are proposed wherever the oppressed tenantry can be brought to speak out. Last week we reviewed Lord Stanley's agricultural lecture at Liverpool, and showed that, if his lordship is not a Free Trader upon strictly agricultural grounds, according to his own showing he ought to be. This week we shall call the attention of our readers to one of the most instructive agricultural meetings which has hitherto come under our notice, and which completely corroborates all we have said of the absolute necessity of Free Trade as a condition precedent to agricultural prosperity. The meeting we allude to is that of the *West Beds and East Bucks Agricultural Association*, held at *Leighton Buzzard* early in the present month.

"Major Gilpin, the president of the society, took the chair, supported on the right by Lord Charles Russell and Sir Harry Verney, and on the left by G. W. Hayter, Esq., M.P. Amongst the company were also G. Pearse, Esq., E. Lawford, Esq., Mons. Leconte, S. Reeve, Esq., Major Penfold, J. Osborne, Esq., J. D. Bassett, Esq., and a host of the most eminent agriculturists in the counties of Beds and Bucks, including Mr. Samuel Bennett of Bickerings Park, Mr. Brett of Luton, Mr. W. Bennett of Lewsey, Mr. Thomas Procter of Ivinghoe Aston, Bucks, Mr. Thomas Ginger of Edlesborough, Mr. Burness of Woburn, Mr. Charles Cooley of Ivinghoe, &c. &c. Mr. T. Paxton of Potsgrove filled the vice-chair."

Mr. Hayter's health having been drunk in connexion with the Royal Agricultural Society, as one of its council, he stated some interesting details of experiments made with "guano" on his farm close by the place of meeting, and referred to the general state of agriculture in the neighbourhood in terms which proved there is much room for improvement.

Lord Charles Russell apologized for the absence of the Duke of Bedford in these terms:—

"It might appear to some that a nobleman like the Duke of Bedford would have perfect command over his leisure; but he was one of those noblemen who held that, *although property had its privileges and rights, it had likewise its corresponding duties.* He felt it incumbent upon him to provide for the moral and religious instruction of the peasantry on his estates, and his absence that day was occasioned by an appointment with a learned judge, to consider the best means of promoting the education of the poor in a distant part of his estates." (Immense applause.)

He also alluded with pleasure to the fact that the duke had been beaten at that day's show by a tenant-farmer.

Mr. Samuel Bennett was toasted with the tenant-farmers, and was expressly mentioned as "one of the best specimens of the class," and who is well known as a successful breeder of Leicester sheep.

Mr. Bennett, in reply, made no allusion to the state of agriculture beyond the significant remark that he "hoped the tenant-farmers would be enabled, in the pursuit of agriculture, to bring up their children in such a way that they would be a blessing to society." But we cannot pass the favourable mention made of Mr. S. Bennett as an agriculturist by his neighbours without referring for a moment to the evidence given by him before the agricultural committee of 1836. He then said he had not a doubt that farmers could farm profitably with wheat at 5s. or 6s. a bushel; and that the quantity of stock kept was a most material consideration in calculating rent; that agriculture had improved in this district during the five years of low prices which preceded 1836.

But to proceed. Mr. Beasley, bailiff to Lord Spencer, spoke for the judges of stock, of whom he was one, and observed,

"The exhibition was decidedly an improvement over that of last year: the sheep, pigs, and horses would have been respectable at any meeting; *the cattle were good, well formed, substantial animals; but he thought if they were to throw a little more blood and flesh into them they would be improved.*"

In other words, farmers should pay more attention in selecting their stock, and feed them better. When every farmer knows that the difference of rearing well-bred stock or mongrels is just the choice between a profit or a loss, it is really surprising that such general carelessness should exist amongst them. In reference to this observation Mr. Hayter said he had lately been through the cattle-producing states of Germany, and he found that the alarm lately entertained of foreign cattle was baseless:—

"In the whole of Friesland and Holland there was nothing to compare with British cattle. He was fully satisfied that no country could compete with this in cattle, and that, instead of becoming a cattle-importing country, it would become a cattle-exporting country. ('Hear' and cheers, and a voice, 'I am sure of it.') He had last year offered a gentleman (Mr. Bates) £300 for three *heifers*: the answer was, 'I'll sell you one for £250.' There were markets in the United States and in Europe—there were plenty of markets for good cattle. *Large capital was not required in the production of stock, but a small capital and judgment was sufficient*, for they could buy their cattle one day, and sell them the next if they required. The beast he had exhibited to-day he had lately been offered £30 for beyond what he gave."

And another gentleman, Mr. Burness, also said:—

"With regard to rearing stock, he was of opinion that *the best animal would pay best*; and if they had a good animal, and put it in with a bad one, they would find that the former could be kept for half the sum which would be necessary to keep the latter. (Hear.) *Some people said it was no matter whether an animal had blood—and that blood goes in with the food—but he thought feeding was of no use if there were not blood.*"

There is no better test of a good farmer than the attention paid in the breeding and selecting stock, according to the circumstances of the locality, and the kind of stock kept. Many farmers who pay much attention to the cultivation of their land, and are commonly reputed good farmers, are very careless with regard to stock; but we do not know an instance in which a good stock farmer is not also a good cultivator of his land. Indeed *some* corn may be grown with very little stock, or with stock of an inferior kind, while a good stock requires judgment, patience, and calculating forethought on the part of the farmer; and, above all, though, as Mr. Hayter says, "large capital is not required in the production of stock," the successful stock farmer must farm within his capital, and cannot realize his profits in one year. High prices of corn form one of the great obstacles to stock farming with the generality of cultivators, for when they can sell their grain and other produce for a comparatively large immediate price, they do not like to risk that for a future profit obtained with some trouble. There is no man in business so indolent and timid as a poor and inferior farmer.

Mr. Beasley, who rather took up the cudgels for farmyard manure in opposition to Mr. Hayter's eulogy on guano, afterwards said:—

"He had been much struck by a remark made by Dr. Buckland, at a meeting held recently that there was no manure like farmyard manure when it could be obtained in sufficient quantity, and that science should be brought in only to make up for the deficiency. *Now the reason they could not make a sufficient quantity of farmyard manure was, that they had not farmyards to make it in*; it appeared, therefore, to him wrong to throw aside a certain for a speculative benefit. *He believed there were few farms but would, if supplied with the first necessary—a good farmyard—afford a sufficient quantity of manure*; and he had a strong feeling that if every landlord provided, as he ought to do, every farm on his estate with a good farmyard, he would be benefiting his tenants—benefiting himself by improving his estates—and benefiting society at large by providing a larger quantity of food." *(Much applause.)*

This is true; and it may serve to point out to those who may not be acquainted with the details of rural affairs, one of the many ways in which the landowners evade the improvement of their own properties, and throw the loss upon the public by attempts to keep up the price of corn. If, by means of a Corn Law, the tenant can give the same rent for land which is only half employed—that is, on which a full stock is not kept—as he could, prices being lower, by an improved system of husbandry, the landlord saves a great outlay in buildings, drainage, and similar permanent acts required to render a farm really "tenantable."

Sir Harry Verney then enlarged on the same text, saying—

"One of the essentials to the prosperous pursuit of agriculture was a good farmyard, and he would boldly state what he believed to be another—they all stated their opinions freely, and *his opinion was that, unless they got leases (cheers)—long leases (renewed cheers)*—agriculture would never prosper in England as it ought to do. He did not say this from a fear of a want of confidence between landlord and tenant; but he had a strong feeling *that there was no way in which the capitalist could so well, safely, and advantageously invest his money, as in going hand in hand with the farmer;* he could say that from his experience, in connexion with the gentlemen who managed his land; for the small sum he had expended the returns were so enormous (*laughter and cheers*)—he would say the returns were so enormous, that, if the capitalists of the country once became convinced of the fact (*laughter, and 'hear, hear'*), they would employ their capital in agriculture. *But the capitalist would not do it unless he had some certainty of return;* and whatever good feeling might exist between landlord and tenant, *that did not affect the capitalist*, who knew nothing of the neighbourhood; *but if the farmer could go with his lease in his hand, the capitalist would be ready to advance his money as a most profitable mode of investment.*"

We do not wonder that some of the farmers of Bedfordshire or Buckinghamshire should have treated with derision the idea that anything in the shape of a profit, which might be called "enormous," could be extracted from their fertile, but ill-managed, rush-grown fields; yet every day brings forth additional testimony to the fact, that large profits may be reaped from judicious outlays in cultivating land in England. That a long lease, in the hands of a farmer of skill and industry, would form a legitimate and safe security for capital advanced in aid of the cultivation of the farm is beyond a question, though to the Buckinghamshire tenants-at-will such an opinion appears to be chimerical. Sir H. Verney concluded by saying—

"He had been in a part of the country *where money was freely advanced on leases*—but he believed they would find that it would not be advanced where there were no leases."

Mr. Shaw, the able editor of the *Mark-lane Express*, said,—

"He was happy to be present at this meeting, and to hear such sound observations from those who must give the start in agricultural improvements—*the landlords.* (Cheers.) He felt confident that, if the capital invested in United States and other stocks were invested in that best of securities, farming, they might bid defiance to the world."

The next speaker was Mr. Paxton, who, we imagine, is an advocate of the Corn Laws, and he expressed the sentiments of hundreds of farmers when he said—

"He was sure that the farmer could not go on prosperously, *if, at every meeting of Parliament, there were some alteration in the Laws. ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.)* He believed that there were some good men in the House of Commons, and that they did their best; *but it was a pity that they should bother themselves by making long speeches about agriculture* (laughter), *and he thought it would be much better for the farmer if they let him alone.* (Laughter and cheers.) *He was quite sure that in all the alterations they made the farmer would come off with number nought.* (Renewed laughter.) He agreed with what had fallen from the hon. baronet relative to farmyards. Mr. Paxton then alluded to the excellent mangel wurzel exhibited by Mr. E. Lawford, *which he attributed in some degree to that gentleman's ability to lay on the lime a little thicker than poor farmers.*"

Now here, in a few rough sentences, is a sermon in condemnation of the Corn Laws. The farmers are beginning to see that they are sure to suffer from "all the alterations of the Corn Laws," and that it is easier to make long speeches and acts of Parliament than to keep prices permanently high. Yet the farmer will not and cannot be "let alone" until Parliament shall have ceased to meddle with his business at all.

The incredulity of the tenants-at-will, however, again called up Mr. Hayter, who has improved a farm *within two miles of the place of meeting* to an extent which, to some of the meeting, would seem to have appeared impossible, who said,

"The remarks that had been made by Sir Harry Verney, about the profitableness of investments in land, appeared to have been received with something like derision; *it seemed to be taken as a matter of surprise that investments in land should be successful.* Now there were some present who were aware that he had taken into hand three years ago, *some not very congenial soil in that neighbourhood*—and he had this day placed a detail of the result of that so-called experiment—*but he would not call it an experiment*—in the hands of a gentleman present, for the purpose of publication, if he approved of it. When he took the farm, his object was to have it let, and he had it valued by a competent surveyor; *he had carried it on for three years, and had it again valued by a gentleman whom they all knew*, Mr. Hart. *The result had been most satisfactory.* He (Mr. Hayter) had laid out a considerable amount of capital on the land; *he had laid down more than sixty miles of tiles, and had subsoiled to a considerable extent.* If he had invested his money in the funds, he would have got 3 per cent. for it; *but the result of his farming at the end of three years was, that the land was valued at a sum that gave him more than six per cent. upon the capital he had expended.* (Hear, hear.) *Now that was not a bad investment.* (*Cheers.*) He was doing the same in Berks, and when he knew the result, he would let them know it."

This was decisive; Mr. Hayter's farm is close to the town of Leighton Buzzard, and probably every man in the room had inspected it. Our readers should not forget that Mr. Hayter, whose property is almost exclusively invested in land, is member for Wells, and voted last session with Mr. Villiers, for a total Repeal of the Corn Laws. He afterwards said—

"With regard to what had fallen from Mr. Beasley, he entirely concurred in the opinion that landlords ought to make good yards on their farms;—but it was not only the farmyard that was of consequence, but also what was put into it. (Hear.) *He thought farmers neglected their green crops, and imagined wheat was the only profitable thing to cultivate, and this was an error.*"

This is just what every man who has considered Free Trade in connection with English agriculture has always said.

We know that Mr. Hayter, in a recent communication to a fellow-agriculturist, said, "The more I see of and practise agriculture, the more firmly am I convinced that the whole unemployed labour of the country could, under a better system of husbandry, be advantageously put into operation; and moreover that the Corn Laws have been one of the principal causes of the present system of bad farming and *consequent pauperism*. Nothing short of their entire removal will ever induce the *average* farmer to rely upon anything else than the Legislature for the payment of his rent; his belief being that all rent is paid by corn, and nothing else than corn, and that the Legislature can, by enacting Corn Laws, create a price which will make his rent easy. The day of their (the Corn Laws) *entire abolition ought to be a day of jubilee and rejoicing to every man interested in land.*"

These are not hastily-formed opinions, or those of a man given to jump to sudden conclusions; for Mr. Hayter was some years ago an equity barrister and conveyancer of considerable eminence; and so enthusiastically is he attached to rural pursuits that, even while fagging at the bar, he occupied, as a tenant, a farm of eleven hundred acres in the west of England, eighty miles from London. The testimony of one such witness in favour of Free Trade, as it affects agriculture, is worth more than the counter-statements of a host of land-agents who live by the shifting of tenants.

Mr. Hayter's statement, however, did not pass without some carping by Mr. William Bennet, of Lewsey (the gentleman who was put forward by the monopolists at Mr. Cobden's meeting at Hertford in March last), who said,

"If a gentleman took bad land, and expended a large capital in doing every thing that was calculated to benefit and improve it, *he did not deny that he might thereby gain 6 per cent. for his money;* but from this statement it was likely to go abroad that farming generally was a profitable trade, *and that farmers obtained 6 per cent. on their capital, and that was wrong.*" (Cheers.)

To be sure they don't. Nor did Mr. Hayter mean to say they do. His object was to show the capacity for improvement, and the field for profitable outlay which exists in the half-cultivated land of this country.

Mr. W. Bennett had previously said, "he was delighted to hear Sir H. Verney's remarks on the necessity of leases, and of landlords making permanent improvements on their farms;" and Mr. Hayter, in reply, said—

"He quite agreed with Mr. Bennett that there must be security of tenure; a tenant could not have gone to the expense he (Mr. Hayter) did, *if he had not had a lease. If* they could obtain the necessary security by means of that *mutual reliance said by some to exist between landlord and tenant*—he did not think they could—that would be equivalent to a twenty-one years' lease. *He would take no less than a twenty-one years' lease*, for there were numerous contingencies, for instance, deaths, which rendered it unadvisable to do so. *Other people might place their reliance where they pleased; he would only place his on security of tenure, and, having that, he would say, that the investment of capital in land was a wise investment.*"

We know that Mr. Hayter says that a tenant *with a twenty-one years'* lease might have prudently laid out the same sum which he has invested in the improvement and occupation of his own farm. No slight part of his improvement is that of a mere tenant; for instance, the value of the stock when the last occupier left was £1000 (the farm consisting of 250 acres); Mr. Hayter's stock, valued in the depressed period of November, 1842, was worth more than £3000.

REDUCTION OF RENTS.

The Rev. Henry Blissett, of Litton, Herefordshire, at his rent audit held last Friday, at the Bell Hotel, Gloucester, for his estates in the parish of Upton St. Leonard's, *generously and considerately threw* [qy. as he would throw a bone to a starving dog] back ten per cent. to his tenants.—*Berrows's Worcester Journal.*

Mr. Stothert, of Cargen, returned on Wednesday last ten per cent. to his tenants on the half-year's rent due at Whitsunday last.

The Earl of Macclesfield has reduced his rents in Oxfordshire ten per cent., on the half-year due at Lady-day.—*Bucks Gazette.*

A Liberal Landlord.—It affords us much pleasure in once more having to record the liberality of the Rev. W. H. Bathurst, rector of Barwick-in-Elmet, towards his tenants. At the half-yearly rent day on Wednesday last, the rev. gentleman returned them twenty per cent. from the amount due: the same liberality was shown the previous half-year, and on two former occasions the rents were reduced each time ten per cent.—*Leeds Mercury.*

Lady Churchill, at her ladyship's recent audit at Morchard Bishop, caused a reduction of ten per cent. on the rent of her tenants.

Thomas Sherlock, Esq., of Bandon, county of Cork, has given a reduction of thirty per cent. to his tenants at Grange, county of Waterford, and is about to drain all the wet lands at his own expense.

At the audit, on the 10th inst., of Thos. Lane Coulson, Esq., of Clifton, the tenants of the East and South Brent estates, Somerset, were returned ten per cent. A similar return was made them in March last, and without any application on their part.

Lord Powerscourt is making considerable reductions to his tenants.—*Newry Telegraph.*

Landlord and Tenant.—We are informed that Lord Gormanstown, with a view of enabling the tenantry on his estates to improve their lands, has announced through his agent that he will allow 6d. for every barrel of lime applied as manure upon the lands, and 4d. per perch for permanent drains on his lordship's estate at Nobber. We are also informed that the Right Hon. F. Blackburne has given his tenantry a reduction of ten per cent. on their rents, and to have the benefit from November 1842, although their lands are held at a fair value and long leases.—*Drogheda Argus.*

[Either the landlords must have made unconscionable

bargains with their tenants, or the tenants must have made great miscalculations, to have rendered necessary these charitable and ostentatiously paraded reductions of rent. Did any *unprotected* business ever require such arrangements?]

ADVANCE OF WAGES.—In consequence of the improved state of trade, Mr. William Threlfall, of Addingham Low Mills, on Thursday week advanced the wages of his weavers 16 per cent.—*Leeds Mercury.*

[Contrast this with the "considerate throwing back" of rents we have recorded.]

MUTUAL DEPENDENCE.—At the meeting of the *Stewponey (Worcestershire) Agricultural Association*, the following happy and facetious, but not less true because facetious, statement of the mutual dependence between trade and agriculture, was made by Mr. Foster, an ironmaster:—"As a manufacturer, I am most intimately connected with agriculture, and whatever my friend may have told you just now, I must correct him when he says that manufactures are dependent upon agriculture; indeed, he corrected himself afterwards, for he said that we were mutually dependent upon each other. *It is impossible to separate them.* Only look at the events of the last three years, which have been more trying for all interests than I ever before knew, *and notice how the distress first manifested itself in the manufacturing*, and *then in the commercial and shipping interests: and though agriculture prospered in the first instance, it was only temporary, and it was not long before it began to feel the effects of the distress.* (Hear, hear.) I am sure that the three interests have such a connexion with each other, that if drinking to their prosperity will add to it, it ought to be often repeated, for I consider them three invalids just approaching a state of convalescence. Let us just take a glance at their attack. You have heard that the influenza attacks all, but I am sure the attack we have had has been far more severe than that. (Laughter.) What have been the symptoms? A great deal of feverish excitement—(great laughter)—considerable agitation—(another roar)—and, what is worst of all, a very feeble and languid circulation. (Renewed laughter.) All these attacks produced a very great depression of spirits, as well as a very great depression in our pockets. (More laughter.) These are some of the symptoms; and I am happy to say we are reviving from them. (Cheers.) I can only say, as one member of the manufacturing interest, that the depression got to such a pitch that we feared dissolution—(renewed laughter)—and I was one deputed to consult the best state physician to see whether he could save our lives. (This allusion to the late deputation of the ironmasters to Sir Robert Peel produced tremendous bursts of merriment, the Rev. John Peel—brother of the Prime Minister—appearing to enjoy it almost as much as the rest of the company.) I have great pleasure in naming this, because we are honoured with the presence of a near relation of his (cheers); and though I am politically opposed to Sir Robert Peel, I must confess that he is one of the most able men of the day. (Great cheering.) Well, when we went to the state physician—(another laugh)—I must say that we never had more attention paid to us in any medical conference—(more laughter)—than we had from him. After feeling our pulse—(renewed laughter)—inquiring after our habits—(another laugh) *and learning that we had been exerting ourselves*—(laughter)—*and working too hard*—(another burst)—*and doing too much*—(more laughter)—*he asked us if we had not been inhaling a little hot air, and thus became excited?* (Roars of laughter.) Well, in blowing our furnaces with the hot blast, we increased our make, and we were bound to acknowledge that we *had* been inhaling hot air—(laughter)—that we had been working hard—(laughter)—and we ventured to ask him whether any little measure to increase our circulation would not do us good? (Another burst of laughter.) He said it would be only a temporary relief, and here I am bound to declare to you that I differed from the state doctor, *for he told us to keep ourselves quiet*—(great laughter)—*and go home, and have a little patience*—(renewed laughter)—*and things would come round again; so when we came home again we began to stop our blow-bellows.* Well, then the stopping of the blow-bellows stopped the hands and feet, *and that was all very well, but unfortunately the stomach would not stop, and as fast as we blew out, the Board of Guardians—I see a gentleman who will tell you so—were obliged to blow in.* (Laughter.) But still, connected as I am with manufactures, agriculture, and commerce, I hope things are going to improve—though our worthy president, notwithstanding he belongs to the aristocracy, is connected with manufactures as well, for he comes here and tells us that he has a manufactory of tiles, and that he sells them at 22s. per 1000. (Great laughter.) I should recommend you, gentlemen, by no means to adopt his glazed tiles—(renewed laughter)—but to try my friend Mr. Grazebrook's cast iron pipes. (More laughter.) Why, come to pounds, shillings, and pence, and you will find them the best. If you adopt the tiles, in a few years they will be broken and good for nothing—(a laugh)—but if you take the pipes, *iron is now so low that in a few years' time you may take them up again, and they will be worth three times as much as you gave for them.*"

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

THE CROPS AND THE CORN TRADE.

The existing state of the law which regulates the importation of corn renders the condition of the crop of grain just gathered in a matter of deep consideration to every man engaged in commerce or in agriculture. The following passages on the subject from the agricultural journals show the current opinions of those most directly interested. The *Mark-lane Express* says,

"The weather still continues very favourable, and affords every facility for concluding the harvest in the later districts of the kingdom; indeed there is now scarcely any grain remaining abroad, even in the most backward parts of England, and that which has been recently carried must have been secured in excellent order: the keen northerly winds which have prevailed for several days must also have tended to improve the condition of the corn in stack in cases where it was harvested indifferently. Notwithstanding this advantage, the quality of the new wheat continues to be complained of; and, as regards the deficiency in the yield, reports become daily more serious. This, combined with the smallness of the stocks of old, and a steadily increasing consumption in the manufacturing districts, afford sufficient grounds for calculating on a gradual improvement occurring in the value of bread stuffs. During the past week the trade has maintained a very firm tone, and prices have further risen about 2s. per quarter at most of the principal markets, though the farmers have brought forward fair supplies. Notwithstanding this very general rise in the value of wheat all over the country, there seems little chance of the averages rising, owing to the very inferior quality of a large proportion of this year's growth. The last weekly return for the kingdom, published on Thursday (49s. 3d.), is again 1s. 7d. per quarter lower than that for the week preceding, and the duty is now at 18s. per quarter.

"Really fine wheat, whether new or old, met a ready sale at the highest prices; but inferior sorts, of which nearly the whole offered consisted, was difficult of disposal. From 60s. to 63s. per quarter was demanded for the finest sorts of Dantzic and superior red Baltic. As much as 30,000 quarters of foreign wheat were entered in London last week for home consumption at the duty of 17s. per quarter."

The September Agricultural Report of the same paper says, "that upon a considerable breadth of land, extending from part of Essex on the east, to beyond Reading, Berks, on the west, there is a deficiency of nearly one-third of grain when compared with the yield of 1842."

The Leicestershire correspondent also reports a deficiency of one-third in the yield of wheat as compared with last year, though the bulk of straw is very great. The grain also weighs 2lbs. a bushel less than last year's corn, and the writer observes:—

"It would have been more to the advantage of *both producer and consumer if the yield had been four quarters to the acre, and sold at 50s., than having only three and selling it at 60s.*"

[Yet this is what the monopolists won't understand; they insist upon a high price and low produce at a great proportional expense. Every farmer who deserves the name knows that an indifferent crop of corn is grown at a far greater expense per bushel than a bad one.]

A Wiltshire correspondent says:—"With regard to the wheat crop, *all* seem to be agreed that the deficiency will not be less than one-fifth as compared with the crop of last year, to say nothing of its very inferior quality." At Devizes market inferior new wheat was almost unsaleable. From East Lothian the report of the wheat crop is more favourable. The quantity of straw is large, and the quality of the grain is said to be little, if anything, inferior to that of last year. The potatoes, however, are under an average crop. The *Farmer's Journal* also says the reports from Scotland are satisfactory, but in England the deficiency in the yield of wheat will prove considerable.

[One of the most important effects of improved husbandry is to render the farmer far less dependent upon seasons either for the quantity or quality of his crops. Now, in the above statements we find that in East Lothian, where agriculture is in its most advanced state, the grain is considered nearly as good as that of the hot summer of last year, while in the naturally more favourable districts of South Britain the quality and quantity are very much lower, marking distinctly the greater dependence of the English farmer on the seasons. Since the above was written the duty on corn has advanced, but the quantity and quality of the wheat yielded by the late crop in England prove every day to be more and more deficient; there is every reason to believe that before the next harvest there will be a very great advance in the price of wheat; yet "then," as Lord Fitzwilliam said at Doncaster, "the farmers will have none to sell." At present, most of the markets are more abundantly supplied than at the corresponding period of last year, which arises from the severe pressure now experienced by farmers from monopoly burdens and Free-trade (perhaps lower than Free-trade) prices.]

IMPORTANCE OF IMPROVING THE BREED OF POULTRY.—Since 1824, in eggs, there have been exported from Dublin alone to the value of £273,000, distributable among the poorer classes. We are informed that this is principally to be attributed to the philanthropic taste of Mr. J. J. Nolan, of Bachelor's Walk, who has for many years past, at great expense, imported and distributed extensively the finest of all the foreign breeds. He has sent for exhibition to our agricultural show five crops of the most extraordinary for size and beauty, from the spangled Poles to the gigantic Malays, some of the male birds standing upwards of two feet high.—*Belfast Chronicle.*—[The rearing of poultry has almost ceased, as matter of profit, amongst English farmers; but if grain were usually moderate in price, the wife of the small farmer might add considerably to the family income by attention to her poultry yard.]

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER'S "LAMB BOX."—The following anecdote of his early life was related by the Bishop of Winchester at the recent meeting of the East Hants Agricultural Association:—

"From his earliest days he had looked on agriculture as the highest interest of this great country; and he owed the first means he could call his own to agriculture. Perhaps the anecdote he was about to mention might seem somewhat trivial to be mentioned on that occasion. It was a custom of his father's family, on the birth of a child, to appropriate one of the lambs of the flock; that was called the infant's lamb, and from that time forth the produce of the lamb was considered that child's own. He need not tell them that the profit and loss with reference to that circumstance were not calculated in the ordinary way. True it was the sheep was sheared, but the child paid nothing for the shearing; true the sheep was fed, but the child paid nothing either for the grass in summer, or the hay and swedes in winter. The produce of the lamb was, year after year, placed to the credit of the child as a sort of nucleus for his own separate means. He remembered the comfort he derived when taught to read, in purchasing the first book he bought for himself with money from this source. That book was the 'Spectator,' which he had no doubt most of those who heard him had read with pleasure and advantage. That was the first book he bought with his own money, and which was taken out of the 'lamb box.' The time came when that fund was of benefit in another way. The mother of those children became a widow! those children lost their father, and they were enabled to go to the box for that which enabled them to lay the foundation of their future fortunes."

[We suspect the Bishop had Bishop Latimer's well-known account of his own agricultural origin in his mind. We know that, in the present day, vast numbers of farmers would find it impossible to institute such "lamb boxes" for their children, owing to the precarious nature of their avocation and the urgent competition for farms, for which they are indebted to the Corn Laws. It is a sign of the times that dignitaries of the church—to whom an inordinate portion of aristocratic hauteur has often been imputed—should rather ostentatiously allude to their lowly origin.]

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF LABOUR.—"It has been well put by Mr. Cobden, that the price of labour in the agricultural districts varies from 6s. to 10s. a week, and that the competition is the greatest where the price is the lowest. I have been in various parts of the country, and have lately returned from Ireland, where the price instead of being 6s. a week, is considerably lower. I have found there noblemen of great wealth employing thirty, forty, fifty, or sixty labourers, at *tenpence, eightpence, or even sixpence per day*, and these noblemen, let me remark, are not considered as inflicting an injury, *but as conferring a great benefit, and giving the regular wages of the country. I inquired in those places, the prices of mowing, ditching, and other kinds of labour, and to my surprise, I found it was not only equal to, but considerably higher than the price of labour in this district, where the weekly wages are generally* 12s. Such is the state of things, and I have a strong opinion, supported by many facts, which the hour is too late to enumerate, that the price of labour is nearly the same in every part of Europe. When we talk of the low untaxed labour of the Poles, if we compare it, as I have now done the labour of Ireland with that of England, we shall find, in fact, *that the labour of the Poles, when tested by what it will produce, is dearer than the labour of Englishmen.*"—*Speech of Mr. Childers, M.P., at Doncaster.*

[This is strictly true; the difference between the value of the services of an agricultural labourer from an improved district, and of one from the ill-farmed counties, is notorious to most farmers. This applies strongly to the generality of Irish labourers, of which the following instance, which occurred to the writer, may be mentioned. In the south-west of Middlesex large quantities of peas are grown in the fields, which are picked green for the London market, and there is also a great yearly breadth of corn grown by means of manure drawn from London. Here vast numbers of Irish labourers resort every year, first for pea-picking, getting a little hay-making where they can to make out the interval until the corn harvest, and then obtaining full employment in reaping. A neighbouring farmer had employed a great many Irish hands for pea-picking, but did not require their services for about three weeks or a month preceding the harvest, and for that period the village was thronged with poor fellows whose importunities for employment were incessant. The writer having a few acres of mangold wurzel which wanted hoeing, and having no men he could conveniently set about it, accepted the offer of four or five Irishmen to undertake it at a shilling a day each. The ground had become hard, and there were a good many strongly-rooted weeds, which, as well as the crop, had thriven from a large dressing of manure; and notwithstanding the Irishmen were made to go over their work twice, it was after all so imperfectly done, that it was necessary to have the whole field hoed again, within ten days, by English labourers, who were paid 2s. 6d. a day. Now, even had the Irishmen done their work effectually, they were so long about it, *that though their wages were half those of the English labourer, their labour was much dearer;* but, in fact, the men, from not having being accustomed to the work, were little better than mere children; they appeared not to know how to handle the hoe, and their blows were scarcely hard enough to displace the weeds of a lady's flower border. The truth is, that the labour of the best classes of English agricultural labourers is the *cheapest in the world.* How the Corn Laws have tended to deteriorate the character and value of agricultural labour in England, we shall endeavour to show at greater length next week.]

THE LITTLE MONOPOLIES.—FRENCH CIDER.—The cider growers of the south of Devon are about memorializing the Government against the admission of French cider, which comes in in great quantities to the injury of their interests. *It is complained that the county members are rather apathetic in the business.—Western Times.*

[We suspect Sir J. Y. Buller and Lord Courtenay, the monopolist members for South Devon, are too much in fear for their grand monopoly of corn to pay much attention to the small one of cider; or, perhaps, the memorialists may receive in reply a snubbing intimation that it is time for them to manure their orchards, prune their apple trees, and make themselves ready for foreign competition. The time was when the faintest whisper of the most minute monopoly which crawls on the face of this monopolist-ridden country would have been listened to by the "county members" with the most profound deference; but that was "a long time ago" *before* Sir Robert Peel and his party had attained office.]

A SUCCESSFUL COMPETITOR.—At the meeting of the Radnorshire Agricultural Society on Monday last, Mr. Rea, of Manaughty, won no fewer than eight premiums.—*Provincial paper.*

[When once a farmer is enterprising enough to pay that degree of attention to any branch of agriculture which is required successfully to compete for a prize, he generally follows out the same improved system. We have seen farmers who have become new men as soon as they became improvers.]

IMPROVEMENT OF LAND.—We cannot refrain from expressing our surprise that landowners, who do not possess ready money to effect the required improvements on their property, should not let their estates upon leases to tenants possessing capital, and *on such terms as would enable them to make an outlay profitably.* This mode of improving land is as applicable to uncultivated as to cultivated land. We have had demonstrated to us the large return which might be made in the *next* generation by planting; but we have no hesitation in affirming that there *is as much land enclosed wanting permanent improvement and under bad cultivation*, and unenclosed and uncultivated, but capable of cultivation, which, if *let at long leases at a rental proportioned to the outlay required*, as would immensely increase the rent-roll of the *present* generation. Nor do we doubt for an instant, that, if such a field for the employment of capital were opened, it would readily find its way; and that in less than five years from the present time, notwithstanding the rapid increase of our population, not a single bushel of foreign grain would be required in England.—*Mark-lane Express.*

[If the writer of this passage had fairly considered the history of agriculture and the corn trade in this country, for the past forty years, he could scarcely feel surprised that so much land, both that nominally cultivated and waste, remains unimproved. We confess, when we look back on the difficulties agriculture has had to contend with, especially since 1815, we feel surprised that so much has been done. People are just beginning to discover that there is a capacity for production in the land of this country, which, *under favourable circumstances*, would render it a profitable "field for the employment of capital."

But until the trammel of agriculture, miscalled protection, shall be removed, the circumstances will not become sufficiently favourable to make improvements general. Some of the protectionists seem now to be advocating leases with a sort of expectation that they may so give the farmers a new motive for opposing Free Trade. But all such expectations are delusive; the farmers have been too much punished by fluctustions in the trade and alterations of the law to be willing to make permanent engagements until the Corn-Law question has been settled. The commercial principle of an interchange of equivalents has, as yet, been very imperfectly applied to land.]

FARMING IN CARMARTHENSHIRE.—"English landlords and farmers will be astonished to learn that it *is by no means an uncommon thing here for the farmers to grow* 14 (!) *white crops successively on the same land*, and that you may go for twenty miles over farm after farm, without ever seeing a field of turnips. A turnip field is here rarely heard of, except on a farm here and there, cultivated by an English farmer, or on the farms of large landed proprietors, where they are grown as experiments. I speak now of the county of Carmarthen. I am told that many of the landlords are anxious to get their tenants to cultivate turnips and green crops, and in many cases have volunteered to give them the seed if they would sow a field with it. They are, however, very rarely prevailed on to do this. Enterprise was not generated in Wales. They never did grow turnips, nor their fathers nor grandfathers, and why should they? The consequence of this system of farming is, that the land gradually gets worse and worse, until it is completely exhausted. In many parts of South Wales, in the valleys, the land is naturally good, and the climate is superior, or, at any rate, equal to that of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham; yet the white crops grown here never weigh so heavily by many pounds in the bushel as the white crops grown in the above-named counties. The reason is that the land, for want of a due succession of crops, becomes completely exhausted. It may be said the farmer is to blame for this; but he knows no better. *He jogs on in the beaten track of his forefathers, and out of an impoverished piece of land strives to raise a rent equal, if not higher, than that which the English farmer pays for the land in good growing condition.* The result is, a gradual sinking into poverty."—*Times' Correspondent.*

[This bespeaks a very low state of agriculture, and it is chiefly caused by too great reliance on grain crops. But the surprise, which the *Times'* reporter expresses on behalf of the English farmers at the backwardness of their Welsh brethren, is felt by the Scotch farmers in England. For instance, Mr. Robertson, a Scotch farmer, in giving evidence before the committee of 1836, said, "I cannot see, by the system generally followed by the English farmer, *how he can get dung to manure his fallow breaks.*" The Welsh farmer possesses a breed of cattle with many valuable qualities; and if, by a better system of culture, he could provide better and more abundant food for them, he would obtain earlier maturity, which is one of the great objects of judicious breeders.]

THE FARMER'S CONDITION.—The wheat, though above an average in bulk, yields badly to the flail, and for the most part will be very inferior in produce per acre to that of last year's crop. *On the very tenacious clays* it is in many instances almost a ruinous concern; and *many such farmers will have this year a hard struggle to maintain their position.* The great sacrifice of property, in fact, which was occasioned by the Government measures (or the panic which those measures occasioned) last year, will prove most disastrous to all *such farmers as had at the time but just about capital enough to carry on their concerns.—Bedfordshire Agricultural Report.*

[The fact is, that what the reporter calls "just about capital enough" is very far from being enough. Mr. Henry Handley, in one of the recent journals of the Royal Agricultural Society, says that inferior tenants are generally found upon "clay farms," because there little capital is required beyond a team of horses and a few implements. Such farmers rely solely on a precarious crop of corn, and are invariably clamorous for "protection." At the Bedfordshire meeting, elsewhere noticed, Mr. Hayter, in reference to the capital employed by farmers, said:—

"One of the greatest mistakes in the world *was to farm beyond capital;* if they placed their capital on a proper quantity of land they would obtain larger returns than by spreading their butter thin over a large extent."

Three English farmers out of four might make large profits by employing their whole farming capital on one-third or one-half less land than they actually occupy. Here we again meet the monster evil, the premium on grain-growing offered by law, as the cause of the farmer's error. A classical writer on agriculture tells of the owner of a vineyard who had three daughters, and as each of them married he gave her a fourth part of his vineyard, until at length he had only a fourth of his original quantity of land; yet with each successive diminution of his possession there was no decrease in his produce, because the additional labour and expense bestowed upon the smaller piece of land made its produce equal to that of the larger when less carefully cultivated. The parable is as applicable now as it was 1,500 years ago.]

GLOUCESTER FARMERS' CLUB.—At the next meeting, Mr. John Long of Waddon will introduce as a subject "The advantages of a better method of entering upon and leaving farms in the vale of Gloucester."

[This forms one of the long catalogue of the farmer's grievances, and it is perpetuated by the spiritless inaptitude for change, which the alternate depression and elevation the produce of husbandry has undergone for the last thirty years has occasioned. The tenant, on going into a farm, has often to pay his predecessor a considerable sum of money for "acts of husbandry," always performed in a slovenly, and sometimes in a most dishonest manner. We lately had to pay for seven ploughings to a piece of land, which, on entering, we found had not been once *properly* ploughed. Several pounds per acre were thus literally thrown away.

LEGISLATIVE ENCOURAGEMENT OF LEASES.—"It is clear, as we hinted the week before last, some changes in the law of landlord and tenant are in the wind. Sir Robert Peel is cautious, Lord Stanley is shrewd—none more cautious than the one, none more shrewd than the other; hence both would not give public and prominent utterance to their wishes on this subject without having determined to take means to carry them into effect. We may expect, therefore, *some bill being introduced in the next session to encourage and promote the granting of long leases*, for without some such bill all the advice and remonstrance in the world would go for nothing."—*Mark-lane Express.*

[The only bill adapted to encourage long leases must be one to repeal the Corn Laws. Any namby pamby measure affecting directly to "promote the granting of long leases" would be simply inoperative. Long leases are no new inventions; they were formerly in general use, but they have been abandoned in a great measure because the law has introduced more or less of uncertainty and doubt into all contracts concerning land. Remove the cause, and the effect will cease.]

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Oct. 18, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Samuel Jones Loyd, Esq.	£50	0	0
A Friend	50	0	0
Messrs. W. and H. Rawson, Manchester	50	0	0
W. G. Prescott, Esq.	25	0	0
Messrs. Leavers and Harker, 2, Duncan-place, City-rd	20	0	0
An Enemy to the Sliding Scale	20	0	0
Messrs. George Smith and Sons, Gough-square	20	0	0
Admiral the Hon. D. Pleydell Bouverie, Clyffe Hall, Devizes	15	0	0
R. B. Lopez, Esq., 14, Sussex-gardens, Hyde Park	10	10	0
Daniel Cooper, Esq., Denmark Hill, Surrey	10	0	0
Henry Bickers, Esq., 8, Paradise-row, Chelsea	7	0	0
John Towgood, Esq., 64, Chancery-lane	5	5	0
Joseph Wright, Esq., 11, Aldermanbury	5	5	0
John Wood, Esq., Cumming-street, Pentonville	5	0	0
T. W. Thornton, Esq., 85, Kennington-street, Walworth	5	0	0
S. B. Venning, Esq., 12, Pancras-lane	5	0	0
Dr. Roget, 18, Upper Bedford-place	5	0	0
Charles Beevor, Esq., 49, Berners-street, Oxford-st.	5	0	0
George Rougemont, Esq., 14, Broad-street Buildings	5	0	0
Messrs. James O'Leary and Co., 13, Mincing-lane	3	3	0
Chas. Oliphant, Esq., 10, Inverleith-place, Edinburgh	3	0	0
E. H.	3	0	0
Mrs. E. H.	2	0	0
William Allen, Esq., Shiffnal	2	0	0
George Hawkins, Esq., 88, Bishopsgate-street Without	2	2	0
Mr. K. Berry, 4, Tyndal-place, Islington	2	0	0
Philip Worsley, Esq., 4, Georgiana-street, Gordon-sq.	2	0	0
Oliver Wilcock, Esq., 35, Bush-lane, Cannon-street	1	1	0
Mr. William Edwards, 9, Aldermanbury	1	1	0
Mr. J. Hall, Custom House Quay	1	1	0
Gabriel Goldney, Esq., Bristol Pottery, Bristol	1	1	0
J. B. White, Esq., Millbank-street, Westminster	1	1	0
Jeremiah Coleman, Esq., Dowgate-hill	1	1	0
Henry Lloyd Morgan, Esq., No. 11, Langbourne Chambers, Fenchurch-street	1	1	0
Wm. Allan, Esq., 8, New Gloucester-place, Hoxton	1	1	0
Samuel King, Esq., 22, Wilmington-square	1	1	0
Bracy Clark, Esq., 7, Taunton-place, Regent's Park	1	1	0
Mr. Hugh Shield, 26, Cheapside	1	1	0
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Messrs. J. and G. Sayce, 3, Birchin-lane	1	1	0
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John Ponsford, Esq., 14, King-street, Cheapside	1	1	0
Messrs. Rogers, Brothers, 61, Grey Eagle-st., Spitalfields	1	1	0
W. B. Ogden, Esq., St. Mildred's-court	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Tallis, Auchmuty Mill, Mackinch, Fife	1	0	0
R. S. Johnson, Esq., 43, New-rd., Commercial-rd. East	1	0	0
Ebenezer Shackleton, Esq., Moon Mills, Ballitore, Kildare, Ireland	1	0	0
Mr. George Croft, Richmond, Yorkshire	1	0	0
Mr. R. Shillitoe, Hertford	1	0	0
Mr. James Hatham, Leeds	1	0	0
Mr. Wilson Waterfall, 13, Park-row, Leeds	1	0	0
Mr. Hutton, Market-place, Sheffield	1	0	0
Mr. Johnson, glass dealer, Sheffield	1	0	0
Mr. Carr, surgeon, Sheffield	1	0	0
Mr. James Aytoun, Newton, Kirkaldy, N.B.	1	0	0
Mr. George Levey, Great New-street, Fetter-lane	1	0	0
Mr. James Spowers, 24, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-sq.	1	0	0
Mr. Joseph Wheeler, 3, Avenue-road, Lewisham	1	0	0
Mr. Edw. Robinson, 11, Upper Belgrave-place, Pimlico	1	0	0
P. Brown, Esq., 2, Rye-lane, Peckham	1	0	0
Mr. J. Poulter, 1, Harder's-row, Peckham	1	0	0
Mr. John King, Black Swan, St. Paul's Churchyard	1	0	0
J. H.	1	0	0
John Poulton, Esq., Staines-road, Hounslow	1	0	0
— Bicknell, Esq., Blackman-street, Borough	1	0	0
John Massey, Dalston-terrace	1	0	0
Henry Newton, Oakhampton, Devon	1	0	0
J. W. Forbes, 24, Downshire-hill, Hampstead	1	0	0
Mr. Thomas Barnett, at Messrs. Costa and Co., Aldermanbury	1	0	0
Mr. S. Sainsbury, 177, Strand	1	0	0
Mr. J. J. C.	1	0	0
Messrs. J. and C. Dyte, 106, Strand	1	0	0
Mr. G. Johnson, 14, Artillery-place, Finsbury-square	1	0	0
A Farmer	1	0	0
Ebenezer Harris, Esq., 7, Dighton-street, Bristol	1	0	0
W. E. Beale, Esq., 12, Bolingbroke-row, Walworth	1	0	0
Wm. Kensett, Esq., 13, Hayes-place, Lisson-grove	1	0	0
Johann Henrich, Esq., 3, York-street, Blackfriars-rd.	1	0	0
Mr. James Wood, Merton Mills, Surrey	1	0	0
G. F. White, Esq., 45, Gloucester-terrace, Commercial-road East	1	0	0
Joseph Relph, Esq., 6, Mitre-court, Milk-street, Cheapside	1	0	0
Mr. Freeman Roe, 70, Strand	1	0	0
Mr. T. Thorne, maltster, Pimlico	1	0	0
Mr. George Warner, Berkeley, Gloucestershire	1	0	0
J. S., City	1	0	0
Mr. John Meredith, Belle Vue, Hales Owen	1	0	0
Mr. Robt. Groom, 42, Frederick-street, Gray's-inn-rd.	1	0	0
Mr. Thomas Slater, 4, New Inn-yard, Shoreditch	1	0	0
Mr. Chas. Wright, 1, Water-street, Bridewell	1	0	0
Mr. Thos. Pitts, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood	1	0	0
Mr. John Barker, 22, Exmouth-street, Clerkenwell	1	0	0
Samuel Page, Esq., Dulwich, Surrey	1	0	0
Mr. William Hall, 3, Pickering-place, Bayswater	1	0	0
Mr. Edward Higginson, Hull	1	0	0
N. H.	1	0	0
Mr. F. G. Wood, 113, Fleet-street	1	0	0
James Dignam, Esq., 8, Watling-street	1	0	0
Thomas Dignam, Esq., 1, Walbrook	1	0	0
Mr. George Matthews, 11, Phœnix-street, Soho	1	0	0
H. Hersee, Esq., 3, Hill-street, Peckham	1	0	0
Mr. Jordeson, 2, St. Mary-at-hill	1	0	0
Mr. Edward Boyle, Farringdon-street	1	0	0
Mr. L. B. Sellers, 3, Broad-street, Bloomsbury	1	0	0
Mr. Thomas Sharland, Bishopsgate-street Within	1	0	0
Mr. Rd. Kilner, 4, Hanway-street, Oxford-street	1	0	0
Mr. John Hargrave, jun., 78, Wood-street, Cheapside	1	0	0
Mr. Charles Doxat, 13, Bishopsgate-street Without	1	0	0
Mr. J. Upright, City Mills, Exeter	1	0	0
T. G. Darton, Esq., Painswick, Gloucestershire	1	0	0
Mr. Jacob Angas, Bridge Mill, Lewisham, Kent	1	0	0
Mr. Swan, 41, Minories, per Mr. Hutchinson	1	0	0
Mr. Henry Sexton, Hounslow Heath	1	0	0
B. C. Henderson, Esq., 18, South Bank, Regent's Park	1	0	0
H. J. Preston, Esq., Bloomsbury-square	1	0	0
Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, 36, Milk-street	1	0	0
Mr. Richard Chamberlain, 36, Milk-street	1	0	0
Francis Place, Esq., 21, Brompton-square	1	0	0
P. G.	1	0	0
Several small sums, per W. Shepherd, Portland	0	10	5
Mr. Hawson, Haymarket, Sheffield	0	10	0
Messrs. Barber and Brookes, 5, Charles-st., Sheffield	0	10	0
Mr. W. Robson, 9, Loraine-place, Holloway	0	10	0
Mr. Chas. Robson, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street	0	10	0
Mr. Francis Clarke, 11, Warwick-street, Belgrave-road, Pimlico	0	10	0
Mr. Nicholls	0	10	0
Mr. S. Perfitt, King's Cross, St. Pancras	0	10	0
A Friend, Pentonville	0	10	0
Mr. B.	0	5	0
Mr. W. Cross, Meeting House College, Ipswich	0	5	0
Mr. G. Faning, 16, Myddelton-street, Spa-fields	0	5	0
Mr. G. Nodes, 141, High Holborn	0	5	0
Mr. E. Nainby, 19, Gibson-square, Islington	0	5	0
Mr. Robert Smyth	0	5	0
Mr. W. Shepherd, Portland, Dorsetshire	0	5	0
Robert Hastings, Castle-street, Falcon-square	0	5	0
Mr. H. Reed, 20, Bouverie-street	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Gill, 34, West Smithfield	0	5	0
W. Baker, 27, Lombard-street	0	4	0
Small subscriptions, per Mr. Hutchinson, 19, Little Pulteney-street, Golden-square	0	3	6
Mr. Robert Moffatt, 58, Westgate-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	2	6
Mr. John Agate, 4, Aldermanbury	0	2	6
Mr. George Chambers, Coburg-road	0	2	6
Mr. William Nicholl, Canonbury	0	2	6
Mr. F. Sturmy	0	2	6
Mr. T. H. Lincker, 6, Eccleston-street, Pimlico	0	2	6
Mr. George Wells	0	2	6
J. K.	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	6
E. J. O.	0	2	6
John Woolley, Brunswick-square	0	2	6
Mr. Charles M'Kenzie, 29, Hyde-street, Bloomsbury	0	2	6
Mr. T. Ford, sen., 40, Charles-street, Goswell-st.-rd.	0	2	6
Mr. T. Ford, jun., 18, Gloucester-street, Queen-square	0	2	6
Mr. Walter Ford, 11, Edmund's-place, Aldersgate-st.	0	2	6
Mr. G. Parry, 15, London-road, Southwark	0	2	6
Mr. John Wheeler, 27, Lower Eaton-street, Pimlico	0	2	6
A Friend, per Mr. W. Shepherd, Portland	0	2	6
Mr. J. Garner, Ravenhead, St. Helen's	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Garner, do., do.	0	2	6
Mr. John Green, Watlington, Oxfordshire	0	2	6
Mr. Arthur Aldridge, 19, Little Pulteney-st., Golden-square, per Mr. Hutchinson	0	2	6
Manchester Committee, per C. A. Duval	0	10	0
Abraham Mullinson, Cirencester	5	0	0
G. Oldham, Bridge-street, Sutton, near Mansfield	0	10	0
George Johnson, 150, Cheetwood, Manchester	1	0	0
Manchester Committee, per George Johnson	1	0	0
Truro, per J. Latimer (Bolam)	0	18	0
J. Latimer, Truro	1	0	0
Thos. Emley, Melbourne-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, per Daniel Liddell	0	3	0
George Harford, Wesley-terrace, Shield Field, Newcastle-on-Tyne, per ditto	0	6	0
John Reed, joiner, Percy-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, per ditto	0	5	0
R. Coulson, Esq., Eldin-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, per ditto	0	5	0
J. Fairweather, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, per ditto	0	10	0
— Shield, Esq., Newcastle-on-Tyne, per ditto	2	2	0
Wm. Smith, 37, Peter Gate, York	0	2	6
Wm. Olliver, 1, Market-place, Manchester	0	5	0
Mrs. Olliver, 2, Adelphi-place, Salford	0	2	6
J. B. Holdstock, 29, Wellington-terrace, Cooke-street, Hulme	0	10	0
Thomas Simpson, 119, Upper Rumford-street, Corn Market, Manchester	1	0	0
George Brooks, 10, Hanging Ditch, Manchester	1	0	0
John Higgin, sen., Lancaster	2	0	0
John Paxton, Berwick-on-Tweed	1	0	0
W. J. Keighley, 9, Princess-street, Manchester	1	0	0
J. C., Piccadilly, Manchester	2	2	0
Wm. Dewsbury, builder, Stretford-road, Manchester	1	0	0
J. E. Nelson, at Messrs. Watts', New Brown-street, Manchester	1	5	0
Ivie Mackie, 13, Grove-street, Ardwick, Manchester	1	0	0
H. W. Crosskey, New College, Manchester	0	5	0
Balance from Bazaar account	20	0	0
R. P. Livingston, Esq., Islington-square, Salford	1	1	0
John Dodgshon, Esq., 8, York-street, Cheetham, Manchester	1	0	0
Thomas Fuller, Esq., 8, Wilton-street, Higher Broughton, Manchester	1	0	0
Mr. J. Whalley, 15, Bolton-street, Salford	0	5	0
Small sums	0	13	6

Swaffham, Oct. 14, 1843.

DEAR SIR,—I shall feel obliged if you will put my name down as a subscriber of £50 to the League Fund.

Yours truly,

A. W. Paulton, Esq. ARTHUR MORSE.

[The above is from a large farmer in Norfolk, the author of one of the prize essays of the League.]

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM SAMUEL JONES LLOYD, ESQ., TO THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, WITH A SUBSCRIPTION OF £50.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

SIR,—The part which the Anti-Corn-Law League has taken in the present contest for the representation of the City is complained of by its opponents as an unprecedented and impertinent interference by "strangers from Lancashire and other parts." The League, however, I cannot doubt, already numbers amongst its members many persons directly connected with the city of London, on whose behalf it is fully entitled to act. To these may I request that my name may be added. Hitherto I have refrained from connecting myself with the proceedings of the League, from an unwillingness to share the responsibility of measures over the details of which I could exercise no personal superintendence or control. But I feel that the time is now arrived when this must be overruled by other considerations of overwhelming importance. The great question of Free Trade is now fairly at issue; and the bold, manly, and effectual efforts which have been made by the League in its support, command at once my admiration and concurrence.

Upon the satisfactory settlement of this question depends, as I firmly believe, the internal peace of the country, as well as the security of property, which can only be preserved by a general conviction that the various interests of the community are equally and impartially dealt with; and also the permanent prosperity of our trade and commerce, which can flourish only in the atmosphere of freedom, and maintain its superiority in the existing competition of the world, when relieved from every artificial and unnecessary restraint.

With Mr. Burke, I believe that, "of all things, an indiscreet tampering with the trade of provisions is the most dangerous." With Lord Grenville, Lord Wellesley, and the other statesmen who signed the memorable protest against the Corn Bill of 1815, I believe that "irresistible indeed ought to be the necessity which could authorise the Legislature to impede the free purchase and sale of that article on which depends the existence of a large portion of the community; and to confine the consumer of corn to the produce of his own country is to refuse to ourselves the benefit of that provision which Providence itself has made for equalizing to mankind the varieties of season and climate."

With the merchants of the city of London who many years since presented their petition to Parliament in favour of Free Trade through the medium of the then head of the house of Baring, the present Lord Ashbur-

ton, I agree that "freedom from restraint is calculated to give the utmost extension to foreign trade, and the best direction to the capital and industry of the country."

With Mr. Huskisson, I believe that "the attempt to uphold Corn Laws (those now in existence equally with those which were in existence in his day) is inconsistent with the increase of national prosperity and the preservation of public contentment."

With Sir Robert Peel, I agree "that we should purchase in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market."

It is the steady and dauntless manner in which the League has, in all places, and under all circumstances, advocated these principles—and more especially its efforts to impress them on the citizens of London at the present critical moment—which compels me to overcome every minor consideration, and to request permission to enlist myself in its ranks. Of the personal tendencies and convictions of those members of the present Administration, whose authority is generally supposed to be most influential on questions of commercial legislation, there is little room left for doubt. But the confidence or the hesitation with which those views will be carried out by them may be materially influenced by the turn of future elections, and especially of that which is now in suspense. On the one hand, we have a candidate singularly guarded and indefinite in his own statements, and supported by interests notoriously disposed to check the Minister in every liberal tendency which he may evince; on the other hand, we have a candidate who has thrown himself wholly, unreservedly, and cordially into the cause of Free Trade. By the election of the former the principles of Free Trade will sustain an apparent defeat, whilst the success of his opponent will tend to strengthen the liberal tendencies of the better part of the present Cabinet, and to accelerate the period at which the country may hope to enjoy the inestimable advantage of further and larger measures than it has yet obtained of liberal, and only liberal, legislation. I trust, therefore, that the exertions of the League will not be relaxed; and that, novel as the sight may be, "strangers from Lancashire and other parts" will continue to disseminate amongst us truths of incalculable importance with a perseverance worthy of the occasion, and which is becoming offensive to your opponents in proportion as it is felt by them to be effective.

I beg you will accept the enclosed draft, as my contribution to the funds of the League. For the details of its measures, as they cannot be controlled by individual members, the Council alone I conceive to be responsible. With those I have no wish to interfere; my concurrence is given to the principle in support of which you are united—Free Trade, and to your determination to seek every opportunity for forcing that question upon the public attention, and submitting it to the ordeal of free discussion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your faithful and obedient servant,
Lothbury, Oct. 14. SAMUEL JONES LLOYD.

Raikes Currie, Esq., M.P., has also presented to the Anti-Corn-Law League a donation of £50, thus practically declaring his adhesion to the principles of Free Trade, and his enmity to monopoly.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

SIR,—I enclose £20 for the Anti-Corn-Law League, being double the amount of my subscription to their fund last year. Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to see the letter and subscription of Mr. S. J. Lloyd: the sanction and support of such a man afford a conclusive proof that the objects of the League are consistent with honesty, wisdom, and the security of property, and are conducive to the national prosperity, and I hail the step he has taken as an earnest of their speedy accomplishment. Most assuredly it will in aftertimes be read with astonishment, that such a law could, even for a short period, have defaced the statute-book of Britain. It has, in fact, no title to be considered the law of the land. In Blackstone and De Lolme you find no mention of such a law; it is an excrescence not yet thirty years old, and originated at a peculiar juncture, when the growers and sellers of corn—that is to say, the landed aristocracy of the country—perceived that by their position in Parliament the whole power of legislation had fallen into their own hands; and by the Corn Law of 1815, and all subsequent modifications of it, they have exercised that power solely with a view to their own personal advantage. With reference to Mr. Baring's animadversions on the interference of manufacturers in this question, let me remind him that manufacturers are the sole basis of our foreign commerce. The whole surface of Britain produces no article or thing that is adapted for foreign commerce, or which can be spared from the home consumption for foreign commerce. The numerous and wealthy inhabitants of the land consume all the produce of the land, and of the rivers, and of the adjacent sea; we have corn, cattle, fruit, timber, wool, flax, and other things, but none to spare for export—all is wanted at home; and the corn growers of England have in their own country a better and higher-priced market for their produce than any other in the world. We want from foreign countries tea, sugar, coffee, cotton, tobacco, hemp, flax, hides and furs, silk, spices, drugs, wines, spirits, oils, dyeing materials, tallow, timber and fine woods, and, above all, corn; and we have no means of purchasing these things of foreign countries but by our manufactures. Therefore, without manufactures we could not have foreign commerce or a commercial marine, and must cease to be a great maritime power.

Considering these obvious facts, I am not a little astonished to see a merchant, and a candidate for the representation of this great commercial city, sneer at the efforts of the British manufacturers to get rid of this unjust law, which they not only feel to be injurious to themselves, and hurtful to the vast population with which they are connected, but which they have demonstrated to be hostile in an excessive degree to the most important interests of the British empire.

This partisan of the lords of the soil should be reminded that manufactures are the principal resource for the employment of the people, and at a comparatively high rate of wages. They contribute to the comforts, enjoyments, and necessities of all classes of mankind. Manufactures load and furnish forth our ships, and create our sailors; they are the sole means of bringing wealth into the country, and the grand source of the national prosperity, and have become essential not only to the power, but absolutely to the safety of the British empire. Considering that Mr. Baring, notwithstanding some vague generalities about commerce, has proved himself to have chiefly at heart the peculiar interest of the agricultural party, I feel that I am acting for the good of the country by throwing myself into the ranks of his opponents in this contest.

I am, Sir,
AN OLD INHABITANT OF THIS CITY, AND AN ENEMY OF THE SLIDING SCALE.
London, Oct. 17.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, October* 21, 1843.

A few hours will now decide the question whether the constituency of the city of London throws into the scale of Free Trade, or into that of Monopoly. The canvass is completed; the discussion pauses; and the time of action commences. We say nothing more to the electors, for we trust that no elector will delay for one moment to give his vote, and thus contribute towards this momentous decision. The result will soon be abroad upon all the winds of heaven, bearing to the most distant localities the inspiring sound of a dicisive victory for justice and humanity; or, which we will not anticipate, inflicting upon millions, whose rights and interests are now in the hands of the electors of London, the heart-sickness of "hope deferred."

Of appearances full of encouragement, we will not delay to speak when the reality and the result are already working themselves out before the public. But there is one characteristic of the canvass just completed on behalf of Mr. Pattison, which must always be regarded with satisfaction. To an extent hitherto unprecedented in the electoral annals of very populous localities, it has been an argumentative and intellectual work. The aim has been to convince the mind of the voter, and not simply to bias his will. Begging and commanding have been superseded by proof and persuasion. "Do you not perceive your own interest, and that of the community, the right and the wrong, in this question?" this has been the formula of Mr. Pattison's canvassers, and we deem it a great improvement upon the "Pray favour us with your vote," or the—"You *shall* vote for us," which are still the forms most frequently in use, and have been employed by the other side, in this contest, very unsparingly, and very unscrupulously. For this improvement, the League may claim some merit. It had previously tried the same process, on a comparatively small scale, at Durham; and there it was found adequate to a successful struggle with the Money Power; and it has this recommendation, that, even when it fails to win elections, it succeeds in making thinkers. Opinion is created. A power is formed which may be baffled at first, but which cannot long be resisted. Constituencies are trained to judge for themselves upon the principles at issue; and a foundation is laid for ampler intelligence, clearer thought, a deeper sense of responsibility, and a loftier manliness of character, in the electoral body.

When a contest is conducted, as that on behalf of Mr. Baring has been, for the sake of no great principle, which can be broadly avowed and honourably supported, the natural consequence is, a recourse to meanness and trickery. From this influence, however, we should have expected so potent an organ as the *Times* newspaper to be exempt. Its consciousness of power, power which it too often abuses, tends less towards trickery than insolence. But it could not escape the contagion. Its thunders were mute till the morning of the day of nomination. With all its haughty sense of superiority to its contemporaries, it reserved its fire till there could be no reply. That is to say, till reply had become impossible in time to affect the contest. Is this conduct like the *Times*? Is it worthy of the *Times*? Can anything show more distinctly the conviction of a bad cause? Of bullying, the *Times* has often been accused; never before, that we remember, of sneaking. But for its exhibition of yesterday morning, neither enmity nor envy would have accused the writers in the *Times* of shunning and shirking the opportunity for any retort upon their arguments or their eloquence.

The necessity of the case has not been submitted to very gracefully. The *Times* lauds Mr. Baring something in the tone of *Pistol* eating the leek. His want of intellectual ability is confessed. The *Times* reduces its praise to the whimsical qualification of feeling "inclined to be satisfied with a more moderate share" (a very moderate share) "of political recommendations" than might be required of others. On the subject of "the Poor Law, the fixed duty on corn, and the Income Tax," it confesses itself to be at variance with Mr. Baring. Here is the compromise and sacrifice of the most peculiar principles and distinguishing purposes of the paper. In what, then, does it agree with him? In calling the League hard names; in falsely ascribing to its exertions a political and party object; and in characterizing Mr. Pattison a Bank Director, and lately Governor of the Bank, as the representative of "destructive principles!" a charge in which he is involved together with such men as Mr. Jones Loyd in the commercial world, and Earl Fitzwilliam amongst the landowners? If this be all it had to say, the *Times* might as well have left it unsaid. But the *name* of the *Times* was wanted; and, though grudgingly given, and with obvious twinges at the discredit of the thing, it has been given—with what effect, we shall soon see.

This same paper contains a letter from Mr. Thwaites, the relieving officer of the City of London Union, from which we extract the following paragraphs, on which the electors will do well to reflect; they may see something, thereby, of the action upon themseves of the present restrictions on Trade, Commerce, and Manufactures. Such are the fruits of the Baring policy; and of these, the principles of Mr. Pattison and the League are really "destructive."

"Vagrancy is increasing to an alarming extent in the metropolis, which arises in a great measure—first, from the general distress in manufacturing districts by the stoppage of mills, &c., and in agricultural by the cessation of work on railways; secondly, from the difficulty, now vagrant passes are abolished, of sending a vagrant, once arrived in London, back to his parish, the fact of settlement requiring frequently as complicated proofs as the title to an estate, and the immense numbers to be passed baffling all attempts of this kind.

"In the City of London Union, four years ago, the number of non-resident casual poor—*i. e.*, vagrants applying for relief in the course of the year—did not exceed 200 or 300. In 1842 the number of casual cases was 45,000; among these were hundreds of destitute objects, who, if they had not had the hand of mercy extended to them, must have perished.

"Agricultural labourers are in the habit of leaving their homes in search of work, particularly from harvest time to harvest time; and while the railways were in progress, thousands were induced to do so from the readiness with which work was to be found; they were well paid, but worked hard, lived well, and said nothing; when one line of road was completed they journeyed to another; but this source of employment is now dried up.

"Artisans (if married, some travelling with, some without, their families) leave the manufacturing districts in search of employment, and, from the depressed state of trade, in greater numbers now than ever; they wander from one town to another, are disappointed in all, and, like the railway labourer, generally wend their way at last to the great metropolis, making sure of finding employment there, but are doomed to be again disappointed. The labour-market is over-stocked. These two great classes are generally actuated by worthy motives in leaving their homes, but when once itinerant habits are induced, they seldom settle down quietly again. When once a man has roved about long in search of work, he is spoiled for steady industry."

AGED INSOLVENT DEBTORS.—In one room in York Castle there are at present confined three debtors, whose united ages amount to 234 years! One of them is Thomas Hutchinson, of West Burton, aged 82, imprisoned for £27, the half-year's rent of a farm which has been in his forefathers' possession for upwards of 300 years; another of them is William Knowlson, of Easingwold, aged 76, imprisoned for the payment of £40, for which he was bound; and the third is William Austerberry, of Brotherton, aged 76, imprisoned for £7 debt and costs.

ALDERMAN THOMPSON ON FREE TRADE.—At the late meeting of the Kendal Agricultural Association, Alderman Thompson, the monopolist M.P. for Westmorland, is reported to have said, "Free Trade in corn would be ruinous to the country;" and, after roundly abusing the League, went on to say—"The writers of these [Anti-Corn-Law] pamphlets, and the Anti-Corn-Law lecturers, are a parcel of needy men who have nothing but their talents to take to market; or they are manufacturers—such men as Cobden and Bright—who are only cotton-manufacturers." What odd people there are in the world! Who would have supposed that Alderman Thompson either moved or seconded the adoption of the famous London Free-Trade petition some 25 years ago? Yet such is the fact. Judging from the Alderman's speech, we suspect that *he* would never have been member for Westmoreland had he not had something more than *his* "talents to take to market." Then Messrs. Cobden and Bright are "*only cotton manufacturers.*" Are we mistaken in supposing that Alderman Thompson is the person of that name who is said to have made much money by some speculations in iron works? Had he not something to do with an iron mining company, which proved profitable to himself and unprofitable to every body else concerned in it? Has it not been rumoured that Alderman Thompson aspires to a peerage? and has it not been supposed that he would take the title of Baron Rhymney?

We believed that we had been tolerably well acquainted with the nicest distinctions of caste in this aristocrat-loving nation, yet we certainly had overlooked the impassable gulf, the immeasurable distance, which separates the manufacturer of iron from the manufacturer of cotton! But, as Boz's barber said, "a line must be drawn somewhere," and Thompson draws it between iron and cotton. "Only a cotton manufacturer!" says Alderman Thompson, peeping from under the aristocratic shadow of the Lowthers! What think you of that, Sir Robert Peel?

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Oct. 14	Mon. Oct. 16	Tues. Oct. 17	Wed. Oct. 18	Thurs. Oct. 19	Fri. Oct. 20
Bank Stk. Ex. div.	180	180	180	180	179½ 180	180
3 per Cent. Con.	95⅝	95⅝	95½	95½ 95⅝	95⅝	95½
New 3½ per Cent.	102⅝	102½	102⅝	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities..	12⅝	12⅝	12 7-16	12⅛	12⅛	12⅛
S. Sea New Ann.	—	99⅝	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	76	—	77	74 76	72	—
India Stock.....	269	—	268½	—	—	270
Exchequer Bills..	62 65	62 65	62 65	63 65	63 65	65
Consols for Acc..	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95⅝
Brazilian	—	73½	73½	—	—	—
Mexican 5 Ct. Ex. d.	31⅝	31 30⅝	31	30 29½	31 29⅝	30½
Portuguese, conv.	44	44	44½	44½	44⅛	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	28⅝	28⅝ 28½	28 29	28⅝	28⅝	28⅝
Chilian 3 p. Ct. df.	—	—	—	—	45 46	—
Russian, 5 per Ct.	115½	115½	—	55	—	—
Dutch..	—	—	53 54	101½	54⅝	54
Belgium	106 5⅛	105⅛	—	115¾	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Monday, Oct. 16.—There was a moderate supply of English Wheat to this morning's market, and the condition of it being much improved by the dry cold weather, an advance of 1s. per qr. from this day week was readily obtained. The improved condition of the new caused less inquiry for Old English and free Foreign, and in these descriptions the business done, which was not great, was at last week's rates. As the season for malting advances, the demand for Barley for that purpose of course increases, and the supply to-day being very moderate, an advance of 1s. on this day week was obtained for the best samples. The prices of Distilling and Grinding qualities were the same as last week. Old Beans were scarce and rather dearer; new Beans and white Peas the same as last week, and grey Peas 1s. cheaper. The supply of Irish Oats during last week was scanty, and an advance of 6d. to 1s. per qr. was obtained without difficulty.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. Lucas and Son.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple.....	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk.....	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin.....	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting....	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old....	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

Mark-lane, Friday, Oct. 20.—The duty on Wheat advanced yesterday to 20s., the highest point, and on Barley to 8s. There is not much English Wheat up since Monday. The prices of English and Foreign Wheat are firmly maintained, but there is not much business doing. The supply of Irish Oats continues moderate, and an advance of 6d. per qr. is obtained for all descriptions; but the advance which has taken place from the lowest point, which is from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per qr., causes the buyers to hold off in expectation of larger supplies. Barley is firm at Monday's prices. Old Beans are very scarce, and 1s. dearer. No alteration in new Beans and Peas.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. Lucas and Son.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 16th to the 20th of October, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	5,780	310	7,770
Barley.....	3 150	—	520
Oats.....	1,260	8,780	8,280

Flour 5,470 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED October 14, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	138,815	50 8	40,041	30 0	45,912	17 10	4989	30 4
Aggregate Averages..	..	50 7		30 10		18 5		30 9
Duty.....	..	20 0		8 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, October 17.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

R. J. DAY and S. T. DAY, Halsted, Essex, wine merchants.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

C. CLARK, Tower-street, Westminster-road, baker.

A. C. COOPER, Evesham, Worcestershire, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

W. H. FREARSON, Wood-street, Cheapside, sewing cotton manufacturer. [Willoughby and Co., Clifford's-inn.

W. DICKINSON, Abbey-hill, Bexley, Kent, merchant. [Walker and Gridley, Southampton-row, Bloomsbury-square.

R. SHARPE, Chelmsford, Essex, draper. [Sole, Aldermanbury.

J. WOOD, Coleman-street, tobacconist. [Crossby and Co., Church-court, Old Jewry.

R. T. ABBOTT and A. T. TEBBITT, Birmingham, wholesale tea dealers. [Mole, Birmingham.

A. GORDON, W. CARTWRIGHT, and J. BLACKETT, Manchester, machine makers. [Makinson, Manchester; Gregory and Co., Bedford-row.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 7. E. Reynolds, Merton, Surrey, silk printer—Nov. 9. H. Morgan and C. Lee, Bishopsgate-street Within, ship owners—Nov. 10. R. Wills and R. Davy, Oxford-street, drapers—Nov. 7. J. Vincent, Edmonton, Middlesex, schoolmaster—Nov. 10. J. Oliver and Co., Stony Stratford, coal masters—Nov. 9. R. Bull, Cambridge, saddler—Nov. 7. T. Skinner, Godalming, Surrey, butcher—Nov. 7. W. White, jun., Aldersgate-street, chemist—Nov. 10. H. A. Hobbs, Isle of Thanet, Kent, machine maker—Nov. 9. E. Measum, Portsea, Southampton, brewer—Oct. 30. J. Webber, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman—Nov. 9. W. N. Hunt, Watling-street, stationer—Nov. 9. J. A. Butler, Loddington, Northamptonshire, machine maker—Nov. 8. J. Crow, Fulham, licensed victualler—Nov. 8. R. Johnson and E. R. Dawson, Gracechurch-street, wholesale ironmongers—Nov. 9. W. Musgrave, Leeds, dyer—Nov. 8. J. Higginbottom, Ashton-under Lyne, money scrivener—Nov. 8. J. Ashwell, Salford, Lancashire, grocer—Nov. 16. J. Stoodley, Bridport, Dorsetshire, twine manufacturer—Nov. 16. J. E. Beer and W. H. Bastick, Devonshire, coal merchants—Nov. 21. W. Exley, Manchester, bootmaker—Nov. 14. J. Brown and T. B. Powell, Stubbins, Lancashire, calico printers—Nov. 31. J. Frost, Bristol, baker—Nov. 10. I. Ward, Devizes, house decorator.

CERTIFICATES.

Nov. 7. T. Chappell, Sudbury, Suffolk, licensed victualler—Nov. 10. H. M. Godwin, Bishopsgate-street Within, shipowner—Nov. 9. R. Littledyke, Brudenell-place, New North-road, linendraper—Nov. 7. W. White, jun., Aldersgate-street, chemist—Nov. 10. C. Lee, Bishopsgate-street Within, shipowner—Nov. 9. J. Boyd, Piccadilly, publican—Nov. 8. S. Polak, Newport, Monmouthshire, woollen draper—Nov. 10. T. L. Jones, Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, surgeon—Nov. 7. J. Starling, Southampton, hatter—Nov. 8. G. Caston, Basingstoke, Hampshire, ironmonger—Nov. 15. J. Frost, Bristol, baker—Nov. 8. J. Wilson, Wigton, Cumberland, draper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. F. DUNCAN, Glasgow, engraver—W. GUY, Paisley, Cooper—J. COUTTS, Dundee, wright—D. M'MILLAN, Helmsdale, Sutherlandshire, wood merchant—P. CAMPBELL, Edinburgh, tavern keeper—J. HANNAY, Dalquhairn, Kirkcudbright, farmer—W. POLLOCK, Glasgow, writer.

FRIDAY, October 20.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

A. CUNNINGHAM, Bolton, provision dealer.

G. BURTON, Isle of Man, brick maker.

BANKRUPTS.

E. BRAIN, Rodney-street, Pentonville, copper-plate printer. [Harrison, Walbrook.

J. WHIPPLE, Crown-street, Finsbury, stay manufacturer. [Cox, Pinner's-hall.

J. G. WEST, Wandsworth, grocer. [Arrowsmith, Devonshire-street, Queen-square.

W. MILLS, Birmingham, upholsterer. [Sole and Sole, Aldermanbury, London; Suckling, Birmingham.

J. BOURNE, Bemmersley, Staffordshire, printer. [Twigg, Burslem, Staffordshire; Smith, Birmingham.

MONEY LENT ON PERSONAL SECURITY.—Sums from £5 to £100 may be obtained three days after application, repayable by weekly instalments of 2s. or 4s. per £5. This office being open daily from 9 o'Clock till 8, the unpleasant necessity of applicants having to explain their affairs before a large number of persons is entirely avoided.

Finsbury Loan Office, 124, St. John-street-road, Clerkenwell, three doors from Myddelton-street, and opposite the Adam and Eve.

ALBERT REVERSIONARY INTEREST AND LOAN COMPANY, FRITH-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

CASH advanced to respectable Persons upon the Security of two suitable Housekeepers, resident in London or its vicinity.

Terms moderate, and no charge made, unless business be done.

Payments may be made by instalments as may best suit the convenience of the parties.

Printed Particulars Gratis.

All communications are regarded as strictly confidential, and business is transacted without delay.

Office Hours Eleven to Five daily.

BRONZED FENDERS.—R. WILLIAMS is now SELLING his BRONZED FENDERS and FIRE IRONS at unprecedented low prices. Bronzed Fenders, from 6s.; ditto with Steel Spears and Rests for Fire Irons, from 18s. Bright Steel, with Bronze or Ormolu Mountings, of superior make and appearance; also a great variety of Cast-iron Kitchen and Green Fenders. Fire Irons of good quality, for bedrooms, at 2s. the set; ditto of Polished Steel, with cut heads, at 6s. 6d.; ditto, with superior Bronze heads, at 13s. 6d. A great variety of elegant Fire Irons. Very superior Tea and Coffee Urns, Papier Maché and every other kind of Tea Trays, Knives and Forks, Japanned Tin, and all goods necessary for furnishing, considerably below any other house, at R. WILLIAMS'S "Original Little Dust-Pan," 174, HIGH HOLBORN.

DELICACY OF COMPLEXION.—The use of GOWLAND'S LOTION is speedily followed by the disappearance of every species of cutaneous defect and discoloration, and the establishment of a pure surface of the Skin, accompanied by the brilliant circulation which constitutes the tint of Beauty, whilst, as a refresher, it preserves the most susceptible complexion from the effects of variable temperature, and sustains in all cases to a protracted period the softness of texture and vivacity peculiar to earlier years.—"Robt. Shaw, London," is in white letters on the Government stamd, without which it is not genuine. Prices, 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d.; quarts, 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Venders.

EVERY MONARCH that has wielded the British Sceptre, since the reign of George II., had the misfortune to require a Truss, but they had not the good fortune to get One of Coles's Invention. Their pages, coachmen, and postillions, wore them, and are now on their legs.

The greatest barrier to a wealthy man is his riches; there were thousands of persons, in humble life, who could have told their Majesties, if they had the same access to them the rich have, that it would be as easy to judge between the properties of Coles's Patent, and those of other Inventors, as to judge whether it is more comfortable to ride in a state carriage or a dung cart.—Manufactory, 3, Charing-cross.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, continue to RESTORE DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth £0 10 0

A Set 5 5 0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 60, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

RELIEF from TORMENT.—LEFAY'S GRANDE POMMADE cures, in most cases, by one application, tic-douloureux, gout, and all painful affections of the nerves, giving instant relief in the most painful paroxysms. Patients who had for years drawn on a miserable existence, and many who had lost the use of their limbs from weakness, brought on by paralysis and rheumatism, to the astonishment of their medical attendants and acquaintance, have by a few rubbings been restored to strength and comfort, after electricity, galvanism, blistering, veratrine, colchicum, and all the usual remedies had been tried and found useless. Its surprising effects have also been experienced in its rapid cure of rheumatic pains of the head and face, paralytic affections, weakness of the ligaments and joints, glandular swellings, sore throat chronic rheumatism, palpitation of the heart, and difficult respiration. It requires no restraint from business or pleasure, nor does it cause any eruption, and may be applied to the most delicate skin without fear of injury. Sold by the appointment of Jean Lefay, the inventor, by his sole agent, J. W. Stirling, chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in metallic cases, at 4s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. each.—N.B. A Post-office order for 5s. will pay for a 4s. 6d. case and its carriage to any part of the United Kingdom.

STIRLING'S PILL FOR HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.—Sir William's Advice.—It is well known that the late Sir William Blizard paid the highest deference to the efficacious merits of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS, and earnestly recommended that no family whatever should be without them; for, said he, in all cases of sudden illness, they could be at once safely administered to the sufferer, who, perhaps before medical assistance could arrive, might be carried off, or placed in imminent danger. Stirling's Stomach Pills have, in all cases, proved superior to every other medicine in the cure of stomach and liver complaints, loss of appetite, indigestion, gout, sensation of fulness and oppression after meals, shortness of breath, and an excellent restorative after any excess at the table, as they gently cleanse the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and invigorate the constitution. Females, who value good health, should never be without them, as they purify the blood, remove obstructions, sallowness, pimples, &c., and give the skin a beautiful, clear, healthy, and blooming appearance. Persons of a plethoric habit, who are subject to headache, giddiness, dimness of sight, drowsiness, attended with apoplectic symptoms, should take them frequently. They may be safely administered to children and persons of all ages, as they contain no mercury, nor any ingredient that requires confinement, or restriction of diet.

Prepared only by J. W. Stirling, Chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and may be had of all respectable medicine venders.

MORISON'S HYGEIAN MEDICINES.—An Agent for the sale of the above Medicines is to be found in every Town in the United Kingdom, and most of the principal Cities throughout the World. See that the words "MORISON'S UNIVERSAL MEDICINES" are engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to each box, in white letters on a red ground, without which none can be genuine. No chemists or druggists are allowed to sell Morison's Medicines.

The following are the principal depôts in London:—

Medical Dissenter Office, 368, Strand.
Mr. Field, 65, Quadrant, Regent-street.
Mrs. Good, 53, Cambridge-street, Edgeware-road.
Mr. Lofts, 3, Park-place, Mile-end-road.
Mr. Chappel, 84, Lombard-street, Cornhill.
Mr. J. Kaines, 20, New-road, St. George's-in-the-East.
Mrs. E. Dare, 25, Watling-street
Mr. Baldwin, 33, Great Tower-street.
Messrs. Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street.
Mrs. Baucher, 128, Tottenham-court-road.
Mr. Norbury, Post-office, Brentford.
Mr. Loose, 7, Sloane-square, Chelsea.
Mr. Batten's library, Clapham.
Mr. H. Langley, 53, Gt. Chart-street, East-road, Hoxton.
Mr. R. Johnston, perfumer, &c., 68, Cornhill.
Mr. William Hallet, 83, High Holborn.

All those who are desirous of becoming acquainted with the Hygeian or Morisonian system of medicine, should read the abridged "Morisoniana;" also the "Hygeist," and other Hygeian publications, which may be had of all the Agents for Morison's Medicines throughout the country, and at the Hygeist Office, 368, Strand, London.

British College of Health, Hamilton-place, New-road, London.

CORROBORATION OF THE INNOCENT YET RELIEVING PROPERTIES OF BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

TO MR. PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

19, Lisson Grove, St. Marylebone.

Sir,—In recompense for the great benefit I have received from the use of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, I feel it a duty I have long owed to the afflicted with the excruciating torture of the Gout, to make your valuable remedy more extensively known.

I am upwards of seventy years of age, and have, when occasion required, used them for more than twelve years past. I have at all times found nothing to relieve me but them, and my firm belief is that they are not composed of anything injurious to the constitution, as I always find after their use, my general bodily health renewed, and my appetite considerably sharpened.

Should you, Sir, think this statement worthy of insertion in your list of testimonials, I can with truth solemnly declare the above. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

April 16th, 1842. Ann Moore.

P.S.—I will with pleasure answer any application in proof of this testimony.

The never-failing effects of BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS in curing every description of Gout and Rheumatism, have secured to them a celebrity unequalled by any medicine of past or present times. They not only give relief in a few hours, where the patient has been driven nearly to madness by the excruciating tortures of this disease, but restore to perfect health in an inconceivable short space of time. They are equally speedy and certain in rheumatism, either chronic or acute, lumbago, sciatica, pains in the head or face, and indeed for every rheumatic or gouty affection; in fact, such has been the rapidity, perfect ease, and complete safety of this medicine, that it has astonished all who have taken it; and there is not a city, town, or village in the kingdom, but contains many grateful evidences of its benign influence.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government Stamp affixed to each box of the genuine Medicine.

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3.

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*** Ask for "ROWLAND'S KALYDOR."

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CAUTION.—The ROYAL HOWQUA'S MIXTURE TEAS must not be confounded with any other Howqua's Mixture, or any other mixture of Black Teas. This was the chosen tea of royalty when others were rejected. The copy of the first order for the supply of this tea to the Royal Family is on every genuine package. This tea is thus described in "Blackwood's Magazine" for this month:—

"We had a sample of this tea from G. Willsher, confectioner, 332, Oxford-street, corner of Regent-circus. The flavour is delicious, combining all the most exquisite fragrances of the richest teas under cultivation. A mere handful is a perfect bouquet."

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 5.] SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their addresses as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, 67, *Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

THE CITY ELECTION.

"Honour to the electors of London!" This was our exclamation last Saturday, when the close of the poll gave Mr. Pattison his final majority, and we repeat it with feelings confirmed and deepened by our review of the contest, and our anticipation of its consequences. The sentiment is echoed throughout the country. "Honour to the electors of London" is the response of millions. Wherever the news spread gladness kindled as it went. A noble exertion had been made, a great duty had been performed, a glorious victory had been gained. It was felt that the metropolitan constituency had not failed the nation at its need; in a critical moment it had put forth energy adequate to the crisis; and, in averting the heavy calamity of monopolist triumph, it had bestowed the blessing of invigorated hope that Free-Trade principles are pursuing a rapid course towards legislative and practical adoption. Provincial newspapers reach us in rapid succession, with their gratulations on this timely success; and we have little doubt of soon finding that it is not disregarded in other countries. What land is not interested in the trading policy of Great Britain? In all countries there are clear minds that perceive the barbarism of restrictions upon commerce, and, with the truest of all patriotism, will rejoice in their removal. It is a world-victory that has been achieved. The prospect is opened of realizing that good for one nation which is good for all nations. Hard has been the struggle, but its reward is more than proportionate. Not a man has contributed towards it but will have growing reason to look back with satisfaction. Again we say, "Honour to the electors of London!" they have earned it from us and from all—from their own consciences, from their country, and from humanity.

All means, fair or foul, were put in requisition to secure the return of Mr. Baring. Government influence was exercised in a mode unusually direct and undisguised. Appeal was made to the lowest prejudices and dirtiest interests. Upon dependent tradesmen the screw was turned unsparingly. The paltriest mystifications and vaguest professions were put forth to catch the credulous, or to excuse the timid for shrinking from the assertion of their principles. The poll was wantonly obstructed by the insulting abuse of the right to put the bribery oath; and there were other proceedings of which we shall not now speak, because we rely on the Council of the League for showing, in a court of justice, that its proclamation against bribery, and its offer of the reward of £100 on conviction, was not a mere *brutum fulmen*, but a purpose that remains unchanged by success. Notwithstanding all, the leagued Londoners triumphed. Their verdict against monopoly is solemnly recorded.

This result is not to be explained away, nor its force evaded. No better man than Mr. Baring could possibly have been found to fight the battle. He combined the support of the political Conservatives and the commercial monopolists. The high standing of his house had its full effect in the City; and there were professed Liberals that were fools enough, or knaves enough, to vote for him on the conventional ground of his "respectability." He has plenty of money; and was known to have expended it so profusely in Yarmouth as to be little likely to prove a niggard in the metropolis. The defeated parties can find no excuse for failure in their candidate. The day was in their favour. Saturday is never the most convenient time for the industrial classes; and it afforded the chance of religious scruples on the part of voters of the Jewish persuasion, who were reasonably expected to prefer the friend to the enemy of their civil rights. Mr. Baring's organisation was made, and his canvass commenced, while Mr. Pattison was yet at a distance from London. In all the adventitious circumstances, his party had the turn of the scale in their favour; and yet they are beaten! What is the plain inference? Why, that the principle of Free Trade has so firmly laid hold of public opinion as to overbalance not only the honest conviction which still clings, from prejudice, to monopoly, but also all the extra-inducements, honest or dishonest, that were capable of being added to that prejudice, so as to influence the election. This is the legitimate conclusion. Sophistry tries hard to wriggle out of it; but every struggle only ends in floundering more deeply.

The *Times* having proclaimed beforehand that this was a contest between the League and the Ministry, seems discreetly to think that least said is soonest mended. It confesses the heavy blow upon its Cabinet clients with the nonchalance of a *Mercutio*. "'Tis not so deep as a well, or so wide as a church door; but 'twill do." There are hints in its columns about "indifference;" but its own reports describe the extreme excitement in the City. Then there is the plain fact of the polling of 13,000 electors; and Mr. Baring points, with some pride, to the largeness of his losing poll, and acknowledges the "anxious and zealous exertions" of his laborious friends. Indifference will not do; all the world knows, and undeniable facts demonstrate, that there was no indifference in the case. What then? Want of union, says the *Morning Herald;* and thereupon "Grandmother" lectures her party in a most edifying manner:—

"A devotion to the main—the sternal principles of Conservatism, is all that ought to be required from Conservative candidates, and the journal or the elector who withholds, or hesitates in his support, because of minor differences, might just as well at once and openly transfer his services to the party from which he is in direct antagonism. No party can remain successful in which petty jealousies or individual self-sufficiency creates divisions; it is much more honest to avow opposition than to foster unacknowledged hostility, and it is much more creditable to remain silent than to speak when a declaration must do more harm than good."

We do not pretend to know exactly what "the sternal principles of Conservatism" are; but certainly Mr. Baring's professions were too broad-bottomed to let minor differences prevent his gaining the vacant seat. For the advocate of Free Trade, he avowed the "abstract justice" of his principles—for the fixed-duty man, the inclination of his own preference—and for the sliding-scale, the prospect of his own support so long as it shall be supported by Sir Robert Peel. Surely here was "ample scope and verge enough" for union; and union there was, abundant, so far as Ministerialism and Monopoly are concerned. We will tell Granny where the shoe pinches; and where it will hereafter pinch much more sorely. There are Tories who have become Free Traders, and have the sense to perceive that Free Trade is more important than Toryism to national prosperity. That is what makes these lamentations of disunity. Certain party men have become men of principle. The *Herald* may protest that "Mr. Baring would most undoubtedly have been elected but for the interference of the League;" that only makes its case worse. The League merely interfered by the promulgation of Free-Trade principles. The alleged disunion and the alleged interference are nothing more than two forms of admitting the fact that those principles are extending in the City, and that they decided the election.

But the League, says the veracious *Standard*, is "unpopular with the electors of London;" and the *Standard* fortifies its assertion by a phrase to that effect from the *Morning Chronicle*, which speaks of Mr. Pattison's connexion with us as "a disadvantage to the Liberal candidate." Now we will throw the matter of fact entirely out of the question. Let us look only at the logic. Mr. Pattison, standing on the Free-Trade principle, succeeded, though clogged with the "disadvantage," so called, of the League's unpopularity. Such a statement, were it true, would only go to prove yet more strongly the progress of that principle in the metropolitan constituency. It would make the victory all the more decided. Neither truth nor falsehood will help over the difficulty. Our "unpopularity" will be cheerfully borne while it continues to be as pleasantly evinced as hitherto; and Heaven send all Free-Trade candidates abundance of the "disadvantage" that wins elections.

The *Morning Post* has a different theory of the defeat; and not a very complimentary one to its party:—"The real cause of the success of Mr. Pattison, is the deterioration of the public character of the Ministerial Conservative party. The Ministerial Conservatives have not been true to themselves and their own avowed principles." Very good: and why have they not? Because they could not. Either they promised impracticabilities, or they have found public opinion too strong for them. The delusion of 1841 can never come round again. Experience and information preclude the possibility. Mr. Baring did not find himself too little of a monopolist in principle for the electors. *He* saw, and so did his committee, that the danger was all the other way. More truth to his principles, or to the principles of 1841, would have been fewer promises on his canvass. The solution of the *Post* aggrandises the victory which it was meant to explain. Mr. Baring might well be defeated by a power which had already beaten the Ministerial Conservatives out of character, consistency, and "their own avowed principles."

This quibbling and sophistry, these grudging concessions and paltry evasions, can impose on nobody. They are like the confused clamour that arises when a shot is fired into a rookery. The hacks of party are bewildered by the triumph of a popular principle. They cannot tell what to make of it. But they have an instinctive foreboding that something more is at hand. The shadow of coming events is over them; and they shudder and chatter in mutual recriminations and vague apprehension. Meanwhile there stands the fact, which they cannot obscure. London has given judgment against Monopoly. The world's commercial metropolis, the metropolis of the British empire, votes for no restrictions upon trade. The Corn Laws are condemned—Monopoly reads the handwriting on the wall, and knows that its dominion is about to depart.

The leaders of the political parties will do wisely to study this sign of the times. Here was no strife of Whig and Tory—no antithesis of fixed duty and sliding scale. Total repeal was the watchword. Henceforth that is, in politics, the word of power. Mr. Baring may have some truth in the remark that his opponent's success "is no triumph for either of the great parties in the State who contest the possession of power;" but the conclusion is premature that "the policy of the country will remain unaltered by his election." That election is the declaration of London that the policy of the country *shall* be altered; and if it be not a sheer accident, but a striking indication of the progress of opinion, the policy of the country must be altered, whatever party may offer itself to conduct the change.

And this is our beginning—the first practical comment on the plan of the campaign announced at Covent Garden Theatre just a month ago. We have appealed to London, and London has responded. The result is grand and animating. Still it is only the beginning; there is no time yet for rest or relaxation. Other elections are in hand. There are Kendal and Salisbury to be encouraged to their duties. There is the general action on the electoral body throughout the country to be sustained, The monster-fund has to be collected. Everywhere must the members of the League be up and doing. Monopoly will die hard, no doubt. But the first blow is struck, and struck home. Onwards for the next!

MR. BARING'S LAST ADDRESS.

It is usual to bestow the charity of silence upon the farewell address of a defeated candidate;—we should gladly exercise such forbearance to Mr. Baring, had not the address he has put forward been designed "a double debt to pay," being at once a remonstrance against late defeat, and an appeal for future support. On the good feeling that suggested the allusion to Mr. Lyall's state of health, and the good taste which gave it expression, we do not deem it necessary to offer any comment; monopolist courtesy is as much beyond our comprehension as monopolist morality.

Mr. Baring declares that the late contest was "one of constitutional principles as well as of commercial maxims." Our determination to avoid anything which may lead us away from the great subject of "Free Trade," to which all our energies are devoted, prevents us from examining what Mr. Baring calls "constitutional principles," but what others might be disposed to regard as some of the darkest blots on the social system of Great Britain. We therefore turn to his "commercial maxims;" and here, gentle reader, is the first of the Baring aphorisms:—

"As far as the question of Free Trade is concerned, I may be allowed to repeat, that when I see every article of domestic manufacture protected by duties for the sup-

port of domestic industry—every article of raw produce, brought from abroad, taxed for the maintenance of our revenue—numerous restrictions placed on our navigation and commerce for the national defence and security—I cannot understand how, in an honest spirit, the unlimited application of the principle of Free Trade can be contended for."

Here are three assertions put forward to explain Mr. Baring's incapacity of comprehending the application of a truth which he recognises in "the abstract:" of these the first is untrue, the second has nothing to say to the matter, and the third is a gross misrepresentation.

Articles of domestic manufacture are not protected for the support of domestic industry, but partly as a compensation for the taxes which the monopolists have imposed on the raw materials, as in the instance of foreign hides, iron, &c.; partly to protect the unjust extortions of colonial jobbers, as in the case of sugar, coffee, spice, &c; but principally to interest the ignorant and unthinking in supporting the monster monopolies, by allowing them to pick up some of the crumbs which fell from aristocratic tables. It has been found possible to persuade men to be patient when sovereigns were extracted from their pockets, provided they were allowed to pick shillings from the pockets of their neighbours.

As no Free Trader has ever objected to taxes imposed for national purposes, Mr. Baring's reference to such duties is either the result of gross ignorance or still grosser deception. We leave him to choose either alternative; for we are not anxious to acquit his head at the expense of his heart, or his heart at the expense of his head.

Every one knows that the restrictions imposed on navigation, under the pretence of providing for national defence, have been abandoned one after the other; and those which remain are continued merely to support the monopoly of the associated jobbers, who have impudently arrogated to themselves the name of the "Shipping Interest."

What comes next?

"I should be ready to advance the application of that principle whenever it can be done without disturbing higher interests than even the enjoyment of Free Trade would compensate us for; but I feel that, amidst the complicated considerations which surround us, it can only be applied with the utmost caution and sagacity."

We would give a trifle to know what Mr, Baring means by "the higher interests than the enjoyment of Free Trade!" Are they the maintenance of hounds and racehorses—the payment of mortgages and mistresses—the security of settlements for titled idleness—the preservation of the aristocracy of the sugar-hogsheads—and the continuance of the empire of Leadenhall-street? These are the only "interests" in competition with Free Trade; that they are "higher interests" than such national blessing as "the enjoyment of Free Trade," may be the opinion of the nominee of monopolists; but it assuredly is not the opinion of any man who possesses the most moderate share of common honesty or common sense.

Let us go on with this precious document:—

"On one point I cannot conceal the expression of my deep concern. The efforts now systematically making to concentrate public odium on the landed interests of this country, as parties enjoying a baneful and selfish monopoly, imposed solely for their benefit and aggrandisement, cannot in my judgment be viewed without the deepest anxiety by every true friend of his country. If protection be given to the agriculture of the country by the Corn Laws, it is only that which is afforded by the Legislature to every other interest in Great Britain; and it is given, not for the special advantage of the landholders (although it would be difficult to comprehend why that large body should be the only one from which legislative protection should be withheld), but for the advantage of the State, that this country may, as far as human foresight can prevent it, avoid the danger of a too great dependence on foreign supply for the means of subsistence."

The protection granted to the agriculture of the country by the Corn Laws is *not* that which is afforded to every other interest, or to *any other* interest in Great Britain. We are not aware of more than one sliding scale, the graduation of famine which the monopolists of corn have devised. The pretext which Mr. Baring assigns for the continuance of this injustice is the most flimsy of all the vulgar fallacies which the monopolists have put forward, and it has been so often exposed that we are astonished to find even Mr. Baring venturing on its repetition. We are dependent on foreigners *to sell*, and if we did not sell, Mr. Baring would soon have little business in his counting-house; and we must be dependent on foreigners for the materials of most of our manufactures, seeing that neither cotton nor dye-stuffs, nor the most important elements of chemical preparations, are produced in this country. Even for food we are already dependent on foreigners, for England does not produce sufficient corn for the support of its population. Wheat is now imported, but under a system injurious to the consumers; and our dependence is actually more precarious and more at the discretion of foreigners than it could possibly be under a system of Free Trade. To obtain impossible independence is, in Mr. Baring's opinion, the great object of the Corn Laws; but he goes on to say:—

"In what degree they accomplish it may reasonably be matter of discussion. That the object is a national one none can deny; and that all those who support it as such should be violently denounced as heartless, selfish monopolists, having no sympathy with the wants of the people, is, I think a subject of public regret—I had almost said of public reproach."

It is not a matter for discussion whether the Corn Laws can accomplish impossibilities; and it is a matter of regret and almost of public reproach that such heartless and selfish monopoly should have been established by grasping avarice, perpetuated by blind credulity, and defended by utter absurdity.

Such is the address put forward by the rejected of London, who is likely to find acceptance nowhere save from those who approve the example of *Dogberry*, when he appointed *George Seacoal* constable on the ground that he was "the most senseless and unfit" man for the office.

THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

The monthly aggregate meeting of the National Anti-Corn-Law League was held last evening at Covent Garden Theatre.

The enthusiasm with which the recent glorious triumph of the cause of Free Trade over monopoly in the city of London had inspired the minds of the members of the League, by whose unparalleled exertions that triumph was mainly achieved, rendered this, their first aggregate meeting since the return of Mr. Pattison, more than usually interesting and attractive. Every available part of the house was occupied, even to an inconvenient degree, and the platform was crowded throughout its whole extent, many ladies being on this occasion accommodated with seats amidst the members of the Council and the stewards. At the back of the stage there was a transparency with the following inscription in large letters, "Honour to the citizens of London! Justice and Free Trade have triumphed!"

Several of the private boxes were unoccupied—a circumstance which led to some interruption in the course of the proceedings, for, by the very great pressure of the vast assemblage, many persons were induced, on observing the fact of those boxes being empty, frequently to raise the cry of "Room, room!" This cry was at first attributed to some few persons who were supposed to be the friends of the defeated monopolist candidate; and the friends of Free Trade—that is to say, the meeting itself—very promptly responded "turn him out;" but on the chairman explaining that the empty boxes were the property of private individuals, and were not included in the agreement between the Council and the proprietor of the theatre, and could not, therefore, be used by the meeting, silence was immediately restored. This induces us to believe that there was no intention on the part of any one to create a disturbance, or interfere with the orderly proceedings of the association.

Among those present we more particularly noticed G. Wilson, Esq., chairman; Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P.; Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; Dr. Bowring, M.P.; Henry Metcalf, Esq., M.P.; R. R. R. Moore, Esq.; Colonel T. P. Thompson; G. Heppel, Esq.; A. W. Paulton, Esq.; Sir W. Baynes; Major-General Briggs; J. N. Sibeth, Esq.; T. Potter, Esq., Manchester; G. Borrett, Esq., Southampton; G. Pattison, Esq.; Henry Lloyd Morgan, Esq.; William A'Becket, Esq.; William Geesin, Esq.; E. Thomas, Esq., Bristol; S. Harrison, Esq.; Roger Cunliffe, Esq.; W. Adams Smith, Esq.; Rev. W. J. Fox; R. T. Heap, Esq., Rochdale; Henry Taylor, Esq., Rochdale; P. A. Taylor, Esq.; P. C. Taylor, Esq.; James Wilson, Esq.; W. Ivimey, Esq.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq.; S. Lucas, Esq.; Francis Place, Esq.; W. Wilson, Esq.; J. Wright, Esq.; Dr. Cooke Taylor; J. Bean, Esq.; J. Parker, Esq.; Ball Hughes, Esq.; J. Phelps, Esq.; G. Ridge, Esq.; H. Patten, Esq.; J. W. Child, Esq.; T. Chadwick, Esq.; T. B. Potter, Esq., Manchester; T. Fairbairn, Esq., Milwall; Richard Taylor, Esq.; Cowden Clarke, Esq.; Dr. Hutton; W. Bestow, Esq.; J. Finch, jun., Esq., Liverpool; Professor Key; Rev. J. Edwards, Brighton; F. Pegler, Esq.; P. H. Le Breton, Esq.; T. Waddington, Esq.; W. Spurrier, Esq.; T. B. Burcham, Esq.; F. Gunning, Esq.; John Macleod, Esq.; J. Cox, Esq.; R. Childs, Esq.; H. T. Dunkley, Esq.; and Joseph Bruce, Esq.

George Wilson, Esq., took the chair at seven o'clock precisely. He and the whole of the Council were received with repeated rounds of applause on taking their places on the platform.

When the cheering had subsided,

The CHAIRMAN said: Ladies and gentlemen, you will very readily anticipate that the first business of this meeting will be to congratulate ourselves, and to congratulate the friends of Free Trade, upon that splendid victory which has been achieved by the enlightened electors of London, over the combined forces of monopoly on Saturday last. (Cheers. It is impossible to overrate that victory. The eyes of all England were directed to the men of London. (Cheers.) There was no effort spared which the monopolists or the administration could use to secure the return of Mr. Baring. (Cries of "Shame.") But it has been found that, by the largest jury to which a great public question was ever submitted for a verdict, the verdict has gone against monopoly. (Cheers.) Much has been said about the activity of the underlings of the present administration during that contest. (Cheers.) The League will never fight party battles to serve this or that administration; but I will say this, that if that or any other administration will ally itself with the Corn Laws—will send out its agents to propose the return to Parliament of a pro-Corn-Law candidate, then that ministry will be sacrificed in the general downfal of monopoly. [Here there was some interruption occasioned by one or two persons calling out "Room, room!" "Put that Tory out," cried some one, which excited much laughter.] It is due from us on this occasion towards the immediate instruments by whom this victory was achieved that we make our acknowledgments to them, and first to the candidate himself, Mr. Pattison. (Loud applause.) He has been explicit from the first. He has been a Free Trader—not in the abstract (Laughter.) He says, "I supported Mr. Villiers in the House of Commons when that gentleman had only afew supporters; and if you will return me to Parliament, you will find me in my accustomed place, supporting the same hon. gentleman when his motion shall be again brought forward, not in a small minority, but by an increasing force, which will decide the fate of the Corn Laws for ever." (Cheers.) Our thanks are next due to the gentlemen who composed the district and the central committees, for their unwearying exertions during the arduous struggle. (Cheers.) They had the advantage of being presided over by Mr. Travers (loud cheering), a gentleman in every respect well deserving of their esteem and confidence. They have succeeded in their exertions, and the reward be to them accordingly. (Applause.) It is amusing to notice the various reasons assigned by Mr. Baring's friends for his defeat. They are forgetful that in assigning so many they contradict each other, and make each other look ridiculous. (Laughter.) It was said, "Oh, his friends were on the Continent." (Laughter.) If they had only been in London Mr. Baring would have succeeded. (Much laughter.) Then they said some were in the country shooting, and would not leave their sport (laughter); some returned, but did not vote after all; while some lay in bed until it was too late to vote, and some got up too early and left town before they did vote. (Laughter.) Some said, if he had only gone for more protection he would have been returned; while others said, if he had gone for a less duty and less protection he could not have lost. In short, it appeared to be the opinion of his friends that, if Mr. Baring had taken any other course than the one he did, he most assuredly would have been the member for London. (Cheers and laughter.) Cries of "Room, room," again interrupted the speaker, who said—I must beg the gentleman who is disturbing the order of these proceedings to consider that in this meeting he is here entirely on sufferance—(tremendous applause)—that we have got the power, and shall exercise it, to remove any gentleman who thinks proper to interrupt the peace and order of this meeting. (Cheers.) Gentlemen continued the chairman), whatever course might have been best for Mr. Baring to pursue, is not a fit subject for our discussion to-night. (Cheers.) It is sufficient for us to know that he has polled more than ever will be polled again by any man who comes forward on his principles, and that to the 6,532 electors who voted for Mr. Pattison the country is under everlasting obligations. (Cheers.) It is impossible to do justice to the efforts which were made on Saturday last. The citizens of London—the most powerful and influential constituency in the empire—took up the mace of the giant, and gave a blow to monopoly under which it may reel and stagger, but from which it is impossible it can ever recover. Already the country has commenced its meetings in honour of the victory which was then and there achieved. Five thousand members of the League—brother members with yourselves—assembled in Manchester on Tuesday night, and passed an address congratulating the electors of London on their most splendid victory. (Cheers.) You will hear from Mr. Sydney Smith a statement of other places from which addresses have been already sent. They are pouring in by every post, and in the course of a single week you will find that the whole of England have been watching this struggle, in which monopoly hung quivering in the balance, with an interest not in the slightest degree subordinate to that which was felt among yourselves. (Cheers.) It is my duty to mention that since we last met a great number of meetings have been held among the agriculturists, attended by Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden. (Cheers.) The agriculturists of North Lancashire had been called together; also those of Cheshire, of East Cumberland, of Worcester, of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and of Durham; and Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright were to-morrow to address—at the requisition of a number of farmers, occupying, some 500 acres, some 1000 acres, and some paying £2000 a year rent—a meeting of agriculturists at Haddington, in Scotland. (Cheers.) At all these meetings resolutions have been proposed, generally by the most extensive landholders in the district, in favour of a total abolition of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) At Doncaster, the Earl Fitzwilliam (loud cheers), one of the largest landowners, if not the largest, in Yorkshire, supported a resolution, declaring that the Corn Laws should be forthwith abolished. (Cheers.) At the meeting in Cumberland, Sir Wilfred Lawson, brother-in-law of Sir James Graham, the largest landholder in that county except Lord Lowther, was himself in the chair. (Cheers.) We have been accused of seeking the ruin of agriculture. The part taken by these landowners is a sufficient reply to this, and gives an answer to that most grievous mistake, if not wilful calumny. It is impossible not to observe that the Corn Laws are foredoomed (cheers), and that the end of our agitation is now approaching. (Cheers.) It is in the power of this meeting, and of those meetings I have mentioned, to fix finally and determine when that event shall be. (Cheers.) The meeting will be addressed by the Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers (cheers); by Dr. Bowring (cheers); by Mr. Milner Gibson (cheers); and by Mr. Moore (cheers).

[Here loud cries were raised for Mr. Fox, who had been recognised as being present on the platform, but the arrangements for the evening would not admit of that gentleman addressing the meeting.]

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH then announced that addresses had been received from the following places, thanking the citizens of London for having done their duty in returning Mr. Pattison at the late City election, namely:—Winchester, Brighton, Leeds, Beverley, Boston, South Shields, Bridgewater, Newark, Halifax, Newport (Isle of Wight), Carlisle, Kendal, Rochdale, Bradford (Yorkshire), Barnard Castle, King's Lynn, Manchester.

The following address was agreed to by the members of the National Anti-Corn-Law League, assembled at the great Free-Trade Hall, at Manchester, on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 1843:—

"To the Electors of the City of London.

"Fellow-countrymen,—You have just been engaged in one of the noblest and most important struggles of modern times. We awaited with anxious expectations the result; that result has not disappointed us. True to the principles of freedom of commerce contained in your celebrated petition presented to Parliament in 1820, when the late great occasion arrived, you rejected the candidate for your suffrages who maintained those principles only in the abstract, and have chosen a tried, honest, consistent supporter of practical Free Trade.

"We congratulate you on the triumph you have achieved over monopoly—the blow you have struck at a tyranny not less galling than any which your forefathers overthrew.

"We thank you for the noble example you have set to the electors of the whole nation, and for your declaration before the world, by the election of Mr. Pattison, that the infamous laws which restrict the food of the people shall be totally and immediately abolished, that the whole world shall be open to our industry, and that trade shall be as free as the winds of heaven."

The Council of the League had also agreed to the following address:—

"ADDRESS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE TO THE CITIZENS OF LONDON.

"London, Oct. 23, 1843.

"Citizens of London—You have gained a great victory in the cause of truth, justice, and the prosperity of our common country. The magnitude of your success is not to be estimated by the numerical amount of the majority you have obtained; its greatest value arises from the variety and vastness of the obstacles you had to overcome. Against you were all that monopolies have benefited—all that bribery could corrupt—all that intimidation could coerce—and all that power could influence. Not only all classes in the British empire, but the whole of the commercial world were interested in the result; and there is not any man, in any nation, anxious for the welfare of his kind, who will not rejoice that London has nobly maintained its character as the stronghold of British freedom and commercial independence.

"The Council of the League feels it an especial duty and privilege to congratulate you on your success; the League is with you and of you; forty thousand of its members reside in the metropolis, and they may with equal truth be said to dictate to Manchester, as the resident members in Manchester to dictate to London. But what the monopolists have called dictation is nothing more than the spontaneous sympathy of all honest men to resist the domination of class and selfish interests, of commercial fraud, and of trading injustice.

"Citizens of London—You have done your duty nobly, and you have already obtained a rich reward. Fast as steam could convey the tidings of success through the length and breadth of the land, hope was conveyed to the suffering and prospects of relief opened to the wretched. Millions of grateful hearts will bless the efforts you have made to remove the restrictions which the perversity of man has imposed upon the bounties of Providence. We only give voice to the heartfelt sentiments of the vast majority of your countrymen, when we congratulate you most sincerely on the glorious victory you have achieved.

"Engaged, as we are, in a just and holy cause, which is not ours alone, nor yours alone, but the cause of the universal British people, we wish not to indulge in any unseemly triumph over the honestly-mistaken supporters of monopoly. We lament their delusion, and will, as heretofore, exert ourselves to enlighten their ignorance. But equal forbearance cannot be extended to those who tacitly confess the baseness of their cause by the baseness of the means which they employ to support it. In duty to ourselves, in duty to you, and in duty to the electoral bodies to which we shall hereafter appeal, we are bound to punish such delinquents, and we will not shrink from the task. They shall neither be shielded by obscurity, nor protected by wealth, influence, or station; they shall be equally arraigned at the bar of public opinion, and equally punished by the moral reprobation of all that is enlightened and virtuous in Britain.

"Citizens of London—Friends and Fellow-countrymen,—Again we tender to you our heartfelt and warmest thanks; you have taken the lead in what we believe will be a long series of constitutional triumph over those who would enrich themselves by trading on the miseries of the nation. To London, now, the whole empire will look with confidence for guidance and direction; the constituency of Britain will evince its gratitude by following your noble example. You have cemented the league of amity which should unite together the several portions of the electoral body, for the maintenance of their common rights, the removal of their common grievances, the establishment of common justice, and the promotion of the welfare of their common country. "By order of the Council.

"GEORGE WILSON, Chairman." (Cheers.)

Mr. VILLIERS, who was received with several rounds of cheering, said:—The chairman has requested me to open the discussion which has been appointed for this evening. I presume he has done so on a principle that is acted upon in this place on other occasions, namely, that when several pieces are to be given on the same evening, not to give the best first (a laugh), and generally one that is short. (Laughter.) You will be addressed this evening by gentlemen of great power, who are more accustomed to address such imposing assemblages as the present than myself, and I can assure the chairman that I shall fully satisfy the conditions of the rule. (Hear.) But I am in hopes that we are near the time when none of us need be long. (A laugh.) There is something like day now breaking on this cause, and a prospect is opened of a termination of our toil. (Hear, hear, hear.) I think the chairman, when he named his plan, a few weeks since, of holding these meetings, in order to familiarise the public with the arguments on which he rests his case, hardly knew what aptitude there was among his London scholars for instruction, how informed they were already, and how ready they were to do their duty with honour to themselves and service to their country when submitted to trial. (Cheers.) Our friend, however, is a man of method, and he will not release any of his friends from the aid they have promised him: when he has settled a plan he does not easily depart from it; his head is not shaken by the first flush of success (hear, hear); he does not mistake an outpost for the citadel; and, though he has possessed himself of one of the most important of the former, it is the last he has determined to take (cheers), and I trust that it is in this endeavour that we shall all feel ourselves bound to give him the best aid in our power. (Cheers.) This is not the time, if we are sincere in the cause, to withdraw our aid and good-will from the League (cheers); they who do so would be justly charged, in my opinion, with belonging to politicians who are enamoured with a cause in proportion to its distance from success—(a laugh)—and would shrink from the reality for which they appear to contend. (Hear.) We hear of principles in the abstract; but these are patriots in the abstract, and not of us. (Loud laughter.) Such men have no reason to join the League, for I will say that if ever a body manifested by zeal and perseverance that they were sincere, it is the League. (Cheers.) They have no disguise—they have broadly avowed their object, and they apply themselves like men of business to the readiest mode of accomplishing it (hear, hear); and certainly we in Parliament—who have been toiling in this matter for seven years past, and unceasingly calling for help from without, declaring that we were knocking our heads in vain against a dull thick wall within if outward support was withheld, should be inconsistent if, when the spirits we had invoked had arisen, we should repudiate their assistance. (Hear.) This is in truth a question that must be carried out of the House before it is carried within it. (Cheers.) I do not say, as it was said by Lord Chatham of the unreformed House, that "if it was not speedily reformed from within, that it would be reformed with a vengeance from without" (hear, hear), because I believe that the League will succeed, and its intention is to appeal to reason and not to passion (cheers); they were proceeding upon the more cautious authority of one of the present Ministers of the Crown, Sir James Graham (hear, hear), who had truly said that our opponents were omnipotent in Parliament when backed by public opinion, but deprived of that support, in spite of their majorities, they were practically without power. (Cheers.) It is impossible to deny that they have had the semblance of support from this quarter, from the little resistance they have hitherto encountered; but this is what the League is putting to the test, whether they have any, and what, title to support from public opinion. They have, as the chairman has said, promoted a great suit in this country, in which freedom of trade is plaintiff, and monopoly is defendant (cheers), and what I believe we have uppermost in our minds to-night is the judgment just given in their favour in one of the most important courts which have jurisdiction in the case (cheers); and they do not now fear an appeal from this judgment to the country at large. (Cheers.) They believe that, wherever the judge is not bribed, they will have a verdict in their favour (hear, hear), and cordially should we assist them in the suit. They are wise and honest in seeking this general decision on their cause. (Hear.) It is asked by some, I know, why is all this organization of talent, energy, and intelligence, independent of Parliament, necessary in a country like ours, where the House of Commons assembles (a laugh), where discussion can be taken, and where the laws should properly be altered or repealed? I ask, too, whose fault it is that this is necessary? (Hear): and I reply that it is the fault of the majority in the Legislature, who quit the House when discussion on these subjects commences, and return only when the division is taken. (Hear.) It is the fault of those who deny the facts contained in the petitions of the people, but who refuse inquiry or evidence on the matter in dispute. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.) It is the fault of those who have the effrontery to say that these laws are required to pay their private debts, and make settlements on the younger branches of their families (loud cheers); and he should add, of those who had also the assurance to assign as a reason to millions who were without the food they required, that the public ground for the maintenance of monopoly was, lest too much dependence for food should be placed on foreign states. ("Hear, hear, hear," and laughter.) Yes, ten millions were to be reconciled to the monopoly of bread, lest some day or other it should happen that they who had no bread now should by this dependence be left in the same condition. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) Yes he saw, if he was not mistaken, in Mr. Baring's address yesterday, that he, a merchant, vindicated his support of monopoly on what he called a public ground. ("Hear" and laughter.) Now, personally, he had nothing to say against Mr. Baring; he believed him to be a man of private worth, and much esteemed by his friends (hear, hear), but he did hope that as long as he identified himself with monopoly, and assigned such a reason for doing so, he would experience the same fate as had met him last week. (Loud cheers.) Why, Mr. Baring must surely see that his argument is against commerce altogether, and not commerce in one article alone. (Hear, hear.) How can there be commerce without dependence, and how can commerce in any article be destroyed without those losing who live by it? (Hear.) It is said that his own house has large dealings in cotton, and he is not ignorant of the fact that 1,800,000 people depend for life in this country on the employment which the manufacture of that article gives. (Hear, hear.) Now, no cotton is grown in this country, and that vast amount of people are entirely dependent on the commerce with a foreign state for it. (Hear, hear.) How does he distinguish cotton from corn, or is he prepared to encourage cotton to be grown and then protected in this country, to avoid too great dependence on other countries? ("Hear, hear," and laughter). But Mr. Baring is not ignorant, either, of what occurred in the last war, which shows that even that calamity does not always prevent the supplies which the wants of hostile states demand of each other; for he knows that, when the French war was at its height, corn was imported from France, and French soldiers were clothed with English cloth. (Hear, hear.) I say, it is a marvel how an intelligent man can use this argument; but knowing it is used, I name it as a ground for the necessity of intelligent instructors, like the leading men of the League, to supply the antidote to such delusions. (Cheers.) It is the remedy for the evil: and if such men as Mr. Baring are allowed to be at large (loud laughter)—he meant, if they were openly to propound these fallacies—it was right that they should be answered. (Hear, hear.) I am not saying that agitation is a good thing in itself—I hate it myself as I hate physic (a laugh); but it is not because I dislike the remedy that I am to endure the disorder. (Hear, hear.) And I say, where a Legislature, like ours, is not based on purely popular principles, and resist what is right from bigotry or interest, it becomes the duty of intelligent and patriotic men to bring the case before the public in some way that shall secure for it full and fair consideration. (Hear, hear.) This is always possible while freedom in discussion is allowed: that right is still left us; and while it is, men would be slaves, if, wronged or aggrieved, they did not use it. (Hear, hear.) The League are only using that right, and they have never done anything else (hear, hear); and how much evil might have been averted in other states and times had combinations, such as the League, for this purpose been formed. (Hear, hear.) Who can say that, if an honest Government in France had been backed by enlightened opinion that that awful convulsion that shook society to the base might not have been averted. (Hear, hear.) Twelve years before the French revolution, the most able minister that country ever knew (Turgot) was driven from power because he attempted to induce the nobility and clergy to abandon some of their privileges, which by their pressure on the productive classes were impairing the revenue and deteriorating the people (hear, hear), and, from that time till the year it broke out, every minister who opposed their privileges was driven from power, and men were only supported who would pledge themselves to maintain them, until they brought ruin that was irretrievable on the country (hear, hear); and the same thing is going on here now, and will be followed by the same results if it is not checked. The monopolists withdraw their confidence from every minister that threatens to interfere with them, and they are ready to support any man who will promise to uphold their monopolies. (Hear.) When Huskisson sought to reduce them, a pretext was found to drive him from power, and his death gave joy and relief to monopoly. (Hear.) Whatever the sins of the Whigs might have been in a popular sense, they were tolerated by the aristocracy, and they were suffered to retain power till the state of the country compelled them to deal with monopoly, and then they were hurled ignominiously from power (hear), and, when Sir Robert Peel succeeded them, the flattery of him by his party knew no bounds, because he was said to be pledged, and ready to maintain the system. ("Hear," and laughter.) He had not been in power a year before he found it impossible; and from that moment he was discovered not to be the pilot to weather the storm (a laugh), and he has lost the confidence of his original friends, and, but for his assurance to remain quiescent for the future, he would share the fate of others before him. (Hear.) I say, then, to such a combination, existing to enlighten public opinion on these matters, and to draw forth a power that should be adequate to grapple with old abuse and long-established monopoly, any minister who honestly desired reform should turn with gratitude and interest. (Cheers.) But whether they do so or not, they are succeeding in their object, and will succeed farther. (Hear, hear.) Of that I am convinced. I used formerly to be unceasingly taunted in Parliament with the notion that the people were not with us, and that is now beginning to subside. I could mention a case to show what has been done already by agitation. There is a certain baronet in the House, a member for the county of Essex (laughter), who was ever taunting me with the inutility of my efforts to get the Corn Laws repealed, and I remember, little more than a year since, he told me that if I went just out of the House, and preached the doctrine of Free Trade to the cabmen in Palace-yard, I should find that they did not understand me; or if they did they would not agree with me; and I did not venture to dispute the fact, for I thought it very likely he might have some friends on the stand. (Loud laughter and cheers.) But what have I seen since? Why, this very gentleman, in the confidence that the farmers were proof against books and speeches, encouraged a meeting to be held in his own county, and defied the Free Traders to shake the men of Essex. (Laughter.) And I witnessed myself this unfortunate gentleman, after making a long speech on the blessings of monopoly, and showing the farmers how it was that it had done them good, having the mortification of seeing Mr. Cobden pull a resolution from his pocket to the effect that monopoly had never done the farmers good, that all monopolies were bad, and that they ought to be abolished forthwith, and seeing it unanimously carried by the farmers and people assembled in the county town (loud cheers); and I do not remember ever to have seen my friend Sir John Tyrell since in the House (laughter); but that is not a solitary instance. I think I have seen that in twenty-five counties similar resolutions have been carried. (Loud cheers.) Well, what is this but sign of progress? (Hear, hear.) And if it should continue will render success certain (hear, hear); and I want to know how anybody who wishes success can justify himself in not wishing well to the League, and in not encouraging their efforts? (Hear, hear.) Similar associations have succeeded before, and have been necessary before, for all the eloquence in the walls of Parliament will go for nothing when men are interested within and ignorant without. (Cheers.) All that eloquence and argument could do in the House was attempted for twenty-five years in favour of religious liberty, and though men like Grattan, and Canning, and Grenville, and Grey, were entitled to the gratitude of all good men for their efforts, yet it was not till the Catholic Association was formed that the efforts of patriotic men had any real effect. (Hear, hear.) This was the means of arousing the electors, and at last a single election became a sign that the hour was come when further resistance would be needless. (Loud cheers.) He could almost venture to hope that the citizens of London had given a similar sign. (Cheers.) Let those friends of Free Trade, then, who are fastidious against the League—and he knew that there were some—let them tell us how else they would proceed? (Hear.) Let us have their plan (hear, hear), and if it is better we will adopt it; but at present it would seem to be to expect that, when a raging fire is consuming all that we value most, it will go out of itself (hear, hear), and we are to trust according to them to men all of a sudden taking to despoil and castigate themselves for the good of the community. (Cheers and laughter.) Why, does anybody believe for a moment that without agitation anything would have been admitted or conceded? (Hear, hear.) Should we hear of ministerial visits to agricultural districts but for this? (Hear.) Does anybody believe that but for the efforts of the League the glorious event which was declared in the Guildhall the other day would have occurred? I do not deprive the electors themselves of any of the honour or the virtue of their conduct, in what I say of the efforts of the League. All honour is due to the citizens for the decision they have given; but the labours of the League were directed to make them see the case clearly that they had to decide. (Hear, hear.) Well, but if the League was the cause of this important event, and the event is the most advantageous that has yet occurred to the cause, why should they be attacked for interference, or have any credit withheld from them? (Hear, hear.) As a friend of Free Trade, I shall ever feel thankful for the exertion they made on the occasion, for it is not only that they have sent an honest and independent man to Parliament, but it is the great moral effect in the world, and in the country, for which the event is so important. (Cheers.) For it is not as if the subject of Free Trade was cursorily mentioned, or had not been prominent in the contest: it was the point on which the issue was taken, and on which the contest turned (cheers); and the decision was made after three weeks' animated discussion, when everything that could be said for monopoly was adduced, and the same on the side of Free Trade. It was under those circumstances that the citizens elected their member (hear, hear, hear); and it is therefore notice to the world that this great city has at length pronounced against the protective system (cheers); that they have not believed the things said in its favour, when applied to any of the great matters where it is maintained. With regard to agriculture, they have declared with the League that it is a fallacy, that it has falsified every expectation that was raised, and realised every mischief that was predicted (cheers)—that agriculture has been avowedly retarded by it, and that the farmers have never profited by it (hear, hear)—that, as regards commerce, it has been unqualified obstruction and mischief; and that, as regards the people, who are underfed and increasing, it is an inhumanity as an obstruction in their access to food, and equally so whether that obstruction be fixed or sliding. (Hear, hear, hear.) All these things, in adopting the views of Free Traders, they have declared; and they have, by their decision, given notice to all the constituencies in the country that the manner in which they can best serve their country at this moment is to return a bold, uncompromising, and unqualified opponent to monopoly and friend to Free Trade. (Cheers.) Such a man they have elected—a more honourable one, I

believe, they could not have chosen (cheers)—and he will be found at his post, I do not question, when that motion is again made, which he named in his address as proving his sincere attachment to the cause, and which was totally to repeal the laws which Lord Fitzwilliam, as a peer and a proprietor, declared were only passed for the particular interest of his order; which Lord John Russell says only exist to enslave the people; which Deacon Hume, who avowed himself a Tory, and friendly to all the privileges of the aristocracy, said were incompatible with the safety of that order; and which M'Culloch, no member of the League, has said might be now unconditionally repealed without danger, and with nothing but advantage to the community. (Loud cheers.) Such a man have the citizens of London returned to Parliament, after resisting all the influence brought to bear in favour of an opposite principle, by the powerful party by which it was represented (cheers), and joy and delight will it give to all who have toiled in this cause, wherever they may be—whether now active in the field, or retired in despair from the fight. (Hear, hear, hear.) It will gladden the hearts of all those powerful minds who, in their retirement, have contributed thought and knowledge to the subject, but have never expected to see their principles succeed. (Hear, hear.) It will give notice to those foolish governments, who, distrusting our professions and seeing our practice, are now injuring themselves, thinking to retaliate upon us; and they will learn that the system of protection which they are now fostering is being denounced and discredited where it is best known and has been longest tried (hear, hear); and wherever Free Trade is looked upon as a consummation of all those contrivances of modern days by which the scattered members of the human family have been brought into more friendly communion with each other, and wherever it is believed to be now the next great step to be taken in the civilising progress of our yet degraded nature, there it will be heard with delight that the capital of the world's commerce has deliberately decided in its favour, and blessings, I am sure, will be deservedly invoked upon the intelligent, spirited, noble-hearted citizens for having achieved this victory for humanity. (Loud and continued cheers.)

Dr. Bowring was then called upon by the Chairman, and, having been loudly cheered, said:—It would seem to be a work of supererogation on your part, surrounded as I am by much abler and much wiser men, to call upon me to address this great assemblage; but as those who are happy are always indulgent, and as the moment of success is never the moment for criticism, I come forward with a hearty will, if not with powerful deeds, and I join most cordially in congratulating you on the great event. (Cheers.) We invaded the territory of the enemy (cheers)—we attacked the strongholds of monopoly—we carried the capital—and now we are gathered together triumphing in our success. (Loud cheers.) You will recollect well, when the League first came forward to take a part in this great struggle, the predictions which were offered that the interference of the League would be so offensive to the citizens of London, that the cause of Reform, commercial, political, and ecclesiastical, would be injured. (Loud cheers.) But this very day I heard the confession of one of the most powerful and most influential of Mr. Baring's friends, that the League had done it all (renewed cheers), and we who welcomed the League to London, as the representatives of the cause of truth and of justice, may now offer them the recompense of our gratitude in our accents of joy. Mr. Baring, I find, is still anticipating a future, when he may be honoured by a majority of the suffrages of the citizens of London. ("Never, never.") My friends, do not say never too rashly, because perhaps we can show Mr. Baring himself the door by which he may enter the House of Commons. Let him go back to the year 1820; let him read the petition at the head of which is the name of the house to which he belongs—the petition signed by Baring, Brothers, presented by Lord Ashburton, then Mr. Alexander Baring, to the House of Commons, in which the principles of Free Trade were laid down, not only in the abstract (cheers), but their immediate and general application was demanded from the Legislature.

"From night till morn, from morn till dewy eve,"

if Mr. Baring studies that petition, and discerns the principle, I hope that no one in this assembly, or in any other, will say that he shall never be returned. (Cheers.) I am always for receiving a penitent sinner (cheers), and I confess that I saw, during the progress of the election, so much uncomfortableness was owned to by Mr. Baring, on account of his present position, that I should not wonder at seeing him surrender to the arguments of the League, and asking their assistance in order that his high and honourable ambition may receive its recompense. (Cheers.) Mr. Baring don't quite understand the League, but as it is come into his neighbourhood, as it is not a remote, vague, and unintelligible object, but something plain, precise, and tangible, as the language of Free Trade is written on every wall, ay, and on every heart, I still hope that the mind of Mr. Baring may have enough of sincerity and of truth to come over to us and to be converted to what his honourable father and his right honourable uncle acquiesced in twenty-three years ago. (Cheers.) No doubt in his address he has fallen into singular mistakes. He says that the principles of Free Trade will cripple the public finances; but what we have always contended for is the doctrine that, to the taxes imposed for the purposes of revenue we do not object, but what we do object to are the taxes by which the whole community are pillaged; imposed, not for the purposes of the revenue, but of the monopolists. (Cheers.) We know that we must pay, year by year, the accumulated millions caused by the faults and follies of our forefathers; but what we protest against is, not that the customs officers and the excise officers should levy these contributions, annoying though they are, but that some concealed power should possess an unjust influence, which the poor man and the middle classes, ay, and which the rich themselves do not see, to take a portion of every man's meal to raise the price of food, doing all its deeds in obscurity and in darkness. Again, Mr. Baring, in his address, expresses great astonishment that while Mr. Pattison only came forward as a Free Trader, he had some concealed thoughts in favour of political reform, for he wants to extend the suffrage; of ecclesiastical reform, for he wants to get rid of church abuses; and of other reforms; but if Mr. Baring has not discovered it, he will find there is a sympathy between all that is generous and expansive—that good principles are all allies, are all children of the same parents—that they are connected, and associated, and blended with one another—that the friend of cheap bread is the friend also of cheap religion (cheers)—and that he is also the friend of cheap government (cheers), and of obtaining the most good at the least possible expense. Then Mr. Baring congratulates himself that the result of this election will not do any service to Sir Robert Peel or to Lord John Russell: why, in that consists our triumph. (Loud cheers.) We told the world from the beginning that we would not fight the battle of contending factions, that the League are not the servants or the slaves of Whig or Tory. Let those struggle for power as they will, the League will support those whom they find of most advantage to our cause. At this moment let Sir Robert Peel and Lord John Russell enter into a competition, let us see which will most serve our cause, and what amount of service either of them will do for us on this great question, and the amount of the support either will receive from us will depend on the amount of grievances they will redress, and the amount of good they will accomplish. (Cheers.) I dare say that many of you have read the speech of the Prime Minister at the Tamworth dinner. (Great laughter.) How did he address himself there? He said—"We will have no politics here, we are all agreed that the rivalries of debating parties shall not be introduced upon the present occasion;" but while he eschewed politics he did not hold out to the farmers any hope that the right to vote, hitherto given to them by their landlords, will be no longer granted; he held, on the contrary, the language of the League; he was but the plagiarist of my friends around me; he told the farmers to improve their agriculture and not to mind competition. (Loud cheers.) Sir Robert Peel told the farmers that the day was coming when their great security would be the improvement in agriculture, and that they must look into the coming time. That has been our advice year by year. It is the consequence of protection to cause an industrial and intellectual slumber. The answer of the manufacturers of France to the French Commissioners, when the discussion of lowering the duties on English manufactures took place, was, "We have been sleeping in tranquillity, under the shadow of the tree of protection, and what business have you to disturb us?" That is the case now with the agricultural interest. The League, however, have bid them arise and awake, we have been giving them divers gentle hints, and now and then a few sharp raps over the knuckles. (Laughter.) We have been telling them to slumber no longer, to be up and doing, and to follow the example of the manufacturers, who deem protection to be dishonourable, disgraceful, and burdensome, and have repudiated again and again the attempts by which the interests of the whole community are sacrificed for the contingent interest of the few. The lesson given by the city of London will be repeated elsewhere. Happily the League has a locomotive power; it is an ambulatory truth; it is a mental power in motion. Everywhere will it be present where evil is to be reduced and good to be done (cheers); and the League may say, emphatically, that the heart, and mind, and voice of the community are bound in one common bond of union. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., to the meeting.

Mr. Milner Gibson advanced to the table amid the most enthusiastic cheering from all parts of the theatre. He said: Ladies and Gentlemen, I participate in all those feelings of embarrassment and diffidence expressed by my worthy friend Dr. Bowring in attempting to address such a vast, such an imposing assemblage as is now contained within the walls of this theatre. (Cheers.) When, Sir, I recollect that only three years ago it was somewhat difficult to collect a small knot of individuals at a public meeting to hear the cause of Free Trade discussed, and when I now consider that the largest theatre in this metropolis is filled to its utmost extent, and that thousands have been refused admission not only to discuss the principles of Free Trade, but to congratulate the cause on a triumph in what has been called a stronghold of monopoly, I am indeed astonished at the progress this movement has made in so short a period of time. (Cheers.) Is it possible that any public question at this moment could draw so large an assemblage of intelligent and of respectable persons together as the question of Free Trade? Is there a room, I say, large enough in this metropolis—is there a room large enough in the United Kingdom—to hold those who would willingly come and bear testimony to the cause of commercial freedom (hear, hear)? and I fear small indeed will be that apartment—diminutive indeed that room—"less," as mathematicians say, "than anything that can be assigned," that would hold the voluntary supporters of scarcity and monopoly. (Loud cheering.) When I say that, I mean apart from party considerations; for I very believe that the great body of those who are found to support monopoly, do so not through the conviction of their own honest opinions—not from their own conscientious feelings—but they do so because they know that the hand of the oppressor is near them, and that if they do not support his interest, they may suffer the consequences in their worldly affairs. (Cheers.) When we consider, also, what a countenance these meetings receive from the gentler sex, we may be sure that their object is not of an ordinary party character. (Hear.) The women of England are seldom found to mix themselves up with the heats and animosities of common party conflict (hear); but, in aiding this struggle for commercial freedom, they feel conscious that they are promoting the social happiness—the moral and physical well-being of this great community, and that they are tending to spread the blessings of peace and civilization throughout the whole world. (Cheers.) It becomes them, I say, therefore, to give their sanction and countenance to these meetings, and I trust that they will become domestic agitators (loud cheers), and that every fireside may be the arena of their triumphs. (Cheers.) I think, with my honourable friends Dr. Bowring and Mr. Villiers, that it becomes those who object to the organization of the League—that it would become those who object to union, and to associations for the purpose of carrying out this great public object—to suggest some better mode. (Hear, hear.) I, for myself, believe it would be perfectly idle to trust to isolated individual exertions to carry this important question of the repeal of the Corn Laws. When you consider the united phalanx—united by selfishness and self-interest—by whom you are opposed, how idle would it not be for you not to avail yourselves of union, of co-operation, of association, and of all the means in your power to accomplish the end you have in view. (Hear, hear.) Talk of dictation, and of strang rs coming to London in the shape of the Anti-Corn-Law League! Why, do not gentlemen know who make those assertions that a representative when he is returned to Parliament represents not only the peculiar constituency which returned him, but the interests of the entire community (loud cheering); and I say that strangers have a right to discuss—have a right to teach—have a right, if you may so please to call it, to interfere—to endeavour by every possible means to aid the conscientious elector in the assertion of his principles at the poll, and I do hope that the Anti-Corn-Law League will pursue this course in every election in England. (Loud cheers.) This great triumph in London has been felt—ay, by the administration itself—they know that monopoly has received its death-blow in that very place which was supposed likely to give it the greatest support. (Hear, hear.) And now I perceive, and I have reason to believe, the truth of what I see in the newspapers, that they are attempting by a shabby and sinister mode to put down free discussion in this theatre. I observe by a paragraph in the *Morning Post*, that in consequence of the Anti-Corn-Law League holding its discussions within the walls of this house, her Majesty the Queen and the Queen Dowager have withdrawn their orders for private boxes from Mr. Wallack. (Cries of "It's not true," "No, no," and "Hear, hear.") Ladies and gentlemen, her Majesty and the Queen Dowager know nothing of this—it is an attack of the ministers: but what a shabby petty warfare is this! If the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League were illegal, the administrators of the law might have legally interfered with the proceedings of this society. (Cheers.) But they are not illegal. (Loud cheers.) We have a right to free discussion: by the exposure of public abuse, public abuse will be redressed, and this attempt to injure the proprietor of this theatre for allowing the free discussion of a public question within its walls is—I assert here in the presence of you all, and I would do so in the presence of Conservatives, if they were here—a shabby, petty, and unworthy warfare, and one which ought to be met with a frown of indignation by the whole community of this metropolis. (The audience here rose *en masse*, and cheered the speaker for several minutes.) But, sir, the Anti-Corn-Law League is indeed producing a most important effect throughout the whole length and breadth of this land. Not only is it affecting the feelings of the trading community, but it is also, as my worthy friend Dr. Bowring told you, giving a stimulus to agricultural improvement. (Hear, hear.) I have myself belonged to many farmers' clubs and agricultural associations, and from my conscience I do believe that the Anti-Corn-Law League is the best farmers' club and most advantageous association that was ever established. (Loud cheers.) Why, the Premier himself, from the speech at Tamworth, seems to be rushing into a career of agricultural improvement with a sort of adventurous zeal which is quite uncommon in one of his uncommon prudence and reserve. (Cheers.) But do not let us be led astray. It may be all very well to tell us at agricultural meetings that farmers are to subscribe to circulating libraries; that they are to attend lectures on organic chemistry; that they are to study the works of Professor Liebeg; that artificial manures are to be discussed, considered, and chemically analyzed; that rabbits and hares are to be destroyed. (Laughter.) It is all very well to tell us this, and it may be true to tell us also that, if such takes place, the result will be a great increase of the produce of Great Britain. No doubt such is the fact; but I want to ask, what are we to do in the interval, while the farmers are gone to school studying their lessons? (Cheers.) We want the food now; we want Free Trade now; we want to find employment for the existing population of this country, and we cannot wait till some chimera of the right hon. baronet's conjuring up is passed into effect in a future generation. (Loud cheers.) God forbid that I should discourage learning, and literature, and science amongst the farmers, or amongst any other classes of this country; but I contend that this has nothing to do with the question. I contend that one man has an equal right to bring corn to market by the operations of trade with another man to bring it to market by the operations of agriculture. (Loud cheers.) I say, that the importer of corn into this country, he who brings it into the market by the operations of trade, has as great a right to ask to be protected against the home grower as the home grower has to be protected against the merchant. (Cheers.) I put it upon the broad ground of civil liberty. I say, that to interfere with commercial freedom (without being able to give a distinct reasons proving that such interference is for the gobd of the whole community) is a direct infringement of civil liberty, as well as at variance with the laws of political economy, and I say we have a right, as free citizens, to demand the repeal of such laws. (Cheers.) Now, the right honourable Premier, in his agricultural speech at Tamworth, though he tells us upon other occasions that we must not be dependent on foreign countries for supplies of food, yet he tells us that we must increase the growth of corn by the importation of a certain artificial manure, called guano. Now, this guano comes from abroad, so that, though it would be dangerous to be dependent for corn itself, it is perfectly safe to be dependent for the guano which is to produce the corn itself. (Laughter and loud cheering.) I have no doubt, ladies and gentlemen, if the Corn Laws were repealed, that there would be a very great stimulus to agricultural improvement, and that the productions of this kingdom would be so considerably increased that, perhaps, there would not be so large an importation of foreign corn as many imagine. This I believe. I believe also that the repeal of the Corn Laws would give general prosperity to this kingdom, and that the farmers—ay, and the landholders themselves—would share in that general prosperity. (Hear, hear.) But still I contend, at the same time, that, whether this be so or not—whether the landed party should suffer some loss by their repeal, or whether they should suffer none at all—we have a legitimate right to demand the total and unconditional repeal of these Corn Laws. (Loud and long-continued cheering.) What would be, indeed, the result of their repeal?—why simply that there would be a general settlement between landlord and tenant throughout the kingdom—the making of fresh contracts and leases. Farmers would commence operations under a system of Free Trade, and prices would become steady; they would be regulated by the natural operations of supply and demand. (Cheers.) That would be the result, and that is what ought to have been the result at the close of the late war. (Hear.) Prices then were high, from the operation of that war, owing to

the great demand which had existed for agricultural produce of various kinds, and from various other circumstances connected with the hostilities in which England was engaged. But at the close of that war one of the greatest blessings of peace should have followed—plenty. The landed party, however, would not allow that great blessing of peace to be enjoyed; but by act of Parliament prolonged one of the greatest calamities of war—an obstruction to the trade and supplies of the country; and this they did by the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) Now, there ought to have been at the close of the war that general settlement between landlord and tenant which would take place now if there were a repeal of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) I hold in my hand the opinions expressed by Lord Liverpool in those days, which, with your permission, I will read. The noble lord, at that time Prime Minister, said:—"That the consequence of not legislating at all would be, that rents would fall, that a compromise would take place between the owners and occupiers of land, that the landlord and the tenant would make a new bargain, and that if, after all the distress incident to such changes had passed away, a new Corn Bill should be agreed to, it would be most unequal and unjust in its operation." So that by the admission of Lord Liverpool himself this very Corn Law that we have is unequal and unjust in its operation. (Hear.) It is of no benefit to the trader and middle class of this country that the rents of the landholders should be kept up. It is of no benefit to them that money should be taken from them first in the shape of an artificial price for food, to be afterwards expended with them in the purchase of articles they produce. (Hear, hear.) This matter has been so often sifted, and its fallacy so frequently exposed, that it would be wasting your time and trespassing upon your patience to dwell further on it now. (Cheers.) But, as I said before, it is no business of ours to prove that a repeal of the Corn Laws would produce this effect or that effect upon the agriculture of this country. We may give our speculative opinions upon this subject—we may have good reason to support them, but we have on our side justice—we have on our side the plainest dictates of equity, and no speculative opinions as to the future can at all alter the justice of the plea for their total abolition. (Cheers.) I remember a sleek, fat, smiling, orthodox divine once said to me, "If you can prove positively that the repeal of the Corn Laws will not alter the price of corn, I should not so much mind supporting the Anti-Corn-Law League." (Cheers.) I said, "Sir, then you will not do what is right unless you are quite certain that you can lose nothing by it" (cheers); and I think, in discussing this great question, we should all feel that the Corn Law was founded in the beginning in injustice—that the possessors of the law have no better title to it than they had from whom the present landowners received it—that it was passed in a Parliament in which the manufacturers and traders of this country had no voice, because the manufacturing community was not represented in those days—(hear, hear)—that it was a deliberate and mercenary invasion of the rights of industry, and that it was an attempt to maintain a class ascendancy—a political and social ascendancy over the great body of the middling and working classes of this country, by trampling on and restraining trade by acts of Parliament, and by preventing men from attaining the full enjoyment of those advantages which Providence had placed within their reach. (Loud and continued cheering.) I observed something in the newspapers a few days since relative to the progress of this question in the agricultural districts. I observed that there is a considerable movement amongst the landowners, who seem to think that something new must be tried to meet the coming competition, which they see is not very far remote. Now, it is a remarkable fact that they are about to establish in agricultural districts a great national association to encourage the growth of flax. (Laughter.) I hold in my hand an extract from the published letter of Mr. Warnes, who attends the different country meetings, on this subject; and expressing his views as to the possibility of introducing the cultivation of flax into this country, he says that the meeting to which he was invited was but "a preliminary step to the formation of a grand national association, to carry out my plans of finding employment for the redundant population of the United Kingdom, through the cultivation of flax." He adds, "That from nine to twelve millions a year are annually sent out of the country for the purchase of flax, linseed, oil, and cake, to the encouragement of foreign agriculture, and to the support of foreign labourers. That this important crop can be produced from our own soil, and would provide abundant employment both for the rural and the manufacturing population." Mind that this, though the letter of an individual, expresses the opinions of a great many influential persons in the agricultural districts. A meeting took place some time ago in Norfolk, which was attended by the lord-lieutenant and principal landowners of the county. Resolutions were passed favourable to the encouragement of the growth of flax. The growth of flax is to be the means of finding employment for the redundant population in the agricultural districts. What struck me as extraordinary was that there is a Free Trade in flax. (Hear, hear, hear.) There is scarcely any duty on flax, and that the agriculturists themselves should, with the view of finding employment for the redundant population, and of relieving their own distresses, be recommending the cultivation of an article in which there is a free trade, appears to me an extraordinary anomaly, when they cannot compete with the foreigner in the cultivation of wheat and barley. (Hear, hear.) If they could compete in the article of flax, why not in that of wheat and barley? (Hear, hear.) But there is one point to which I wish to call the attention of these astute flax-growers—unless it be intended to produce those crops in addition to the usual quantity of wheat and barley—it is this: we cannot eat flax, and if they prevent our supplying ourselves with corn from foreign countries, and then won't grow it themselves, why, of all the strange positions in which to place the country, that would be the most embarrassing. (Cheers.) I question much, if we were to scrutinise this matter with principles of equity, whether we should not find that the proprietors of this country, when they enacted the Corn Law, did not make something like a surrender of the free use of their own lands (hear, hear), because the community can't be starved. (Cheers.) If they said "We won't let you supply yourselves from foreign countries—we will grow corn for you—we will protect our growth by act of Parliament, and we will take care that you shall have an abundance from your own territories"—did they not then make a virtual surrender of their lands to be used as the community should think proper; and were they not bound to grow the largest possible quantity of the food of man? (Loud cheers.) I believe that is logical argument. (Hear, hear.) I dare say they will call it revolutionary—interfering with the rights of property, and so forth; but I would ask them, "was there no interference with the rights of property when they enacted the Corn Law? Has the labouring man no property in his hands, in his sinews, or in his muscles?" (Loud cheers.) Why, they made a distinct invasion of the rights of property, when they undertook by act of Parliament to prescribe how far trade should extend, and to make their own convenience the measure of the trade of the community. (Cheers.) We were told by many that this agitation would subside when there was a partial revival of trade. It was said, "let prices go down, and we should have no more of the Anti-Corn-Law League." They little understood the feelings of those who have entered upon this agitation. We have not entered upon this agitation from any sudden impulse—we have not come forward under the pressure of a momentary distress in the country, but on the solemn conviction that the Corn Law is that invasion of our civil rights as free citizens, that, whether there be poverty or plenty, we have an equal right to demand their repeal. (Loud cheers.) The intelligent body of men comprising this great city did not come forward in this question under a mere impulse (cheers); and, after all that has been said about the revival of trade, what is the revival of trade! Even if there be more trade and employment this year than there was last year, the question is, whether there is that amount of trade and employment, and that amount of comfort amongst the great body of the people, which might be expected if these laws had no existence? (Loud cheers.) That is the question. Not what we have, but what we are entitled to, and what we are deprived of. (Hear, hear.) And is it not the case that, even when trade is what is called prosperous, there are vast bodies of the community suffering the deepest distress? Is it not the case that there are thousands of human beings in Liverpool, Manchester, and the manufacturing districts, living in cellars, and scarcely finding the means of subsistence, if they do not happen to be employed in those particular branches of manufacture where the revival takes place? (Hear, hear, hear.) Is it not the case that we can hardly take up a daily paper without reading statements of the most alarming distress? Are there not complaints of want of employment in all parts of the country? Can you find any gentleman who does not tell you of the great difficulties experienced by those, even in the upper classes of society, in finding situations for their children? Do we not know the competition that exists in every profession; now hemmed in as we are in this island by restrictive laws? and to tell me that there is a revival in the cotton trade, or that a few more bales have been consumed, and that that is a reason why this agitation should cease, is to say that the people of this metropolis who have entered into this Corn-Law agitation are little better than dolts and idiots, when I know that they are intelligent and persevering and intellectual men. (Loud cheers.) No, Sir, they have entered on this agitation upon the deliberate conviction that the Corn Laws shall be repealed (hear, hear); and that they can be repealed if they keep together as one man, and never depart from the principle of total repeal (loud cheers); for that is the bond of union that has kept us together. (Hear, hear.) We brought forward an intelligible principle that every one could understand, avoiding the chance of bandying words about fixed duties and sliding-scales, and it will enable your voices to go to the Legislature in such a way that they must be heard with fear and trembling. (Cheers.) When I thought of Mr. Baring's placards, I asked myself, "Can a man pretend to get the support, in the nineteenth century, of such an intelligent body as the electors of London by such claptraps as these?"—"Baring, the supporter of the wooden walls of Old England!" Rather say, "The wooden heads of Old England!" (Loud and long-continued cheering.) Yes, he is the strong supporter of that respectable class, and, unfortunately, that class has had too much power in the Legislature, and it is this very Corn Law which has given them that power; for had you Free Trade in this country, were the commercial classes in that position which their industry and enterprise entitles them to hold, they would soon rival the landed proprietors in political and social power, and we should no longer have that ascendancy of "the wooden heads of Old England" which Mr. Baring would have gone to Parliament to support. (Cheers.) I trust this glorious victory in London will convince candidates that they must have something better than mere clap traps to tell the electors when they are put forward, and that it will not do, in a great commercial community like this, to issue addresses the most anti-commercial, and the most calculated to deprive us of that employment of wooden walls which he professes to support, of anything I ever heard in my life. (Cheers.) I trust I am not trespassing too long on your time (loud cries of "No, no," "Go on," &c.)—but I confess I do speak with some little effort to myself in this vast assemblage. My voice, perhaps, is hardly strong enough to reach you. (Cries of "Yes, yes," "Bravo!") There is one point which was particularly dwelt on by Mr. Baring in his address to the electors at the late election. He says, "Why withdraw from agriculture the protection which manufactures and different branches of trade receive?" I really thought it had been said so frequently, that every man, woman, and child in England was aware of it, that those who support the total repeal of the Corn Laws are prepared to abolish all monopolies, and are equally adverse to protective duties in favour of manufactures as they are adverse to protection in favour of agriculture. (Cheers.) Why, we should not be able to maintain our position for a single moment if we said, "We are for giving out one system to one class of the community, and another system to another class." No, Sir, we are prepared—and the petitions which have been presented to the House of Commons all include it in their prayer—we are prepared, I say, to abolish the protective duties in favour of manufactures as well as those in favour of agriculture. (Hear, hear.) We wish for no protective duty—we wish for no class interest—but we would that each and all, individually and collectively, should be allowed the free exercise and the full reward of their industry. (Loud cheers.) But the fact is, the protective duties on our manufactures, which are pleaded by Mr. Baring and others as an excuse for the Corn Laws, why, what are they? Many of them are altogether inoperative. (Hear, hear.) What is the protection the cotton-manufacturer enjoys, who exports his manufactures to different parts of the globe, and has to meet and compete with foreign manufacturers in neutral markets, having first to pay a duty on the raw cotton which comes into this country? (Cheers.) Is it the duty on raw cotton which is the protection of the cotton-manufacturer. (Laughter.) Consider, too, who put on these duties in favour of manufactures, if they can be so called. Why, the very parties who enacted the Corn Law, and they did it as a sort of excuse for their own giant monopoly. (Hear, hear.) But we are not to be gulled by such excuses as these. (Cheers.) We claim the total repeal of the Corn Laws, and we know when that is carried there will be an end to all other monopolies, for the agriculturists will not allow one single monopoly to exist when their own is gone. (Loud cheering.) We deny most indignantly that we wish to retain for any branch of industry in this country one single shred of protection. We take the broad, intelligible ground of Free Trade; and I am proud, as the representative of the important constituency of Manchester (loud cheers), to have it in my power to declare—as an impartial man, having no interest, and without sway or bias one way or the other to prevent my impartial observation of what has passed—most distinctly that those who have petitioned for a free trade in corn have also declared their earnest desire that all protection should be removed from every branch of manufacture in which they are engaged. (Loud cheers.) What can we do more? The landed party have the power in the Legislature. We may petition to have these protections withdrawn, but they have the power to retain them, and they will continue that duty on cotton manufactures, and that duty on coals coming into Newcastle, because they know that forms a plea with the ignorant for their own giant monopoly. (Cheers) I believe, however, that the landed proprietors have something more than a mere pecuniary interest in supporting the Corn Laws. It is not simply the rent-roll—it is not simply a desire to enjoy the largest possible return from their landed estates that influences the landowners to maintain this system of restriction—but it is the wish that there should be maintained by act of Parliament a sort of social ascendancy in favour of the landed aristocracy of this country. (Cheers.) Their hereditary wisdom will not stand without the artificial aid of acts of Parliament. The question which the middling and working classes of this country have to ask themselves is this—Are they willing any longer to be trampled upon and treated as a mere class of persons allowed to live by sufferance in their island home of Britain? (Cries of "No, no.") I trust, then, Sir, that the conduct of the electors of London will be imitated in every part of the kingdom. (Hear, hear.) I speak not to excite—but I do speak to convince (cheers); for I am myself convinced that, if the middling class in this country, and the mercantile classes, are not determined to rise up to vindicate their social position, the landed aristocracy of this country will continue to tread them down. (Cheers.) I do not ask them to disobey the laws, but I do ask them not to be servile worshippers of hereditary wisdom and pride and prejudice. (Cheers.) It is to that servile worshipping of all these weeds of hereditary growth in this country that I attribute the existence of the Corn Laws. (Hear.) Let us be candid—let us speak in a tone of fearless sincerity at these meetings. (Cheers.) I ask you all, "Is it not a fact, that the folly and weakness of Englishmen consists in too much servility and too much worshipping of rank, and station, and hereditary wisdom?" (Loud cheers.) No! you must stand forward in the great crisis that is approaching—you must reform the law by the law—but reform the law you must (hear, hear), and that by your own exertions, too (loud cheers); for, as my excellent friend Mr. Villiers says, "What class interested in abuses ever came forward of themselves to reform them?" (Cheers.) Was it the supporters of rotten boroughs who gave extended freedom of representation? (Loud cheers.) No! what is done must be by the exertion of the people themselves. (Hear, hear.) The voice of a member of Parliament within the walls of the House of Commons is like "the idle wind which we regard not," if he be not backed by a great body of persons from without. (Cheers.) Let the Legislature know that you are conscious of your rights as free citizens of England—that you will be placed on the same social footing as the most favoured in the land; or, at any rate, that you will have no acts of Parliament to place you in a secondary position in the social scale. (Hear.) Demand the full reward of your own industry, and if you show yourselves to be in earnest—speaking in a tone of fearless sincerity—depend upon it your voices will not be disregarded. (Cheers.) Experience has shown that the voice of the people is not to be disregarded, when it is known that they have been moved to utter that voice by a consciousness of the justice of their cause. (Cheers.)

"Yes—Thy proud lord's unpitied land shall see
That man hath yet a soul and dare be free:
Truth shall restore the light by nature given,
And bring the fire, Prometheus-like, from Heaven;
Prone to the dust oppression shall be hurled—
Her name—her nature—withered from the world."

(The honourable member resumed his seat amid the most enthusiastic plaudits.)

The CHAIRMAN here said that he had to introduce an active and efficient member of Mr. Pattison's committee. This gentleman would have to make an important communication.

Mr. HEPPELL then came forward, and was received with much cheering. He said he had the following letter to read from Mr. Travers (loud cheers):—

"My dear Sir,—I regret that I am unable to attend your meeting this evening. I have to plead indisposition in my family, and really I want repose myself after our late exertions; but you know how my heart is bound up with your cause, so essential to the well-being of the whole country, and will, I am sure, believe that I watch your proceedings in London, and elsewhere, with the deepest interest, as I am proud to be identified with them.

"Pray say to my brother electors of the City, of whom so many belong to the League, how greatly I feel indebted for their noble efforts in procuring the return of Mr. Pattison as their member. There is nobody, I am satisfied, who understands, or will support their cause better, and I think the city of London also fortunate in having as one of their representatives a man who possesses so many general sympathies with the interests of the people at large.

"In conclusion, I have only to express my best wishes for the prosperity of the League, advocating, as they do so well, the diffusion of those blessings of Providence, which are in-

tended alike for all, and are the *right* of all who, by their industry and good example, conduce to the good order and happiness of society.

"I am, my dear Sir, yours very faithfully,
"Swithin's-lane, Oct. 26, 1843. "JOHN TRAVERS.
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

As a pledge of his willingness to give the cause something more than his personal exertions, he had enclosed a cheque for £100 (vehement cheering), being his contribution towards the £100,000 which the League would raise. (Renewed cheers.) As an humble member of Mr. Pattison's committee, he could assure them that he regarded as one of the best rewards of their late triumph the effect of it on quarters adjacent to the City. (Hear, hear.) It was not in vain that the adherents of Mr. Baring put forth on their placards the influence of the wealth and power of that gentleman's family. It was not in vain that coercion was exercised where necessary, and that the means of seducement were applied where they might be found available. And, though he should be sorry to deny that there were arrayed on the side of Mr. Pattison some men of the highest position with regard to wealth, of the highest standing in the mercantile world, and of the most respected moral character, it could not be disputed that the majority of what was termed the aristocracy of the City was opposed, as it had ever been, to the popular interests, and that the election of Mr. Pattison was owing to the disinterested and independent small tradesmen and operative voters. (Loud cheers.) He did not mean to say that Finsbury, Westminster, or Marylebone would not have done as London has done; but the lot had fallen on London first: When the next election arose, we could say, "Do not look to the example of London, but we know and feel you will act as the electors of London have." (Cheers.)

M. R. R. R. MOORE (who was received with loud cheers) said—One chief business of the meeting this evening had been to congratulate the electors of London, the League, and the country, upon the return of James Pattison, Esq., as member for the metropolis of England. Many efforts at the commencement of the contest were made to sow dissension between the League and the citizens. It was said that we came up from Manchester to dictate to the metropolis; that this dictation was intolerable, and not to be borne; that, whatever chance Mr. Pattison might otherwise have had, he could have no prospect of success when associated with the League. (Laughter.) But the result has proved how absurd and ridiculous such efforts to sow jealousy were. The metropolis of commerce (London), and the metropolis of manufactures (Manchester), have contended for one common object, have gained a common triumph; and it has been proved by the success of this contest in London, that the League has a home wherever industry has a hand and skill to use it. Ever since the League was first formed, about five years ago, its declarations constantly made at every meeting, and by almost all its speakers, upon the various platforms in town and country, have been that the League was of no party; that it had nothing to do with ordinary politics; that its contest was for a great principle. The League joined in the contest for the City upon that principle—that it belonged to no party. Some persons may imagine that the League, in its contest for Free Trade, was endeavouring to forward the interests of Whigs, or was lifted up in opposition to the success of Tories; with neither Whig, Tory, Radical, or any other conceivable party, had that body ever had, or would it have, any connexion, or anything whatever to do as a party. The contest in the City was a contest between Monopoly and Free Trade; it was a contest as to whether the trade of London should be great, extending continually, as the population grew, finding room for the people's industry, and food for their sustenance and comfort, giving employment and profitable investment of money for your capital; or whether the trade of London should be handed over to monopolists, for them to cripple and to shorten its extent, making its population a population whose paupers should be perpetually increasing in numbers, and whose numbers should be continually pressing upon one another, forcing each other into a competition which none could endure, and which all, sooner or later, must sink under. (Cheers.) The *Times* told us that this election was a contest between the League and the Ministry. Now, the struggle, so far as the League was concerned in it, was between the League and the Ministry, sure enough; but it was no effort of the League to displace the present Ministry; it was no contest in which they endeavoured to turn out the present Ministry, and to restore those whom the present Ministry had previously displaced; but it was a contest in which the League was opposed to the present Ministry so far as the present Ministry are opposed to Free Trade, and no further. The present Ministry are just as Mr. Baring was, Free Traders in the "abstract." I do not know a member of the Government who is not a Free Trader of this description. Sir James Graham is a Free Trader; he has declared that the principles of Free Trade are the principles of common sense. Mr. Gladstone is a Free Trader; he has written long articles in its defence in the *Colonial and Foreign Quarterly Review*. Sir Robert Peel is a Free Trader; he has declared, and the declaration has been reiterated again and again, that we ought to have liberty to buy in the cheapest, and sell in the dearest market. There is no member of the Ministry you can turn to who is not a Free Trader in the abstract. (Laughter.) Mr. Baring put himself up for the City as a Free Trader in the abstract, and the contest in which the League was engaged was to bring the Ministry to a plain practical adoption of the principles which it admits to be true in the abstract; and Mr. Baring lost his election because the principles, which he admitted to be true in the abstract, he laughed, scorned, and sneered at in practice. (Loud cheers.) Party has had no share in this contest, and party need lay no claim to any portion of the triumph. I wish we could fix it indelibly in the minds of the electors of the country how completely free from all party feeling the League is. I wish they could be led to perceive that it is a matter of indifference to us whether the present or the late ministry be in office. I wish we could make the electors of the country universally feel, what they are beginning to perceive in earnest in many places, that the League comes as a body of plain, practical, business men to the plain practical, business constituencies of the kingdom, saying to them, "Give up party! you have contended for it long enough. You have followed blue, yellow, green, and red colours, and satisfied yourselves with the names of Whig, Radical, and Tory, sufficiently; but now look only to your own interests. Recollect that Parliament possesses a power either to let you be free to prosper and live, or to crush you down into absolute ruin (cheers)'; that, in every election for a representative in the House of Commons, the constituency is called upon to take a part in a contest which is to determine whether there shall be trade and manufactures for the industry of the people of this country, or whether there shall not." (Cheers.) I certainly myself have never been able to understand why people take such an interest in party struggles and triumphs. I know that, if the election for the city of London had been merely of that description, I never should have taken any part in it. I would not have attended any meeting in connexion with it, or lent any aid in furthering the views of either the one side or the other. I have, of course, my own political opinions, as every one has; for all, more or less, are attached to some party in their principles; but now, when the interests of industry and commerce are at stake—now, when the country is recovering but for a moment from a long period of trial and embarrassment—now, when the victims of monopoly are still suffering before us—now, when we have a million and a half of paupers in the land—now when we have men possessed of a skill and industry which do honour to England working upon our roads, sweeping our streets, and breaking stones for a wretched subsistence—it is impossible that I could have anything to do with mere party politics. (Loud cheers.) The Government have been exceedingly active in this election. (Hear, hear.) They have been very anxious to win (laughter), and extremely desirous that Mr. Baring should be sent to Parliament by the citizens of London. I do not at all wonder that Sir Robert Peel should have been exceedingly anxious upon this point; for of all the speeches I have ever read, or the addresses I have seen, I do not remember any which so closely resemble the speeches and addresses of the right honourable baronet as those of Mr. Baring. (Cheers and laughter.) It was impossible to tell what he would be at. There was a perpetual ambiguity about every thing he said; an admitting of this and that to be right, but a hundred excuses for not doing it just now. (Laughter.) He had to satisfy people who were in absolute need of bread with future prospects; telling them that there was something that might possibly happen for their benefit, but nobody knew when. The Government did its best: we had its Woods and Forests in the shape of Lord Lincoln's notes, in which he conveyed his compliments to various electors, requesting them to vote for Mr. Baring. (Hear, hear.) Then there was the Treasury influence in the persons of Mr. Pringle and Mr. Gaskell, who were busily canvassing. Before and on the day of election we had Mr. Bonham, of the Ordnance Department; the Home, Foreign, and the Colonial Offices gave their orders to the independent electors, dependent on them (laughter), to be early at the poll; to be there by eight o'clock; to vote for Mr. Baring; and we had last, though not least, the Attorney-General (loud hisses and groans), acting as the chairman of one of Mr. Baring's committees; canvassing busily himself; a most eager, earnest, and zealous partisan for the monopolist candidate. There was no need to comment upon such barefaced interference: it proved that the election was esteemed of vital importance by the Government. He did not believe that even Ministers looked upon it as a party contest (hear, hear); they were most anxious that Mr. Baring should be elected, not because that gentleman would sit with them on the Treasury benches, and be called a Conservative, but the anxiety was to have the country persuaded that this great commercial constituency, that the electors of this metropolis of commerce, were not in favour of Free trade. (Cheers.) He had no doubt that the great efforts of the Government were against the return of Mr. Pattison as a member of the League and a Free Trader—that their canvass through their Attorney-General—their orders to the various officials—the influence of Woods and Forests, Treasury and Ordnance—were all put in requisition to prevent a majority of the constituency of London declaring that they believed it would be for their present and permanent interest to have a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws and all other monopolies (cheers); and the return of Mr. Pattison has been a home and a hard blow to the Ministers, not in the direction of displacing them by another set of men, but by driving them on to carry out those principles into practice that they have long admitted to be just. The electors of London had had this Government influence against them—they had had the influence of the powerful house of Baring against them—they had the influence of electioneering upon the old system against them, the intimidation, the threats of withdrawal of custom, the delicately-worded notes from employers, particularly requesting votes (hear, hear)—there were promised bribes and paid bribes, there was that greatest of all corruption, drunkenness. The 'long-shore men were all won over, almost to a man they polled for Baring. He had himself seen more than one come to the poll reeling and staggering, and stuttering out the name of Baring. (Groans and cries of "Shame.") These men all belonged to the labouring class, they were all hard-working men, they knew well the advantages of employment being abundant, and the misery of bread being scarce; and did any man believe that fair, honest, and legitimate means could have persuaded these hard-working men to come up and vote against the trade by which they lived—could have induced them to vote in favour of little trade and few ships to be unladen in the Thames? Could any fair means have induced those men to vote against the introduction of corn, which would give an increase of employment to them, and a consequent increase of their wages? Is it likely that they would, of their own accord, vote the bread out of their mouths? Would any one have us believe that these 'long-shore men, whose whole sympathies and associations are with the labouring class, would have come of their own free will, and said, "We vote for selfish aristocracy, for landlord rule, for those who withhold bread from industry, and a fair day's wages for a fair day's work from the labourer?" No! they never voted for monopoly of their own accord, and in their sober senses, (Loud cheers.) They have been long corrupted, they have been for years accustomed to receive their head money (hear, hear); they have been looked upon as an inferior race; but there must be an end of this. (Hear, hear.) I trust we may find out the bribers, that they may receive their due reward. (Cheers.) But electors and non-electors of London should take in hand the thorough conversion of those 'long-shore men (hear, hear); they should go amongst them when the ill-gotten gain is spent, when their excitement is over; they should urge their fellow-labourers to reason with them; then ask them if they be satisfied with their votes? if they feel that they have made good use of their franchise? Ask them if they be satisfied to sell the interests of industry, to barter away for a few shillings the independence of the working classes. These men could be roused from their corruptions, could be made to feel so warm an interest in the rights of industry, that they would turn from the briber with contempt, to tell him that they too were independent; that if, in their Free-Trade opinions, they were wrong, they were open to conviction, but not to purchase. (Cheers.) It would well repay a number of electors to take these 'long-shore men under their especial care. Fortunately, this election had been won in spite of them, but London must look to four Free Traders. (Cheers.) And if these men were purified, the votes of the constituency of London would be a fair test of national opinion on all great questions. (Cheers.) Mr. Moore then proceeded, in a strain of great eloquence, to urge upon the electors the necessity of the immediate adoption of measures to counteract the influence of these corrupt practices for the future, by the diffusion of knowledge upon the principle of Free Trade, in furtherance of which object he stated that the League had circulated 200,000 tracts and handbills among the electors of the city of London during the last fortnight. In reference to the pending election at Salisbury, the learned gentleman said, "But we have another contest before us. The death of Mr. Wyndham, one of the members for Salisbury, has caused a vacancy in the representation of that city. Many circumstances might deter us from taking any part in that election. The city of Salisbury is greatly under the influence of the dignitaries of the cathedral, and the parsons of the neighbourhood. (Laughter.) In that respect it is somewhat like Durham. In the last contest the anti-monopoly candidate was defeated, and by a large majority, in that constituency. We are told that what is called the screw is very freely used at Salisbury during an election; that every effort is made to compel electors to vote for the monopolists; that there are a few, too, who can be bought and who have always been purchased; but, with all these difficulties against us, the League has determined to contest Salisbury. (Loud cheers.) The candidate selected is the Hon. Edward Bouverie, the second son of Lord Radnor. You are aware all of you that that nobleman is a large subscriber annually to the League—that he is thoroughly with us, has spoken at our meetings, and has brought forward this question again and again in the House of Lords—that he is one of the men who would be noble in any rank. (Cheers.) We will take the same course in Salisbury that was taken in Durham, and which we took here; we will hold meeting after meeting, in doors and out of doors, in the evening and in the morning, and I will venture to say we shall collect the electors so often together, that the monopolists shall not find them at home when they go to canvass them. (Laughter and cheers.) We will do all that speaking and printing can do for the people of Salisbury. We go there strengthened by your success. Did they think that this contest in the city of London—their triumph, their unequivocal declaration in favour of Free Trade—would do nothing to stir up the Free-Trade spirit in Salisbury? Such a spirit must exist among the majority of the electors there. (Cheers.) It was always idle, and never wise, to prophesy what the result of a contested election may be. It is never prudent to say we are certain to win. I am sure I pity some of the monopolist newspapers of London. (Laughter.) I pity some men who strutted and boasted, as they went round in their canvass, and told us that we had no chance for our candidate, that they were perfectly certain of success, who sneered at all the efforts that were being made in behalf of Mr. Pattison. I am sorry for men who commit themselves in this manner, for they must feel uncommonly foolish when they find themselves beaten after all (laughter); and so I have no intention of prophesying about what the result of the Salisbury contest may be; but I do say we have a good candidate—a Free-Trade candidate, the son of a noble Leaguer—that the contest in Salisbury is to be avowedly a League contest, and that, whoever the monopolist candidate may be, he will meet there one who has come from a contest flushed with victory, and is determined to use the same means that were employed here—he will meet many members of the League, and if he wins it will be by a hard battle; and he will win with a very great chance of being afterwards turned out for bribery and corruption. (Loud cheers.) If the case at Salisbury were a still more hopeless one, the League would still go there. (Hear, hear.) We have no fear of being beaten, nor are we to be deterred from going into any place because they tell us it has hitherto been represented by monopolists. We know that there must be a mass of plain common sense among the electors of every constituency—men interested in the prosperity of trade. We know that Salisbury is an agricultural district, but we know also that crowded agricultural meetings have been held there by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, at which resolutions were passed that the Corn Laws had never been of benefit to the farmer or any one else. Therefore we go to Salisbury fearless—strong in the justice of our cause and its simplicity, resolved to do our utmost, and leave the result to the convictions of the electors of that city. (A voice: "What do you say about Kendal?") Why, the canvass has been completed, and two-thirds of a constituency, who never yet broke their faith at the poll, have pledged themselves to vote for Mr Warburton; and they support him purely as a Free Trader. Mr. Moore then proceeded in a happy vein of satire to comment upon the praspects of success, and the rather pompous, but very "*abstract*," character of the address of Mr. Bentinck, the monopolist candidate at Kendal; and, after an earnest appeal to the audience to maintain the high moral spirit, which victories like that the citizens of London had just achieved must awake in every honest heart, concluded a most eloquent and argumentative speech, which occupied an hour in the delivery, amidst the prolonged cheering of the meeting, by whose applause he had been frequently interrupted.

The CHAIRMAN then came forward, and stated that he would not continue the proceedings of the meeting a moment longer, and stated that on the 30th of November he hoped again to meet them within the walls of that theatre, and till then he wished to say "farewell."

Three cheers were given for Mr. Bouverie and the electors of Salisbury. The meeting separated at 11 o'clock.

MEETING OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE TO CONGRATULATE THE ELECTORS OF LONDON.

On Monday morning last, within twenty-four hours of the result of the city of London election becoming known in Manchester, placards appeared on our walls, of which the following is a copy, convening a gratulatory meeting of the League, at the Free-Trade Hall :—

"HONOUR TO THE ELECTORS OF LONDON.—A meeting of the National Anti-Corn-Law League will be held in the Free-Trade Hall on Tuesday evening, October 24, to congratulate the electors of London on their distinguished triumph over monopoly, in the return, as their representative, of J. Pattison, Esq., the advocate of Free Trade. The chair will be taken at half-past seven precisely. The gallery will be reserved for ladies.—By order of the Council. JOSEPH HICKEN, Secretary."

The wetness of the evening, and the certainty that Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, whose addresses are always listened to with so much interest, were in the county of Durham, operated to some extent to make the meeting smaller than it would have been under other circumstances. Nevertheless, there was a very large attendance, certainly not less than 5000 persons, in the body of the hall, upon the extensive platform, and in all the galleries. We were surprised, considering the inclemency of the weather, to see so many ladies present. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were the following:—Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P., Mr. Alderman Callender, Mr. Alderman Brooks, Messrs. W. Rawson, T. Bazley, T. Bazley, jun., T. Woolley, W. Bickham, W. Lockett, S. Lees, John Rawson, J. Whitaker, W. Morris, W. Harvey, Thomas Harbottle, W. Dixon, Accrington; B. Nicholls, C. Kenworthy, John Kay, B. Syddal, D. Ainsworth, C. Tysoe, H. Rawson, W. Sale, F. Cobden, W. Shuttleworth, J. B. Scott, C. Cobden, Robert Stewart, Frank Slater of London, W. Evans, E. Shawcross, James Bazley, E. Evans, John Kennedy, jun., James Watts, John Ogden, Andrew Hall, &c.

About twenty-five minutes to eight o'clock, a number of members of the Council of the League came upon the platform, and Mr. Brotherton, M.P., on taking his seat was loudly welcomed. On the motion of Mr. Alderman CALLENDER, seconded by Mr. Alderman BROOKS, Mr. Alderman WALKER was unanimously called to the chair. In taking it, he said he trusted that the victory in the London election would soon be followed by many others (applause), for he regarded it as one of the greatest blows that monopoly had ever received. He trusted the electors of England, at the next general election, would wipe off the stigma attaching to them in consequence of the result of the last.

Mr. Alderman CALLENDER, being called on, moved the first resolution, as follows :—

"That this meeting, rejoicing in the distinguished triumph over monopoly achieved by the electors of London, in the return of Mr. Pattison as their representative, offers to them its sincere congratulations and thanks for their noble efforts in the cause of Free Trade."

(Loud cheers.) They were not met to celebrate the triumph of an individual, but of a great principle. (Applause.) They were told of the tricks that had been practised, and the fearful odds against which they had to contend; against corruption and intimidation of every sort, and against Government influence of every sort. (Applause.) But it had all been in vain; Sir R. Peel was so very anxious about it, that he had expresses sent off to him at different parts of the day, and our friends saw three of them departing with all possible haste to inform the anxious Premier how things were going on. (Hear, hear.) The Attorney-General was also a very active partisan, and perhaps something more, in favour of Mr. Baring. The Lord Chancellor was also in favour of Mr. Baring, and, till the Government had selected a candidate, no writ was issued. (Hear, hear.) Even the Commissioners in Bankruptcy were sent for, from various parts of the country, to vote for the Government candidate. Then there were 800 "long shoremen" in favour of Mr. Baring. Then there was the new system of bribery, called "the Newmarket plan," which he did not understand till he was told, and perhaps they would not. It was this: the monopolists would go to the wife of a voter, or his son, or daughter, and say, "I'll bet you £5, or I'll bet you a guinea, that Baring does not get in." In this way the voter had a direct interest in the matter, and he would go and vote for Baring, that his wife might get the £5, or the guinea, as the case might be. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) Then, a guinea was to be paid for a potato in one instance; but the party, suspecting that he was watched, did not come to ratify his bargain, and it was very well for him that he did not. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, notwithstanding all these difficulties and fearful odds, Mr. Pattison had been returned by a larger number of voters than ever voted before for any candidate at any election for the city of London; and he had the great pleasure to announce, that Mr. Pattison was returned with clean hands. (Applause.) To give them an instance of this, he might mention that, as early as ten o'clock in the morning, four hundred votes were offered to Mr. Pattison's friends for £2 a man, to come up and vote under "gangsmen." The offer was declined, and at two o'clock one hundred and fifty votes were offered at the reduced rate of 10s. each. They said they would not serve the other party, but they would serve Mr. Pattison's side for that amount. But they were all sent away, and not a single shilling was spent in any such way as that. (Great applause.) Mr. Pattison was sent to Parliament to proclaim—"No monopoly; no class legislation ('hear,' and applause); Free Trade; and prosperity to all." ("Hear," and applause.) This would be a valuable lesson, he trusted, which the country was going to teach the Government, and this was one of the most effectual ways to do it. Governments were made for the country, and not the country for the Government; and by sending such men as Mr. Pattison and other Free Traders to Parliament, they would obtain, establish, and maintain that great and important principle. (Applause.)

Mr. Alderman BROOKS was received with great cheering. He said he had expected a majority of 1000 in London; but he erred in supposing that every body knew all about the evils of monopoly; and he forgot that people had been living too much on "Whig" and "Tory;" and the Free-Trade schoolmaster, in eight or nine months, had really done well to secure a majority of 200. He was at first a mere dunce in Free Trade, a fixed-duty-5s. man—(laughter); but he soon got out of this "*a, b, ab*," of Free Trade into total repeal. After some observations on the nobles of the land, he said there were more dirty tricks at head-quarters than anywhere else; while every really good thing came from the people themselves. (Applause.) That 6000 electors should have learned in eight or nine months to bury "Whig and Tory," and to erect the standard of Free Trade in London, was indeed a grand and glorious victory. (Applause.) Durham was a great thing, for the Quaker represented the bishops now. (Laughter.) He mentioned a young man who travelled 100 miles, in exceedingly bad health, to vote for Mr. Pattison. Mr. Baring had said that Sir Robert Peel, with his majority in the House and the people of England, would counteract the League. They began to feel the League, then! (Laughter.) All the League did was to seek to carry out the Premier's own maxim, that we were to sell in the dearest, and buy in the cheapest market. (Applause.) Mr. Baring called the League unconstitutional; but it had been constitutional enough to lay him on his back, at all events. (Laughter.) He also called the League "dangerous;" and there he (Mr. Brooks) agreed with him. (Laughter and applause.) It was dangerous to monopoly and the monopolists. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Brooks then adverted to the passing of the Corn Bill last year, observing that it was a worse bill than they had before. As for the income-tax which Sir Robert Peel had given us, he liked it better than the Corn Law, because the former took money out of the pockets of those who had got it. He, however, had got none. Last year he was subpœnaed before the commissioners at Burnley, and told that he had not made a proper return; and they even took upon themselves to take stock for him, and put him down £7500 as profits, telling him he might deduct his bad debts. He set his clerks to work, and sent the commissioners £10,000 to subtract from £7500. (Laughter.) This year he was called upon to make his return in Manchester, and the assessors told him he had not made out his accounts properly. He said he had, and to prove it, told them that the accounts had been made out by the direction and instruction of an assessor in Manchester, one of their own stamp. (Hear, hear.) He had not paid a farthing for the last two years, and he would advise the public to take care, when they were told by the assessors that they had not made proper returns, to be prepared to show that they had, otherwise they would be *done*. (Laughter.) He liked the income-tax much better than he liked the tax upon sugar and other necessaries, because it took money from those who had it, not from the poor. The last Corn Law was one of the most iniquitous things that the Government could have brought upon the people, in the state of distress in which they then were. (Hear, hear.)—The resolution passed unanimously.

Mr. THOMAS BAZLEY, jun., said, he had great pleasure in moving the next resolution :—

"That the following address from this meeting be presented to the electors of London:—

"*The Members of the National Anti-Corn-Law League, assembled at the Great Free-Trade Hall, at Manchester, on Tuesday, October 24th, 1843, to the Electors of the city of London.*

"Fellow-countrymen,—You have just been engaged in one of the noblest and most important struggles of modern times. We awaited with anxious expectations the result—that result has not disappointed us. True to the principles of freedom of commerce—contained in your celebrated petition presented to Parliament in 1820—when the late great occasion arrived, you rejected the candidate for your suffrages who maintained those principles only in the abstract, and have chosen a tried, honest, consistent supporter of practical Free Trade.

"We congratulate you on the triumph you have achieved over monopoly—the blow you have struck at a tyranny not less galling than any which your forefathers overthrew. We thank you for the noble example you have set to the electors of the whole nation; and for your declaration before the world, by the election of Mr. Pattison, that the infamous laws, which restrict the supply of the food of the people, shall be totally and immediately abolished—that the whole world shall be opened to our industry—and that trade shall be as free as the winds of heaven."

(Great applause.) It might be, and indeed was, asked, "What have the people of Manchester to do with the electors of London?" To which he replied, that the constituency of London, or of any other place, had not any right to exercise their elective trust save for the benefit of the whole community; and therefore Manchester was, in common with the whole country, deeply interested in the election of London. Durham was the first blow; the League had next raised the standard of Free Trade, which now floated proudly over the city of London. (Applause.) Kendal was now awaiting their arrival; but they must not forget that Liverpool, in our own neighbourhood, was *mis*-represented. (Hear.) Perhaps in the progress of these victories, by the railroad of intelligence, they might even reach Tamworth. (Laughter and applause.) Though the majority for Mr. Pattison was not so large as they had hoped to see it, yet, on being analysed, it was very satisfactory; for the number of resident householders who voted for Pattison were 4,225; for Baring, 3,171; showing a virtual and real majority for Pattison of 1,054. (Applause.) If we looked at the votes given by the liverymen, Baring had received 3,196; Pattison only 2,307; these parties corresponding with our ideas of what the old freemen are, and in these Baring's majority was 889; the "long-shoremen," to the number of 600, swelling his ranks. (Hear, hear.) We gave him joy of the corrupt support he had received, and the corrupt influence exercised on his behalf. (Applause.) We had right for our cause, and right on our side; and there were only might and corruption opposed to us. (Great applause.)

Mr. PRENTICE, who was received with expressions of warm approbation, seconded the resolution. He said: Mr. Alderman Brooks has told you of what the schoolmaster did in London in the short time he has been resident there. But I see by the *Standard* paper there is a new schoolmaster come into the field, and we are to be beaten at the next election, or not exactly at the next election either, but at some future election, not by the present electors, but by the boys now at school when they become men. (Laughter.) He says, "the rising race in London"—so it seems he has abandoned the *falling* race—(laughter)—"the rising race in London is Conservative, because it is intelligent, and for this the country is in no small degree indebted to"—to whom think you?—"to Lord Brougham!" (Roars of laughter and applause.) So the *Standard*, with the rising generation, instructed by Lord Brougham twenty years hence, is to beat us. (Renewed laughter.) Really it is amusing to read the ministerial papers,—perhaps I need not have said ministerial papers, for I do not know that there is a really ministerial paper, except the *Morning Herald*, on this question. A correspondent of the *Times*—a correspondent I say, because the *Times* has its own peculiar tactics to pursue on this question, and leaves it to his correspondent to account for this defeat; the correspondent of the *Times* give four reasons for the monopolist defeat. He says—and he was on Mr. Baring's committee and ought to know—he says a great number could have come had they known of the election sooner—(laughter)—others could have come and voted if the election had been on a Monday or Tuesday;—and then, again, many could have come if they had not thought it could have been done without their help—(much laughter)—and then, forsooth, there were others who would have come, and actually wrote to get pairs, but could not get answers in time. (Laughter and applause.) However, it is not important to say how they were beaten, it is enough for us that they are beaten. (Cheers.) They say they will beat us next election. Our Manchester monopolists always are to beat us the day before election, but always had to alter their tone the day after. (Laughter.) It puts one in mind of the story of the French captain giving an account of a contest with an English frigate; he was just on the point of boarding and taking the enemy, when—he discovered that all his men were either wounded or killed! (Applause.) Gentlemen, when we began our agitation here—and I have seen it from its infancy to its present growth—the cry was—"Oh, it is only a Manchester agitation!" "It is an agitation only confined to a few dissatisfied men at Manchester, who do not get such prices as they are greedy enough to expect." We were joined by the people of Glasgow, Paisley, Leeds, and other large commercial towns; by the men of the iron districts in Staffordshire; by Nottingham and Leicester, whose people were employed in manufacturing lace and hosiery—and then it was said—"Oh, it is only a manufacturers' question; you do not get the people of London to join you; it is not a question generally of manufactures and commerce!" Well, we thought we would do away with that taunt, and we removed our quarters to London. We took Drury Lane Theatre, and filled it with audiences such as had never been seen there at any previous time, to hear this question discussed. (Loud cheers.) Then they said—"Ah, certainly, we see that you have got somebody with you now, but it is manufactures and commerce against the great interests of the country: you cannot stand before the farmers and farm labourers of the country—that you dare not try." Well, we tried that, and they did battle; at one or two meetings they did show fight, and then they were defeated, and then they skulked out of the field. (Loud cheers and laughter.) Yes, our representatives, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright—(loud cheers)—the noble representatives of our simple principle, went forth, not to a serious fight with a constantly opposing enemy in front, but on a march which could be called nothing less than a triumphal procession. (Loud cheers.) The farmers from the first moment were willing to listen to them, for they proved that they were their friends; and not only the farmers but the farm-labourers received them as friends. (Loud cheers.) They were everywhere received triumphantly. They were received by the farmers at the market dinner table, disseminating and receiving information, and they have gone throughout the agricultural districts, and not one single landlord has dared to oppose them. (Applause.) Gentlemen, you know what the monopolists did at the last election,—that they spent a million and a half of money in bribery, besotting and brutalising the people. (Hear.) That was the doing of the Carlton Club. And what is their cry now, when we appear in London? They say, "We will not have League interference!" Interference! Why, gentlemen, out of the 6500 electors who voted for Mr. Pattison, 5000 were registered members of the League! (Tremendous shouts of applause.) Interfere in London! Why, half London is ours. (Renewed cheers.) Interfere in other boroughs! There is not a single borough in London where we have not a nucleus of spirited men enough to influence future elections. (Cheers.) We have a nucleus everywhere, through the whole length and breadth of the country. There is not a single borough in the country where we have not thorough Free-Trade men, thoroughly imbued with our principles, and well able to support them. Why, it has been my plan to inquire, in my limited excursions, and I have found everywhere men well acquainted with our arguments, and well qualified to instruct their neighbours. And I have often thought, if our great leaders were, by some unfortunate calamity, to be swept from us, though we should not have men as powerful in eloquence, or as influential as they are, that we should still be secure of a number of honest, sensible, and intelligent men everywhere, to secure the triumph of Free-Trade principles. (Loud cheers.) We have been taunted about foreign interference at elections; now, if we sent a crowd to Stockport to swamp the inhabitants, met to decide whether their streets should be cleansed by a sweeping machine or with brooms, they might tell us they had a right to sweep their street as they liked; they might say, "That is our business." But, if the Stockport men have to choose a representative in Parliament, he is not to represent their interests alone, but those of the empire—(cheers)—and, if we think the men of Stockport are not informed enough as to the man it would be to their interests and ours to elect, we have a right to go and enlighten the men of that place. (Renewed cheers.) Why, are we to be satisfied with selecting three men from Manchester and Salford? The honourable member for Salford is here to-night, and I congratulate that he is. (Loud cheers.) Shall we be satisfied with sending three men for these two boroughs, without doing something to instruct the fifty other boroughs represented by seventy-two men, whose united constituencies do not equal those of Manchester and Salford? (Hear, hear.) And when in such a state of things we see men anywhere uninformed, ought we not to go out and enlighten them on the principle on which they ought to choose their representatives? Yes, we have the right, and we have the power, and it is a power founded on justice, and why should we not exercise it? (Applause.) And what is the mode of our interference? We do not spend a million and a half of money to brutalise the constituencies—(hear, hear)—our weapons are the tongue, the pen, and the printing-press; and we have used them not to demoralize but to purify. We so used them at Nottingham, and we did much to purify that borough of the corruption which monopoly had introduced. (Hear, hear.) We have so used them at Durham—(cheers)—and we have that cathedral city represented by a thorough Free Trader. (Applause.) We have so used them at London. (Loud cheers.) They may talk about foreign interference; let them. In every place where they have not a Free Trader ready the League, in the event of an election, will offer them a man in order

to give them the opportunity of recording their principles. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have said that ours is a powerful influence. See what the monopolists in London say. They confess—they declare that the election was a battle between the League and the Ministry. (Applause.) The Government employed its Attorney-General, its Lord Chancellor, Lord Lincoln, the Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and other of its officials; and Baring himself and all his party declared that this was a contest between the ministry and the League. (Loud cheers.) Well, we did measure strength with the monopolist administration, and we beat them. (Reiterated cheering.) Yes, and we will beat them again—(cheers)—and over, and over again—(cheers)—until the ministry are compelled either to retire from office or yield our just demands. (Renewed cheers.) This is the beginning of the end. (Hear, hear.) London will be to the Tory ministry what Walsall was to the Whig administration. (Hear, hear.) In the mean time let us rejoice in the prevalence of our principles, which are the principles of justice. Let us rejoice in the prevalence of principles tending to promote peace on earth and good-will to men. (Cheers.) Let Wellington and his supporters rejoice, if they will, in the laurels won on the battle field by the destruction of human life—

> ——————*Our's* the triumph be
> To circle social earth with fair exchange,
> And bind the nations in a chain of peace!

Mr. Prentice retired amid loud cheers.

Mr. William Rawson said that the family of the Leaguers in Manchester had become so large, that his voice could not be heard by all its children. (Laughter.) He would therefore simply move—

"That the address be advertised in all the London daily papers, and in the following weekly papers:—The League; the *Examiner*; the *Weekly Dispatch*; the *Weekly Chronicle*; the *Sunday Times*; the *Observer*; the *New Bell's Weekly Messenger*; the *Sentinel*; the *Spectator*; the *Patriot*; and the *Inquirer*."

Mr. Brotherton, M.P., next came forward at the call of the chair, and was received with the loudest cheering. He said it was with feelings of great gratification that he responded to the call, and united with the meeting in their congratulations to the citizens of London on their triumphant victory over monopoly. (Applause.) He congratulated not only the League and the citizens of London, but the country at large, on this great result; and it was impossible to estimate the important consequences. (Hear.) We were greatly indebted to the League for the efforts made; but it must depend on the people to accomplish the great end in view. The struggle was not ended; many great efforts must be made before the monster monopoly was destroyed, though it had received a vital stab, from which it could never recover. ("Hear," and applause.) Some time ago, much was said of "the abstract principles of Free Trade," but we were not satisfied with the shell only; we must have the kernel. ("Hear," and applause.) In the infancy of any great cause, most people were too ready to see difficulties, and therefore to give it the cold shoulder; but, by and by, out stepped men like Cobden and Bright, and then the scene changed, and we were surprised that any difficulty should have been felt or fancied before. Now, after the London election, many thousands would join the League, as the successful party always gathered strength. The gaunt wolf would show his savage spirit, if it was attempted to take any thing from him; and so we might expect would be the case now. When Sir Robert Peel expected by his attack on Cobden to crush him, a yell was uttered like nothing but what might be expected to issue from the infernal kingdom. But the support which Mr. Cobden then received, not only in the House but from the people, showed that this attempt was futile. Sir Robert Peel was a Free Trader by profession, only he would not practise what he preached. (Hear, hear.) But he recollected that the city of London had declared in favour of Free Trade; and that Lord John Russell was one of the representatives of the City. (Hear, hear.) Now he must confess that he had been inclined to believe that Lord John Russell had got some honesty in his soul, and that, if he was only backed by the people, he would come out as a Free Trader; and if he did so, he (Mr. Brotherton) was sure they should have very great pleasure in supporting him. (Hear, hear.) He could make excuses for these men, who did not merely ask (like the Manchester people) "Is it right?" but, "Can I carry it?" If they saw a probability of that, he believed many honest men would come forward and support a vote for Free Trade. ("Hear" and applause.) If a man earned £29 a year, £12 went for taxes, only £2 of which went to the state, and the rest to the monopolists; and really for a monopolist to offer a voter a bribe of £1 to vote for him, was to expect that a man would take £1 for voting for a man to support the taking of £10 a year from him. (Hear, hear.) The landowners take 3d. out of every quartern loaf for the rent; and if they take one-third, it is 2d. for rent, and a 1d. for monopoly. We thought they ought to give up the penny they took from the poor by an unjust law. (Hear.) The property of the landlord was sacred; but not more so than that of the labourer (hear, hear), and it was cruel and unjust for these men not to be satisfied with the estates of their fathers, but to take one-third of the loaf of the poor hand-loom weaver. ("Hear," and applause.) The monopolists depended on the indifference of the people; and he was astounded to find 6300 in London to record their votes in favour of monopoly. A member of Parliament once told him, "We are convinced that the Corn Laws are for our benefit, and so long as we have the power we are determined to maintain them." (Hear, hear.) That was candid, at all events. It had been too long supposed that noble lords and other legislators were wise, and the only competent men to legislate for the people; but late events had opened the eyes of the people; the national opinion would be, "We will have just laws;" and, when this result came, we should have a Government in unison with the enlightened opinion of the people. (Loud applause.) He knew Mr. Pattison, and had often seen his independent votes in the House of Commons, when he was Governor of the Bank of England, and a Member for the city of London. He had once seen a caricature, representing Mr. Pattison as "Surplus;" if so, then they might call Mr. Baring "Deficiency." He looked upon Mr. Pattison as representing abundance; and Mr. Baring as representing scarcity. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Pattison was in favour of Free Trade principles; and Mr. Baring in favour of monopoly. They should find, that when Mr. Pattison took his seat in the House of Commons, he would fully answer the wishes of his constituency, and he (Mr. Brotherton) trusted that Mr. Pattison would long enjoy health to serve a constituency that had done him so much honour in electing him as their representative. (Applause.)

The Chairman put the resolution, which passed unanimously.

Mr. William Lockett then moved the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Walker for his valuable services in the chair. This was seconded by Mr. William Harvey, and put by Mr. Alderman Brooks, who took the vacated chair. It passed by acclamation, and was briefly acknowledged by Mr. Walker, who called on the meeting not to relax in their exertions, and announced that there would be a great congratulatory meeting of the League, in Covent-garden Theatre, on Thursday evening.—Three cheers were given for "The League," and three more for "Pattison," and the meeting then terminated.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING AND DINNER AT DURHAM.

We have been obligingly favoured with slips from the *Gateshead Observer*, containing a report of the meeting and dinner at Durham on Tuesday last. We are compelled, however, to content ourselves with a mere statement of results. The meeting was attended by a very large concourse of all classes, and upwards of 2000 persons are stated to have been assembled in the market-place of the city. Messrs. Cobden and Bright addressed the meeting at great length, and their speeches were listened to with the greatest attention and cheered with the heartiest applause. The reception of Mr. Bright by his constituents was most enthusiastic. Gerard Salvin, Esq., of Croxdale Hall, near Durham, moved a resolution in favour of the total repeal of the Corn and all other "*protective*" Laws, which was seconded by Mr. Walton, a tenant-farmer, of Lumley, in the same county. The motion was carried unanimously amidst great acclamation.

Thanks were then given to the Chairman, and "three times three" for Corn-Law Repeal, and for Messrs. Bright and Cobden. The people, who had never flinched during the rain, then dispersed in various directions to places of shelter; and in the evening a party of about fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner at Mr. Thwaites's, the Waterloo Tavern.

Mr. Gerard Salvin took the chair, and Mr. Nicholas Oliver the vice-chair.

The proceedings of the evening were of a most interesting character. Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden both made very excellent speeches, and the Chairman and several other gentlemen spoke at length upon the impoverishment of the farmers and the injury inflicted upon the interest of tenants and landlords by the Corn Laws. After the usual array of complimentary toasts, the "Electors of Durham" was proposed and drunk with great enthusiasm, after which Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Ashworth took their leave amidst several rounds of cheers, and the company shortly afterwards broke up.

GREAT FARMERS' MEETING FOR WEST CUMBERLAND.

A great meeting of the farmers, &c., of West Cumberland was held at Cockermouth, on Monday the 23rd inst., to receive addresses from Messrs. Cobden and Bright, as announced the week before. Mr. Bright was prevented by indisposition from attending, but Henry Ashworth, Esq., of Bolton, accompanied Mr. Cobden. After dinner, at the farmers' ordinary, held at the Sun Inn, where about 130 farmers and others dined with them, the honourable gentlemen, accompanied by their friends, repaired to the hustings, which had been erected in a field adjacent to the town. A large assemblage had already collected—it is supposed about 3000, mostly country people.

On the motion of F. L. B. Dykes, Esq., of Dovenley Hall, seconded by W. Robertson Walker, Esq., of Gilgarron, Sir Wilfred Lawson, of Brayton Hall (brother-in-law of Sir J. Graham, and the second largest landowner in the county), was called upon to preside. After expressing his entire concurrence in the object of the League, the Chairman introduced Mr. Cobden, who was received with great enthusiasm, and afterwards addressed the meeting with his usual force and eloquence upon the injustice and impolicy of all monopolies.

J. T. Spedding, Esq., of Greta Bank (a large landowner), then proposed, and John W. Fletcher, Esq., of Greysouthen (a landowner and farmer), seconded, the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that the Corn Laws and all restrictions upon our intercourse with other nations ought to be forthwith abolished; and that the principles of Free Trade are calculated to promote the prosperity of the British Empire, as well as conducive to the general welfare of mankind."

H. Ashworth, Esq., spoke with much ability in support of the principles of Free Trade.

H. Aglionby, Esq., M.P., in a spirited address proposed a vote of thanks to Messrs. Cobden and Ashworth, which was ably seconded by Edward Horsman, Esq., M.P., and carried with vociferous cheering.

Mr. Cobden returned thanks, with a parting exhortation to the farmers, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was seconded by Mr. Ashworth, and unanimously carried.

Sir W. Lawson returned thanks.

Three cheers were then given for the Liberal electors of London, and the meeting separated.

Among many other influential individuals we observed on the platform were, Peter Dixon, Esq., of Warwick Bridge; T. Spedding, Esq., of Muchouse; Lamplugh Dykes, Esq.; John Dixon, Esq., of the Knells; Jonathan Harris, Esq., Papcastle; Robert Benson, Esq., St. Helen's; Thomas Wilson, Esq.; Joseph Harris, Esq., Lorton.

Messrs. Cobden and Bright at Alnwick.—On Saturday last Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P. for Stockport, and John Bright, Esq., M.P. for Durham, visited the agricultural town of Alnwick, the capital of Northumberland, to address the farmers at the close of the market, and other persons, on the subject of the Corn and Provision Laws. The meeting was held at mid-day, and comprised men of all classes—farmers and tradesmen—shopkeepers and artisans. Of the number present we may name:—Mr. Granger, M.P. for Durham; Mr. Ingham, Mr. Otter, Mr. Darling, Hetton House; Mr. Thomas Lawson, Longhirst Grange; Mr. George Brumell, Morpeth; Rev. D. Paterson, Alnwick; Mr. Samuel Donkin, Bywell; Mr. Crawshaw, Gateshead; Mr. Joseph Forster, Greenbat Cottage; Mr. Watson, Belford; Mr. Blesley, Alnwick; Colonel Younghusband; Mr. Grey, Wooperton; Mr. Thomas Wilson, Alnwick; Mr. Burn, Warkworth; Mr. Jobson, Boulmer; Mr. Grey, Lilburn; Mr. Faucus, Dunston; Mr. Young, Glanton; Mr. Jobson, Sturton Grange; Mr. Hume, Hartlaw; Mr. Nicholson, Lilburn Hill; Mr. Graham, Alnwick; Mr. Crisp, Hawhill; Mr. Richard Thompson, Middleton; Messrs. J. and A. Lambert, Alnwick; Rev. Mr. Robertson, Wooler; Mr. Crisp, Rugeley; Mr. Henderson, Langley Ford; Mr. Skelley, Alnwick; Mr. Pringle, Snitter; Mr. Storey, Ellaw; Mr. James, Brandon; Mr. Robson, Howick; Dr. Falder, Alnwick; Mr. E. Mole, Embleton; Mr. R. Rusby, Alnwick; Mr. Smith, Thirston; Mr Carr, Ratcheugh; and Mr. Luke Hindmarsh (many of whom are well known in Northumberland as extensive farmers). There was also a "fair" sprinkling of ladies in the hall. When Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright made their appearance upon the platform, they were received with loud enthusiastic cheering. George Darling, Esq., of Hetton House, near Wooler (on the motion of Mr. Samuel Donkin, of Bywell, seconded by Mr. Lawson, of Longhirst Grange), was unanimously, and by acclamation, called upon to preside over the proceedings. Mr. Bright then addressed the meeting in one of his most effective speeches, and was followed by Mr. Cobden; after which a Chartist lecturer, who calls himself the "Manchester Packer," delivered a long rigmarole harangue, in which he resorted to the exploded doctrine of advising the people not to seek Free Trade till they had got the suffrage. Henry Ashford, Esq., of Bolton, and Mr. Cobden, followed the "Packer," and demolished his fallacies to the complete satisfaction of the meeting. For the Chartist amendment, moved by Dickenson, only some 20 or 30 hands were held up; for the resolutions, in favour of Free Trade, nearly the whole assembly.—*Abridged from the Third Edition of the Gateshead Observer.*

THE TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm.

THIRD LETTER.

London, August 9, 1812.

My dear Uncle,—I am glad to hear you are well in health, and so prosperous in the harvest. It is indeed glorious harvest weather, and taking it altogether, from one end of the kingdom to the other, the abundance of the earth proclaims the goodness of God in a most eminent degree. Oh! that men would do nothing to mar the general diffusion of that which Heaven so bountifully supplies!

Andrew asks me in his letter what I think of the Corn Law, now that I have seen and talked with some of its supporters at head-quarters, and have seen and talked with the English farmers. To which I reply, that I am more and more convinced of its inability to serve agriculture; nay, of its positive injury—immediately to the farmer, and ultimately to the landlord. I do not expect to alter your opinions in a letter, since I could not alter them in conversation; but I can tell you that before long you will alter them yourself. Already you disapprove of all variable duties, and would prefer a fixed duty. Now, a fixed duty, I tell you, is impracticable. Were it fixed at 8s. this year, the Ministry would be compelled in two or three years to fix it at 5s.; and in two or three years more to fix it at 3s.; and at last at 1s., preparatory to abolishing it altogether. Now, admit the sliding-scale to be an absurd blunder, because you see it makes corn dear when you have none to sell, and unsettles your prices and deranges your bargains when you have corn to sell; therefore, you say, you are in favour of a fixed duty. But I tell you a fixed duty is a chimera. No Government can perpetuate a duty of any kind, promise what they may. We want steadiness of price, that we may see our way in making bargains with our landlords; but unsteadiness and uncertainty must be our lot so long as any protecting duties remain, because the political games of parties to get into office, or to keep themselves in when in danger of being turned out, render any line of future policy a mere riddle, and any promises at present made a mere shadow, to disappear when the first cloud obscures the sun. No, no, uncle; away with the delusion at once. Let us have good markets, and we shall have good prices. Let us have steady and full employment for our town population, and we will have steady customers for our corn, and beef, and butter, and cheese. The thing you are so much in favour of, steadiness and certainty, is what I am in favour of; but it cannot be obtained so long as a vestige of "protection" remains. They have put an income-tax on us, which neither you, nor I, nor any one likes; but it is on; and, what is more, it will stay on; and we may kick—ay, kick, and bray, and cock our lugs, and threaten to lie down and break the dishes, like Tin Tam's cuddy when he got upon its back to ride in addition to the ordinary load; but, like Tin Tam's cuddy, we must just bear the burden, and jog on at last, for the day of death will only ease us of the income-tax. Therefore, I say, since we have an income-tax—since all the inquisitorial machinery is at work—let us have a universal income and property tax. Let all customs and excise be abolished; let us have universal Free Trade; and let each man be taxed according to his income. You may not agree with this, but depend on it such will at some time be the means of paying national expenses. However, as I did not intend entering on those topics when I began this letter, and as I do not expect to make great progress in your conversion by letter-writing, I shall drop politics for the present, and revert to agriculture and to my travels in England.

Andrew bids me write and say what I think of the country near London; and if I do not think farming would be profitable there, even at a high rent? To which I say, that a good market and plenty of manure, both of which London affords most liberally, are all-important; but to be farmers we should be, perhaps, twenty or thirty miles from London, at least. Any nearer we would require to devote ourselves to the dairy, or to the production of

vegetables and fruit for the London markets. Yet this is not altogether true. On the north side of London, in Hertfordshire, there are many miles of country, chiefly in grass, rented at a very low rate; some of it as low as 20s. an acre, and the soil not inferior to what you pay £3 for at a distance from even a small market town. Had I a lease of some of that Hertfordshire land, fifteen or twenty miles out of London, I would make a fortune out of it in twenty years, at double the rent paid for it now. By the way, I may as well tell you what occurred when I was out there seeing some of it.

I met a clergyman. The English clergy, as you know, are a different class from the Scotch clergy. There are many of them great landowners, and the relatives of the highest and richest of the aristocracy. This one, who is a considerable landowner, was on a visit at a gentleman's house where I had a letter of introduction, and he told me he had some farms to let in that neighbourhood; he lived himself about Cambridge, or some of those places. He has a steward on his Hertfordshire property, who was to let the farms; so to this steward we went. I rode with them over one of the farms, about 300 acres or so, and was told that the others, in all about 800 acres, lay close by. "Well," says I, "there are worse places than this; I should not hesitate to give an offer for the 800 acres on certain conditions." "What conditions do you propose?" asked the clergyman. "I propose," said I, "that you build me a farm-steading, with suitable barns, stables, thrashing-mill, and so on, and put all the fences and gates in repair." "Why," said he, "the barns and stables are all in good repair now; what need of new ones? Don't you see that there are three farms, and that it will be a great convenience to you to use the barns and stables now in use?" "It would be very inconvenient, Sir," said I, "to have three farm-steadings on a mere 800 acres; besides, the barns are built here and built there, one on this side of the farm, and one on that, scattered so on each of the three farms as to make economical agriculture impracticable. But, though they were together, they are not suitable for me; none of them are fitted for a threshing-mill."

"But," asked he, "don't you think you might do without a threshing-mill? Don't you think it would be as well to conciliate the labouring people by employing them at the flail as heretofore, instead of throwing them out of employment by machinery?" "Not knowing the people," I replied, "the kind of conciliation to be applied to them is unknown to me; but I shall say this, that were I to take a lease of these 800 acres, I would employ more people on them than have ever yet been employed on the three farms. I presume you would let the land on lease, for, if not, I need say no more?"

"I am disposed to accommodate any respectable tenant," he answered; "and though I do not admit that a tenant must necessarily have a lease to make him a good farmer, still, as you have been used to the custom, I would not deny you such a tenure. Indeed, my steward has a draft of a lease with him which contains the various conditions; he will show it to you." Saying which it was handed to me, and I read it so far—I stopped at the term of years, which was left blank. "Here is the principal point of all," said I, "left blank, what is to go in here?" "Seven or ten years," he replied, "or even twelve; because with a good tenant I would not be very particular, though I think seven a fair period to receive a return for anything that may be laid out in top-dressings, and such like."

"Seven years!" said I in surprise; "for the first five years, at least, I would have every labourer in that village, every one of the hundred surplus labourers which the steward says the parish contains, and whom you expect to take offence at my threshing-mill; for the first five years, if not for the whole seven, I would have these men at work over and above my regular number of ploughmen, and would have several thousand pounds sunk in the eight hundred acres; what use, then, would such a lease be to me?"

"You must be deluding yourself," said he; "what could you do with so many people on a grass farm? four-fifths of it is in grass; and don't you see that the continuance of the pasturage is imperative? Read the draft of the lease throughout, and you will see we have made the preservation of the meadows a primary condition, excepting when leave may be granted to the tenant to depart from the condition. You do not mean to say, do you, that, in any course of husbandry you might adopt, you would propose to break up the old meadows?"

"Every one of them," I replied. "There is not an acre of these eight hundred but I would disturb in its profitless slumber before seven years were over." I then read the conditions of letting proposed in the draft, and asked if they really believed any man would bind himself to observe them? To which the steward replied that it was, he believed, much less stringent than agreements between landlord and tenant usually are in that county. I said that might be, but it would not suit me, nor any other who would do justice to the land and pay his rent. "Why," said the agent, "we must impose restrictions, else a tenant, would be at liberty—and, as we have seen, would use his liberty—to destroy the rich old grass, and crop the land until it was run out; after which the grass would be comparatively valueless." "He must," I replied, "be a very silly and absurd man who would crop the land until it ran out and became valueless for grass. Some of your tenants-at-will might do such a thing if not bound down; but do you think that I, with a lease of twenty-one years, and with a capital of several thousand pounds sunk in the farm, would not have the strongest of all motives to farm well, to cultivate according to the best method? I grant you that certain restrictions to restrain a tenant in the latter years of his lease are requisite, for the sake of the tenant who is to follow; but depend on it that, as a general rule, the fewer restrictions you lay on the tenant the better; if he has a long lease, he has a more immediate interest in good farming than even his landlord has."

We had some further conversation of a similar kind, and I took leave of them for the day, intending to make a minute examination of the surface and subsoils. I was to meet them again next day to hear how far they thought a relaxation of their restrictions practicable. We met accordingly. I had not the remotest expectation that they would meet me on what I would call equitable terms. But I must say, that an examination of the soils, and the water levels, and of the natural grasses and the common weeds, made me somewhat more desirous than I had been the day before that they would meet me on fair ground. Because such farms within twenty miles of London would be by no means a bad bargain at a rent fifty per cent. higher than has been asked for them; that is to say, with leave for the farmer to move upon the farm free of swaddling-clothes.

At our second interview I found some concessions made to me. The lease was extended to twenty-one years, and certain fields now in grass were to be ploughed if I thought fit; but the new farm-steading and steam-mill were not conceded. Still I think something might have been done for me in that respect also, had not a new difficulty arisen. The landlord naturally enough hinted that to decide on these points required him to know what amount of rent I was prepared to offer; to which I rejoined that, in the first place, I must have an unlimited power to turn the whole into a corn and turnip farm before I could have anything to do with it; and, in the next place, I said that in these times of political disquietude, when each new Minister had some concession to make to the popular voice, it was not easy to say how rent should be calculated, seeing that the chief subject of experimental politics was the Corn Law. "I quite agree with you," said his reverence, "I quite agree with you; but I think we may regard the question as settled now. We have got a strong Conservative Government, and a sound practical statesman at the head of it. He has deemed it necessary, I am sorry to say, to make an alteration in the law that protects native industry; but doubtless he saw some alteration necessary, and deemed it his duty to do what he has done." "And we do not know," I said, "how soon he, or some other Minister, will have to make another settlement. The best thing, Sir, depend upon it, is a settlement of the Corn Law in the only way it can be settled, by abolishing it at once and for ever. We shall then have some chance of seeing our way; at present we are moving in the dark."

His reverence looked upon me, at this, as if some devil was in his presence. "What! why," exclaimed he, "you must be an emissary of some of those mischievous Anti-Corn-Law people. What! abolish the protective duties, that you might be the better able to cultivate your land! and then, a long lease, too! I see how it is; you have imbibed some of those doctrines that teach the people to expect the destruction and distribution of all property. I know such doctrines are taught. I know it is expected that the present owners of land shall have to renounce it to the Anti-Corn-Law League and the destructives; but we shall await the time, I shall not be a party to hastening it forward. No, no; my meadows shall not be broken up by the plough, to be afterwards abandoned as a wilderness."

I had some slight inclination to be angry at the insinuations thus thrown out in respect of my sinister designs; but they were so absurd, and bespoke a mind so completely shrouded in prejudice and ignorance, that I restrained myself, and proceeded to reason with his reverence. I pointed out to him that he only needed to reflect for a few minutes on the arguments commonly used in fovour of the Corn Law to see that I was not a destructive; and also to see that a repeal of that law would not have the effect its supporters dreaded. "They contend," said I, "that the abolition would throw land out of cultivation; yet your dislike to me arises from the fact that I want to bring your grass lands, your wet, clayey soils, into cultivation, and that I believe it would be safer to do so without than with protective duties; inasmuch as without them I would know what I was doing; with them, I would be on a troubled sea continually." Whereupon he asked me how I expected to pay my rent out of low prices, which would follow a repeal of the Corn Law. I told him we had low prices as it was, though rents were founded on a promise of high prices; and we had lower prices than we would have if our trading and manufacturing population were better employed; and farther, that a Free Trade would make good trade, and good trade would cause a demand for our produce, which would give us steady prices, which were, in the end, the best of all prices.

His reverence said, in reply, that he was not prepared to entertain such opinions, nor indeed to enter into any covenant with those who did; whereupon I at once, nothing loth to miss the chance of having such a landlord, took the hint and bade him good day.

Not having left myself room to enter into a description of the country around London, as Andrew desired me to do, I shall betake myself to pen and paper to-morrow, or next day, and do so. But the fact is, I have not yet seen enough of the country to justify me in going into minute details. However, I have my eyes and ears open, and I have a tongue in my head, which, although a Scotch one, answers its purpose very well in asking and answering questions.

Mary thinks she would like to live in Hertfordshire. It is a beautiful county; neither too flat nor too hilly, and well sheltered, though not thickly wooded. With kindest regards from her and from myself, I am as ever yours,

ADAM BROWN.

P.S.—We have been hearing a Scotch minister. I think they call him Cummings. He is a good preacher; he is in connexion with our Establishment. We also went, on Sabbath afternoon, to hear the great Alexander Fletcher that we once heard, as you may recollect, on the Calton Hill, at Edinburgh; but he was not preaching in the afternoon. This is a curious thing in London; nobody scarcely goes to church in the afternoon. I have been told it is because they eat so much at dinnertime that they are not able. The more likely reason is that, though they do eat good dinners, they are more given to recreation than religious seclusion; they are so at any time, and especially on the only day of the week they have any liberty. We who, on our farms, are in the open air all the week, find it a pleasure to sit and read, and rest on the Sabbath; but they who are confined to shops and houses all the week desire, by authority of the law of God governing their physical nature, to have recreation on Sabbath. If it be wrong for them to take it, it must be wrong for us to have towns and cities, which some say is wrong, but which is not in my line to discuss and decide. The grace of God be with you and us all! We are his creatures, and live by his sufferance.

A. B.

Some "good-natured" friend has been suggesting that Lord Brougham's last pamphlet, in which he defends himself by attacking others, ought to be called, if it reach a second edition, "Gall upon the Functions of the Brain."

AGRICULTURE.

THE TABLES ARE TURNING.

At the East Essex agricultural meeting, Mr. Shaw, the editor of the *Mark-lane Express*, remarked on the "altered tone of their proceedings since the meeting of last year. Then, he scarcely attended one meeting where he did not hear a lecture given from the upper end of the room, exhorting the tenant-farmers to exert themselves in cultivating their farms, in order to enable them to meet the losses they were likely to sustain from the anticipated depression of prices. He was happy to find that the tables were turned, and the lecturers were now lectured by such high authorities as Sir R. Peel and Lord Stanley, who plainly (?) told them that the landlords must give leases, and make the needful permanent improvements on the land." This is true; but it is only half the truth. The tables are turning, but we do not agree with Mr. Shaw that they are *turned*, or that Sir Robert Peel's and Lord Stanley's orations—valuable and important as they are in many points of view—form that measure of retribution which the monopolist landlords must expect as the reaction of their twenty-eight years' attempt to create for their own gain an artificial scarcity.

But the tables are rapidly turning upon these monopolists, of which the real evidence is to be found in the outbreaks made by tenant-farmers, or those who speak their sentiments, at the various agricultural meetings. Sir Robert Peel and Lord Stanley did little more than amplify and define that which the landlords of last year told their tenants "from the upper end of the room" at agricultural dinners, and they intimated their knowledge of the actual conditions necessary to induce such improvements; but they did no more. They left the practical tenant-farmers, and the more courageous landlords, such as Sir H. Verney and Mr. Hayter, to speak out, and say "confidence" is a very good thing "in the abstract;" but before prudent farmers—and no others can be good farmers—will lay out their money *on another man's land*, that "confidence" must assume the tangible form of a skin of parchment. Farmers have in general no great affection for lawyers, and with reason, but we believe that even the attorney's blue bag will be a welcome sight in the farmer's homestead when its ordinary contents are twenty-one years' leases. A curious instance of the horror in which the landlords hold these discussions on leases where tenant-farmers have the will and the power to speak their minds occurred the other day in Hertfordshire. Mr. Charles Lattimore, whose name is favourably known to every Free Trader in the kingdom, and who is not less personally esteemed, as a spirited gentleman and a good farmer, in his own vicinity, went into the show-yard of the Hitchin agricultural meeting, where he was soon struck with the appearance of knots of landlords, squires, and squireens engaged in earnest and excited conversation, and he shortly found that he himself formed the topic of their discussions. A rumour had arisen that Mr. Lattimore, with others holding equally defined opinions on the requirements of agriculture and the condition of tenant-farmers, intended to introduce, at the dinner, the question of security of tenure. The landlords were in a state of ludicrous consternation, saying, "There is nobody to answer him; all the farmers will side with him; what is to be done?" Mr. Lattimore had last year boldly declared at a similar meeting, in reply to the improvement exhortations of the Marquis of Salisbury, the chairman, that without "security of tenure, without leases, it was absurd to expect tenant-farmers to improve;" and had thereby not a little disturbed the complacency of the noble chairman and his clique. It was well known that Mr. Lattimore could have offered to the tenant-farmers assembled at Hitchin one or two striking facts illustrative of the value of a "confidence"-hold tenure. In this strait a friend was despatched to Mr. Lattimore, to deprecate the introduction of the dreaded tenure question: he was told that it would be uncomfortable to the chairman, Lord Dacre, for whom it was well known Mr. Lattimore had the greatest respect; he was told *that the question of leases was a political one;* and sundry other dissuasives were urged, but he declined to offer any pledges as to what he should say or abstain from saying. He had, in fact, no predetermined intention to say anything; he had gone to the meeting entirely alone, and had been so careless about the matter as to have omitted to secure a ticket for the dinner. This gave the squires the opportunity they desired; they knew they could not silence Mr. Lattimore, so they excluded him. He was refused a ticket, and was denied admission to the dinner, on the pretence of there being no room, though some twenty *safe* persons, who applied later than Mr. Lattimore, were admitted. The following day the chairman of the Luton agricultural meeting, previously to the dinner, made an earnest request to Mr. Lattimore that he would not introduce the dreaded question.

This proves that panic is creeping into the minds of the monopolists; and we have no doubt that demonstrations in favour of the tenant-farmers, and

exposures of their grievances, are often prevented by means similar to those adopted at Hitchin; yet, nevertheless, enough has come out to show that the tables are turning on the landlords.

It is admitted that the good farmers, and men with large capital, have nothing to fear from Free Trade; indeed, the opinion gains ground that such men will have the ball at their feet as soon as the Corn Laws are repealed, for landlords have raised up a bugbear of foreign competition, at which they are themselves frightened. They have told so many Tamboff lies that they are now the dupes of their own artifices. Still a few well-meaning people have some apprehensions for the weaker farmers; the men who have what is called "just enough capital"—which, in truth, is not enough by half—may be swamped during the period of transition. Such fears, however, are entirely baseless. Nothing could be better for the needy farmer than a Free Trade in corn, and the steady, even if lower, prices which would be the result. The weak farmers are now the chief sufferers, for they fall in detail one by one, under the pressure of each successive period of depression, while the richer farmers can live on in the expectation of a return to high prices. It is not impossible that some farmers of large resources may even make considerable gains by speculating, during low prices, for that rise which a bad harvest is sure to produce as long as Corn Laws exist. At all events they quietly make their own arrangements, and leave the poorer classes of farmers to fight their own battle unaided. How different would be the case if the Corn Laws were repealed; then a cause, common to all farmers, would unite all classes of them in a common demand. The weaker men would derive support and protection from the countenance of the richer; and landlords would then find it absolutely necessary to encourage industrious farmers of smaller means by temporary aid and extensive permanent improvements. It must always be remembered, that where landlords have the means of effecting for themselves those permanent improvements which properly belong to them as owners of the estate, it is their interest to make them. Tenants will ever require a safe profit on such investments, and it is only where landlords cannot or will not make them, that they can be advised to let their property on terms which will induce tenants to undertake such outlays; and this says nothing in derogation of leases, for a long lease, of 19 or 21 years, is indispensable to large success in *mere farming*, assuming all the permanent improvements, such as draining, buildings, and so forth, to have been done by the landlords.

Indeed, turn it whichever way we may, the advantages of an immediate and total repeal of the Corn Laws preponderate so incalculably over possible inconveniences, even to those imagined most likely to be inconvenienced by the change, that to the reflecting mind all the bearings of the question strongly mark that beneficent dispensation of Providence, which has decreed that men are really pursuing their own highest and most permanent interest when they act with the strictest regard to the interest of others.

EAST ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Essex has always been deemed the stronghold, the very citadel, of the corn monopoly. Its soil is peculiarly adapted for growing wheat, and it has been from time immemorial the principal wheat-growing county of England. Its population is almost exclusively agricultural, and its *ten* parliamentary representatives are fierce and furious monopolists. Yet, notwithstanding the natural fertility of the soil, the actual value of the land is extremely low as compared with other districts less favoured by nature. It was stated by Mr. C. C. Parker, an extensively-employed land agent, before the Agricultural Committee of 1836, that rents during the high prices of the war had been got up to 25s. per acre, and that in consequence of landlords not making timely reductions in 1821-1824 to about 20s. an acre, they had then, in 1836, been compelled to take 12s. and 15s. an acre. We happen to know of an instance in which at this moment a landlord has been glad to let a considerable farm in Essex, consisting of some of the best strong land in the county, for 21 years at 20s. an acre; and, to secure a first-rate tenant even at that price, he has been obliged to allow more than a year's rent in consideration of the bad state of the farm, and to accept 17s. and 18s. per acre for the next six years. Now this is undoubtedly a very low value for such land as that of a great part of Essex, yet it is full as much as the generality of Essex farmers can afford to pay *under their existing methods of cultivation*. The following passages from the report of the speeches at the late agricultural meeting at Colchester, on the 11th of October instant, will put our readers in possession of some of the causes of the backwardness of agriculture in Essex. Some of the principal agriculturists of the county were present at the meeting, as will be seen from the following account of the dinner:—

"About four o'clock upwards of 80 gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner at the Three Cups Hotel. John Bawtree, Esq., the President for the year, took the chair, and among the company we observed—Sir G. H. Smyth, Bart., M.P.; C. G. Round, Esq., M.P.; J. W. E. Green, G. Round, T. White, T. L. Ewel, J. Warnes (of Trimingham, Norfolk), S. G. Cooke, T. Hallum James Barker, F. Bawtree, J. Bawtree, jun., W. Shaw, J. L. Royce, S. Lungley, H. Hawes, W. Chantry, J. Hardy, jun., J. P. Brown, W. Hutley (Witham), A. J. Partridge, —Amack, C. Hawkins, J. Haddock, R. Stubbin, Dupont, Sewdl, E. Round, Worms, E. Smythies, and Driffield, Esqrs.; Major Sperling; the Revs. John Smythies, T. Schreiber, and J. C. Blair Warren; and Messrs. J. B. Ward, W. Woodward J. Ambrose, G. Lithgow, R. Chaplin, F. Cooper, Bradbrook Hall, Wolton, Garrard, J. Taylor, Whittaker, J. D. Everitt (Ipswich), S. Cooper, T. Cooper, Mayhew, Kemp, D. Green, R. F. Green, E. Harvey, and Silvester. W. F. Hobbs, Esq., and S. Tillett, Esq., acted as vice-presidents."

There has been no county in which such strenuous efforts were made to get up an opposition to Mr. Cobden as in Essex, and some of the most active movers therein are included in the above list, amongst whom the chairman, Mr. John Bawtree, and Mr. W. F. Hobbs, may be specially mentioned. The utter failure of that opposition is well known, and that the case of monopoly is now hopeless seems to be acknowledged even in Essex; for the chairman said, "he had no pretensions to be a prophet; but if so he should predict that, at no very *distant period, agriculture would be left to stand on its own legs*,"—[which opinion was received with "*applause* and *laughter*." Imagine the savage ferocity with which such a sentiment would have been received by the same association twelve months ago; but, *tempora mutantur*]—"that the adventitious protection which it now derived from legislative enactments would be withdrawn, and therefore the question for farmers was, how should they be best prepared to meet the crisis?"

This indicates an improved frame of mind amongst the farmers of Essex. We suspect, after the result of the London election, their time for preparation will not be long; but it will be their own fault if they do not turn the "crisis" to their own advantage.

On the "judges of stock" having been toasted, the Rev. Mr. Smythies, one of them, returned thanks. Now, this gentleman is a good farmer, and he seems to have been in a favourable position for judging of the progress of agriculture in Essex, having left that county thirty years ago to reside in Herefordshire; but, being master of Colchester Hospital (a snug sinecure of £600 a year), he has lately been compelled by the Court of Chancery to reside at Colchester. After expatiating on the benefits of these agricultural societies, because "they brought people together from different parts of the kingdom, and thus enabled them to see improved stock, which they would not be able to do in their own parishes; and it was especially so in Essex, which was almost purely arable. They also afforded opportunities of seeing improved agricultural implements." The reverend judge said—

"He felt anxious to promote such societies as this, being aware that the British farmer had an arduous task before him. He had to combat with the 'low-price' fashion, with the cheap labour of the Continent, and to compete with all countries from the Pole to the Equator. (Hear, hear.) He had to oppose to these *his industry, skill, and undying exertions. These were the only things he had to keep his barge afloat on the troubled waves upon which he was now cast.*" (Hear, and cheers.)

And, like all others who have had nothing to rely upon except their "skill, industry, and undying exertions," the Essex farmer will derive much permanent advantage from his apparent "troubles." He went on to say:—

"There had been an allusion by the chairman to the subject of agricultural protection, and he had expressed his opinion that it would ultimately be withdrawn. He (Mr. Smythies) *agreed with Sir Henry Smyth that the man must be a maniac who would propose such a measure in the House of Commons;* but, though that might be the case, he thought that the advice which had been given them to exert themselves to the utmost in the improvement of their land was very proper and necessary."

Now, though Sir Henry Smyth *may* be a great man in Essex, yet a far greater than he, the Duke of Wellington, once said in Parliament that "he must be a madman to undertake the post of Prime Minister of England," yet in a few months afterwards his grace actually held that office; and Mr. Smythies seems to have had some such opinion, for, notwithstanding his professed agreement with Sir Henry Smyth, he recommended the farmers to "exert themselves to the utmost." Poor Sir Henry Smyth belongs to that unhappy section of the aristocracy who constantly declare that can never be done which the British people have resolved to accomplish forthwith. As it has been with other evils, so will it be with the bread monopoly; and in the following practical observations Mr. Smythies showed how the change may be effected without injury to the farmers, in saying:—

"Every enlightened agriculturist must be aware that it was impossible, with the present prices of corn, to return four rents, which must be the case upon purely arable land. He was of opinion that that had not been generally done of late years, *and he thought it could hardly be done with the present system of naked fallows.*"

Yet four-fifths of the strong land of Essex *is* managed on the system of a naked fallow once in three or four years. Let us hear what this impartial witness says of the progress of agriculture in Essex:—

"*When he left this neighbourhood thirty years ago*, he boasted of his countrymen, wherever he went, as the best farmers in the world (cheers); *but he now found them pursuing the same system as when he left them, while other districts had, in the phraseology of modern times, 'gone ahead.' He had hoped to have found them considerably improved, but he could not say he had done so.* So long as they continued to have naked fallows they would fall short of the Lothians, *where the land was quite as heavy, but where they grew green crops upon their fallows.* The land there, however, was drained and subsoiled, and so it must be in this county before they could adopt the same system. He had drained a good deal of land, *and last year he had a capital crop of turnips upon land which was not previously worth the expense of cultivation.*"

Here, then, is the secret of the low value of land in Essex, and of the tenacity with which the farmers there cling to monopoly. What other business could be now conducted successfully on the same system as it was thirty years ago? Every reader will exclaim—NONE! Why, then, should the farmer alone expect to conduct his business on such a system?

The next speaker we shall notice is Mr. W. F. Hobbs, who, though a first-rate farmer, is (contrary to the general rule), an advocate of protection. He has, however, been a good deal mixed up with the landowners—we do not know whether he is also a land-agent—and has probably adopted some of their prejudices. Yet Mr. Hobbs admitted the necessity of improved farming, only he asserted that it was being adopted in Essex. He observed:—

"Mr. Smythies had said, with regard to the agriculture of this county, that it was the same as thirty years ago with regard to naked fallows. He could not allow that observation to pass without making some remark. He was happy to say that that was not the general character of the county. The system of draining was becoming general—in some instances subsoil ploughing had been adopted—and vegetable crops were being cultivated where nothing was grown before, *especially mangel wurzel upon land which they had been accustomed to fallow.* That valuable root, the orange globe mangel, formerly unknown in this county, was now extensively grown, and used for fatting stock in lieu of the straw and bad hay previously used. He knew that such was the case, and he felt persuaded that, when Mr. Smythies should have gone through the district, he would find that the system of naked fallows was not so general as formerly."

Though Mr. Hobbs is right in saying that naked fallows are not used as much now as thirty years ago, yet his assertion applies only to improving farmers—of whom Essex unquestionably contains many—the mass, the *average* farmers, have advanced but little in Essex for thirty years. Nor will they, so long as they are taught to look for an act-of-parliament price for wheat. Mr. Hobbs, however, tells the same tale of what increased produce may be grown on land, and why it is not grown, as we have heard in other districts.

"He thought that by draining and subsoil ploughing the should be able to grow more crops and maintain a greater quantity of cattle *upon lands now almost barren of stock.* (Hear.) He was aware that in the present day vast exertion was making for the improvement of agriculture, and it was frequently said that the tenant-farmers might do more to that end than they at present do. (Hear.) He perfectly agreed that the land of this county was capable of producing a considerably deal more than at present—*if he said one fourth more it would be within compass* (hear, hear))—*but it could not be done be the tenant-farmer alone; they must have confidence* (hear, hear), and they must in the first instance have the landlord to assist them, *by giving them leases, by encouraging drainage, in extending their lands by knocking down many of their hedges, and not allowing trees to grow in all directions to shade and injure their corn.* (Hear, hear.) These things required *as much looking to in Essex as in any place with which he was acquainted.* The landlord might do much to assist them, and the tenant might also do much. He felt that the county of Essex was greatly behindhand in the system of hedging."

In fact, if landlords mean to have the full value of their property they must deal fairly with those who are willing to occupy it; they must cast aside all feudal absurdities, and bring their land to market, as a sack of wheat, an ox, or a bale of calico is brought, to let for what it is fairly worth. Mr. Hobbs is a man of too much intelligence not to see what is required by the necessity of the times, saying—

"He considered that the age in which they lived, with its rapidly increasing population, required a united effort on the part of every class of the community *to increase the production of the soil;* and he was happy to find that in various districts there appeared to be a determination to that effect. He had lately been among the manufacturers of the north of England, and had heard them express an opinion *that unless agriculture and manufactures go hand-in-hand the country could not flourish.* (Cheers.) He trusted that that would be the general feeling; *he felt that they could do much if united, but if disunited they must all fall to the ground.*"

This is in the right spirit. Let agriculture be freed from the trammels of monopoly, then all other monopolies will instantly fall; and we are convinced that an unexampled era of prosperity will at once open upon British industry in all its branches.

HINTS FOR AGRICULTURISTS.

BROAD ACRES NOT ALWAYS WEALTH.—Yesterday morning the people of Aylesbury were visited by two officials of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, to demand the lord of the manor's penny. The amount is too small to be worth refusing. *But the bread-taxing duke might surely live on the rentals of his broad acres* without stooping to claim the hard-earnt coppers of the tradesmen and the poor.—*Correspondent of the Bucks Gazette.*

[Twenty years ago Mr. Huskisson told the landlords in the House of Commons "that monopoly was not at all times profit," and it is equally certain that the apparent possession of "broad acres" is not always wealth. Rentals, however large, do not always imply wherewithal to "live" upon. It will be found in nearly every instance—we know of no single exception—that all the landlords most violently attached to monopoly are needy and impoverished men, poor-rich men, who have the shell and the anxieties, and possibly some of the influence, but little of the substance, of an estate. The Duke of Buckingham is notoriously one of these. His bills are offered for discount in all directions at enormous rates, we have heard of as much as 40 per cent. We happen to know that his grace has been lately sued for a debt of £16 for crockery-ware. Is it wonderful that great men in such circumstances tremble at the idea of even a temporary reduction of rent? But if they have not the moral courage to take the only means of setting themselves right, namely, by retrenchment, they must not be permitted to bolster up their own fortunes at the expense of our national prosperity. Now the farmers are beginning to understand these things, landlords who have no means to improve their estates must let them to others upon terms that will induce capitalists to improve them, otherwise their rents must come down.]

GAME PRESERVING IN SCINDE.—"To their love of sporting they sacrificed the resources of their country, and their prospects of revenue. They asserted that every head of game killed cost them £80. Large establishments were kept up to guard their preserves; and the preserves themselves were formed at the loss often of the most fertile tracts. One Ameer, for instance, razed a populous village, and removed the inhabitants, because their cocks disturbed the game in a neighbouring preserve. Another destroyed two villages in order to convert the land which belonged to them into forest ground, which should be ready, and stocked with game, when his son came of age. They repeatedly declared that their preserves were dearer to them than father, mother, wife, or child."—*The Ameers of Scinde, in British and Foreign Quarterly Review.*

[With what trifling alterations would this description apply to the game-preserving landlords of England? The same potentates, when urged to encourage commerce and manufactures by Lieut. Eastwick, said, in the true spirit of a Buckingham or Knatchbull monopolist, "You have talked about the people; what are the people to us, poor or rich? *What do we care if they pay us our revenue?* [Rents, mortgages, and marriage settlements, hey?] You tell me the country will flourish: *it is quite good enough for us*, and not so likely to tempt the cupidity of our neighbours. *No, give us our hunting preserves, and our own enjoyments free from interference, and that is all we require.*" Why, this might have formed part of an article on the Corn Laws in the *Standard*, so true is it that monopoly and injustice are everywhere alike.]

THE CANADA CORN BILL.—This much-debated measure came into operation on the 10th inst., and under its provisions 1s. a quarter on wheat, and about 7½d. per barrel on flour, are to be the permanent duties on the wheat and flour of Canada. There has been a moderate arrival of Canadian flour since the act came into operation, and very considerable supplies are expected before Christmas.—*Liverpool Times.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

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Y. Z. (Prospect-place, Finchley)	1	0	0
Mr. Ladell, 17, Claremont-place, Pentonville	1	0	0
Mr. John Meredith, 10 Wharf, City-road	1	0	0
Mr. George Betts	0	10	0
Mr. P. Shield, 3, High-street, Shoreditch	1	0	0
Mr. Thomas Weeks, 10, Tokenhouse-yard	1	0	0
T. K.	1	0	0
Mr. Crellin, 198, Ratcliff Highway	1	0	0
Job (servant), Water-lane, City	0	2	6
Mr. Charles Marks, 21, Sidmouth-street, St. Pancras	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Higham, 25, Great Wild-street	0	2	6
Mr. James Murdock, 7, Staples' Inn, Holborn	0	2	6
Mr. G. H. Chisman, 12, Dalston-place	0	2	6
Mr. F. J. S. Atkey, 15, Whittlebury-st., Euston-sq.	0	2	6
Mr. Richard Jackson, Pitman's Arms, 1, Pitman's Buildings, St. Luke's	1	1	0
Frederick Berkley, Esq., Newcastle-on-Tyne	1	0	0
W. Simons, 3, Myddelton-place, Stoke Newington-rd.	0	2	6
York, balance of account, per Thomas Swale	4	1	0
W. Derbyshire, 87, Dearden-st., Hulme, Manchester	0	2	6
J. Marland, cabinetmaker, New Blackley-st., do.	0	2	6
B. Youngman, Hampson-street, Salford, do.	0	2	6
William Sheffield, 80, Oldham-road, do.	1	0	0
Robert Collins, Mile-house, Cheetham, do.	1	0	0
John Gally, 234, Dean's-gate, do.	0	2	6
Thomas Dyson, 47, Oldham-road, do.	1	0	0
J. Simpson, 7, Tonman-street, do.	0	5	0
John Smith, dyer, Hulme, do.	1	0	0
W. Mayo, 13, Market-street, do.	1	1	0
G. Cornfute, Esq., Perth, per Robert Thomson	1	0	0
Robert Pullas, Perth, per do.	1	0	0
John Blakiston, Lymington	1	0	0
J. Moorhouse and Sons, 22, Dean's-gate, Manchester	1	0	0
Robert Southam, 18, St. Ann's-square, do.	0	5	0
W. Myer, 44, Lloyd-street, do.	0	2	6
Peter Dalrymple, 23, Dale-street, do.	0	2	6
W. Brooks, Eldon-place, Upper Brook-street, C. M. do.	1	0	0
Northwich, balance of account, per Charles Green	5	15	6
Miles Barron, Astley-gate, Blackburn	1	0	0
Thomas Pitt, Esq., Huddersfield	1	0	0
Edward Booth, Union-street, Ardwick, Manchester	1	1	0
Edward Statham, Elliott-street, Liverpool	1	0	0
T. Nash, 25, Cross-street, King-street, Manchester	1	0	0
J. B., do.	1	0	0
G. M. Ainsworth, 22, York-street, Manchester	5	0	0
J. E. Royle, Arcade, Ducie-place, do.	5	0	0
Samuel Satterthwaite, do.	1	0	0
Bartholomew Hamer, New-road, Bury, Lancashire	1	0	0
R. Worthington, Esq., Sale Hall, near Manchester	5	0	0
Joseph Harrison, Mount-street, Stockport	1	0	0
C. Grandy, 16, Devonshire-st., Hulme, Manchester	1	0	0
John Collinson, brewer, Newton-heath, do.	1	0	0
John Brindle, 7, Brindle-street, C.-on-M., do.	0	2	6
Philip Booth, 8, Boundary-lane, Hulme, do.	1	0	0
John Ashcroft, 44, Stock-street, Cheetham, do.	1	0	0
Thomas Jolley, 12, Great Mount-street, do.	0	5	0
James Bake, Post-office Hotel, do.	5	0	0
James Miller, surgeon, Brazennose-street, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, per John Alston, Liverpool	0	3	0
John Chappell, Yaxley, Stilton	0	5	0
J. Gretton, 63, Boundary-st., C.-on-M., Manchester	0	5	0
R. Tonge, 9, School-street, C.-on-M., do.	0	2	6
J. Wright, 22, Cavendish-street, C.-on-M., do.	0	5	0
John Bragg, sen., 2, Back Princess-street, do.	1	0	0
John Baildsley, Mill-street, Ancoats, do	1	0	0
W. Brown, 5, Kent-street, do.	1	0	0
J. Harrison, fustian cutter, Shaw Chapel, near Oldham	0	5	0
George Smethurst, Blakeley, near Manchester	1	0	0
Wm. Warburton, 16, Hanging-ditch, do.	1	0	0
Thomas Atkinson, at J. Harrison's, Abraham's-court, Market-street, do.	1	1	0
Richards and Hilton, Cumberland-st., Dean's-gate, do.	2	2	0
A. S. Leech, 1, Chancery-lane, do.	1	0	0
Henry Dixon, 78, Sweet-street, Leeds	0	2	6
William Hill, oil cloth manufacturer, David-street, do.	1	0	0
G. Warburton, at Mrs. Finn's, York-st., Cheetham, do.	0	2	6
Small sums	0	5	0

Upton, West Ham, October 26, 1843.

SIR,—I have just been reading Mr. Baring's speech at Guildhall, on Monday, which has decided my opinion, and I hasten to offer my small subscription of £5 in aid of the funds of the Anti-Corn-Law League. You are also at liberty to insert my name as one of its members.

I am, Sir, yours truly, &c.,
JOSEPH FRY.

Hayne, October 24, 1843.

W. H. Gamlen, Tiverton, farmer, begs to remit the enclosed order for £1, as a subscription to the Anti-Corn-Law-League Fund, and desires to be enrolled a member of the League, as he wishes for a termination of the present fluctuating prices of corn.

G. Wilson, Esq.

Gutter-lane, Cheapside, October 27, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have this moment returned from a meeting of the Election Committee of the Ward of Farringdon Within, to settle the amount of expenses incurred at the last contest; it is an evidence of the spirit and exertion with which that election was conducted, that the entire expense of the ward, including committee-room, clerks, messengers, stationery, and conveyances, &c. &c., were £14 6s.; the number of registered names in the district being between 700 and 800.

In the winding up of the account there remained a small balance of £4 14s., which, it was resolved, should be handed to the League, and I was requested, upon behalf of the members of the committee, to express their sense of the gratitude which London and the country at large owe to the unwearied exertions of the League in the great cause of humanity and justice; and to declare their conviction that the prosperity of this great country can only be assured by the final success of those exertions.

I am, my dear Sir, yours very truly,
A. W. Paulton, Esq. P. A. TAYLOR.

Upper Harley-street, October 27, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—I only waited till to-day, wishing your great meeting of last night might pass over, to send you my tribute to the League in the enclosed draft.*

* £100.

You need no assurance from me how heartily I wish the great cause well. I joined you months ago, from a conviction in my own mind that the League was doing vast service to the country at large; and I feel confident, ere long, all but the selfish few will join in one universal shout of gratitude to those talented, indefatigable men, Messrs. Cobden, Bright, Villiers, Moore, yourself, and many others.

Believe me, dear Sir, yours faithfully and truly,

G. Wilson, Esq. JAMES PATTISON.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have enclosed you the bills of expenses connected with our glorious triumph on the 14th inst.; the registers, &c., ordered by directions from Mr. Cobden, I have this day forwarded by Messrs. Pickford and Co. The 1000 *Gazettes*, with report of the meeting, have been most widely and judiciously circulated, and, I have no doubt, will do much good. It would have been impossible to have distributed them properly without the registers, and they may be of further use. Nothing can exceed the spite of the Bread Taxers in the neighbourhood. The fact of our getting out Earl Fitzwilliam and Mr. Wrightson has made them quite mad. The *poor farmers* are at a loss to know why E. B. Denison and J. S. Wortley, the two Riding members, who were both in the town, did not stand up in their defence; and they were further surprised that none of the noisy land agents, stewards, and others, who profess so much sympathy for the poor dear farmers, had the courage to face the horrid Leaguers. These things beget rather unpleasant surmises in their minds, and many begin to think there must be something wrong, or these pestilent fellows of the League would never be allowed to beard the Pro-Corn-Law squires in their own den. Allow me to congratulate you, and the nation at large, on the splendid victory achieved in the city of London; all thanks to the League for this their last best work. We are all in high spirits, what with our triumph on the 14th inst., and the glorious assertion of our principles in the city of London, makes even the most sceptical begin to think that Free Trade is almost at the door. Dr. Sleigh, who was in Doncaster when Messrs. Cobden and Bright were here—but durst not face them, though he put out a bill to say he would do so in Wakefield, without stating the fact that he had been floored the very night before by Mr. Murray in that town—is to go down to Kendal for the purpose of propping up starvation laws, that he may at least have something like a reason for eating the Duke's bread. May the men of Kendal do like the good citizens of London, and then I think Peel, Graham, and Co. will begin to cast about for new masters.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

JOHN HASTIE.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, October* 28, 1843.

The splendid meeting, on Thursday evening, at Covent-garden Theatre, has affixed the seal upon the electoral triumph of Saturday last, and rendered its true character indisputable. Henceforth no tool of faction can point to that great event and say, "It was the victory of our party—it gave the sanction of the city of London to our political peculiarities." The thousands then assembled, both in their mutual gratulations and in their acceptance of the expressions of sympathy and joy transmitted from Manchester and other places, never failed to keep paramount the important fact that this had been a victory, not of party, but of principle. Its force upon public opinion, upon the Government and Legislature, and upon future elections, cannot be broken by any attempted perversion. There is no excuse for not giving it the full consideration to which it is entitled.

And, assuredly, very serious consideration is due from those who hold the reins of Government, to such a decision in favour of Free-Trade principles, and of their immediate practical application. The influence of the Ministry, vigorously put forth, has been baffled in the contest; but it has not been baffled for the sake of the regular Parliamentary opposition to the Ministry. The defeat of Sir Robert Peel's Government does not bear the stamp of a political defeat. It rests with himself and his Cabinet to render it no defeat at all. He may take it, if he so please, rather as a friendly flap than as a knock-down blow. The verdict was not between a fixed duty and a sliding scale. Still less was it a verdict between Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel, Lord Melbourne and the Duke of Wellington, or my Lord Aberdeen and my Lord Palmerston. Everything of this sort was overridden by the Corn-Law question; or, to put it more broadly, the general question of Free Trade and Monopoly. On this question was the decision which the rulers of the country must not, and can not, overlook. Every way it demands their attention. Especially should they bear in mind that it is no transient effervescence, no untoward but fortuitous occurrence; on the contrary, it was preceded by the most deliberate and earnest discussion that ever before superseded the commonplaces of canvassing persuasion, and is evidently symptomatic of a strong tide of opinion having set in, such as neither Government nor Parliament can stay in its course. There may not be, we can scarcely anticipate that there will be, an unbroken succession of similar returns to Parliament, as vacancies occur in the representation. But some such are pretty sure to follow; and we are much mistaken if the exceptions, should there be exceptions, do not happen under circumstances confirmatory of the fact that Mr. Pattison's election indicates a great and effectual movement in the public mind. To follow, as well as to lead opinion, is the part of a statesman—often his most important and useful function—and often, also, best performed, if not *only* to be performed, by his following *in good time*. Sir Robert Peel will sacrifice himself as a public man, if he allow his monopolist supporters to blind him in this matter, or to overrule his better judgment. Now is his opportunity; *his* tide is at the height before the public demonstration has risen, as it is rising, yet higher. When that happens, his repentance will come too late, either for his own credit or the people's gratitude.

Some persons were, or affected to be shocked at the determination of the League not to recommend any more petitions to Parliament against the Corn Laws. They may learn, by this time, that one mode of appeal has been exchanged for another, of a more efficient description. It is better to send into the House of Commons, for the expression of our wishes, a living representative, than a mute document—a man, than a parchment—a Pattison, than a petition. When the House of Lords was very refractory, Mr. Hume recommended the Whig Ministry to "bombard it with good measures." We have begun to bombard the House of Commons with good members. A few such shots will tell better than huge piles of petitionary wadding. Moreover, they indicate the commencement of a process which no small portion of the nominal representatives of the people on both sides of the House hold in extreme horror—the purification of the constituencies. At the possibility of such a process, they have laughed as the absurdest of chimeras; they will soon begin to "believe and tremble."

Mr. Travers, the able Chairman of Mr. Pattison's Committee, and the stanch friend of all that is true, good, and liberal, in the city of London, took occasion of the meeting at Covent Garden Theatre to send in his subscription of £100 towards the great League Fund. The contribution was well-timed. London has yet to exert itself in its proportionate augmentation of our resources, and will not be heedless of this emphatic suggestion from one of its own best patriots. It is the part of the metropolis not merely to be acted upon, but to act, in this momentous struggle; and its glorious exertions in one way are, we hope, the prelude of similar exertion in another way: thus by "the sinews of war," as well as by the first of victories, sending the common cause on its triumphant progress through the land.

THE BATTLE OF THE LEAGUE.

OCTOBER 21, 1843.

The ranks were set, the ranks were met, and "God defend the right;"
They waited—ay, and waited long—the hour to prove the might
Of Honesty that holds the power a freeman's trust that gave,
As something better than should change *that* freeman into slave.

Their sword, it was the spirit, that searcheth to men's brains;
Their fire, it was the eloquence, that tingles in men's veins;
Their watchword, it was justice—daily labour—daily food;
And their music was the march of the universal good!

No shifty game of war they played—from hour to hour they won;
No need of double term of day, as once at Ajalon.
But ere the sun went down (the sun that gilds the growing corn),
He set a golden seal on the triumph of the morn.

Now, blessings on the chiefs who fought to win so fair a day;
And blessings on the bands they led—no hireling troops were they.
With hands unstained by blood or bribe, they strove (will strive again)
To feed the throats (not *cut* the throats) of starving fellow-men.

Oh! proudly may their colours float unchallenged on the breeze;
They chronicle no shattered fleet, but o'er the peaceful seas
They bid the ripened treasure, that shall feed the hungry, come
Free, as the untax'd winds of Heav'n that waft it fleetly home.

Down, Trafalgar! down, down, thy front low in the ocean steep;
Wash out the blood that stains thee, in oblivion in the deep;
For the *Battle of the League*, our nobler memory shall be
Of OCTOBER THE TWENTY-FIRST—eighteen hundred, forty-three.

REVIEW.

History of the Conquest of Mexico. By W. H. Prescott, Esq. London: Bentley.

Spain, during the sixteenth and the greater part of the seventeenth century, was the most powerful and prosperous monarchy which the world had ever seen. In our days it is a land sunk in imbecility and wretchedness; its population has decreased, its wealth has disappeared, it is despised abroad and distracted at home. This mighty ruin has been accomplished by a rapacious aristocracy, aided by a multiplicity of sordid monopolies;—in no country did the policy of mutual robbery, dignified by the name of mutual protection, flourish more extensively;—in no country did vested interests exercise a greater sway: and hence, there is no country whose history possesses more importance to a commercial nation, not dissimilarly circumstanced, than that of the Spanish monarchy. Who, in the palmy days of the second, the third, or even the fourth Philip—when the sovereigns of Spain, like our own Queen, could boast that the sun never set on their dominions—could have believed that their prosperity was as a stately tree already cankered at the root, exhausted of its sap and stricken in its vitality? To few statesmen is given the power of reading the handwriting on the wall, else, in the monopolies which flourished around, the rulers of Spain would have seen the decree of impending destruction traced in as distinct characters as those which Daniel interpreted to the guilty Belshazzar.

Lord Plunket said that the late Baron Foster treated history like an old almanac: there are those amongst us who treat the recorded warnings of example with even less attention. The history of every aristocracy in the world is just a repetition of the fable of the "Clown, and the Goose that laid golden eggs:"—in their avaricious eagerness to transfer to their own pockets the profits of the people's industry, the nobles of Spain exhausted the capital by which labour was supported, and sunk down to the rank of titled paupers in an impoverished nation. Such, too, would be the fate of England if the lords of monopoly were allowed to hold their course unchecked. The Anti-Corn-Law League is the most truly conservative body in the empire; had the Leaguers abandoned the field to the speculators in famine, the gamblers in national distress, and the feeders on public misery, England's downward progress to the miserable condition of Spain would have been as inevitable as if the hand of Destiny had already inscribed the fatal *Ichabod* on its warehouses and its palaces.

It is impossible to escape from such reflections when opening the history of those great events which gave to Spain unrivalled opportunities of achieving commercial greatness, such as this world has never witnessed; the opportunities were fatally and foully abused, the means of glory became the source of infamy, and the name of a land which might have commanded the homage of countless millions was converted into "a desolation, and an astonishment, and a hissing, and a curse." Such has been the most signal achievement of monopoly, and yet there are to be found in mercantile and civilized England men who support the cause of monopoly—men who display a fanaticism more irrational than that of the followers of Juggernaut, and prostrate themselves before the idol, willing to be crushed to pieces under the iron wheels of its ponderous chariot. Posterity will scarcely receive the fact; our children will not believe that their fathers could have exhibited such a picture of deplorable absurdity. They will compare the measure of the monopolist classes with the wealth, the intelligence, and the virtue of the classes that sought the emancipation of industry; and they will declare it utterly impossible that an enlightened community could have been bribed by paupers, bullied by cowards, and duped by idiots.

We boast justly of the skill, the energy, and the unconquerable spirit of our countrymen, and seem to claim for our race the everlasting inheritance of such qualifications; but Spain, in her proud days of eminence, could also boast of daring spirits, whom no difficulties could daunt, of a flag, that "braved the battle and the breeze," and she could with truth assert:—

> "Her march was o'er the mountain wave,
> Her home was on the deep."

But the memory of past glory serves only to aggravate the bitterness of her fall; and we cannot read the triumphs of former greatness without feeling that present misery "points the moral" but does not "adorn the tale."

The volumes before us belong to that rare class of histories on which Thucydides bestowed the name of "treasures for eternity." Mr. Prescott is an enlightened statesman, a sound scholar, and a most laborious student. He shrinks from no toil in investigation, and his powerful mind grasps the results of his research with a vigour and tenacity unequalled by any living writer. His style, occasionally ornate, is peculiarly rich in that thoughtful strength which bespeaks complete mastery of his subject; he

is one of the most successful of those writers who endeavour to combine the development of social science with the narration of historical events; and the volumes before us present the rare union of the deepest interest of exciting romance with the intellectual value of a philosophical treatise.

In the annals of the human race there is no event more striking to the imagination than the conquest of Mexico. The subversion of a great and civilized empire by a handful of adventurers—taken with all its strange and picturesque accompaniments—has more the air of a romantic fiction than sober history; few persons are aware of the high state of civilization to which the ancient Mexicans had attained, and consequently few can justly appreciate the difficulties which the Spaniards had to encounter in effecting their subjugation. We shall just direct attention to their judicial system:—

"No counsel was employed; the parties stated their own case, and supported it by their witnesses. The oath of the accused was also admitted in evidence. The statement of the case, the testimony, and the proceedings of the trial, were all set forth by a clerk, in hieroglyphical paintings, and handed over to the court. The paintings were executed with so much accuracy that, in all suits respecting real property, they were allowed to be produced as good authority in the Spanish tribunals very long after the conquest; and a chair for their study and interpretation was established at Mexico in 1553, which has long since shared the fate of most other provisions for learning in that unfortunate country.

"A capital sentence was indicated by a line traced with an arrow across the portrait of the accused. In Tezcuco, where the king presided in the court, this, according to the national chronicler, was done with extraordinary parade. His description, which is of rather a poetical cast, I give in his own words:—'In the royal palace of Tezcuco was a courtyard, on the opposite sides of which were two halls of justice. In the principal one, called the 'tribunal of God,' was a throne of pure gold, inlaid with turquoises and other precious stones. On a stool, in front, was placed a human skull, crowned with an immense emerald, of a pyramidal form, and surmounted by an aigrette of brilliant plumes and precious stones. The skull was laid on a heap of military weapons, shields, quivers, bows, and arrows. The walls were hung with tapestry, made of the hair of different wild animals, of rich and various colours, festooned by gold rings, and embroidered with figures of birds and flowers. Above the throne was a canopy of variegated plumage, from the centre of which shot forth resplendent rays of gold and jewels. The other tribunal, called 'the King's,' was also surmounted by a gorgeous canopy of feathers, on which were emblazoned the royal arms. Here the sovereign gave public audience, and communicated his despatches. But, when he decided important causes, or confirmed a capital sentence, he passed to 'the tribunal of God,' attended by the fourteen great lords of the realm, marshalled according to their rank. Then, putting on his mitred crown, incrusted with precious stones, and holding a golden arrow, by way of sceptre, in his left hand, he laid his right upon the skull, and pronounced judgment.'"

The Aztecs, who were the predominant race in Mexico when Europeans first landed in their country, had obtained their ascendency by military prowess, and, like the Norman chivalry of England, they made the profession of arms the great object of all their institutions, whether connected with private discipline or public reward.

"In Mexico, as in Egypt, the soldier shared with the priest the highest consideration. The king, as we have seen, must be an experienced warrior. The tutelary deity of the Aztecs was the god of war. A great object of their military expeditions was to gather hecatombs of captives for his altars. The soldier who fell in battle was transported at once to the region of ineffable bliss in the bright mansions of the sun. Every war, therefore, became a crusade; and the warrior, animated by a religious enthusiasm, like that of the early Saracen or the Christian crusader, was not only raised to a contempt of danger, but courted it, for the imperishable crown of martyrdom."

But highest amongst their military merits must be placed an institution unknown to the classical ages of Europe, and but slowly introduced even under the benign influence of Christianity. The Aztecs established hospitals in the principal cities for the cure of the sick, and the permanent refuge of the disabled soldiers; surgeons were placed over them, "who were so far better than those of Europe," says an ancient chronicler, "that they did not protract the cure in order to increase the pay."

Thus far the Aztecs might fairly challenge comparison with our Saxon ancestors in the days of Alfred; but, unfortunately, about two hundred years before the arrival of Europeans in their country they adopted the practice of human sacrifices at the instigation of their priests, and this cruel superstition became equally the source of sacerdotal power and of national degradation:—

"The influence of these practices on the Aztec character was as disastrous as might have been expected. Familiarity with the bloody rites of sacrifice steeled the heart against human sympathy, and begat a thirst for carnage, like that excited in the Romans by the exhibitions of the circus. The perpetual recurrence of ceremonies, in which the people took part, associated religion with their most intimate concerns, and spread the gloom of superstition over the domestic hearth, until the character of the nation wore a grave and even melancholy aspect, which belongs to their descendants at the present day. The influence of the priesthood, of course, became unbounded. The sovereign thought himself honoured by being permitted to assist in the services of the temple. Far from limiting the authority of the priests to spiritual matters, he often surrendered his opinion to theirs, where they were least competent to give it. It was their opposition that prevented the final capitulation which would have saved the capital. The whole nation, from the peasant to the prince, bowed their necks to the worst kind of tyranny—that of a blind fanaticism."

An element of civilization, however, existed, by which the demoralizing effects of this cruel superstition would probably have been counteracted, and the practice of human sacrifice destroyed in Mexico, as it had been in Tyre and Carthage, by the ameliorating influence of commerce, had not the Spanish conquest checked the free career of Mexican civilization:—

"There did not exist in Mexico that distinction of castes found among the Egyptian and Asiatic nations. It was usual, however, for the son to follow the occupation of his father. The different trades were arranged into something like guilds, having each a particular district of the city appropriated to it, with its own chief, its own tutelar deity, its peculiar festivals, and the like. Trade was held in avowed estimation by the Aztecs. 'Apply thyself, my son,' was the advice of an aged chief, 'to agriculture, or to feather-work, or some other honourable calling. Thus did your ancestors before you. Else, how would they have provided for themselves and their families? Never was it heard that nobility alone was able to maintain its possessor.' Shrewd maxims, that must have sounded somewhat strange in the ear of a Spanish hidalgo!

"But the occupation peculiarly respected was that of the merchant. It formed so important and singular a feature of their social economy, as to merit a much more particular notice than it has received from historians. The Aztec merchant was a sort of itinerant trader, who made his journeys to the remotest borders of Anahuac, and to the countries beyond, carrying with him merchandise of rich stuffs, jewellery, slaves, and other valuable commodities."

And here we may remark that slave-dealing is very unfairly made the subject of reproach to commerce. Slavery began with war, which has always been the greatest foe to commerce; slavery has been perpetuated by systems more or less identical with feudalism, which in all its forms is the most inveterate enemy of Free Trade. It was the middle and commercial class in Britain which put an end to the infamous slave-trade, in spite of the opposition of all the monopolist classes bound together by their mutual interests in the perpetuation of wrong; and it was the same class that put an end to slavery in the West Indies, in spite of the aristocracy of Mincing-lane and its allies in higher quarters. The Aztec merchants traded in slaves not so much of their own accord as to comply with the behests of the Aztec priesthood and the injunctions of the Aztec nobility.

Cortés, the conqueror of the extraordinary race we have described, was a young adventurer, who had come to Cuba to seek a fortune in the New World, which the enterprise of Columbus had opened to the Spaniards. Intelligence of the wealth and power of Mexico had reached Cuba at the time of his arrival, and Velasquez, the governor of the island, had fitted out an armament to explore its coast, and open commercial communications with its civilized inhabitants. Velasquez and Cortés had been bitter enemies, but they had been reconciled just as the armament was ready; and, at the instigation of his council, the governor gave the command of the expedition to Cortés.

"The importance given to Cortés by his new position, and, perhaps, a somewhat more lofty bearing, gradually gave uneasiness to the naturally suspicious temper of Velasquez, who became apprehensive that his officer, when away where he would have the power, might also have the inclination to throw off his dependence on him altogether. An accidental circumstance at this time heightened these suspicions. A mad fellow, his jester, one of those crack-brained wits,—half wit, half fool,—who formed in those days a common appendage to every great man's establishment, called out to the governor, as he was taking his usual walk one morning with Cortés towards the port, 'Have a care, master Velasquez, or we shall have to go a hunting, some day or other, after this same captain of ours!' 'Do you hear what the rogue says?' exclaimed the governor to his companion. 'Do not heed him,' said Cortés; 'he is a saucy knave, and deserves a good whipping.' The words sunk deep, however, in the mind of Velasquez—as, indeed, true jests are apt to stick."

It is confessed on all hands that Cortés did not visit Yucatan with hostile intentions; the war was commenced by the natives, who, most probably, had been alarmed by accounts of the cruelties which the Spaniards had exercised in the West Indies. His first great battle was fought in the plains of Ceutla, and we extract the description of it as a fair specimen of Mr. Prescott's spirited style of narrative, not less than as an illustration of the military science and prowess of Cortés.

"At the first glimmering of light he mustered his army, and declared his purpose not to abide, cooped up in the town, the assault of the enemy, but to march at once against him. For he well knew that the spirits rise with action, and that the attacking party gathers a confidence from the very movement, which is not felt by the one who is passively, perhaps anxiously, awaiting the assault. The Indians were understood to be encamped on a level ground a few miles distant from the city, called the plain of Ceutla. The general commanded that Ordaz should march with the foot, including the artillery, directly across the country, and attack them in front, while he himself would fetch a circuit with the horse, and turn their flank when thus engaged, or fall upon their rear.

"These dispositions being completed, the little army heard mass, and then sallied forth from the wooden walls of Tabasco. It was Lady-day, the twenty-fifth of March,—long memorable in the annals of New Spain. The district around the town was chequered with patches of maize, and, on the lower level, with plantations of cacao,—supplying the beverage, and perhaps the coin of the country, as in Mexico. These plantations, requiring constant irrigation, were fed by numerous canals and reservoirs of water, so that the country could not be traversed without great toil and difficulty. It was, however, intersected by a narrow path or causeway, over which the cannon could be dragged.

"The troops advanced more than a league on their laborious march, without descrying the enemy. The weather was sultry, but few of them were embarrassed by the heavy mail worn by the European cavaliers at that period. Their cotton jackets, thickly quilted, afforded a tolerable protection against the arrows of the Indian, and allowed room for the freedom and activity of movement essential to a life of rambling adventure in the wilderness.

"At length they came in sight of the broad plains of Ceutla, and beheld the dusky lines of the enemy stretching, as far as the eye could reach, along the edge of the horizon. The Indians had shown some sagacity in the choice of their position; and, as the weary Spaniards came slowly on, floundering through the morass, the Tabascans set up their hideous battle-cries, and discharged volleys of arrows, stones, and other missiles, which rattled like hail on the shield and helmets of the assailants. Many were severely wounded before they could gain the firm ground, where they soon cleared a space for themselves, and opened a heavy fire of artillery and musketry on the dense columns of the enemy, which presented a fatal mark for the balls. Numbers were swept down at every discharge; but the bold barbarians, far from being dismayed, threw up dust and leaves to hide their losses, and sounding their war instruments, shot off fresh flights of arrows in return.

"They even pressed closer on the Spaniards, and when driven off by a vigorous charge, soon turned again, and, rolling back like the waves of the ocean, seemed ready to overwhelm the little band by weight of numbers. Thus cramped, the latter had scarcely room to perform their necessary evolutions, or even to work their guns with effect.

"The engagement had now lasted more than an hour, and the Spaniards, sorely pressed, looked with great anxiety for the arrival of the horse,—which some unaccountable impediments must have detained, to relieve them from their perilous position. At this crisis, the furthest columns of the Indian army were seen to be agitated and thrown into a disorder that rapidly spread through the whole mass. It was not long before the ears of the Christians were saluted with the cheering war-cry, of "San Jago and San Pedro," and they beheld the bright helmets and swords of the Castilian chivalry flashing back the rays of the morning sun, as they dashed through the ranks of the enemy, striking to the right and left, and scattering dismay around them. The eye of faith, indeed, could discern the patron Saint of Spain, himself mounted on his grey war-horse, heading the rescue and trampling over the bodies of the fallen infidels?

"The approach of Cortés had been greatly retarded by the broken nature of the ground. When he came up, the Indians were so hotly engaged, that he was upon them before they observed his approach. He ordered his men to direct their lances at the faces of their opponents, who, terrified at the monstrous apparition—for they supposed the rider and the horse, which they had never before seen, to be one and the same, were seized with a panic. Ordaz availed himself of it to command a general charge along the line, and the Indians, many of them throwing away their arms, fled without attempting further resistance."

Here we shall pause for this week; the conquest of Mexico is of too great importance not to require an article to itself. We have brought the victor only to the threshold of his enterprise, and we shall early return to the consideration of his brilliant career.

A Monopolist on Leases.—"An expenditure of money" (observes the *Standard*), "a large expenditure of money, is necessary to successful farming; but men will always look for a guarantee *in proportion to the outlay*. A man who expects to hold his land but for a year, or to hold it only on such conditions as may terminate his tenure at the year's end—he will expend so much only as he may hope to reimburse himself by a year's crop; for all expended beyond that would (might) be thrown away; but such an expenditure plainly could not permanently improve the soil; so of *three* years, *seven* years, or any other short term. The farmer, *how rich soever he may be, will proportion his expenditure to his interest in the land.* But let a man be assured that a farm will remain to him and his posterity, and he will cast in his whole lot with it; and, if he be rich and skilful, will cultivate it to the highest point to which the constantly improving state of agricultural science can direct him. Such is the importance *to the whole nation* of the tenant's guarantee."

["A Solomon come to judgment!" Like its patron, Peel, the journalist afterwards tries to show that "mutual confidence" between landlord and tenant may form a substitute for a lease. But in fact it never does form that substitute, and never can.]

A Royal Pattern.—A pattern for crowned heads, in the noble speech of the Emperor of Austria on declining the compliment of a statue offered to him by the inhabitants of Buda:—"When I shall have been successful in my attempts to level all those prejudices which stop the progress of human reason; when every individual shall join in a common effort to contribute to the security and welfare of the monarchy; when I shall perceive equity and good order presiding over the courts of justice; knowledge increased by the perfection of the means of acquiring it; the common people better informed; the clergy more regular in their discipline, and a solid harmony established between the civil laws and the holy precepts of our religion; when population is enlarged; husbandry improved; industry properly encouraged; when *manufactures* are brought to consummate perfection, and their produce bringing in quick and safe returns; when, in fine, a free and unbounded circulation, pervading all the provinces, shall have opened a wealthy source of true ease and riches—as *I wish* and *hope to* see in our day—then perhaps shall I deserve a statue.—Vienna, June 23, 1784.—(Signed) Joseph."

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Oct. 21	Mon. Oct. 23	Tues. Oct. 24	Wed. Oct. 25	Thurs. Oct. 26	Fri. Oct. 27
Bank Stock	180¼	180¼	179¾	180	180	179½
3 per Cent. Cons.	96	96	96¾	95½	96½	95½
New 3½ per Cent.	102¾	102¾	102¾	102¾	102¾	102¾
Long Annuities	12 7-16	12 7-16	12 7-16	12½	12 7-16	12½
3½ the New Ann.	—	—	—	—	94	—
India Bonds	—	69 72	69	71 74	71 74	73
India Stock	—	270	270½	270	—	—
Exchequer Bills	67 64	63 66	62 64	62 66	66 64	66
Consols for Acc.	96½	96½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Brazilian	—	—	73	73	—	—
Mexican	30½	30¾	31	31	30½	—
Portuguese, conv.	43	43½	43¾	43¾	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	28½	29¾	30	30	30½	30¾
Chilian 3 p. Ct. df.	—	46	—	—	47 46	—
Russian	—	—	—	—	116½	—
Dutch	54½	54½	54½	—	54½	54
Columb. 6 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	11½
Austrian, 5 p. Cent.	116½	—	—	—	—	—
Peruvian	—	—	—	21½	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Monday, Oct. 23.—The supply of English Wheat to this morning's market was small, and the condition improved; it was readily cleared off at 1s. to 2s. more than this day week. There was a rather better demand for free Foreign Wheat at last week's prices. The supply of Barley was small; 1s. more than last Monday was readily obtained for the finest Malting samples, and other descriptions fully maintained their previous value. Old Beans continue very scarce, and were 1s. to 2s. dearer. New Beans and White Boiling Peas brought rather better prices than last week. In Grey and Maple Peas there was no alteration. The supply of Oats during last week was moderate, but about twenty vessels arrived in time for this day's market. There was a steady sale, chiefly to country buyers, at 6d. advance from last Monday.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. Lucas and Son.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 16th to the 21st of October, 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	9429	4723	410	1117	1978
Scotch	79	60	946	—	—
Irish	314	—	12826	—	—
Foreign	11805	1440	828	—	21

Flour, 9855 sacks. Malt, 7717 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed	21s — 23s
——, Distilling	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato	23s — 26s
——, Grinding	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers	34s — 36s		

Mark-lane, Friday, Oct. 27.—Since Monday the supply of English Wheat has been moderate, and the prices of that day are fully maintained. Free Foreign Wheat is held with great firmness, but there is not much activity in the trade. The arrivals of Barley are scanty, and Monday's rates are readily obtained. There is a little improvement in the value of Egyptian Beans; what few Old English are on sale bring high prices. We are pretty well supplied with Irish Oats, but very moderately with English or Scotch. The demand has been quite sufficient to maintain Monday's prices: the attempt to obtain a little advance to-day induces the buyers to purchase sparingly. There is no alteration in the duties this week.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. Lucas and Son.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 21st to the 27th of October, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	3320	—	1280
Barley	1480	—	1060
Oats	1060	23010	680

Flour 4110 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED October 21, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Average	120,634	50 1	47,931	30 4	48,608	17 0	6200	30 5
Aggregate Averages	..	50 2		30 7		18 0		30 6
Duty	..	20 0		8 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, October 24.

BANKRUPTS.

T. WRIGHT, Blackmore-street, Clare-market, cheesemonger. [Morgan, Old Jewry.

T. DONKIN, Sidney-street, Cambridge, victualler. [Clark and Davidson, Essex-street, Strand.

W. B. GOUGH, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, grocer. [Sutton, Ewens, and Ommaney, Basinghall-street.

M. HARRIS, Swansea, Glamorganshire, draper. [Brittain and Son, Bristol; White and Co., Bedford-row, London.

J. BAINS, South Shields, Durham, grocer. [Keenlyside and Harle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Wilson, South Shields; Hodson, Broad-street-buildings, London.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 16, H. S. Winter, Regent-street, milliner—Nov. 16, J. Padcock, Shrivenham, Berks, grocer—Nov. 16, A. Lafargue, Great St. Helen's, merchant—Nov. 16, A. Phillips and J. Phillips, Whitechapel-road, window glass cutters—Nov. 14, T. Hobson, Carlisle, mercer—Nov. 15, G. Allison, Darlington, Durham, shipowner—Nov. 21, G. Harriot, Ormskirk, Lancashire, brewer—Nov. 21, Henry Buggein, Prestayn, Flintshire, alkali manufacturer—Nov. 16, T. Bourne, Liverpool, cotton broker—Nov. 15, T. Parry, Mold, Flintshire, draper.

CERTIFICATES.

Nov. 14, H. H. Hoskins, John-street, Bedford-row, lodging house keeper—Nov. 16, E. H. Foster, Hathern, Leicestershire, tanner—Nov. 14, W. Blanks, Rochford, Essex, draper—Nov. 15, J. Mease, Hutton, Yorkshire, flax spinner—Nov. 14, G. Allison, Darlington, Durham, scrivener.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. CARNIE, Dundee, glazier—W. CAMPBELL, Greenock, gunmaker—J. ANDERSON, Paisley, banker—G. and J. OUGHTERSON and CO., Greenock, merchants—W. THORBURN and SONS, Leith, merchants.

FRIDAY, Oct. 27.

Crown-Office, Oct. 25.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

City of London.—James Pattison, Esq., Citizen of London, and of 37, Upper Harley-street, in the room of Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., deceased.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. ALLEN, Alfreton, Derbyshire, innkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.

E. FLORANCE, jun., Subdeanry, Sussex, potato dealer. [Staniland and Long, Bouverie-street.

J. B. L. FARRANT, Maidstone, machine maker. [Palmer and Co., Bedford-row.

W. B. GASKELL, Birmingham, draper. [Milne, Parry, Milne, and Morris, Temple, London; Crossley, and Sudlow, Manchester.

R. YOUD and W. RENNARDS, Liverpool, cheese factors. [Cornthwaite, Liverpool; Cornthwaite and Adams, Dean's-court, Doctors'-commons, London.

Return of Bank-Note Circulation from last Night's *Gazette*.—Return of the average circulation of Bank-notes throughout the United Kingdom, and the average amount of Bullion in the Bank of England, during the four weeks ending Oct. 14, 1843.

ENGLAND.	
Bank of England	£19,024,000
Private Banks	4,721,199
Joint Stock Banks	3,130,002
SCOTLAND.	
Chartered and Private Joint Stock Banks	2,762,353
IRELAND.	
Bank of Ireland	3,232,575
Private and Joint Stock Banks	2,059,845
Total	£34,928,884
Bullion in the Bank of England	£12,086,000

Henry L. Wickham.

Stamps and Taxes, Oct. 27, 1843.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Oct. 24, 1843, is 38s. 5d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

FURNITURE Bought to any amount, in Town or Country, and no charge for attendance within twenty miles.—J. F. HASKEW and CO. beg to inform the Nobility and Gentry, that they purchase any quantity or description of Furniture, Paintings, Plate, Pianofortes, or the clearing of large Houses, for which the highest price, and ready money, will be immediately given, by applying personally from ten to four, or by letters, to Messrs. Haskew, at their Offices, 14, Berners-street, Oxford-street.

H. WALKER'S NEEDLES (by authority the Queen's Own), in the illustrated Chinese boxes, are now in course of delivery to the trade. The needles have large eyes, easily threaded (even by blind persons), and improved points, temper, and finish. Each paper is labelled with a likeness of her Majesty or his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in relief, on coloured grounds. Every quality of needles, fish-hooks, hooks and eyes, steel pens, &c., for shipping. These needles or pens for the home trade are sent free, by post, by any respectable dealer, on receipt of thirteen penny stamps for every shilling value.—H. Walker, manufacturer to the Queen, 20, Maiden-lane, Wood-street, London.

GOLD.—Yellow, Glittering, Precious Gold.—The GOLD REVIVING PARISIAN DETERGENTS are now sold, wholesale and retail, by SMITH and Co., special agents, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand. The operation of these celebrated preparations upon all gilt and lacquered surfaces is instant, magical, lasting; the application simple—the cost a few pence. The Lamp Detergent renders the insides of oil lamps as clean as when new. Price for gold, 2s. 6d.; lacquer, 1s. 6d.; lamp, 1s. 4d. per bottle. Each bottle sufficient for several articles. Thus a valuable picture frame and the inside and outside of an expensive lamp may be had new for less than one shilling. Sold also by Deanes, London-bridge.

PERFECTION and ECONOMY of LIGHT.—SMITH'S highly-purified LAMP OIL, 4s. 6d. per gallon, gives a stronger light than Sperm, and does not consume so rapidly. This saving, with the difference of price, is more than 50 per cent. Smith's Lamp Wicks, made of pure long-fibre cotton, possess great power of supporting combustion, and, by their extraordinary capillary action, keep up a full and constant supply of oil to the flame. The Patent Oxydator is now only 2s., and no lamp glass can be broken, nor smoke evolved, when it is used; these three united produce the perfection of light. Fire-proof chimneys, 6d. each.—Central Depôt, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand.—N.B. One gallon of oil forwarded, as sample, to any place within five miles, and one dozen of the improved wicks sent therewith gratis.

THE SEASON is approaching when a GOOD LIGHT will be essential to comfort. By great improvements in the construction of LAMPS, by the highest purification of lamp oil, and by a remarkably pure and long-fibre lamp-wick, Smith and Co. are enabled to offer the great desideratum of a good light at about half the usual cost of sperm oil, and without most of the usual objections to an oil light. Highly rectified oil, 4s. 6d. per gallon (this oil gives a stronger light than sperm, and does not consume so rapidly); finest solar oil, 3s. 6d. per gallon; improved lamps for every purpose at wholesale prices.—N.B. Lamps relacquered, repaired, and adapted to the new principle at a very trifling charge.—Central Depôt, opposite Norfolk-street, Strand, where the celebrated Parisian Detergents may now be obtained wholesale and retail, by special appointment. Gold, 2s. 6d.; Lacquer, 1s. 6d.; Lamp, 1s. 4d. per bottle.

ORNAMENTAL STOVES.—JEREMIAH EVANS and Company respectfully invite the attention of Noblemen and Gentlemen furnishing or refitting their mansions to the most extensive and varied Stock of DRAWING-ROOM and other STOVES in the kingdom, which combine many recent improvements, producing great heat with small consumption of fuel, and are manufactured of every description of pattern, including the Gothic, Grecian, French, and Elizabethan; also fenders and fireirons en suite. Improved Kitchen Ranges, with or without steam apparatus. Hot and Cold Baths of all descriptions, and every requisite in furnishing ironmongery, at wholesale prices. Improved Hot-water Apparatus for warming buildings, conservatories, &c.—Manufactory and Show-rooms, 33, King William-street, London-bridge. Established in 1815.

BRONZED FENDERS.—R. WILLIAMS is now SELLING his BRONZED FENDERS and FIRE IRONS at unprecedented low prices. Bronzed Fenders, from 6s.; ditto with Steel Spears and Rests for Fire Irons, from 18s. Bright Steel, with Bronze or Ormolu Mountings, of superior make and appearance; also a great variety of Cast-iron Kitchen and Green Fenders. Fire Irons of good quality, for bedrooms, at 2s. the set; ditto of Polished Steel, with cut heads, at 6s. 6d.; ditto, with superior Bronze heads, at 13s. 6d. A great variety of elegant Fire Irons. Very superior Tea and Coffee Urns, Papier Maché and every other kind of Tea Trays, Knives and Forks, Japanned Tin, and all goods necessary for furnishing, considerably below any other house, at R. WILLIAMS'S "Original Little Dust-Pan," 174, HIGH HOLBORN.

BOOTS and SHOES for the MILLION, at the Devonshire Shoe Mart, 18, Skinner-street, Snow-hill.—Best Wellingtons, 12s. 6d. and 18s. 6d.; Clarence, or Cloth Boots, 9s. 6d.; Bluchers, Light or Stout, 5s. 6d., 6s. 6d., and 7s. 6d.; Oxonian Shoes, 7s., and 7s. 6d.; Calf Shoes, 5s. 6d.; Dress Shoes, or Pumps, 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 6d. per pair. Keep your eyes open, and recollect the number 18, nearly opposite St. Sepulchre's Church, for there is more deception practised among the improvers of the understanding in Skinner-street and neighbourhood than any other part of London. Approving customers will please to recommend their friends to Joel Hearder, Proprietor.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—FREE TRADE, AND NOTHING BUT FREE TRADE.—FOREIGN COMPETITION IS DEFIED by the Proprietors of the CITY BOOT and SHOE DEPOT, 17, St. Martin's-le-Grand, opposite the General Post-office, by the extraordinary lowness of the prices at which the best English, and mostly London, made Boots and Shoes are now selling at this immense sale; and, let what will come, the Proprietors will ever STAND by the ENGLISH, SCOTCH, and IRISH WORKMEN, by selling their work at the least possible profit, thereby keeping French and other foreign shoes out of the market. Let the public STAND TRUE TO US, and we will STAND TRUE TO THEM. The public shall then have the best Boots and Shoes lower than at any warehouse in London. Shopkeepers will save 20 per cent. by buying at this sale.—City Boot and Shoe Depôt, 17, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

CRAWFORD'S MARSALA WINE.—Crawford and Co. beg to inform the public that they continue as heretofore to pay particular attention to the selection of this wine, and from the large business they do they are enabled to supply a more superior article to most houses in the trade, as many of their customers for the last twelve or fourteen years can testify. Cash price—quarter cask, £12; or per the dozen, 24s.; or the finest old wine, £13 the quarter cask, or 27s. per dozen. Crawford and Co. have always on hand a most superior stock (of the finest vintages) of Port wines, Sherries, and Madeiras, at 30s., 36s., and 42s. per dozen, according to quality and age. Also all other foreign wines in general demand equally cheap for ready cash, without discount. Bottles to be charged extra 2s. per dozen, and hampers 1s. per dozen. Country orders forwarded with care and punctually on receipt of a remittance or reference in London.—Crawford and Co., 129, Regent-street.

ANTI-MONOPOLY COAL COMPANY, OFFICE, 9, CHARING-CROSS, (Opposite Messrs. Drummond's, Bankers.) J. GHAGAN, late Manager and Agent to

W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.	G. Pryme, Esq., M.P.
A. T. Holroyd, Esq.	G. Rennie, Jun., Esq.
J. T. Leader, Esq., M.P.	R. W. Rothman, Esq.
D. Lewis, Esq.	Sir Henry Webb, Bart.

Removed from No. 31, to No. 9, CHARING-CROSS, in consequence of all the original promoters having retired from that Company.

Genuine UNMIXED COALS are supplied at the following prices, for READY MONEY ONLY.

Newcastle W. E., 20s.; Ditto, 24s. 6d.; Bewicke W. E., 26s. small, 12s.; Stewart's W. E., Hetton's W. E., and Hartlepoo W. E., 27s.; Coke, 19s.

GENTLEMEN'S SUPERIOR CLOTHING, at prices much lower than any respectable house in the trade has hitherto offered to the public, where cut and quality, the true test of real economy, are considered. J. ALBERT and CO., Tailors, established upwards of 26 years, respectfully invite families and gentlemen to an early inspection of an extensive and fashionable stock of entirely new articles for gentlemen's and youths' outer garments for the approaching season, made to order in a superior style, at prices not quite so astonishingly low as those by which the town is at present inundated by bills and pamphlets from hosiers and slopsellers, to delude the public with slovenly made-up rubbish called garments, but much cheaper in the end, by the satisfaction given in the wear. Every description of the most recent improved waterproof coats, in every shape and quality; shooting and fishing coats, waistcoats and trousers, in endless variety; uniforms, liveries, &c. Families waited upon, by addressing a line per post, 52, King William-street, City.

MACINTOSHES SUPERSEDED.—Important to all classes exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather. The NEW BRITISH WATERPROOFING COMPANY render goods of every fabric, either in the piece or made-up garments, thoroughly impervious to the most drenching rains, and yet the escape of perspiration remains unimpeded. Books of Testimonials, with list of prices, may be had gratis at their offices, 15, Skinner-street, Snow-hill (late 343, Strand).

TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 23, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. Rowan."

N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

WATCHES by WEBSTER and SON, Chronometer-makers to the Lords of the Admiralty, established 133 years.—W. and Son have REMOVED to 74, Cornhill, where the advantages of the premises will enable them personally to superintend their workmen. An extensive stock, finished with the utmost care, and at the lowest possible prices consistent with maintaining that reputation supported during so many years for the finest works, consisting of compensated duplex and lever watches, on the principle of their chronometers, to which Government awarded the prizes three years in succession; the detached lever and horizontal watches for ladies, of the smallest and most elegant patterns; marine and pocket chronometers, with long and accurate rates; also a large selection of second-hand chronometers and watches by the most eminent makers. Superior workmen are employed on the premises in the repairing department for English and foreign work.—Webster and Son, 74, Cornhill.

COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET, &c.
Wellington-street, Strand, London.

HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes, for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

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RELIEF from TORMENT.—LEFAY'S GRANDE POMMADE cures, in most cases, by one application, tic-douloureux, gout, and all painful affections of the nerves, giving instant relief in the most painful paroxysms. Patients who had for years drawn on a miserable existence, and many who had lost the use of their limbs from weakness, brought on by paralysis and rheumatism, to the astonishment of their medical attendants and acquaintance, have by a few rubbings been restored to strength and comfort, after electricity, galvanism, blistering, veratrine, colchicum, and all the usual remedies had been tried and found useless. Its surprising effects have also been experienced in its rapid cure of rheumatic pains of the head and face, paralytic affections, weakness of the ligaments and joints, glandular swellings, sore throat, chronic rheumatism, palpitation of the heart, and difficult respiration. It requires no restraint from business or pleasure, nor does it cause any eruption, and may be applied to the most delicate skin without fear of injury. Sold by the appointment of Jean Lefay, the inventor, by his sole agent, J. W. Stirling, chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in metallic cases, at 4s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. each.—N.B. A Post-office order for 5s. will pay for a 4s. 6d. case and its carriage to any part of the United Kingdom.

STIRLING'S PILL FOR HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.—Sir William's Advice.—It is well known that the late Sir William Blizard paid the highest deference to the efficacious merits of STIRLING'S STOMACH PILLS, and earnestly recommended that no family whatever should be without them; for, said he, in all cases of sudden illness, they could be at once safely administered to the sufferer, who, perhaps before medical assistance could arrive, might be carried off, or placed in imminent danger. Stirling's Stomach Pills have, in all cases, proved superior to every other medicine in the cure of stomach and liver complaints, loss of appetite, indigestion, gout, sensation of fulness and oppression after meals, shortness of breath, and an excellent restorative after any excess at the table, as they gently cleanse the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and invigorate the constitution. Females, who value good health, should never be without them, as they purify the blood, remove obstructions, sallowness, pimples, &c., and give the skin a beautiful, clear, healthy, and blooming appearance. Persons of a plethoric habit, who are subject to headache, giddiness, dimness of sight, drowsiness, attended with apoplectic symptoms, should take them frequently. They may be safely administered to children and persons of all ages, as they contain no mercury, nor any ingredient that requires confinement, or restriction of diet.

Prepared only by J. W. Stirling, Chemist, 86, High-street, Whitechapel, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and may be had of all respectable medicine venders.

FACTS which concern the whole Human Race.—First. Disease, in all its varied forms, is but a chain of many links—thus establishing the principle of "An Unity of Disease."

Second. The forms it assumes is governed by the peculiarities of the patient's constitution.

Third. A Medicine, to be really useful, should be one calculated to render to Nature just that assistance she requires in her efforts to expel disease.

Fourth. A Medicine suited to this purpose, must be as digestible as our common food, that the whole system may become impregnated therewith.

Fifth. To be digestible it must be entirely free in its composition from all minerals.

Sixth. It is notorious that nearly the whole of the medicines generally in use are either wholly or in part composed of mercury, in some shape or other, however much disguised.

The foregoing facts are important, and happily a medicine has been discovered suited to all the purposes therein laid down, Dr. HAMILTON'S VITAL PILLS are composed of the gums and herbs of the field, to the utter and entire exclusion of any mineral whatever, and possess the peculiar property of establishing in the patient's mind, by every day's use, that they are doing the very best they can for their health; and thus it is they are being recommended by cured patients into every corner of the empire. Let those who have tried, but every thing in vain, make trial of these, and they will be amply rewarded.

Pay particular attention to the directions which accompany each box. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. Sold by Simpson and Co., 20, Mile-end-road (who will forward any quantity by post-free, upon receiving the value in postage-stamps); also by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Prout, Strand; Johnston, Cornhill; Hannay, Oxford-street, and most vendors of medicines.

IMPORTANCE OF APERIENT MEDICINE Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Higgs held an inquest at the Red Lion, Strand, on the body of Mr. Henry Butcher, aged 64, a master tailor, of No. 8, Catherine-street. It appeared from the evidence of Mrs. Kent, deceased's housekeeper, that on Tuesday evening last, about nine o'clock, he put up the shop shutters, and was in the act of turning off the gas when he fell backwards on the shop floor in the most profound state of insensibility. She immediately sent for Mr. Snitch, a surgeon, and for Mr. Wild, the newsvender, an old friend of deceased, both of whom arrived instantly. Mr. Snitch pronounced it a decided case of death, from a rupture of a vessel of the brain, he had no doubt. In answer to the coroner, Mrs. Kent said that the deceased had enjoyed better health than usual latterly; but that for a couple of days previous to his death he complained of pain in his head, and said he would leave off porter at dinner, and substitute toast and water. He seldom or never took aperient medicine. The coroner remarked if he had, he might be alive now. He considered the taking of aperient medicine of the greatest consequence to middle-aged men, and he had remarked that for the last twenty-five years not a single medical man had died suddenly in the densely populated city of Westminster. On inquiry he found the cause to be, the care the faculty took to keep the bowels in a proper state. He considered such a fact could not be too generally known and kept in view. Verdict "Died by the visitation of God."—Morning Herald of Friday, October 20, 1843.—The verdict of the jury, instead of "Died by the visitation of God," ought to have been DIED FOR THE WANT OF APERIENT MEDICINE. Neglect in this instance was the cause of death:—one box of Parr's Life Pills would have saved Mr. Butcher's life!! These pills are acknowledged to be the best aperient medicine known. This excellent aperient, solely by reason of its high character, has extended itself to all parts of the world; and therefore its healing virtues may justly be considered universal. The Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words "Parr's Life Pills" to be engraved on the Government Stamp, pasted round the sides of each box, in WHITE letters on a RED ground. Purchasers are also requested to observe that a fac-simile of the proprietors' signature "T. ROBERTS and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London," is printed on the directions wrapped round each box, without which none are genuine.—Beware of Imitations.

PNEUMONIC COUGH LOZENGES, recommended and used by the Faculty, for the prevention, cure, and relief of COLDS, HOOPING COUGH, HOARSENESS, and ASTHMA. They have for many years been used with great advantage in Incipient Consumption, and other Affections of the Chest, particularly Bronchitis. By promoting expectoration, they surprisingly relieve the oppression and difficulty of breathing, so distressing in most pulmonary diseases. To be had of, or through the usual Medicine Agents of the sole Proprietor, H. Lamplough, 67, Snow-hill, London, in boxes, at 1s. 1½d.; or canisters, at 2s. 9d.; the latter containing the quantity of three small boxes.

DELICACY OF COMPLEXION. — The use of GOWLAND'S LOTION is speedily followed by the disappearance of every species of cutaneous defect and discoloration, and the establishment of a pure surface of the Skin, accompanied by the brilliant circulation which constitutes the tint of Beauty, whilst, as a refresher, it preserves the most susceptible complexion from the effects of variable temperature, and sustains in all cases to a protracted period the softness of texture and vivacity peculiar to earlier years.—"Robt. Shaw, London," is in white letters on the Government Stamp, without which it is not genuine. Prices, 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d.; quarts, 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Venders.

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To prevent fraud, Delcroix's Chancery Protection Lable is affixed to each article.

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Price 1s. 1½d. per box.

THIS excellent Family PILL is a Medicine of long-tried efficacy for correcting all disorders of the Stomach and Bowels, the common symptoms of which are costiveness, flatulency, spasms, loss of appetite, sick headache, giddiness, sense of fulness after meals, dizziness of the eyes, drowsiness, and pains in the Stomach and Bowels. Indigestion, producing a torpid state of the Liver, and a consequent inactivity of the bowels, causing a disorganization of every function of the frame, will, in this most excellent preparation, by a little perseverance, be effectually removed. Two or three doses will convince the afflicted of its salutary effects. The Stomach will speedily regain its strength; a healthy action of the Liver, Bowels, and Kidneys, will rapidly take place; and, instead of listlessness, heat, pain, and jaundiced appearance, strength, activity, and renewed health will be the quick result of taking this medicine according to the directions accompanying each box: and if taken after too free an indulgence at table, they quickly restore the system to its natural state of repose.

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As a pleasant, safe, easy Aperient, they unite the recommendation of a mild operation with the most successful effect, and require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use. And for ELDERLY PEOPLE they will be found to be the most comfortable medicine hitherto prepared.

Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box; and by the Venders of Medicines generally throughout the kingdom.

Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," on the Government stamp.

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1, Princes-street, Bank, London.
Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic., cap. 9.

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Age.	Annual Premiums payable during 1st Five Years.	2nd Five Years.	3rd Five Years.	4th Five Years.	Remainder of life.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 1	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 1	2 4 4	2 14 6	3 7 3	4 3 4
50	2 16 7	3 9 4	4 5 5	5 6 3	6 13 7

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A Board of Director attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

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ers, who forgot apparently that they were just as near to the large home market promised them as when he began.

There is something amusing in the striking resemblance between the arguments of Mr. Webster and our monopolists at home. "Look to your home trade;" "Have a care how you injure your nearest and largest market;" "Take care of your home customers." These are the standard appeals of our landlords to the manufacturers when they complain that they are prevented by our Corn Laws from exchanging their goods for the corn of America. The only difference is, that instead of the "rocky mountains," &c., our Disneys and Sibthorpes treat their victims to a seasoning of "our glorious constitution in Church and State," "our colonial empire," &c.

Mr. Webster had one object in view, viz., to preserve the monopoly of the Boston manufacturers; and, in order to accomplish his point, he *mystified* the New York farmers into a belief that "protection" is necessary for them. They lost sight, for the moment, of the difference between their case and that of the mnnufacturers. In America, a large surplus of food, cotton, tobacco, rice, and other kinds of agricultural produce is raised beyond what can be sold at home; and nearly the whole of the 100,000,000 dollars of exports from that country consist of the raw productions of the soil. As these articles must be sold abroad, in the open market of the world, it is quite clear that Mr. Webster can extend none of his protection to this export trade. But does he suppose that the portion of their productions which the cotton, tobacco, and wheat growers sell *at home* brings a higher price than that at which they sell the rest abroad? If so, who would be found so foolish as to enter into the export trade at all? No; the price of the agricultural produce sold in the home market of America, is the same precisely as that at which it sells in China or Great Britain; and neither Mr. Webster, nor all the powers of the federal government can give a farthing's worth of protection to the farmer or planter of America. *The case of the American agriculturist is precisely the same as that of the English manufacturer.*

Very different, however, is the case of the manufacturers in America. They, like our landlords, produce less than is required for the consumption of their countrymen, and the additional supply must be brought from abroad. By putting high protective duties upon these imports, their price is enhanced, and thus the American manufacturer is enabled to sell his productions at a higher cost. In fact, Mr. Webster shuts the farmer out from a trade with England for manufactures, in order that he may compel him to give a larger quantity than he would otherwise give of his agricultural produce for the new Englander's manufactures. And then he consoles him with the promise of an increase of this unprofitable trade!

The American agriculturists and the British manufacturers are suffering from one common disorder —monopoly. It is to be hoped, however, that they are beginning to penetrate the sophistry with which Mr. Webster on one side of the Atlantic, and Sir Robert Peel on the other, have surrounded the subject, and that ere long the owners of the heaps of corn in America, and the proprietors of the piles of manufactures in England, will meet and exchange their respective commodities.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND THE CORN LAWS.

Among the many hypocritical pretences put forth to disguise the iniquity of a system which plunders and starves the many in order to swell the funds that support the luxuries and the vices of the few, there is none more common and none more absurdly iniquitous than that protecting duties have been imposed for the benefit of the agricultural labourers. Protection has now existed for twenty-eight years,—a period not very far short of the average duration of human existence,—an entire generation has grown up under the system of corn-monopoly, and if the hollow pretence that these laws were imposed for the benefit of labourers had the slightest foundation in truth, the working men of the present day should be in a condition of actual and increasing prosperity. Is this the fact? Alas! we are all aware that the farm-labourers of Great Britain are reduced to such destitution and degradation that many have committed petty crimes in order to obtain the luxury of prison diet, and that, while minute calculations have been made to bring down the dietary of the workhouse to the lowest scale which will support human existence, the pauper is, after all, better fed than the independent labourer.

The electors of Salisbury are about to pronounce a verdict on the system which has reduced the free farm-labourers of England to a more deplorable condition than that of the negroes in Brazil, and the Southern States of America. Regarding them as "good men and true," we call upon them "to stand together and hear the evidence," and, in order to make that evidence more intelligible, we shall summon our witnesses from their own neighbourhood. We shall first put in the box the Rev. J. Guthrie, Vicar of Calne, Wilts. What says he of the condition of the farm-labourers?

"The want of employment is pressing at this moment, and has been pressing, for the last 18 or 20 months, more heavily on the poor generally than we can remember for some time past; this pressure ceases to be occasional—it is continuous.

"It is partly owing to the stagnation in trade, but very much owing to the inadequate employment of labour on the farms in this neighbourhood. Very slight improvements in agriculture take place in the parish, or in the neighbouring parishes. There is abundant labour to be done, quite sufficient to occupy the disposable part of the labourers; but there is not the spirit or the energy in the farmers to employ them; such labour would defray itself. When the price of corn was very low, many improvements took place in draining, half the expense of which was borne by the landlord and half by the tenant; this system is still pursued, but not to the extent of which it is capable.

"But the land in these parts being held generally by yearly tenants, such improvements can never be made on any great scale, or be continued for any length of time; for the present generation cultivate their land nearly on the same system as their great-grandfathers did before them. This remark applies peculiarly to dairy-farms. If in each farm a portion of meadow-land were broken up to enable the farmer to grow more *roots*, it would be equally advantageous to the owner, the tenant, and the labourer.

"Much is done to relieve their distresses by many, and is done with judgment and discrimination; but when all is done, I never could make out how they can live with their present earnings; for after examining with all the accuracy that much local knowledge both of persons and places can supply, the accounts of their necessary weekly expenditure, and trying to compare it with their weekly earnings, in all cases that I have tried, without exception, their expenditure seems to exceed their earnings. This problem many of us have tried to solve, but without success."

We shall next call a medical witness, Dr. Greenup of Calne.

"Do you know what the food of the agricultural labourers is in your neighbourhood?—Where there is a family, potatoes do, and must, necessarily form the principal food. Where there are not more than two or three children, a little bacon may be bought; but as the wages are only 8s. a week, unless a man has an allotment he will not be able to buy much bacon, even if he has only two children. I calculate that in my own family each individual consumes a shilling's worth of bread every week, besides animal food, &c. Apply this rule—if it be one—to the poor man's family, and there is little left for anything more than bread. Fresh butcher's meat is never bought. The entrails, or 'in'ards,' as they are called, of the numerous swine killed here, form the chief luxury of those who can afford something better than bread and potatoes.

"Do you attribute the low diet you have spoken of to the smallness of the wages, or to other causes?—The wages are certainly insufficient. Even when there are only two children, it requires good management to keep them decently out of 8s. a week. Take any standard of comparison, and it will show the insufficiency. Perhaps the fairest is the cost of the pauper's food in the union workhouses, where the articles are generally such as form the poor man's food at home, bacon, bread, and potatoes, without beer or other luxury, and where the quantity is supposed to be absolutely necessary to keep the inmates in health. If the labourer has not as much food as the pauper, he ought to have. In our union the cost of each individual, taking the average of men, women, and children, is 1s. 6d. weekly for food only; and buying by tender, and in large quantity, we buy at least 10 per cent. cheaper than the labouring man can. But, without considering this advantage, apply the scale to the poor man's family. A man, his wife, and two children, will require, if properly fed, 6s. weekly; then rent, at least 1s., and fuel, will very nearly swallow up the remainder. But there are yet many things to provide; soap and candles, clothes and shoes. Shoes to a poor man are a serious expense, as he must have them strong, costing about 12s. a pair, and he will need at least one pair in a year. When I reckon up these things in detail, I am always more and more astonished how the labourers continue to live at all. It is very possible that if they had better wages they would not lay them out judiciously, as, in fact, even now they waste part of their little means; but they would, at any rate, have the power of being well fed and clothed.

"Is the health of the labouring class affected by other things besides the insufficiency of diet?—Yes; the want of proper clothing and fuel is much felt, and is the cause of much sickness. Personal cleanliness is neglected: many will wear a flannel waistcoat, for instance, if they have one, night and day for a month, or even until it is worn out. The cottages are generally ill ventilated, and frequently damp. Mothers suckle their children a year and a half, or two years frequently, from a false notion of economy. But all these matters, though in themselves of importance, are but secondary in comparison to the great evil—insufficiency of food."

Let us next hear the Hon. and Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne, Rector of Banston.

"With regard to the general condition of the agricultural labourer, I believe the public to be less informed or worse informed than about that of any other class of society. His most common vices are, it is true, pretty well known, for they have been exposed with no hesitating pens, have been officially proclaimed throughout the length and breadth of the land; but the hardships of his life at best, its temptations, the hindrances to its improvement, the scanty remuneration afforded for his hardest labour, the ingenious methods used to hold him in thraldom, permitting him neither to work where he likes, at the wages he could obtain, or to spend those he does obtain where he chooses; the manner in which he often sees the welfare of the beast he drives more valued than his own, and his own welfare often sacrificed to some caprice of his employer—threatened with the 'Union House' if he refuses them, his wages are settled by the combined interest or opinion of the employers around him, forced to pay an exorbitant rent for a dwelling in which he cannot decently rear his family: if he is single, he is to receive less for the sweat of his brow than if he was married; if he does marry, every ingenuity is used to make him feel that he is regarded as one about to increase the burdens of the parish, to say nothing of the ingenuity used to shift him into some other parish; these are parts of his condition on which the public are not so well informed, or at least of which they seem to act in perfect ignorance. Let the charitable do what they will to increase the comforts and elevate the character of the poor of a parish, alas! but too often because parish A is thus more favoured than parish B, it is made the pretext for raising the rent of the labourer's dwelling, and diminishing the amount of his wages."

We shall now call upon Surgeon Spooner of Blandford.

"Generally the cottages are too small for the families living in them, and tend to produce and aggravate disease from the inmates living so closely together. Two years ago typhus fever occurred in a neighbouring parish, which I attend. There was one cottage I attended, which consisted of one room on the ground-floor, and two small bed-rooms up stairs. In this cottage lived an old man, with his wife, his two daughters, middle-aged women, and his son and wife, with their children—in all, ten individuals. The whole family had the fever, some of them very severely. The son's wife, with two of her children, were on a bed in an out-house. In the out-house was a well, and a large tub containing pig's victuals, and was the general receptacle for everything. The floor was earthen, with no ceiling but the thatch of the roof. In the same village there were more than 40 cases of typhus, and the spread of the disease must be attributed to the people living so closely packed together."

We may close our evidence by placing before the electors a portion of the cases investigated by R. B. Sheridan, Esq., chairman of the West Dorset Agricultural Association.

"*Thos. and Anne Everett, Batcombe Parish.*—5s. per week, reduced for a time to 4s. 10s. a year house rent to pay, no fuel or potato ground allowed; worked during haymaking and harvest time from 4 A.M. till after 8 o'clock, and never received anything extra. The house belongs to the *parish*, and is disgracefully out of repair. The woman is 69 years of age, and has had 11 children; lived in the house more than 20 years, and has never had a penny from the parish. *The water, when it rains, runs in under the walls of the house, and we are obliged to dig holes in our floor to receive it; when it is very bad I am obliged to sit up at night to bucket out the water, and in the day I have been obliged to litter the floor with straw, to enable 8, 9, or 10 children to walk about*, the place was in such a '*pucksy*.' The clergyman of the parish has seen it, and said *it was not fit for his dog to live in.* I have asked the parish often to repair the house, the reply has always been, '*If you do not like it you must go to the union.*' If I had not had a very hard constitution I should have been crippled by the damp and wet.

"In the next house I saw a woman of the name of *Mathews* looking very sick, with a child in her lap ill, and under the care of a medical man, who told me that the poor little thing's illness proceeded from insufficiency of food. There were three children, the eldest, a fine lad of 18, was in the union, but had leave for the day to see his mother; before he went into the union he had been five weeks out of work, he had been offered 6d. per day, which was not sufficient.

"The husband had 6s. per week, out of this to pay 3d. per week for house rent; they had no fuel or potato ground allowed them.

"*The cottage much in the same dilapidated state as the Everetts.*

"*They had not tasted meat for weeks*, the last time they had tasted animal food had been the charity of the medical attendant.

"Between Batcombe and Hillfield, I entered a cottage rented by a poor widow woman; she was obliged to pay £1 10s. per annum; she had three children, one a young man 21 years of age, the two girls, one of them just 18, remarkably healthy and prepossessing in appearance; melancholy to say, there was only one small bed-room, and in it *one small bed, in which mother, son, and two daughters slept.* The daughter was sewing gloves for some person at Yeovil at 1s. 4d. *per dozen; she could only complete a dozen in a week.*

"*Parish of Hillfield.—Thomas and Grace Edwards.*—In a wretched room on the ground floor an old woman was lying in bed; she was 80 years of age, and had been bedridden for years; she had suckled twelve children, and had always paid the house rent until the last year: nothing could equal her resignation and religious state of mind: she smiled, and thanked the surgeon (who was present) for his kindness; she prayed fervently during the time I was there, and said, 'His will be done, I am prepared to die, and have nothing on my mind.'

"The cottage is in the most disgracefully dilapidated state; the *floor is not paved, but of mud, in deep holes, and loose stones placed in the holes to fill them up* and make the ground level; *the rain comes in through the roof, sides, and under the walls of the house; the windows are broken, and the walls with holes through in different parts;* when the parish has been asked to repair it, the answer has been, '*It is not worth it!*' The old man is 82. He is allowed for himself and his dying wife 5s. per week; *i. e.*, 3s. in money, and three loaves: they *had* four loaves, *but in consequence of the medical man having ordered a little mutton broth* for the poor woman, who required it, and was unable to take anything else, *the parish had immediately taken away one loaf.* They had no firewood, and no potato-ground allowed.

"An only daughter who had a child attended upon the poor old bedridden woman! she supported herself by teaching little children, whose parents pay 2d. for each child. Everything was done in this one wretched room below; the old man and his bedridden wife slept there; the children were taught to read at the foot of the bed; their meals were dressed and eat there; the washing of the house was done in this room, while the fumes and steam of the soap and hot water enveloped the bed of the old woman, paralyzed and unable to move. The daughter slept upstairs with her child; the room was not four feet high, without light *except from a hole in the roof which was filled with straw to keep the wind and rain out;* the thatch almost touched the bed! no one could possibly stand upright in this wretched place.

"The daughter had rented this year, 1843, a gourd of land for potatoes, about 15 feet square, for 12s., *which is at the rate of £8 per acre;* if the rent is not paid the potatoes are kept, and the poor people are deprived of their principal food during the winter."

Electors of Great Britain, and more especially electors of Salisbury, you are about to decide whether it is your opinion that this state of things should endure, or whether a change is not imperatively demanded by every principle of justice, of humanity, and of our duty towards God and man? You have seen that gentlemen, whom you know to be of the highest worth and honour, have described the condition of the agricultural labourers in Wiltshire and Dorsetshire as one which is so little above absolute starvation that they are unable to comprehend the means by which existence is supported. They have also shown you that the blame of this evil is not to be attributed to the farmers, but that it is the result of the agricultural system which the landlords have devised for the purpose of maintaining exorbitant rents and political subserviency.

We ask every voter whether he can answer to his own conscience for giving support to a candidate like Mr. Campbell, pledged to continue the frightful misery, vice, and disease, described in the evidence which we have brought before him? Each elector is responsible to his country and to his God for the exercise of his franchise, and he who gives his vote to a monopolist becomes an accessory to the starvation of the labourer, to the extension of typhus fever, and the demoralization of the rising generation. On the other hand, every man who supports Free Trade will have the proud consciousness that he has exerted himself to rescue the farmers from ruinous bondage, the labourers from misery, their families from sin, and the country itself from a system of oppression, aggravated by the insolent hypocrisy with which it has been defended.

THE VERACIOUS STANDARD.

"Destroy his fib or sophistry—in vain,
The creature's at his dirty work again."

The *Standard* has been imparting consolation to the few credulous monopolists, who have any remaining confidence in its statements, by a report of a late meeting of Free-Traders at Stockport. It appears that the Anti-Corn-Law party, having met to address the electors of London upon the return of Mr. Pattison, and having appointed one of the leading men of the borough to the chair, a Chartist leader, at the head of a score of noisy youths, moved the stock amendment, which was declared by the chairman to be lost, upon which the intruders indulged in the usual groans and hisses at the Leaguers. Next day our veracious contemporary contained a long account of the affair, followed by a leader, to the old tune of "defeat of the Anti-Corn-Law League."

We should have taken no notice of the eulogies which the *Standard* showered upon its allies of the tin-canister school of debaters, had it not been for the slight *error* into which it fell in thanking the working classes generally, who have done nothing that we are aware of to earn its gratitude. We have no objection to hand over to the *Standard* and its patrons Mr. West and his body-guard; nay, we will throw Mr. O'Connor and his dwindled tail into the bargain; but we cannot go further, for we have yet to learn what the great body of the working classes have done to be included in the ranks of the monopolists. The working men the opponents of the League! Ay, this assertion passed for something so long as our meetings were held in *rooms* only, or whilst our assemblages were convened by ticket; but the libel will hardly deceive any body after the thirty open-air gatherings which we have held in almost every county from Dorset to Haddingtonshire. It is easy enough to hire a score or two of fellows to disturb a meeting, no matter for what purpose convened, *so long as it is held within doors*: the *Standard's* friends might, for the hire of five pounds, break up the next bible meeting in Stockport as surely as they *failed* to break up the Anti-Corn-Law meeting; but it is a totally different thing when people congregate on Penenden Heath, or on Knutsford Race-course. They have tried their hands, and the results in the market-places of Doncaster and Croydon were not of a character to encourage a repetition of the experiments. The working classes of the towns the supporters of the Corn Laws! Why, the constant outcry we hear from the monopolist press everywhere is, that the votes at our farmers' meetings are carried by the "rabble of the towns." We wonder what will be the next ——— of the *Standard!*

REPRESENTATION OF THE BOROUGH OF KENDAL.

The nomination of candidates for this borough took place on Tuesday last, in the Market-place. The Mayor opened the proceedings with the usual formalities.

Mr. Wilson of Abbott's-hall proposed Mr. George Bentinck as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament, amidst the cheers of the Bentinckites and the hootings of his opponents.

Mr. Tobias Atkinson seconded the nomination.

Thompson Burdloss, Esq., proposed Henry Warburton, Esq., as a Free-Trader.

The nomination was seconded by J. J. Wilson, Esq.

No other candidate having been proposed,

George Bentinck, Esq., came forward and said: Gentlemen, we are assembled here to-day on a melancholy occasion. (Laughter.) I repeat it—we are, I say, assembled for the purpose of selecting a representative for your borough in the place of the late Mr. Wood, whose sudden and lamentable death we, most of all, deplore. Though diffesing from him on most points of politics (and I had the honour of his personal acquaintance), in common with most others, I am ready to render tribute to the good qualities of his heart, and no one can speak in his praise with greater cordiality than myself. (Hear, hear.) I must begin by thanking my friends for the kind manner in which they have supported me, and for the active assistance I have received from them, and also my opponents for the courtesy they have evinced in my canvass on the present occasion. I trust that the good humour in which the contest has begun may continue to the end, and that, whatever may be the result, we shall part and meet good friends. (Cheers.) It is unnecessary for me to go through any lengthened detail of my political opinions. (Cries of "Oh.") You have heard them previously—on my canvass (cheers and groans), and I am free to admit I cannot expect all of you to approve of them. I avowed myself as a supporter of the present Government (cheers and uproar); and I here repeat to you that avowal. I am a supporter of the present Government, for I believe that this country has been in a more flourishing and prosperous state with respect to agriculture, manufactures, and commerce of every description—all are in a more flourishing state than they were after ten years of the rule of the Whig Government. ("Hear," and "That's an assertion, let us have some proof.") I appeal to the people who are now present if this is not the case, whether both agriculture and commerce are not in a more prosperous and healthy state than they were from the commencement to the termination of the Whig Government? When the late Government left office, they left the country engaged in two expensive wars—they left our foreign trade depressed; consequently, our home manufacturers and our agriculturists were in a state of greater distress and suffering than was ever known in this country. When the present Government came into office, they were expected at once to put an end to all these difficulties, and all this distress. They did not undertake to do this by a single stroke of policy, or in a few weeks. They undertook to do it by a gradual process, which process must be put to the test of time before its merits or its success can be ascertained. You will bear in mind that the present Government, when they came into office, had to rectify the evil effects caused by the mistakes and the mismanagement of their predecessors. At that time the expenditure of the country greatly exceeded the income. The honourable candidate then proceeded to justify the imposition of the income-tax, on the ground that the Conservative Government were obliged to make up the deficiency in the revenue in some way or other. He next adverted to the Poor Laws, and said that although the old Poor Law had its defects, he would rather have had those defects amended, and he would vote for the repeal of the new Poor Law. He objected to the repeal of the Corn Laws, and concluded amidst great applause.

Henry Warburton, Esq., said, I have received the greatest courtesy from the gentlemen on the opposite side with one exception, which I would not name, but that one has, I think, exceeded the ordinary course of opposition to a candidate of whose opinions he disapproves. (Hear, hear.) Now, allow me to tell you that if this were merely an ordinary contest—if this were a contest in which merely local topics would arise—I might address you on those topics; but in this contest, where the influence of a certain great family has been exercised to a great extent, I am bold to tell you that I think it hardly fair for that family which returns the two members for the county of Westmorland to attempt to interfere in the election for the borough of Kendal. (Cheers.) I do not complain of my honourable opponent, the other candidate. He is perfectly right in trying to obtain a seat in the House of Commons, and making the most of any influence he may derive from that source; but I do say, that with regard to the great family to which I have alluded, it is hardly fair or just that it should endeavour to exercise its influence without the consent of this borough (cheers); but these are topics scarcely fitting for this occasion. We are contending for a great principle. That great principle is now brought to issue. It is whether we are to have protection or Free Trade. This is the question which we are now here to discuss. The eyes of all England are upon you. Will you follow up the blow that has been struck at monopoly in London? That is the question which you are called upon to decide. It is not a question whether I or Mr. Bentinck may be precisely the fittest man to be your member, but whether you are such opponents of monopoly as to be induced to repeat the blow which has been given to monopoly in London. (Cheers and groans.) Now, gentlemen, there are two candidates before you—one professing to be a supporter of no particular party, a gentleman generally friendly to popular rights and Free Trade, and that he will not pledge himself to support any government only so far as he is a friend to Free Trade and popular rights. There also comes before you another candidate, who tells you in direct terms that he is a ministerialist, and is prepared to support the present Government. (Hear, hear.) Now just let us see what are the principles entertained by the candidate himself and those who support him. The candidate professes to be a ministerialist. What is the situation in which he is placed? The speech of the gentleman who proposed him was a speech directed against Free Trade. Is Sir Robert Peel a supporter of monopoly? Does he profess to be so? Has he not told us again and again that the principles of Free Trade are the principles of common sense? To be sure there are other persons in the administration who, like the worthy proposer of Mr. Bentinck, hold different opinions to Sir Robert. There is Sir Edward Knatchbull, who tells you that the reason he supports the Corn Laws is that he is unable to pay his marriage settlements or the interest of his mortgages. (Loud cheers and hisses.) So, with regard to the borough of Kendal, you have gentlemen who tell you that Free Trade is the principle of common sense; and, on the other hand, you have men who tell you that Free Trade is a good thing in the abstract, but they also say—We will not say much about the principles of common sense in the abstract, but we look upon it as an injury to our rent-rolls. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Warburton next alluded to the disturbances in Wales, for which he blamed the magistracy of the principality, and declared himself a Free Trader, and a friend to the extension of the suffrage. He alluded to the borough of Kendal, which, with its 12,000 inhabitants, had only a constituency of 390 registered electors, and concluded by asking the suffrages of the electors.

The Mayor then called for a show of hands, when a large majority, about three-fourths, held up their hands for Mr. Warburton, upon whom his worship declared the choice had fallen.

A poll was then demanded on behalf of Mr. Bnetinck, and after an address from Mr. John Bright the proceedings terminated.

HONOUR TO THE MEN OF KENDAL!

KENDAL ELECTION—RETURN OF MR. WARBURTON.

STATE OF THE POLL—November 8.

At Nine o'Clock.	
Warburton	109
Bentinck	34
Majority	75
At Ten o'Clock.	
Warburton	159
Bentinck	78
Majority	81
At Eleven o'Clock.	
Warburton	171
Bentinck	100
Majority	71
At Twelve o'Clock.	
Warburton	180
Bentinck	113
Majority	67
At One o'Clock.	
Warburton	181
Bentinck	115
Majority	66
At Two o'Clock.	
Warburton	182
Bentinck	116
Majority	66
At Three o'Clock.	
Warburton	182
Bentinck	119
Majority	63
Close of the Poll—Four o'Clock.	
Warburton	182
Bentinck	119
Majority for Warburton	63

The Free-Traders of Kendal have achieved a glorious triumph over the house of Lonsdale. Notwithstanding the strong persuaders applied by the agents of Mr. Bentinck, the Free-Traders have triumphed by a majority greater than the most sanguine of their supporters could have expected. Mr. Warburton took the lead at the commencement, and at one time he was nearly a hundred ahead.

As we expected, the day did not pass off without a disturbance. Mr. Tate, the landlord of the Nag's Head, was attacked by the Yellow (Tory) lambs, and now lies in a dangerous state; having lost the sight of one eye, and at the same time labouring under a concussion of the brain. He is now in a doubtful state.

At the close of the polling Mr. Warburton and others addressed the electors upon Free Trade chiefly.

(*From another Correspondent.*)

Kendal, Nov. 8, 1843.—The losing party sent into the town nearly two hundred bludgeon-men, who were last night parading the streets, keeping the place in a state of the greatest alarm, in order to intimidate the tradesmen and others. Several of the Liberals were indeed actually assaulted by these hired bullies, and scandalously maltreated. To-day, however, the inhabitants have mustered in strong force, especially the working men, all of whom are Liberals, and the bludgeon-men, in turn, have been cowed, and sneaked into the taverns kept open by their patrons to conceal themselves.

The most infamous means have been resorted to, not only towards the tradesmen, but the poor out-pensioners of Chelsea-hospital have been threatened with loss of their stipends if they should refuse to vote for the Tory candidate.

SALISBURY.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Thursday.—The proceedings here are going on satisfactorily, be the result what it may. Free-Trade opinion is making progress; it is the question of general interest, every one is talking about it; both candidates find it the all-absorbing subject of discussion; and the monopolist has had many a question put to him by men who formerly gave their promises as a matter of course. The anxiety to be present at the meetings and tea parties is so great that, even by holding two meetings on the same evening in places each of which will accommodate more than a thousand persons, it is not possible to find room for all who are desirous of hearing. The very stirring up of so much earnestness against the Corn Laws, in the centre of a great agricultural district, is in itself a triumph, and may be taken as a proof that *until the Corn Laws be repealed* there can be no *party* elections. Every future contest will be a struggle between Monopoly and Free Trade. The old party names and colours are forgotten; men have got a great practical good to contend for, and they cannot be turned from it. The agitation here has been incessant since last Friday week; on that evening and on Saturday and Monday, Mr. Acland lectured. On Tuesday the 2nd, Mr. Moore had a meeting in a large room fitted up for the especial purpose, and capable of holding about 1000 persons; it was crowded to excess, numbers went away who were unable to gain admission, and a crowd gathered outside remained during the entire time. On Wednesday, Mr. Moore again addressed an audience in the same place; it was crowded as before. Nothing could exceed the earnest attention with which the proposal to form a non-electors' committee, and for them to address the electors, was received. On the following day the committee was formed, and the address has since received nearly 2000 signatures.

On Tuesday two meetings were held: one in a large old chapel, now used for a school, was a meeting of electors. A ticket, admitting a lady and gentleman, was sent to each elector, and none were admitted without tickets. Both in the body of the building and the galleries every seat was occupied. Mr. Cobden addressed the assembly. He never spoke better. He completely satisfied his audience that Salisbury had as real an interest in the repeal of the Corn Laws as any manufacturing or trading town. A copy of the *Wiltshire Independent*, containing a full report of his speech, has been sent to every elector, and it cannot but convince those who read it that to vote for a monopolist is to use the franchise to their own injury. Whilst Mr. Cobden was addressing the electors, Mr. Moore was attending a meeting of non-electors, which was, if possible, more crowded than any of the former ones. From this meeting the chairman and a deputation were appointed to present the non-electors' address to the electors at their meeting; I have sent you a copy of it. It was read and listened to with marked attention. The speech of the non-elector who presented it produced a powerful impression. Mr. Moore then addressed the meeting, and Mr. Cobden meanwhile addressed the meeting of non-electors.

On Wednesday evening a second tea-party was held in the school-rooms; the tickets were all sold in a few hours. Nearly six hundred sat down to tea, a large majority of them wives and daughters of electors. I have not before seen so large a proportion of ladies at a meeting. Mr. Cobden was especially happy in his address. The audience were full of good-humour and enthusiasm, and responded most heartily to every argument for Free Trade. Mr. Rawson, the treasurer of the League, made a short and well-reasoned speech, and was followed by Mr. Moore, who delivered the most eloquent speech I ever heard from him, and which produced an overwhelming effect upon his audience, a very large proportion of which was comprised of ladies. The meeting, which had commenced at five o'clock, broke up shortly after nine, and certainly was one of the most cheering and enthusiastic gatherings I have ever had the pleasure to attend. At every one of these meetings several of those who voted for the monopolist at the last election were present, and some have come more than once, and so they should come—they ought all to come. The men of the League are not party men, they are labouring for the common good. No reference to party objects or party feeling is ever made in their speeches; they reason from facts, and appeal to the common sense and common interest of every individual. A general good feeling prevails. Mr. Rawson and Mr. Woolley are busily engaged in canvassing. They have to-day been followed by some two or three paid observers of their movements, and have, in consequence, been well supported by forty or fifty of the non-electors, who are also busily engaged in canvassing.

On to-morrow there are again to be two meetings, one for electors only, and the other for non-electors: both are to be addressed by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Moore. Mr. George Wilson, the chairman of the Council of the League, has been here several days.

Ashworth, Bright, and Cobden, the A B C of the Anti-Corn-Law League, spoke in alphabetical succession at the Durham dinner of Tuesday week. Verily, observed a friend at our elbow, the "schoolmaster" is "abroad!" and with his "Horn Book" in his hand.—*Gateshead Observer.*

PURITY OF ELECTION.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

SIR,—I beg to call your attention to the accompanying account of expenses incurred by the Portsoken committee on the occasion of the late City election. The total amount, you will perceive, is but £8 8s. 4d., which has been defrayed by local subscriptions. The number of registered electors in the ward is 577; of these, 277 voted for Pattison and Free Trade, and 84 for Baring and monopoly. It ought also to be mentioned, to the honour of the members of the Jewish persuasion, that, out of 116 Jews who are resident electors in the ward, 115 voted for the Free-Trade candidate, *one* only voting for Mr. Baring.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

London, Nov. 9, 1843. TARSUS.

Account of the expenses incurred by the Portsoken committee at the late City election:—

To messengers, for delivery of circulars, &c.	£0	5	0
To do. attending on day of election ..	0	14	6
To J. Meares, for cab hire	1	1	0
To J. C. Kelly, for printing	1	5	0
To J. Lucas, for use of committee-room ..	2	2	0
To refreshments for check-clerks, messengers, cabmen, &c.	1	1	6
To cash paid for stationery, use of flags, broken window, servants, &c.	0	18	4
To cash paid bell-ringers	1	1	0
	£8	8	4

By order of the committee,

DAVID PARKER, Chairman.

Three Nuns, Aldgate High-street, Nov. 1, 1843.

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

WRITTEN FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION, BY REUBEN.

CHAPTER III.

Remarks on Tipperary exports—Exports of food by a starving people a sign of poverty, not of wealth—The imports of Ireland, who consumed by, and by what means paid for—The results of the clearance system.

In the last chapter I described one of the Tipperary cases of subletting, which was continued again and again by reletting in smaller and smaller parcels of land, until the poor paid for their potato ground £12 an acre; or, which was as bad, bound themselves to pay such a rent, and, not being able to pay it, submitted to have their potatoes sold by warrant of the sheriff. And it was stated that potatoes so sold and shipped to England were accounted in commerce as exports of Irish produce, which exports again were quoted by statesmen and statistical writers as evidence of augmented wealth in Ireland.

To show the fallacy, the innocent blindness, it may be on the part of some; the absentee ignorance, it may be on the part of others; but the wilful and cruel perversion of known facts, I am afraid it must be called, on the part of the greatest number of public writers and legislators—to show the fallacy of such increasing exports being received as arguments indicative of increasing prosperity in Ireland, we should go farther than the seizure and forced exportation of potatoes. We should look at the corn, all sold from the farm to pay a rack-rent, and none consumed on the farm. We should look at the cattle all sold, and not a mouthful of butcher's meat entering the mouths of two-thirds of the population from year to year. We should look at the pig sold after eating more of the potatoes than at best were not enough for the family, sold that such family might have wherewith to pay the rent of the miserable mud cabin, that has neither window-glass, chimney, nor comfort, nor room for comfort, but which stands on a nobleman's estate, and yields him £3 per annum nevertheless. We should look to the compulsory sale of all these, and bear in mind that the potatoes which do remain to be consumed are the lumpers, a coarse root which cattle will scarcely eat if not hungered in this country, but which human beings eat in Ireland, and which is cultivated there because it is more prolific with less manure on the cheaper and lower-rented soils; and bearing such facts in mind, we should not forget the most fearful fact of all, that upwards of three millions of the Irish people cannot obtain more than one bellyful of these lumpers in the twenty-four hours! and, when we have duly weighed all those facts, we may then proceed to measure the wealth of Ireland by her exports. So doing, we shall find her giving evidence of wealth, as John Brown, the cabinet-maker, in Drury-lane, exhibits his wealth to the world, when his household furniture is carried away by Peter Black, the broker, of Holborn, to be sold to Simon White, the dealer over the water, that Mr. Green, who also lives over the water, may have his rent, and Mr. Red may have the taxes. John Brown and his wife and children, who must lie on the bare boards or on a handful of straw, their furniture being all carried off, will not think their domestic state improved; but some of the neighbours, so ignorant as not to know the family furniture from that manufactured in the shop, or so blind as not to know a broker and his man, or so indolent that they will not inquire, and yet so disposed to meddle with other people's affairs that they will not let other people alone; some, or all of these, may say, "What a thriving man John Brown is, how his trade increases! don't you see how the beds, and chairs, and tables, and cupboards, and all them things as he is a making on every day are being carried along the street almost wholesale?"

We have imagined John Brown to be a producer of household furniture, while Ireland is a producer of food; but the analogy is the same. John Brown, it may be, from a want of trade, is unable to support his large and increasing family, and is thus left "without a stick." Ireland, for the want of trade, is unable to support her large and increasing population; and the rent-gatherers, having the law in their own hands, leave her without a loaf of bread, a bit of meat, and almost without a potato.

I recommend these facts to those who quote the exports of Ireland as evidence of increased wealth. The exports of a nation, whether of food or clothing, indicate national wealth when all at home are fed and clothed; but, if the natives are left hungry and naked, the exports must be made from some other cause than a superabundance of wealth. In 1821, the first time a regular census of the popuation was taken, Ireland contained 6,801,827 people, being, as was supposed, an increase of two millions in twenty years, that is to say, from 1801, the first year of the union. The additional increase is now more than a million and a half, and Ireland is the same size as when she contained the one-half of the population she now contains, namely, in 1800. That some districts of the country are better cultivated than at that time is true; but the traveller in Ireland sees that the old agricultural customs still prevail in most parts, and he hears from old men that crops were as abundant forty years ago as now, where crops were grown. The old men also say, that forty years ago, when the population was little more than half of what it is now, the soil being little less productive than now, comparatively little was exported. We may not have great faith in the memories of old men on matters where prejudices are likely to exist, especially when their recollections go beyond the date of the parliamentary union; but we may have faith in public documents specially published to show the "progress of the nation." If such documents, having such an object, come before us, and prove the reverse of what their publishers intend—prove that Ireland has, year after year, sunk deeper and deeper in poverty—if they prove this, we may trust to them, and set the old men and their recollections aside.

Well, then, here we have Ireland rapidly increasing her exports. Let us see if she has been growing rich, and selling her superabundant produce like a thriving shopkeeper; or if she is only a poor widow, who exports her washing-tub, and her flat-irons, and her flannel petticoat across the street to the pawnbroker, importing, in return, the duplicate and the foreign produce sold in another shop, which she buys at a disadvantage, because she buys in the smallest quantities, and pays with money procured by means which cripples her in obtaining money in future. We cannot place the increase of population and the increase of exports side by side over the whole forty-three years now in question, because an account of the exports and imports has only been officially kept from 1801 to 1825, while the first official account of the population was taken in 1821. But we find even by these tables that in 1821, when the population was 6,800,000 odd, the exports were in value £7,117,452; and that in 1825, when the population had increased to 7,300,000, the exports had increased to £8,531,355. That is, the population increased half a million in five years, and the exports, in pounds sterling, increased nearly three times as much. Now, if these exports had been English—if they had been Sheffield cutlery, Manchester cottons, or Yorkshire broadcloth—it would be quite correct to estimate the improved wealth of England by their amount; quite correct to say, that, while the population of England had increased half a million, her manufactures sent abroad had increased a million and a half; or, if those exports had been from Poland, it would have been correct to say, that after the Polish serf had each day ate his bellyful for five years, which, by the blessing of God, despite the power of Russia, the Polish serf can do, and is permitted to do by his feudal lord, the remainder of the produce after sustenance to the serf and family being the lord's rent, not as in Ireland, the remainder after selling, to pay the rent, being the tenant's sustenance,—it would be correct to say, that the more rapid the increased export of Polish wheat, the more profitable would it be to Poland. But to say that in Ireland, where population increased so rapidly in five years, demanding such a greater amount of food in 1825 than in 1821, while by the increased exports there was so much less to consume at home in 1825 than in 1821, to say that in Ireland wealth is indicated by such exports is to say what is palpably untrue. The more numerous the people become in that country, where augmentation of produce does not keep pace with their increasing numbers, the poorer they must become; again, the poorer they are they will have the more difficulty in paying rent; and the more difficulty they have in paying rent, the more agricultural produce will be exported to this country. It is seized and sold by the landlord and his agents, and sent to this country, which, being a manufacturing one, has a people able to buy it. The expenses of warrants to seize, of seizures, of bailiffs in possession, of constables to protect the bailiffs, of soldiers to protect the constables, of auctioneers to sell, and of losses to be deducted because of forced sales; all these must be deducted from the estimated value of agricultural produce sent to England, before we can form any opinion of what falls as profit to the cultivator of the soil.

But, in fact, he has no profit. He has not even his sustenance, as the serf of feudal Europe has. He is a yearly bankrupt, and the law, preferring the head creditor to all others, gives that creditor the produce, leaving the cultivator the quantity of lumper potatoes that barely keeps in life. Even the imports, the tea and sugar, and such like, which are paraded before us, as farther evidence of Ireland's growing wealth, are, to a large extent, from England, in payment of the merchant who exported the corn and cattle. But come from where they may, such imports never reach the cultivators of the soil; their commonest food and their rarest, their necessary and luxury, are the potatoes called lumpers—and lumpers only, and very frequently too few of them.

Having described, in the preceding chapter, the means by which farms are let and sublet, divided and subdivided, in Tipperary; the means by which the head tenant, the sub-tenant, and the tenant below him, who is a tenant still above the cultivator, together with agents, bailiffs, and the endless crew of lawyers, who fatten on the land, consuming with their own mouths the foreign produce imported, thus swelling the *imports*, and wringing from the working tenant every bushel of grain, and pig, and potato they can wring, thus swelling the *exports*—having described one system of sub-letting on one estate, I might now proceed to develop the practice of other landlords and agents on other estates. But by merely saying that, in some cases, there are not so many intermediate tenants as in the case specified; that, in some other cases, the landlord's own agent acts the part of middleman, letting the potato ground to the poor at the enormous rents of £10 and £12, and filching from the poor by the power of the law the potatoes they cannot release from the ground by immediately paying all the rent,—by merely stating this, I shall for the present leave the county of Tipperary. The clearance system has, to a great extent, been carried out there, and these are its results,—a starving people, with no other means of sustaining life than that of competing with each other in offering for potato ground a rent which they cannot pay. We shall go to the county of Kilkenny, and see the clearance system in the process of being effected. We shall there see how a landlord can break through the most indisputably legal covenants to get rid of his tenants. We shall there see how an Irish landlord can use the law to enable him to break the law; how a peaceful district becomes the centre of agitation and crime; how it is peopled with soldiers and armed police; how juries and judges give decisions against the landlord, yet how the landlord triumphs, and how the tenantry are overcome and ejected in defiance of legal right, in opposition to the decision of judge and jury. We shall see this in many other parts of Ireland, but at present we go to Kilkenny.

PRICE AT WHICH WHEAT CAN BE GROWN IN AMERICA.

(From the *Liverpool Times.*)

The following estimate of the extent of the wheat-growing capabilities of the United States, and of the price at which that description of grain can be grown in that country, is from the pen of a gentleman who has made the corn trade of America his study and business for between thirty and forty years. If it is at all near the truth, it proves that the hopes entertained by some parties, and the fears felt by others, of an immense extension of the corn-trade of America are very ill-founded. The writer, after examining the results of the last two or three harvests, and showing how little foundation there was for the reports of a great annual surplus of wheat, which have from time to time (and especially after last harvest) been published in the American papers, observes:—

"Very erroneous estimates have been made abroad, as well as at home, of the capacity and disposition of this country to extend the culture of wheat, and the idea is constantly held up in England, by the advocates of the Corn Laws, that if these are abolished the United States will inundate England with wheat at any price she will pay for it.

"The price of one dollar per bushel in the Atlantic cities, is not considered more than remunerative, nor is wheat esteemed a profitable crop by the farmers at less than a dollar and twenty-five cents. The reason is evident. Not only does it require more labour and better tillage than Indian corn, but it is a far more uncertain crop: experience having proved that a general good crop cannot be expected in more than one out of four years—perhaps the average of the last fifty years will go nearer to one in five. This is sufficient to account for the fact, well ascertained, that wheat does not increase old States *pro rata* with the population, but that these already have to rely on the west for a part of their consumption. In the west, there must be an increase every year to meet not only this demand from the old States, but also to feed a population at home, increasing in the Mississippi Valley at the rate of eighty per cent. in ten years, and a large proportion of that increase not in the wheat districts. If Great Britain will abolish her Corn Laws, and *guarantee* fifty-five shillings per quarter for ten years, for wheat delivered at her seaport towns, it might have some influence to extend its culture on this side; but below that price our export will be very small, as it always has been, unless after unusually productive crops. And should the population of Great Britain continue to increase in the same rate as since the year 1800, she will be compelled, by the actual want of bread grain, to abolish her Corn Laws within ten years, and to grant bounties to obtain a regular supply of bread before twenty years. For at the termination of that period, without any allowance for unfavourable crops, the population will be such that English soil cannot furnish us with food of all kinds."

The fact that the abundant harvest of last year, though aided by three million quarters of foreign wheat, was barely sufficient for the wants of the country, bears out the opinion expressed in the last paragraph, and proves that, unless the population of this country ceases to increase, the Corn Laws must be swept away before many years have expired, to save the people from absolute starvation.

THE CHANGE IN THE RELATIVE PRICE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURED GOODS.

(From the *Economist.*)

Most of our readers are aware that the accounts of exports are kept at the Custom House, and are given in official documents in two distinct values—first, by what is termed the *official value*, and second, by what is termed the *real, or declared value*. Some may not ex-

actly understand the difference between the two, and it may be, therefore, well to explain it. In 1694, the value at the time of every article was ascertained as nearly as possible, and an account of every article exported was kept from that period, calculated at that rate. In the course of time, however, it was found that prices had so materially changed, that the entries made by that rule formed no certain criterion of the actual value of our exports. To remedy this, merchants were compelled to enter the quantities of goods exported, and also to declare the actual value of them at the time of shipment; and ever since the two rates of value have been continued in our accounts.

It will be easily understood that the official value, being always calculated at the same rate, is a correct criterion of quantity, while the real value shows the changes of price in relation to quantity; and consequently the difference between the two rates of value at any time will show whether an article has risen or fallen in price, and how much, since 1694. For example—last year the whole of our exports amounted to £113,488,012, according to the "*official*" rate of value; but the same by the "*real declared value*" amounted only to £47,012,651; showing that the goods that in 1694 were worth the former sum are now reduced to the latter sum, being a fall in price of 58 per cent. While this affords us a criterion of the change of value of all our products, it also affords us an opportunity of comparing the relative changes of the value of particular articles. In preparing our Statistical Number for the present month, we were led to institute an inquiry into the comparative change in value between agricultural produce and manufacturing produce, the result of which is most extraordinary.

We have taken out of the list of exports the leading articles of agricultural produce for three years, 1840, 1841, 1842, the value of which we find would have been in 1694 (150 years ago) £1,557,993, but which have now increased to a value of £3,778,321, being an advance in price of 143 per cent.

We have also taken out some of the leading articles of manufactures for the same time, the value of which we find would have been, in 1694, £267,636,717, but which are now reduced to a value of £107,173,382, being a reduction of price of 60 per cent., thus showing that, while manufactured goods and minerals have fallen considerably more than a half, agricultural produce has much more than doubled its value.

The following are the accurate results:—

A quantity of agricultural produce which, in 1694, was worth £100, would at the present price be worth £243; while a quantity of manufactured goods which, in 1694, was worth £100, would now only be worth £40; so that a quantity of agricultural produce which, in 1694, *would have exchanged for* £100 *value of manufactures*, would, at the present relative value, command the same quantity that would, *at that period, have sold for* £600. Or a quantity of manufactures which, in 1694, would have exchanged for £100 value of agricultural produce, would, at the present relative value, command only the quantity which would then have been worth £16 9s. 2d. These are the general results of the investigation. It may be curious and interesting to examine a few of the articles separately.

Butter and cheese have risen in price during that period 193 per cent.

Corn, flour, &c., have risen 161 per cent.

Cows have risen in price 209 per cent.

Horses have risen in price 267 per cent.

Wool has risen in price 169 per cent.

While cotton manufactures have fallen in price during that period 73 per cent.

Coals have fallen in price 60 per cent.

Iron and steel have fallen in price 45 per cent.

Linen manufactures have fallen in price 36 per cent.

And what is very curious, while wool has risen 169 per cent., woollen manufactures have fallen 10 per cent. in price.

These facts involve many most interesting and important considerations, to which we shall have occasion frequently to refer. And it must be remarked, that these calculations are in no way disturbed by any changes in the value of money during the interval, for whatever change in this respect has taken place, refers as much to one class of articles as to the other. The comparison is equally true, whatever changes have taken place in the value of our currency.

THE ADULTERATION OF SUGAR.

We have received several letters on the subject of the article which appeared under this head in our last paper, and as it is impossible to answer each correspondent individually, we shall classify their principal heads of inquiry, and thus reply to our friends collectively.

We are asked,—"Can we form any estimate of the amount of extraneous matter used in adulterating sugar?" The data which we possess are insufficient to enable us to reply with accuracy; but, from the evidence before us, we are sure that we are under the mark when we estimate it at one-fifth of the amount of moist sugar consumed in the United Empire.

"In what kinds of sugar is adulteration most practised?" In the coarser and browner kinds of moist sugar, which are principally used by the poorer classes of consumers. There is an old legal aphorism, *De minimis non curat lex*, which, in this as well as in many other instances, may be rendered "Laws were not made for the protection of the lower orders."

"Is there any test by which the adulteration of sugar may be detected?" A paper on the subject was read by Dr. Dalton at the meeting of the British Association in Manchester, and it will be found in the published Transactions of that body. But whoever sweetens a cup of tea with common moist sugar from a retail shop, and lets it stand for half an hour, will discover in the sediment just *grounds* for protesting against the sugar-monopoly.

"How does it happen that neither party in the state has directed attention to this grievance?" Hudibras will give the best answer to this query:—

> "Both parties join'd to do their best
> To shirk the public interest,
> And herded only in consults
> To put by one another's bolts."

Their mode of action was similar to that described in the old poem of the country squire:—

> "As pettyfoggers' dirty wiles
> Set John-a-Nokes on Peter Styles,
> Heedless of a whole country's curses,
> So they but pick the boobies' purses."

"Why do not the West Indian proprietors endeavour to put down such competition?" Because there is no competition at all; on the contrary, there is a strict alliance. Were it not for the adulteration, and the consequent apparent supply of the deficiency in the import of colonial sugar, the total inability of the colonies to give sufficient sugar for British consumption would be manifest to the empire. The adulterators are the firm adherents of the monopolists; and the aristocracy of the sugar hogshead are equally faithful to the chemists of the slaughter-house, and other places of less odorous name.

"Why do not the Government interfere to prevent the injury to the revenue?" While monopoly continues adulteration causes no loss to the revenue. Every grain of sugar grown in the West Indies is imported into England, for there is no other country on the face of the earth, possessing inhabitants so stupid as to pay the price that we do to the lords of Mincing-lane. It is the monopoly that defrauds the revenue; were the sugar-duties equalized, the revenue, from the increased quantity of sugar consumed, would amount to more than the income-tax.

"How can the sugar-laws be laid to the charge of the Corn Laws?" The two monopolies mutually support each other; the county members vote for differential duties on colonial produce, and all the West Indian interest in the City went to the support of Corn-Law Baring. The sugar-lords and corn-lords act on the same principle that the Somerset lawyer described in his letter to another limb of the legal profession:—

> "There are two brothers in the West
> Who are well feather'd in their nest;
> Do you pluck one, I'll pluck the other;
> So fare-you-well, my loving brother."

"Is poison Doctor Peel's prescription?" Doctor Peel is compelled to employ Stanley, Goulburn, and Gladstone as medical apprentices; he hands John Bull to them in the style that old Ratcliffe gave up a patient to an inferior practitioner, saying, "This is a rich Wiltshire grazier, make the most of him."

"Would not the consumption of Brazilian sugar encourage slavery?" Just as much as the consumption of Georgian cotton and Virginian tobacco encourages slavery. No one objects to the slave-grown cotton and tobacco, because there is no monopoly in these articles. Slave-grown sugar is actually consumed in the West Indian colonies themselves, for the planters and negroes would not pay the same price for the sugar they consume themselves that they have the conscience to charge us. They send us the dear sugar, which they compel us to take; they purchase the cheap sugar for their own consumption; and, while they pocket the difference, piously pray to Heaven that British credulity may continue.

"Do not pious people object to use slave-grown sugar?" Piety is made the excuse for knavery and folly in more instances than the sugar question. It was even made the pretext for the slave trade. Lord Sandon is the senator who pretends to defend the sugar monopoly on religious grounds; and he exhibited a lively emblem of himself, his party, and his argument, when he paraded a block of wood, bound as a Bible, at the Liverpool election; it was a perfect similitude of the monopolist pharisees, "hypocrisy outside, and stupidity within."

"Do not the West Indians promise amendment by *trying* to increase the quantity of sugar grown in the colonies?" They do, because they are afraid of the Free Traders. But "whilst the grass grows the steed starves;" the proverb is somewhat musty. It is only the old story over again, and we leave our readers to reflect on its application:—

> "When the Devil was sick, the Devil a monk would be;
> When the Devil got well, the devil a monk was he."

THE EAST LOTHIAN FARMERS.

The landlords of East Lothian, it appears, have been astonished beyond measure at the success of the League among the farmers at the Haddington meeting, and especially at the array of names exhibited in the published report of the proceedings. They, no doubt, felt that their monopoly must be in danger, when, as the reports show, eighty of the leading farmers of the county attended the meeting, and concurred in the Free-Trade resolution, which was passed with only one hand held up against it. With these feelings the landlords set their factors to work to endeavour to coerce certain of their tenants who had attended the meeting into signing a hostile declaration, which appears in our paper as an advertisement, but with only eighteen signatures—these being all they could procure out of eighty-one names mentioned in the report as being present. Against this deduction may be placed many other farmers who attended, and whose names were not inserted in the report, including the following:—J. Hood, New Mains; Hay, Barbauchlaw; J. Ainslie, Samuelston; Anderson, Pinkerton; Alex. Howden, Traprain; J. Crawford, Heugh; Binny, Seton; Hogg, Begbie; Johnston, Lethem Mains; A. Nelson, Kirkland Hill; Harvey, Stevenson Mains; Taylor, Peatcox; Vernor, Hillhead. None of these were included in the original list; and others, we are informed, might easily be collected, who were also present. Some of the reasons stated in the hostile declaration are not a little curious. One of them is, that the parties *abstained from expressing their sentiments*, believing that the composition of the meeting precluded all chance of dispassionate consideration. Now, one of the names affixed to the document is that of Mr. "John C. Shepherd, Gleghornie," who did express his sentiments at some length, and who likewise put a number of questions to Mr. Cobden, from whom he received the most candid answers; and Mr. Shepherd's mouth was stopped only by a question put to him by an old farm-labourer, which he was unable to answer without admitting the fallacy of his theory that wages would be high or low as the price of corn was high or low. The question which the workman put was, "How then did it happen that, when he had been obliged to pay 3s. 6d. for a peck of meal, his wages had never been increased above the former rate of 1s. 6d. a day?" This was a poser to Mr. Shepherd, and shut his mouth. It seems odd that the persons present who disapproved of the Free-Trade resolution did not hold up their hands against it when Mr. Shepherd held up his. Surely this simple act did not depend on the composition of the meeting, and might have been easily performed. But perhaps the most extraordinary part of the document is the concluding statement, that "several of the tenants mentioned as being present did not attend the meeting." It will be observed they do not say that several of *themselves* did not attend the meeting. This would have been rather too much. But they say that "several of the tenants" did not attend; at the same time, however, taking good care *not to mention the name of a single person who was absent!* The *Advertiser* of yesterday has half a column of strange stuff upon this meeting. Whether he wrote in entire ignorance of the facts, or in heroic disregard of them, we shall not pretend to decide.—*Scotsman of Wednesday.*

LIVERPOOL ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION.

We have to acknowledge the untiring zeal of many individual members and kindred associations in every part of the kingdom; but for systematic energy, and comprehensive practical usefulness, the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association stands foremost among all the adjuncts of the League.

Few indeed *can* have such a noble field for their exertions—the town is ruled both in and out of Parliament by parties who fancy that "Ships, Colonies, and Commerce" are fostered by monopolies of timber and sugar! and most of the farmers in the surrounding districts are overawed by the stewards and bailiffs of the monopolizing squires.

All this array of difficulties seems, however, only to have stimulated the friends of Free Trade in Liverpool to greater activity, and at last, after two years' incessant labours, they have the satisfaction of seeing their townsmen fairly aroused to the importance of the subject.

Now we wish to direct the attention of our friends (for we know they have zeal enough) to the plan upon which their agitation is conducted.

They have a managing council of about 20, a president, secretary, and treasurer, with a really efficient business committee, meeting twice a week. This committee works in earnest, for they lecture at least once a week in the town (always inviting discussion by placard), besides holding frequent meetings in the neighbouring towns and villages. Then once a month a public meeting is called in the Amphitheatre, when 3000 to 4000 persons crowd to hear the distinguished strangers. At all these meetings, and daily at the offices of the Association, great numbers of tracts, essays, and pamphlets, on the subject of Free Trade, are gratuitously distributed, which have made the question between Monopoly and Free Trade so generally understood among the working classes, that we imagine the usual claptraps about protection will fall very *flat* from the hustings at the next election.

Much, however, remains to be done; and, knowing this, we should be unwilling to say anything calculated to relax the efforts of the Free Traders of Liverpool, did we not also know that they have *looked their difficulties in the face*, and are not the men to rest satisfied with any success short of that final and complete success which is to be won by perseverance in the course which they have so nobly begun.

Free Trade Meeting at Woodside.—On Tuesday evening last a very numerous and respectable meeting was held at the Town-hall, Woodside, for the purpose of hearing a lecture delivered by a member of the council of the Anti-Monopoly Association, on the important and all engrossing subject of Free Trade. Among the audience we observed a number of ladies. The business of the evening was commenced at half-past seven o'clock by Christopher Bentham, who moved that Edward Brodribb, Esq., should take the chair. This motion, being seconded by Daniel Harrison, Esq., was carried unanimously, when the chairman opened the proceedings in a neat and appropriate speech, impressing upon the audience the importance of the subject they were met to consider, and inviting discussion upon it. He then introduced Mr. I. B. Cooke to the meeting, who delivered a lengthy and very eloquent lecture upon the above-named subject. An interesting discussion arose, in which some objections to the views of the lecturer were urged by Mr. Welch, architect, and an operative Chartist, which, being ably answered by Mr. H. Edwards and others, a resolution, condemnatory of the protective system, was proposed and carried unanimously, and the meeting separated about ten o'clock.

Free-Trade Meeting at Runcorn.—On Wednesday last a public meeting was held, in the Foresters' Hall, to hear the addresses of the deputation from the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, which were listened to with marked attention; and, after a few very

appropriate remarks from Mr. Headley, the chairman, a resolution in favour of the "*Total and immediate repeal of all monopolies*" was proposed by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. R. Lancaster, and carried unanimously. The meeting was decidedly a "good muster," and much interest was excited by some samples of prohibited foreign sugar, marked *best moist brown*, 2¼d.; white loaf, 8d. per lb., in bond.

ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION.—On Thursday evening, under the auspices of this association, Mr. J. B. Newhall, from the territory of Iowa, United States, delivered an address in the Music Hall, on the resources of the western states of America, and the mutual advantages of a free intercourse between England and the United States. Mr. Henry Binns was called to the chair, and the lecturer was listened to by a numerous audience with the most marked attention. We regret that the crowded state of our columns precludes us from giving a longer notice of his able statement of the capabilities of the vast plains on the shores of the Mississippi, the wants of the people, and the desire of the back settlers to obtain the manufactures of Birmingham, Manchester, and Sheffield, in exchange for the produce of their soil.—*Liverpool Albion.*

FORFAR ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Anti-Corn-Law Association was held last Monday evening, in the Town-hall. Bailie Booth in the chair. After the election of office-bearers, several resolutions were moved and seconded, and unanimously carried, approving of the past proceedings of the League, and expressing confidence in its future movements. The friends of the cause here are in high spirits with respect to the progress which Corn-Law repeal is making throughout the country generally, and among the farmers in particular.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURE AT JARROW.—The South Shields Anti-Corn-Law Association having resolved to adopt measures for diffusing information in their vicinity with regard to the Corn Laws, a deputation of their committee, consisting of Messrs. Bell, Ayton, and Carr, accompanied Mr. Liddell to this place on Wednesday evening, who had been announced to deliver a lecture. The lecture was delivered in the New Connexion Chapel, which had been kindly and readily granted by the trustees. The audience was numerous, including a great number of the fair sex. The lecture was heard with the greatest attention, and repeatedly applauded.

DR. SLEIGH AT SADDLEWORTH.—On Friday evening, October 27th, Dr. Sleigh (the Buckingham doctor) gave what he called a lecture, at the Swan Inn, Dobeross. The subject should have been "A better protection to labour;" but nearly the whole lecture consisted of tirades of abuse against masters, Free Trade, and the Anti-Corn-Law League. At the close of the compound of stuff, Mr. James Greaves put several questions to him, and ultimately challenged him to discuss the question of the necessity and justice of a repeal of the Corn Laws, and also the benefits of Free Trade to all classes, in any public assembly of the people where all might come to hear who chose to do so. The doctor, however, declined, probably not relishing the decision of an unpacked meeting; alleging that he wished first to meet Mr. Cobden or Bright, to argue the matter with them. James Lees, Esq., of Delph Lodge, also combated the doctor's views and assertions, mentioning that a repeal of the Corn Laws, and the adoption of Free-Trade principles, would be of great and lasting benefit to the nation. He also challenged the doctor to meet him in any public assembly of his parishioners (but not in a packed meeting like the present); and such was his confidence in the good sense of the people, that he would place £100 down, if the doctor or his friends would place a similar sum; and after an open, fair discussion on Free-Trade principles, the party who had the majority should take up the money, and hand it over to the overseers, for the benefit of the poor of the parish; or, if the doctor liked better to have it in a room, they would have 300 tickets, 150 for each party, and he would abide by the assembly's decision. The doctor, not liking either plan, again declined. The redoubtable Joshua Hobson, the publisher or editor of the *Northern Star*, then came to the rescue of the doctor, and spoke about two hours in the true *Ferrand style*, abusing masters and employers, the Free Traders, and the Anti-Corn-Law League; his speech being a mixture of Chartism and Toryism, and a compound of heterogeneous absurdities. A resolution was moved in favour of the Buckingham doctor's panacea for all our social ills, or, in other words, as John Brooks says, for the new *red herring trail*: it was declared to be carried. There were but a few Free Traders present, as the distribution of the tickets had been quite exclusive, and confined to the Tories, and their workmen and friends.

THE MUTUAL DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.—The remark of Mr. Webster, at the late anniversary dinner of the New York Agricultural Society, on the importance of manufactures to a country, and especially to the landed interest, on account of their "furnishing to the *surplus* productions of agriculture the best possible market," contain the severest censure that could be uttered on the *Standard's* memorable saying, that "England would be as great and powerful, and all *useful* Englishmen as happy as they now are, though the whole of the manufacturing districts were engulphed in ruin." Had the ministerial organ not been utterly blinded by its hatred of the manufacturers of Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, it might surely have seen that the industrious classes of those towns, who, within the last century, have quadrupled the landed rental of Great Britain, are quite as useful a class of Englishmen as the cultivators of the soil. From the speech delivered by Sir Robert Peel last week, at the annual dinner of the Tamworth Farmers' Club, it appears that he entirely agrees with Mr. Webster, as to the dependence of agriculture on the prosperity of manufactures. On that occasion, after adverting to the various advantages which the farmers of the district possessed, he went on to show what benefits they derived from their vicinity to a large manufacturing town. "We have other advantages," said the right hon. baronet, "we live in the neighbourhood of a great manufacturing district. We know of what importance to us is the town of Birmingham, and the great iron district of this country. We know what influence it has on the demand for our produce. We have ample experience that, with the increase or decay of its prosperity, there is a corresponding sympathy on the part of agriculture to increase or decay. We have, therefore, not only a country favoured by nature, but we have the advantage of a great manufacturing district creating a market for our produce." What is here said by the Premier with regard to Birmingham will apply to every other manufacturing town in the kingdom. When the price of food rises, owing to its scarcity, the farmers or the corn dealers may reap a good harvest at first, till the savings of the labouring classes are exhausted. But let the scarcity continue for a few years, and the diminished means of the manufacturing operatives begins to tell upon markets, as was clearly proved last year. As an illustration of the mode in which the provision trade is affected by a long period of depression in the manufacturing districts, we called attention, twelve months ago, to the very great falling off which had taken place in the number of pigs imported into Liverpool from Ireland last year as compared with periods of prosperity. We have now much pleasure in quoting the returns of that important branch of home traffic, as an index of the improvement in the condition of the operative classes, which has lately been going on. The returns we published in the beginning of November last year showed that, in 1842, up to the 24th of October inclusive, only 145,582 pigs had been imported into Liverpool from Ireland, which was an immense falling off compared with 1837. In 1843, up to the 23rd of October inclusive, the number imported was 206,618; showing an increase, during that period, of no less than 61,136, or more than forty per cent. over the imports of last year. What a striking instance is here afforded of the connexion between manufacturing prosperity and the demand for agricultural produce.—*Manchester Guardian.*

At the Covent-garden meeting (after the City election) Mr. Cobden observed—"Mr. Baring tells us that he admits our principles to be true only in the abstract, *i. e.*, that his own principles are untrue in the abstract. (A laugh.) Did you ever hear of a father teaching his child to obey the ten commandments in the abstract? (A laugh.) Did you ever know the plea go down at the Old Bailey, after a verdict of guilty—'Tis true I stole the pocket-handkerchief in the abstract?' (A laugh.) Is monopoly an abstraction? If it be, I have done with Mr. Baring and this election. But it presents itself in a bodily shape, in the shape of certain monopolists, who diminish one-half of the supply of our sugar, and take a large slice off every loaf that is brought to our table. *Now that is no abstraction.*" We differ from Mr. Cobden. It seems to us that taking a large slice from every loaf is a decided abstraction in the strictest sense of the word. The Corn-Law folks are addicted to abstractions in every way. They abstract from the industry and wealth of the country, and the food of the people. Their abstract principle is to abstract all they can. The question is not, as Mr. Cobden puts it, whether the pickpocket will say, "'Tis true I stole the pocket-handkerchief in the abstract." The pickpocket says, "'Tis true I abstracted the pocket-handkerchief, but no one can respect more than I do the commandment that forbids stealing—that is to say, as a general principle, and in the abstract; but there are circumstances to which that rule cannot be practically applied, especially where long habits to the contrary have been founded, and the usage of abstracting established against the abstract principle of honesty." Every one admits the force of the commandments in the abstract. It is in the application only that the disobedience begins and ends. To say that a principle is good in the abstract, but not applicable, is saying in plainer and shorter terms that it is good for nothing. A principle only fit for suspension must be like a man only fit for hanging. Orlando's horse, which had every good quality that horse could have, and only the one fault of being dead, is the type of excellent abstract principle not capable of application.—*Examiner.*

MR. PATTISON, M.P. FOR LONDON.—The following particulars regarding Mr. Pattison's family will be interesting at the present moment. His grandfather settled in Congleton in 1755, and died the year following. He had been a merchant in London, where he was much respected, and came to Congleton as director of the Old Mill, where, by his great ability and unwearied application, he rendered most important service to the town of Congleton and the surrounding neighbourhood. He lived to see the manufacturing establishment of which he had undertaken the superintendence, completed, and died in 1756, aged 30. His son, Nathaniel, succeeded him in the mill. The member for London left Congleton, and settled in London as a silk merchant, during the lifetime of his father, who died in 1827, after having repeatedly filled the office of mayor of the borough. On the death of his father, he sold the Old Mill and the West House to their present owner, Samuel Pearson, Esq. He has always been very kind to many poor persons in Congleton, to a number of whom he still continues his benefactions. The denizens of the borough manifest a reasonable pride in the high distinction which their quondam townsman has attained.—*Macclesfield and Congleton Chronicle.*

O'CONNOR AND MACHINERY.—At the late Chartist meeting at Gateshead, Mr. O'Connor made a deadly onslaught against machinery as one of the greatest curses of modern times. He was, it seems, very smart at the expense of those hard-hearted men of machinery, Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and drew an appalling picture of their influence over the labour-market. If we are to believe Mr. O'Connor, they are little less than manufacturing magicians, wielding machinery of such marvellous potency that the people are but pigmies in their grasp, and have no choice but to obey their every will. On this the *Gateshead Observer* well remarks—"But pray, Mr. O'Connor, why limit your all-comprehensive mind to the machinery of the Lancashire manufacturers? Why not direct the attention of the people of Newcastle to your *own* machinery? *You* and *we* make use of 'machines' in the manufacture of *our* 'prints,' just as Mr. Cobden does in the manufacture of *his* 'prints.' The *Northern Star* is produced by a 'printing machine.' Why does Mr. O'Connor, the proprietor of that journal, call a 'machine' to his aid, if machinery be hurtful to the interests of the people? And why, if it be allowable in him to work a machine, are Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright to be branded as enemies of the people, because they too employ machines in the exercise of their vocations? Mr. O'Connor, by means of his printing machine, can produce 2000 copies of the *Star* per hour, or thereabouts. If he were to make use of the 'press,' which the machine superseded, the printing of these 2000 copies, instead of *one* hour, would occupy at least *sixteen* hours! Now, Mr. O'Connor, we find by the Stamp Returns, required 104,000 sheets of stamped paper in the months of April, May, and June, in the present year. These give an average weekly circulation of 8000 *Stars*; which, by means of his machine, he will print in about four hours. We can't speak as to the exact time, having no information as to the kind of machine which Mr. O'Connor uses; but it is not necessary for our argument that we should be precise. He will print his 8000 in *four* hours—there or thereabouts. Were he to use the old-fashioned printing press, his weekly circulation would occupy in its production upwards of SIXTY-*four* hours, or far on to three days! Is it not disgraceful, we ask, in Mr. O'Connor, the professing friend of the people, to 'supersede human labour' after this wholesale fashion, by the use of his infernal 'machine?'"

The following table shows the importance of the commerce between Great Britain and the United States:—

COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES, 1843.

(From the *Boston Daily Advertiser.*)

Imports from		Exports to	Balance of Trade.	
	dollars.	dollars.	dollars.	
Great Britain and British dependencies..	38,613,000	42,500,000	3,900,000	in our [favour.
France and her dependencies	17,233,000	18,738,000	1,500,000	,,
Spain and her dependencies	13,450,000	6,300,000	7,150,000	agst.
Russia	1,350,000	836,000	500,000	,,
America, other than the United States	13,000,000	7,000,000	6,000,000	,,
China	5,000,000	1,500,000	3,500,000	,,
Holland	1,000,000	3,500,000	2,500,000	inour
Hanse Towns	2,200,000	4,400,000	2,200,000	favr.
Total	100,162,000	104,691,000	4,500,000	,,

It will be seen that nearly half our commerce is with England and her colonies, and that the balance of trade was last year in our favour, and that the balance against us in Spain, Russia, America, and China, is made up by England, France, Holland, and the Hanse Towns, and numerous other places where the trade is comparatively small.

"INDEPENDENCE OF FORRIGNERS."—The Japanese persist in their preference of the matchlock to the musket; the reason of which the Dutch conjecture to be, neither dulness of perception to the superiority of the latter, nor a prejudiced adherence to that to which they are accustomed, but a deficiency of flints in the geological formation of their country, and their determined aversion to dependence upon foreigners for anything essential to their military equipment.—*Manners and Customs of the Japanese.*

SULPHUR.—A HINT TO MONOPOLISTS.—Reflecting upon the important influence which the price of sulphur exercises upon the cost of production of bleached and printed cotton stuffs, soap, glass, &c., and remembering that Great Britain supplies America, Spain, Portugal, and the East, with these, exchanging them for raw cotton, silk, wine, raisins, indigo, &c. &c., we can understand why the English Government should have resolved to resort to war with Naples, in order to abolish the sulphur monopoly, which the latter Power attempted recently to establish. Nothing could be more opposed to the true interests of Sicily than such a monopoly; indeed, had it been maintained a few years, it is highly probable that sulphur, the source of her wealth, would have been rendered perfectly valueless to her. Science and industry form a power to which it is dangerous to present impediments. It was not difficult to perceive that the issue would be the entire cessation of the exportation of sulphur from Sicily. In the short period the sulphur monopoly lasted, fifteen patents were taken out for methods to obtain back the sulphuric acid used in making soda. Admitting that these fifteen experiments were not perfectly successful, there can be no doubt it would ere long have been accomplished. But then, in gypsum (sulphate of lime,) and in heavy spar (sulphate of barytes), we possess mountains of sulphuric acid; in galena (sulphate of lead), and in iron pyrites, we have no less abundance of sulphur. The problem is, how to separate the sulphuric acid, or the sulphur, from these native stores. Hundreds of thousands of pounds weight of sulphuric acid were prepared from iron pyrites, while the high price of sulphur consequent upon the monopoly lasted. We should probably ere long have triumphed over all difficulties, and have separated it from gypsum. The impulse has been given, the possibility of the process proved; and it may happen in a few years that the inconsiderate financial speculation of Naples may deprive her of that lucrative commerce.—*Liebig's Chemistry.*

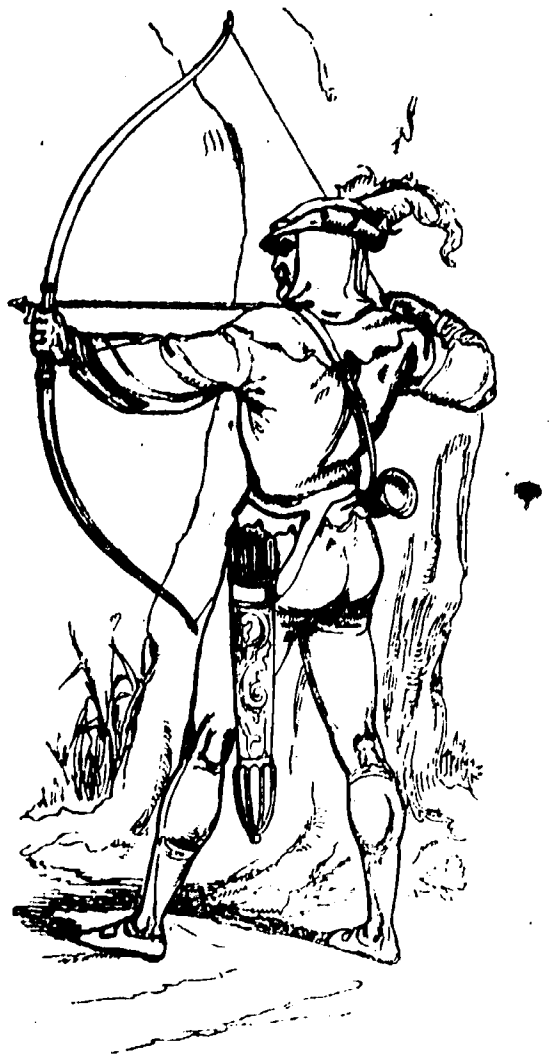
REVIEW.

The Book of British Ballads. Edited by S. C. Hall, Esq., F.S.A. London: How.

Instead of noticing this beautiful book under the head of the Fine Arts, a place to which it is entitled by the superior exquisiteness of its illustrative decorations, we propose to examine a few of the historical ballads in this and similar collections which tend to illustrate the bold and persevering spirit of our Anglo-Saxon ancestors, the stern resistance which they opposed to aristocratic tyranny, and their gallant opposition to Norman oppression. The English King was slain, but the English spirit was not broken at the fatal fight of Hastings; peers and prelates, indeed, hastened to make terms with the Norman invaders; but the Saxon yeomanry—the progenitors of that healthy middle class to which alone England is entitled for its exalted rank in the scale of nations—refused to bend the proud head or receive a yoke on the stubborn neck. Deserted by those who ought to have been their leaders, they sought shelter in the marshes and the hills and the forests, where they maintained a sturdy independence, until Norman tyranny capitulated, and equal laws—equal at least in their professions—were established by the Plantagenets, particularly by Edward III., whose triumphs over the prejudices of race in England were infinitely more glorious than his victories and conquests in France and Scotland.

A celebrated general declared that "the English infantry was never beaten." Without entering into any criticism of our military history to show within what limitations this aphorism is to be received, we may say with much less fear of contradiction that the spirit of the English commons was never broken. Through the kindness of the publisher of the "Book of British Ballads," we are enabled to give a few pictorial sketches of the bold foresters who supported the struggle for Saxon freedom when the tide of Norman invasion swept over the land; and these sketches, exhibiting a rare union of artistic skill with historical fidelity, will give our readers a better notion of the brave old English yeoman than pages of antiquarian description.

The Norman invaders used the crossbow, the spear, and the sabre as their weapons; these were the arms of men accustomed to discipline, and for the most part of those mercenary bands which, in the middle ages, were ready to take service under any banner or in any cause to which it pleased their leader to hire their services. The English yeoman, proud in his individuality and firmly resolved on the maintenance of his personal independence, trusted to his plain bow, to his heavy sword, and to his Saxon whittle, which performed the double functions of knife and dagger. These were the weapons of men who confided in themselves, and who took up arms to protect their own rights, not to gratify the ambition of a despot or extend the fame of an aristocratic leader. There is a remarkable contrast between the war-songs of the Normans and the Saxons in this particular: the incentives to Norman courage were promises of plunder and of glory; but the English commons asserted their cause of war



in such strains as one of our old ballads ascribes to the men of Kent, when they bearded the Conqueror in his pride, and obtained from him a confirmation of their ancient privileges:—

"Let us not yield, like bondmen poor,
To Frenchmen in their pride,
But keep our ancient liberty,
What chance soe'er betide;
And rather dye in bloody field,
With manly courage prest,
Than to endure the servile yoke
Which we so much detest."

The historians of the Norman ascendency—and ascendency has generally been successful in securing the monopoly of history—stigmatised these men as "outlaws:" but it would be well if they had described to us *the law* of which these men were *out*. They have not told us, that it was a law by which hundreds of the Saxon peasantry were driven from their habitations with as little remorse as an Irish landlord exhibits in clearing his estate to make room for forest preserves and game preserves, to afford amusement to the titled adventurers who had obtained manorial grants from the Norman bastard. They have not informed us that when the peasants thus expelled were driven by sheer hunger to kill any of the animals which usurped the place formerly tenanted by their cattle, they were hunted down like wild beasts, tied to the trees of the forest either to perish by the lingering death of hunger, or to wait until the man-hunters had completed their quest after the slayers of the deer, and had sufficient leisure to superintend individual executions. It was against such laws—which the Norman aristocracy maintained with relentless severity, and to the shadow of which, in the game-laws, the landed aristocracy of England have too long clung with a pertinacity equally senseless and oppressive—that the Saxon foresters strenously contended and finally succeeded in breaking some of the most galling links in the chain of feudalism. To us they bequeathed the task of completing the national deliverance; and we are unworthy of our descent from these free nobles of "God's own making," if, under the guise of Corn Laws, we consent to pay a tax to the landed aristocracy for permission to live and breathe in the country of our freeborn forefathers. It was the cruel and wicked policy of the Norman lords to starve the Saxon population into submission to slavery; it is the policy still of those who have inherited the Norman power without the Norman prowess, who have therefore substituted fraud for force, and who employ deception in the senate instead of courage in the field. It is not attempted to be disguised that our food is taxed to support aristocratic extravagance. Lord Mountcashel and Sir Edward Knatchbull have very plainly told us that the labouring classes must be half-fed and half-starved, in order that the price of the food thus wrested from them should go to pay mortgages, settlements, and other encumbrances with which the landed proprietors, through folly, pride, or profligacy, have chosen to diminish the honest rental of their estates.

Our Saxon ancestors had to resist open robbery,

and were obliged to have recourse to violent means, because it was by violence that they were attacked. Their courage obtained for us the constitutional weapons which we are enabled to wield in the honourable field of peaceful and legal agitation. Swords need not leap from their scabbards or arrows spring from their quivers, at the note of a popular leader; but there is still as much need of the resolution to be firm and the determination to be free. No bugle note is rung "in the merry greenwood;" but a summons, not less peremptory, is issued when the friends of freedom are called to assert the rights of themselves and of their countrymen at the hustings and in the polling-booth. "The battle of the constitution," said the Premier, "is to be fought in the Registration Courts;" but the victory is to be decided on the day of election, and every voter has then an opportunity of determining whether he will stand by his order and by the cause for which his Saxon ancestors dared every peril, or whether he will be the mercenary and voluntary slave of the representatives of the old oppressors of England.

In Robin Hood's days, as in ours, there were

persons found who—though bound by birth, position, and natural interest, to the popular cause—were won by paltry bribes or the still more paltry hope of sharing the pomp of ascendency and fashion established by the Normans, to join in the oppression of their brethren, and even to lay plots for the

destruction of the popular leaders. The nursery ballads of our childhood have taught us, even in infancy, to execrate the names of the traitors. The attempt of Guy of Gisborne to destroy bold Robin Hood, has made Guy's memory odious and detestable wherever the English language is spoken. But not less reprobation is due to him whose venal vote betrays the popular cause in the constitutional struggle at an election; and future generations will equally brand their memory with the stigma of treachery and treason. It matters not that the nature of the warfare has been changed, that the power of the aristocracy against which we have to contend possesses not the physical force of the Norman chivalry: our duty to our ancestors, ourselves, and our posterity, remains the same; and desertion in the constitutional combat is as disgraceful, or rather is infinitely more infamous, than in the insurrectionary struggle.

It may be a question among antiquarians whether Robin Hood was a real personage, or whether he was merely the imaginary type of Saxon resistance to Norman tyranny. The sketch before us is equally true to history; the Saxon foresters, with no other protection than their naked jerkins, frequently met and discomfited their mail-clad oppressors; and had they not thus manfully sustained the cause of freedom, the English people would have been no higher in the social scale than the serfs of Russia, and the very name of the British constitution would have been unknown. But, while they bequeathed to us the rights which they thus won through ages of protracted struggle, they also imposed upon us the obligation of defending, for those who have to follow us, the franchises which our predecessors won "mid dangers, wounds, and slaughter," and never intermitting our efforts for the establishment of freedom, until the last link of the chain that clanked on the limbs of Englishmen be for ever riven asunder.

Nearly eight hundred years have elapsed since the Norman yoke was first imposed on freeborn Englishmen, and complete enfranchisement from it has not yet been obtained. The struggle to maintain tyrannical ascendency on one side, and to vindicate equal rights on the other, has been renewed periodically in countless forms. It has now assumed the tranquil form of a constitutional struggle; and, instead of the old watchword "be brave," we have only to say to our countrymen—"Be honest." We must not, however, disguise that there is as much courage required to be honest in these da s as to be brave in the days of Hood and Hereward. Patronage, bribes, and favours are as dangerous in the constitutional struggle as were crossbows and battle-axes in the physical contest; but the same sturdy Saxon spirit which broke down the weapons of open war will, we trust, prove equally efficacious in the less palpable but not less perilous resistance to the weapons of corruption. We share the confidence which even in a darker period of our history was felt and expressed by the Bard of Hope—

"We're the sons of sires that baffled
Crowned and mitred tyranny;
They defied the sword and scaffold
For their birthright—so will we."

Friendship's Offering for 1844. Edited by Leitch Ritchie, Esq. London: Smith and Elder.

This volume, one of the few survivors of the gay and fluttering tribe of "butterfly-books," which some years ago flourished in the sunshine of ephemeral popularity, deserves the distinction of protracted existence, for its proprietors, without increasing the price, have greatly increased its literary merits, and more than doubled its ornamental attractions. On such matters as binding, gilding, and other decorations, we deem it unnecessary to dwell; we need only say that they render the book a real ornament to the drawing-room table. Among the plates we may specify the "Umpires of the Combat," the "Look-out," and the "Maiden Tower" as creditable specimens of English art; but we are principally induced to notice the volume on account of its literary contents, which present a variety of excellence that has rarely been rivalled. "The Immoral Essays" of the editor are among the best specimens of grave irony which we have seen for many a day; Barry Cornwall has contributed some lyrics written in the racy style which belongs to the best modern follower of the Elizabethan school of English literature; and the Oxford Student has given a spirited romaunt of the battle of Monte-notte, which is among the most successful of the attempts made to unite poetry with the details of modern warfare. The greatest curiosity of the work is a poem by a native of Bengal, and we quote one stanza as a singular instance of the mastery not only over the English language, but over the delicacies of English melody and versification acquired in the remote East:—

"The lofty hall and trellised bower,—
Where waved the stately plume,
And brightly glanced the midnight gem,
And flowers breathed rich perfume,—
They flash o'er memory's darken'd eye,
Like lightnings through a storm;
And with them starts to claim a sigh
Each well-known friendly form."

We have received this volume rather late; but we are glad to see that this our oldest favourite among the annuals, though it comes with a new face, has lost none of the qualities which rendered its former presence acceptable.

Poems, by Samuel Bamford, author of "Passages in the Life of a Radical." Manchester: published for the Author.

These poems are the production of a remarkable man, who has acted much and thought more; he is a noble specimen of the progress and tendency of mind among the operative class to which he belongs, not merely by birth and position, but by deliberate preference and choice. On some future occasion we shall probably direct the attention of our readers to the valuable autobiography he has published under the title of "Some Passages in the Life of a Radical." Our present purpose is merely to show the deep current of feeling which runs through the hearts of the Lancashire operatives, and which occasionally manifests its existence by throwing to the surface such specimens of stern feeling as the following stanzas, taken from our author's "Pass of Death":—

"For Death stood in the path of Time,
And slew them as they came,
And not a soul escap'd his hand,
So certain was his aim.
The beggar fell across his staff,
The soldier on his sword,
The king sank down beneath his crown,
The priest beside the Word.

"And Youth came in his blush of health,
And in a moment fell;
And Avarice, grasping still at wealth,
Was rolled into hell;
And Age stood trembling at the pass,
And would have turned again;
But Time said, 'No, 'tis never so,
Thou canst not here remain.'

"The bride came in her wedding robe—
But that did nought avail;
Her ruby lips went cold and blue,
Her rosy cheek turn'd pale!
And some were hurried from the ball,
And some came from the play;
And some were eating to the last,
And some with wine were gay.

"And some were ravenous for food,
And rais'd seditious cries;
But being a 'legitimate,'
Death quickly stopp'd their noise;
The father left his infant brood
Amid the world to weep;
And the mother died whilst her babe
Lay smiling in its sleep!"

The following effusion is of a more gentle kind; it will remind the reader of the Ayshire bard's "Address to a Daisy":—

"TO A SNOWDROP.

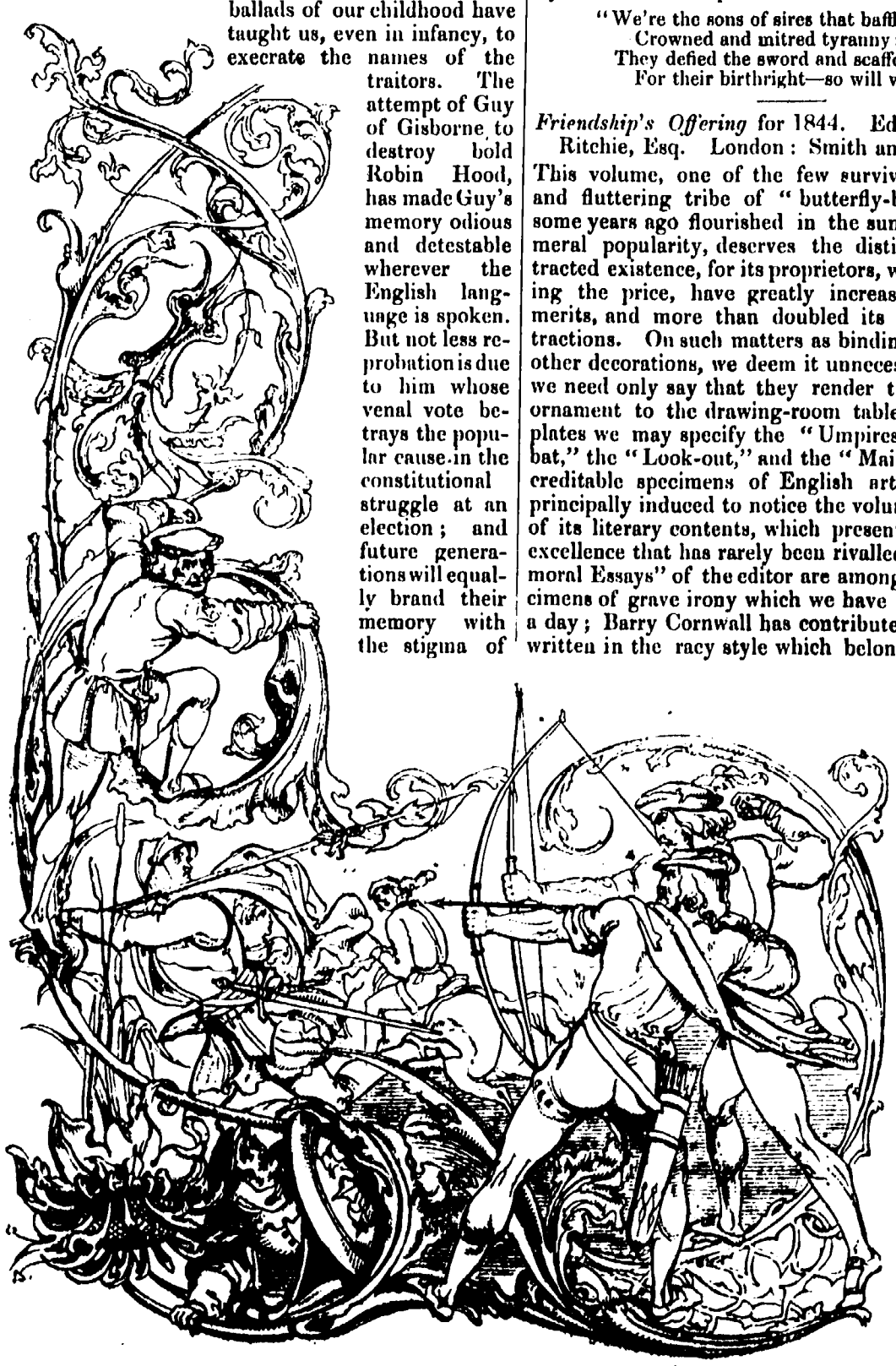
"Welcome, thou little modest flower!
Thou venturest forth in stormy hour,
Bending thine head beneath the shower,
So meek and low;
Smiling at hoary winter's lour,
Amongst the snow.

"Welcome, thou little bonny thing!
Glad are the tidings thou dost bring;
Soon will the grass begin to spring,
The trees to bud,
And feathered songsters sweetly sing
In yonder wood.

"But ah! too short will be thy stay,
Lone guest of winter's dreary day!
Scarce will the sun upon the play
His beam of light,
Ere thou wilt wither and decay,
And sink in night.

"And so have many sunk beside;
Some dropping from their tow'ring pride—
Some in their lowliness have died.
Perchance I may
Look bright upon a stormy world,
And pass away!"

But the most popular of Bamford's songs, with those of his own order, is that which most forcibly expresses their feelings under a deep sense of the wrong done them by tortuous and unequal taxation. They know and feel that the bread-tax, and the sugar-tax, and the other items in the litany of protection taxes, rob them of the larger portion of their hard earnings, and they are not willing that their wages should be diverted from the support of their families, pay the mortgages of extravagant peers, the settlement of improvident squires, or to avert bankruptcy from the lords of Mincing-lane. On such men the contemptible fallacies by which men of higher rank are duped, or, what is more probable, affect to be duped, excite only contempt and indignation. They answer them in strains of bold defiance, such as the following:—



"THE LABOURER'S ORISON AT SUNRISE.

"How pure the air, how sweet the breeze!
The dewy grass how vernal!
What being hath created these
But Thou, the great Eternal!
A world of goodness spreads around,
A heaven above doth bless me;
But man the foe of man is found,
And laws unjust oppress me!

"I gird me for another day
Of labour unrequited;
My Father and my Deity!
When shall these wrongs be righted?
Oh! stretch thine hand out o'er this land,
A strong, a just redresser,
And bid the prostrate poor upstand,
And humble the oppressor!

"We ask thee for our daily bread,
Our feeble lives to cherish;
And lo! a bounteous feast is spread,
That none for lack may perish.
But king and statesman, peer and priest,
Whom guile hath made the stronger,
Have driven Thy people from the feast,
Condemn'd to toil and hunger.

"Oh, Lord! how long shall this prevail?
How long thy judgments linger?
Our little ones for bread do wail,
Their mothers faint of hunger.
Afar we stand, a gloomy band,
Our worth, our wants neglected,
The children in their father-land
Cut off, despis'd, rejected!

"'Oh, Lord! how long,' the myriads pray,
'How long this sore despisement?'
'There is no God,' the oppressors say,
'To mete us out chastisement.'
But know, ye proud ye sordid crowd,
A storm shall yet o'ertake you,
When God's right hand comes o'er the land,
Like wither'd stems to break you!

"To humble your obdurate pride,
To ope your sealed garners,
Rough-shod, a mighty caus shall ride
O'er your uplifted scorners;
And change you like the feather'd snow,
The melting sun hung o'er it;
And whirl you as the wind doth blow
The desert dust before it!"

We may preach patience and contentment to those whose sufferings have found vent and utterance in the powerful lines we have quoted; but there are preachers far more powerful than we are, whose silent eloquence appeals more forcibly to the heart than all the oratory of Demosthenes and Cicero. Here are pictures, drawn to the life, of the true demagogues who spread discontent and dissatisfaction through the length and breadth of Britain. It would be a national blessing if our rulers paid attention to such sermons.

"GOD HELP THE POOR.

"God help the poor, who on this wintry morn
Come forth of alleys dim, and courts obscure!
God help yon poor pale girl, who droops forlorn,
And meekly her affliction doth endure!
God held the outcast lamb! she trembling stands,
All wan her lips, and frozen red her hands;
Her sunken eyes are modestly down cast;
Her night-black hair streams on the fitful blast;
Her bosom, passing fair, is half reveal'd;
And, oh! so cold, the snow lies there congeal'd;
Her feet benumb'd, her shoes all rent and worn:
God help thee, outcast lamb, who stand'st forlorn!
God help the poor!

"God help the poor! An infant's feeble wail
Comes from yon narrow gateway; and, behold,
A female crouching there, so deathly pale,
Huddling her child, to screen it from the cold!
Her vesture scant, her bonnet crush'd and torn;
A thin shawl doth her baby dear enfold:
And there she bides the ruthless gale of morn,
Which almost to her heart hath sent its cold!
And now she sudden darts a ravening look,
As one with new hot bread comes past the nook!
And, as the tempting load is onward borne,
She weeps. God help thee, hapless one forlorn!
God help the poor!

"God help the poor! Behold yon famish'd lad;
No shoes, nor hose, his wounded feet protect;
With limping gait, and looks so dreamy-sad,
He wanders onward, stopping to inspect
Each window stor'd with articles of food.
He yearns but to enjoy one cheering meal;
Oh! to his hungry palate, viands rude
Would yield a zest, the famish'd only feel!
He now devours a crust of mouldy bread;
With teeth and hands the precious boon is torn,
Unmindful of the storm which round his head
Impetuous sweeps. God help thee, child forlorn!
God help the poor!

"God help the poor! Another have I found,
A bow'd and venerable man is he;
His slouched hat with faded crape is bound;
His coat is grey, and threadbare too, I see
'The rude winds' seem to 'mock his hoary hair;'
His shirtless bosom to the blast is bare.'
Anon he turns, and casts a wistful eye,
And with scant napkin wipes the blinding spray:
And looks again, as if he fain would spy
Friends he hath feasted in his better day:
Ah! some are dead, and some have long forborne
To know the poor; and he is left forlorn!
God help the poor!

"God help the poor, who in lone valleys dwell,
Or by far hills, where whin and heather grow!
There is a story sad indeed to tell;
Yet little cares the world, and less 'twould know
About the toil and want they undergo.
The wearying loom must have them up at morn;
They work till worn out nature will have sleep;
They taste, but are not fed. The snow drifts deep
Around the fireless cot, and blocks the door;
The night-storm howls a dirge across the moor.
And shall they perish thus, oppress'd and lorn?
Shall toil and famine hopeless still be borne?
No! GOD will yet arise and HELP THE POOR!"

The classes that emulate the deaf adder, and shut their ear to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely, may affect to disdain the poetic menaces of a hand-loom weaver; but the statesman who can estimate the strength of the flood by the force with which it drives its foam-flashes to the surface, will see in these effusions the outward signs of a spirit working inwardly, which cannot be checked with safety nor neglected with impunity.

TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm.

FOURTH LETTER.

Mr. Brown in this letter has some remarks on the meadow pastures of Essex; on the tenures of the land within thirty miles of London; on the farms, farmers, and labourers in a part of Kent, with observations on the rick-yard burning of the latter county. He also, in this letter, goes to Berkshire.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I told you in my last letter of having been to look at some farms in Hertfordshire, and I promised to give you some farther account of the country adjoining London. There is really not much to describe, agriculturally speaking. In Essex, to the east, there are fine meadows, very extensive and very fruitful. They are held by graziers at moderate rents, £2 and £3 an acre. Whether they could be sufficiently drained for cultivation is beyond my power to say, as I have not had the means of examining the under strata; but my impression is that, what between pits sunk into the gravelly beds and artificial falls from reservoirs at low tide, the meadows even nearest the river could be drained. At all events you know from experience that if land is too wet to be cultivated, it is too wet to be grazed. In that case the grass should be cut, and cattle fed at the stall. This is not done in Essex. Were it done, the prodigious quantities of manure, liquid and solid, saved and applied, now lost, and the greater economy of grass, now trampled down and lost, would make the wet meadows much more valuable than they now are.

Farther down than I have yet been, much good wheat is grown, I am told. Nearer London the country for miles is studded with gardens, villas, mansions, and nurseries. Of the villas and mansions about one-half (I was told two-thirds, but from what I saw I shall say one-half) are always to be let or sold. This arises from the flatness, dampness, and consequent unwholesomeness of the country. The stranger arriving in London, who desires a country residence near it, and the Londoner who for the first time finds himself rich enough to go out of town to a country residence, goes to some of those pretty places with pretty names, which on a summer day look so Eden-like, between London and Epping Forest. But when winter and wet weather comes, with ague and the rheumatics, they seek to have their villas and gardens, mansions and parks, on the opposite side of London.

Epping Forest is a wide tract of woodland ten or twelve miles long, forming a distinctive feature in that part of Essex lying nearest the east of Hertfordshire, but, so far as I could see or hear, it is of little profit to any one. It has occasionally a good tree, but mere brushwood abounds. It has some pleasant villages on the outskirts. Some excellent farms both in Essex and Hertford have been taken from what was once the forest, and others might be taken with advantage; but, whenever an act is obtained for the enclosure of any common or part of a common in England, the result is the same as we have seen in Scotland—the great landlords swallow all, and leave those of the poor who had a right to the common landless. The original proprietors of much of the land near London—that is to say, from fifteen to thirty miles out—may be correctly guessed at, without searching old documents. I find that two-thirds of some large parishes in Kent, Surrey, Essex, and Hertford, are so confessedly the property of the parishioners, that the farmers who pay rent to the copyhold landlords must resign possession to the public every eight months. The result of which is, that a farmer can do little more than take a crop of hay from the farm; that the meadows, instead of being brought under profitable cultivation, at a rent of £3 or £4 an acre, are let for eight months of the year in grass at from 10s. to 15s. an acre. The right of commonage to the public is of little value, and might be easily purchased by the present copyholders; but they would never think of giving the commonalty of the parish an equivalent. The difference of ten shillings a year and three pounds a year per acre, one would think, might tempt them to be generous enough to offer an equivalent, such as to devote portions of land for garden ground in perpetuity to the present commoners, who as it is derive almost no benefit, save the luxury of freely trampling over every field and fence of the parish for four months of the year. The benefit to the public, in the greater supply of corn and cattle to the public markets, would be immense, were such alterations to become prevalent all over England; for these imperfect tenures exist in almost every county. The best means which I know of putting down the Anti-Corn-Law agitation, would be a supply of corn from England's own soil sufficient for all her people, which supply England is able to afford were her inhabitants double their present number. But the time has gone by. Before the revolution in agriculture could be accomplished, which would thus augment the supply of food, the tenures of the present time—so absurd and complicated, so obstructive of good culture, so ruinously restrictive of enterprise on the part of agriculturists—these tenures must be completely abrogated, and in their place new ones provided. Long before this could be done, supposing those who have an interest in the land were willing to make alterations, which they are not, the Corn Laws would be abolished.

I wish they were to-morrow, at least before you and I find it absolutely requisite to take another farm; and I wish it might be true that their abolition would cause a depression in the price and rent of land. We would then be able to make the better bargain with a lease, for it is my decided opinion that before twenty years passed, from the date of Free Trade, we would have as high prices for our produce as the average of these last twenty years. But I feel assured we shall not have land depressed in rent when the Corn Law is abolished. You and I would be more eager to take farms at that time than now; why should we not suppose that others would?

I went into Kent the other day, not far, only six or seven miles, in a circuit beyond Woolwich. You will see the district by referring to the map of the county, which I send. These maps of all the counties Mary got for you, that you might the better understand the description of our journeys. In that part of Kent, within fifteen miles of London, what do you think I saw? Why, six oxen yoked and drawing a plough! In another field I saw four horses in a plough. You would laugh; I did, until my sides split, almost, to see them at work. At each land-end they changed the mould board from the side to which it had just turned the furrow to the other side of the plough, that they may plough into the same furrow in returning! I dare say you will think me only joking, but it is a fact. With the six oxen, a man, a half-grown man, and a boy were employed; the first holding the plough, the two latter driving!!!

On the same farm, as indeed on all the farms I saw, each corn-field had its crop stacked within it in a large stack, like our haysow. Thus there was not only the labour of carting the sheaves to this stack, but there must be the additional labour of carting it once more to the barn to be threshed. I inquired of several people, farmers and others, why they did not take all the grain home to one general stackyard, where it would be handy for threshing, but none of them gave me any particular reason. One man, not a farmer, told me that, as so many ricks were every year burned by the peasantry, it was better not to have them all at one place, else, on one being set fire to, all would be burned!

The barns, too, are scattered over the farm, one here and one there; and I asked if the same reason caused them to be detached; and my informant said he supposed so. However, I rather attribute this wasteful custom to antiquity. It has always been the custom, and it is not altered now. The farmer does not know the advantage of a compact farm-steading; and the law agents, who manage all the estates in England, never heard, I suppose, of such a thing as a landlord being at the expense of a whole onstead at once.

There is no such thing as a threshing-mill in those parts. I was told that those people who burn the corn-stacks from malice, would also burn the barns and mill were one erected. This would, of course, make you and I pause before we would take a farm in Kent. What the causes of these outrages may be, I cannot precisely say. The people seem to me to be a loose race compared with our hinds. For instance, I never speak to the men at work in the fields, but they end the conversation by begging something to drink; and if I make a remark deprecatory of their drinking, they turn the plea to eating, tell me how long it is since they had a bit to eat; urge how hard the times are, how low the wages, and how dear the bread. Now, imagine any of your hinds—Andrew Wilson, or Pate Deans, or Davie Johnson, for instance, when ploughing in the Law-foot-park next the public road—imagine that some stranger came from the road and talked to them about the soil and the crops, what would you think if they were to ask such a man to give them something to drink in return for their information? but, above all, that they should beg from him because they were hungry and had nothing to go home to to eat? Why, they would never have the courage to look another man in the face, they would be scouted out of the market the first day you sent them; you would not keep them another year on your farm; and they would not get a hinding within twenty miles. I would not have mentioned this had I seen it but once or twice, or even several times, in only one locality; but go where I will in Hertfordshire, in Kent, in Surrey, in Berkshire, and also in Oxfordshire when I was there looking at the Marlborough farms, every ploughman, or waggoner, or shepherd, with whom I entered into familiar conversation, took the opportunity to beg something.

Perhaps it is the Poor Law of England which, as administered previous to 1834, left scarcely an independent labouring man in a parish, habituating all to pauperism, that has thus deprived the Saxon peasant of that manliness of character which distinguishes his race in other countries. I have heard this given as a reason, but I think it is not enough. Why, for instance, do not the peasantry of Northumberland and Durham, and the north of Yorkshire, where you and I have been, evince the same meanness, they having been bred under the influence of the old Poor Law, they being Saxons, as well? We saw nothing of the kind there. I am, therefore, afraid that the loose and uncertain tenures on which land is held in the south, producing so imperfect a system of agriculture, leads to idleness and want of economy in the working population. They are not hired from year to year like our people. They are paid from day to day, or week to week, and they are continually in debt to some village shopkeeper. They have never, as our men have, the provisions of a whole season beforehand. Nor have they furniture or clothes as our people. A comfortable home has a high moral influence; but, from what I see and hear, there are few comfortable homes for the labourers in Kent. The farmers pursue a systemless style of agriculture, which may be called from "hand-to-mouth;" and in consequence the people who should live better by a better system, live from hand to mouth also.

Now these are the people who burn the stackyards and the barns, and who would break the threshing-mills. The people who have not been taught to read and understand their duties to each other, and to society at large. The people who see their clergy in carriages and fine mansions and parks, but who seldom see them in the church. The people who, in their ignorance, would be in rebellion against you or me, were we to go into Kent to take farms, even though our system would introduce £5000 upon a farm to be paid in wages over and above what is paid now. These people are poor and ignorant, and, being so, are dangerous and obstinate. By their opposition to our machinery and improvements, they will prevent such as we from going into the county; consequently Lord Saye and Sele, and other landlords, must pay the tax they impose on themselves by keeping around them an uneducated, ill-paid, and irregularly employed population; they must be content with twenty shillings an acre, where they might have sixty shillings; thirty shillings an acre, where they might have eighty.

I have an invitation to go down to Cheshire and Lancashire to look at some land to let: that in Cheshire is near Stockport, that in Lancashire near Preston. You can look at the county maps. Besides looking at the farms, I should like to visit those parts to see the factories; but the riots which have been upsetting everything for these last two or three weeks have upset my intention of going there for the present. When I do go I shall send you full particulars of what I see of Manchester, and that terrible Bluebeard of old women and children engaged in agriculture, the Anti-Corn-Law League.

I went, one day last week, to Berkshire by the railway, and stayed two nights at Reading, and went round a good many miles of country during two days and part of the third. Reading is a fine town, and there is a fine country around it. The soil seems stiff, rather too much clay in it; but I think it is not worse than all that part of East Lothian stretching from Salton to Linton—from the Marquis of Tweeddale's to the Garleton Hills. I was talking to a Berkshire landlord about the soil, and he said, "Ah, if we had your East Lothian soil here, we would, I dare

say, have your Lothian crops and Lothian rents." "No, Sir," said I, "you have a better soil than we have; you have a better climate and better markets than we have in East Lothian: what you want is to borrow from us our capital." "Your capital," he replied; "don't you think there is capital in England to cultivate the land? Do you think there is not more capital in England than in Scotland?" "There is a great deal more," said I, "and more profitable investments for it. The Scotch capitalists have been encouraged to lay money out in land; you do all you can to drive capital from the land."

Draining, subsoiling, and the amalgamation of soils, are not practised here. They cannot produce turnips, consequently have a deficiency of manure; while rents, for land such as yours, are thirty-five shillings, including tithe! But if you offered the rent you pay in Lothian on condition of having a lease, they would not take it and give the lease. County and borough votes are all-important here: farming is quite subordinate to voting.

They grow more beans than I have seen elsewhere; and judging from the foul state the land is in, now that the crop is off, they are as bad at bean culture as anything else. How they expect a crop of wheat to grow on land so foul as the beans have left I know not. A farmer told me that he fallowed after beans and had wheat the succeeding year. Only think of that, to have a vacant year of fallow between beans and wheat, because the land was too foul!

There is a place for sale here called *White Knights*. It is, however, nothing more than a holiday garden and pleasure-ground. There is also a good park, but no farm. The house has been pulled down, by some person who had temporary occupation, and all the wood was nearly being sold and cut in the same manner; but the law stepped in to preserve it. The Duke of Wellington's agent was looking at it, in pursuance of the Duke's rule, which now is to buy all the land worth buying in this and adjoining counties to make a great family estate for the future heirs of Strathfieldsaye; but the agent, on being urged to advise the Duke to buy *White Knights*, said it was the last place he would advise his Grace to buy. Sir Isaac Lyon Goldsmith, the rich Jew, is likely to buy it, if cheap enough. He sticks at nothing in any part of the country, no matter how dilapidated the place may be, if he gets a bargain. Another great buyer of land has an estate in this county—James Morrison, Esq., M.P. for Inverness. He has estates now in Wiltshire, Berkshire, Suffolk, and Cambridge, all extensive; and he was originally apprenticed to a linendraper in London, to which city he came on tramp, a penniless lad.

Another great landlord here, at least a great and rich man, if not an extensive landlord, is John Walter, Esq., the proprietor of the *Times* newspaper. I will give you an account of my visit to his estate in another letter, and also some account of Three-mile Cross, the residence of Miss Mitford, and the place celebrated by her as "Our Village." I spent part of a day in it.

Let me know how the potatoes look; if you have let your turnips yet, if so, what the price is; and say how the shooting is this year. With kindest regards to uncle, I am, yours as ever, ADAM BROWN.

AGRICULTURE.

"THE HONEST AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS."

"The honest agricultural labourers!" or "'an honest peasantry their country's pride!" is the toast usually given with great emphasis by the pompous squire or aristocratic landowner, who, swelling with ideal philanthropy, may have distributed, at an agricultural dinner, some modicum of 40 shillings amongst "agricultural labourers who have brought up the largest families without parochial aid, and who bring testimonials as to character." And then, as certainly as a lecture on draining, follows an exhortation *to the farmers* to treat their labourers kindly, give them high wages, and provide for them comfortably in their old age. Thus Mr. Richard Brinsley Sheridan, a gentleman who converted himself into a landowner, *per saltum*, when presiding at the *West Dorset Agricultural Society*, after giving some very touching instances of the misery and destitution he had himself witnessed amongst the labouring population of Dorsetshire, observed, "Knowing that the *respectable farmers* of the county would not *permit such a state of things*, would not treat their labourers in such a way, I do not think they should be mixed up with and bear the blame attached to the *hardhearted farmers* in some parts, and consequently I have thought it right to name the parishes to which I refer." And the same gentleman afterwards said, "I hope the respectable, considerate, *fair-dealing farmers*, who wish to act upon the Christian principle that 'the labourer is worthy of his hire,' will stand by me in endeavouring to go through with this matter.'" The matter being the exposure of the true state of the poor in Dorsetshire. And again, "I will not screen the parishes or parties, for it shall not be said that *the farmers* of Dorset are *hardhearted and cruel*. The good and considerate *farmer*, who treats his labourers well, shall not, as far as I can prevent it, *bear the scandal arising from the acts of the hardhearted farmer*;" and then he concluded by stigmatizing, by name, the overseer of a parish adjoining his own as a hard taskmaster.

Here we have the whole burden of the bad state of the agricultural labourers of Dorsetshire thrown upon the farmers. *They* are designated as "cruel and hardhearted" wherever a case of distress and privation, too glaring to be denied, is brought to light; the aid of the landlord is evoked to induce them to give their labourers higher wages; and it is tacitly assumed that nothing but the greediness of the farmers has forced down the wages of agricultural labour. Now what is the fact? Can farmers give higher wages than they do, when it is notorious that the rate of wages depends, not upon the will of the employer, but upon the number of workmen compared with the quantity of work to be performed? Let us see where the condition of the agricultural labourers is worst. Is it not in Dorsetshire and Somersetshire, in Wiltshire and other western counties, and in Buckinghamshire, where agriculture is in the lowest state, that the wages of labourers employed in husbandry are the lowest?

Where the farmers are poorest, there the labourers are the most destitute. We have repeatedly shown that the low state of agriculture in these counties and elsewhere in England is directly attributable to the Corn Laws; and we shall again and again have occasion to prove that the destitute state of the peasantry in the same localities is mainly to be referred to the same cause. We would refer the reader to Professor Buckland's speech at Tamworth, from which an extract will be found in another column, as evidence of the way in which the condition of the labourer in husbandry improves, whenever and wherever capital is judiciously applied in improved cultivation of the land. Contrast the farming on the rich lands of Dorsetshire and Somersetshire with that in Northumberland, Norfolk, or Lincolnshire, and we shall find that in the one case sloth, slovenliness, and poverty, are the characteristics of the west; while energy, intelligence, enterprise, bring wealth to the farmers of the north and east. And the condition of the farm-labourers is identical with that of the farmers for whom they work. In the west the peasant is a miserable, half-employed serf; in the east and other improved agricultural districts he is comparatively well paid.

The evils under which the labouring population of the rural districts suffer are great and numerous; but, of all classes in the country, the farmers, speaking of them as a body, are least able to apply a remedy. On the other hand, the landlords might do much. They might build more and better cottages—they might usefully alleviate, by individual charity, the sufferings of those poor who are unemployed or overtaken by misfortune; but, above all, they might drain their own estates, or let them upon such terms as would induce their tenants to do it for them. This would afford much profitable employment to the peasantry. Still all these things are only palliatives; the root of the evil lies in the fluctuating condition of farming as a business, which prevents that agricultural enterprise which would soon improve the state of the labouring classes employed on farms. This is solely caused by the Corn Laws, from which farmers suffer no less than the labourers, and the agricultural labourers suffer no less than the farmers. It is a common wrong inflicted on both classes by the landowners, for the purpose of keeping up their own rents; and the cool hypocrisy with which they pretend to throw the "blame" and the "scandal" of the destitute condition of the agricultural labouring classes upon the farmers forms one of the most disgusting incidents of the present day. We shall next week go into this subject in greater detail.

THE SLEEPERS ARE WAKING.

The following passages, culled from the reports of various agricultural meetings, show that the classes interested in land are awakening from their thirty years' sleep, into which they had been thrown by the malignant operation of an imaginary monopoly. Well may Mr. Cobden and the League take upon themselves the style and title of "farmers' friends;" and the time is not far distant when they will also be acknowledged to have been the best friends of the landlords.

At the *Herefordshire Agricultural Association*, the chairman, Mr. Joseph Bailey, jun., one of the monopolist members for the county, said—

"I shall not venture to discuss the questions of leases, &c., which have lately been brought before the agricultural community, because I think *they are questions that should be left to be decided by landlord and tenant*; nine tenants out of ten, *if they could not appeal to the generosity of the landlord*, would be able *to effect a lease probably by an increase of half-a-crown per acre in the rent.*"

True, leases are a question between landlord and tenant, but then a peculiar state of uncertainty has been created by a law, which has hitherto prevented tenants or landlords from feeling any inclination to bind themselves in permanent engagements. Free Trade in corn can alone remove this preliminary difficulty in the way of leases. Mr. Bailey then goes on in the now ordinary county-member strain to advise improvement, saying—

"I turn now to what I consider the duties of landlords more especially, and that is to the improvement of the land. I very often see it noticed in the newspapers, that landlords *return* 10 or 20 *per cent. to their tenants on the amount of rent*, and *their liberality in so doing deserves the highest praise*; but I think they would much more promote the interests of their tenants and the community at large, if they were to lay out that sum, or half as much again, in the improvement of the land. This is a question which I hope the landlords in these times of difficulty will not lose sight of, for I believe the land might be made to produce at least one-third more than it does at present; and *if you increase the productiveness of a man's farm, supposing the rent remains the same, it is fully equal to a reduction of so much per cent. in his rent, and is a great benefit to the community.*

Now, Mr. Bailey, jun., is one of those political young gentlemen who have been learning to preach on agriculture as one of the "bores" attached to the honour of representing a county, and we must do him the justice to say he has learned his lesson well. Not merely is the improvement of the farm from landlord's outlay in permanent works more than equal to any conceivable reduction of rent, but the benefit the tenant derives from the improvement stimulates him to make others, induces him to adopt a better system of husbandry, and always makes him a better farmer. In illustration of this, the advantage of improving the farm rather than "throwing back" 10 or 15 per cent. of the rent, we take the following from the report of the Preston Agricultural Society:—

"Mr. Allen said that, as the subject of draining had been brought before them, he would inform them that he had let 140 acres of land to a tenant on condition that he (Mr. A.) did all the draining, and the occupier of the farm paid five per cent. on the outlay. Another condition was, *that if produce declined, the tenant was to have a proportionate return.* He met this tenant a few weeks ago, when he wished some little alteration in his buildings. *He then said that though he was to have some allowance for the reduced price of produce, yet so beneficial had been the draining to him that he should not ask for it.* In draining this farm, £228 had been expended."

Read this, landlords and tenants, and judge from it whether you have anything to fear from natural prices! At the same meeting Mr. Wilson France, a landowner, after a long discourse on the use of turf drains, said, in reference to the small and misshapen fields of Lancashire:—

"He had mentioned, at the Ashton meeting the other day, that Lancashire fields were generally shapeless; they were generally of all shapes, *which was a great inconvenience and expense to tenants, and he would recommend landlords to pay some attention to this*; it was the landlord's duty to put the fields into proper shape, and make them of proper size. Fences should be in a straight line; fields, when large, should be square, and when small, should be of an oblong form; in number, they should be according to the size of the farm—eight, twelve, sixteen, or twenty, so as to suit a proper rotation of crops. *The shape of the field had a material influence on the labour of the ploughman*; suppose a field of 4180 yards, or a statute acre, was ten chains long and one broad; the furrow slice nine inches wide, or eighty-eight furrow slices in the sixty-six feet. The horses, in ploughing this, travel eleven miles, exclusive of turnings, which may be one-tenth, and then the horses travel twelve miles and 176 yards. If the field is shapeless, and requires cuts, how much the distance and the time are increased!"

There are two objects for which landlords cling to their slovenly hedges and misshapen fences—the game and the hedgerow timber. The former is a nuisance which will be ultimately abated wherever the landlord cannot afford to lose his rent; the latter will also cease to be an object with landlords when they understand the fact that, by appropriating a portion of their land to plantations, they can grow twice as much timber as they do at present on the same surface, and that without injury to the tenant, and with much addition to the beauty of an estate. Mr. France then showed how all these improvements would be promoted by moderate prices, observing—

"It was necessary that these things should be attended to; he did not think produce would be much higher in price, indeed, he hardly thought it should. *Prosperous times, as times of high prices were sometimes called, did not make the best farmers*; FOR IF THE FARMER COULD PAY HIS WAY WITH HALF A CROP, HE WOULD MAKE NO EXERTIONS TO HAVE A WHOLE ONE. *The prosperity of the country depended upon moderate prices. The present time hastened improvements; it sharpened their wits and made them exert themselves to increase their crops.*"

We do not know whether Mr. France is a Free Trader from conviction, or whether the progress of events have awakened him to the truth that Free Trade is best for farmers. The last shake the agricultural sleepers have lately received, to which we shall now advert, is that contained in the speech of Professor Buckland at the *Tamworth Farmers' Club*. And this derives additional weight from having been delivered in the presence of Sir Robert Peel.

In allusion to Lord Stanley's speech at Liverpool, the professor said—

"That noble lord, by his successful experiments, had converted his light grounds into fertile fields of corn, and had set an example in a neighbourhood which, *of all places in the kingdom, most required it*—he alluded to the neighbourhood of Knowsley and the district of Lancashire to the north of Manchester, and between Preston and Lancaster. *Of all the fertile fields bestowed by the Creator, and left in a state of slovenliness by man, those fields for miles and leagues were the worst.*"

No doubt this is true; but many other districts are entitled to compete for the bad pre-eminence. The best lands, as we have often said, are commonly the worst farmed.

"He regretted to say, that in the *most rich and fertile lands of this country he found the agriculture to be most slovenly, and the condition of the agriculturist most miserable.* On those rich lands in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater, *which had produced, and would produce for thirty years successively, thirty to forty bushels of wheat, the farmers were most careless and neglectful*, and the grazier there bought his ox, turned it into the marsh land, and visited it no more until he turned it out to the butcher. *It was not in that region that they were to look out for agricultural improvement*, but to those sterile and barren districts which, until a few years past, produced nothing."

The admitted cause of this "careless and negligent" cultivation of the rich land is the facility with which a certain amount of return is obtained. Now the operation of the Corn Laws has a tendency to make every farmer "careless and negligent," by inducing him to think he can conduct his business with facility, under the shelter of a monopoly; and his frequent disappointments only make him more negligent by making him despond.

Of the benefits derived from the judicious application of capital to land, he said—

"In the course of the last fourteen days he had seen wonders performed on the surface of the soil, such as he had never seen before. He had lately witnessed in two districts of Lincolnshire effects resulting from agricultural science, which he could not have believed had he not seen it. *They were districts far removed from common observation.* The Wolds, as they were called, meaning the wealds or wilds of Lincolnshire—a term expressive of their natural sterility—those Wolds, not yet forty years ago, in the beginning of the present century, Young, in his "Agricultural Tour," described as a country covered with furze bushes. Lord Yarborough said Young was an excellent landlord, and he wished him no more harm than that he should be thrown from his hunter into the middle of one of those furze bushes, for a little pricking would do him a deal of good, and would tend much to the benefit of that part of the country. That same Lord Yarborough lived to plant four thousand acres of trees, which had now attained a height of from fifty to sixty feet, and, *what was more important, he lived to bring into existence a race of tenantry, now the glory of the land—tenants who occupied from 500 to 1000 acres of land each.* Land, which thirty years ago was covered with furze bushes, *and was not worth 5s. an acre, now produced 25s. an acre. The rent of land had increased fivefold, whilst the wealth of the tenantry had also augmented in the same proportion.* Every farmer whom he visited possessed the finest hunters. Many had carriages. Some whom he did not visit had hothouses and pineries, *and yet, whilst this was the situation of the tenantry, the landlord had benefited fivefold.* But what was better than all

was the *condition of the labourers.* He had never heard of such labourers—£36 a year for wages—all of them kept a pig—a cow was kept for each—*and they were compelled to eat meat three times a day.* (Laughter, and loud cheering.)"

It seems that Lord Yarborough, like a sensible man as he is, has no objection to "gentlemen farmers;" and the same was the case with that eminent man, Mr. Coke of Norfolk.

"Near Lord Yarborough's house there were streets of ricks as long as the longest street in Tamworth, streets longer than the length of the Parthenon, at Birmingham, and all from land which, *thirty five years ago, was not worth 5s. an acre.* And what became of all this abundant produce? *It went to the manufacturing districts to be disposed of.*"

Let these things be a lesson to landlords.

"But there was another district in the vicinity of the metropolis of the county, not five miles from the town of Lincoln, in the midst of which stood a column which in 1751 was erected in the centre of a desert, to guide the traveller in the midst of the waste and howling wilderness. *On that plain may now be seen hayricks standing together in rows, almost like the squares in London.* It was, in fact, a city of hayricks. There were there also the remains of an asylum of the Knights Templars. There lived there now a farmer, 70 years of age, who, in thirty years, had realized a fortune of £60,000. They might ask him (Dr. Buckland) how had those results been produced? They had been produced by a judicious application of capital, and of the good sense which was the characteristic of the farmers of England. *The present proprietor of the Templars' Asylum imported shiploads of bones and oilcake to be ground for his farm.* The cattle ate the straw, and produced that manure which was the foundation of all the success of the crops upon his farm. In that and other farms in that district the produce *was never less than thirty bushels per acre,* and that was only one example out of many of what could be done by judicious application of capital."

So is the last passage a lesson to tenants; and they after all will prove the great improvers, when the state of the corn trade permits them to make safe calculations for long periods.

To the meeting he addressed this pointed argument:—

"He found, however, that *the farmers in this (Tamworth) neighbourhood approximated nearer to those of Somersetshire than of Lincoln;* and he protested that between Hampton and Tamworth he had seen more thistles in one field than he had seen in the whole of Lincolnshire. *He trusted that the influence of that society would put to shame the man who was the occupier of that field,* should he on any future occasion have an opportunity of making the remark."

Probably the occupier of the condemned field could tell something of the benefits of "confidence" tenures and imaginary monopoly.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

Preparations to Sustain Competition.—We believe it was Sheridan who remarked "that the further he went west the more he became convinced that the wise men came from the east;" and, if the observation be applied to farming, it is at this day not far from the truth. Still the agriculturists of the west, as well as their more advanced brethren, are becoming aware that they must no longer rely on "protection." At the *Upper Culme (Devonshire) Agricultural Association,* Mr. Drewe, a resident landowner, said:—

"They had as yet but laid the foundation of the science of agriculture: it was in its infancy. *The time was come when they should not depend on the Legislature*—(hear)—but must endeavour to improve in the practice of agriculture, and particularly the use of manures. They heard of many new manures; but he believed the best farmer was he who made his own manure on his own farm. (Hear.) *He called their attention to the quantity of manure wasted on the roads, and allowed to return to the earth where it could be of no service.* He had often observed the best liquid manure running into the ditches on the roadside, which only required the attention of the way-warden to remove. He did not profess himself a practical farmer, but he had visited farms in other counties: he had seen what had been done there; and in this blessed county of Devon, *where Providence had done everything for them,* with liberal landlords and good tenants, *they might do much if they put their shoulders to the wheel.*"

So Mr. F. Leigh, of Cullompton, in returning thanks as the secretary, remarked on the want of unanimity between landlord and tenant in the improvement of the land, and *the shortness of leases, which gave the tenant no security that he would reap the benefit of his improvements.*

"Confidence" Tenures. The *Mark-lane Express*—remarking on Sir Robert Peel's statement at Tamworth, that he had granted a lease to a new tenant, who had said "I have perfect confidence in you, but I am a stranger to you, and it will be more satisfactory to me to have a lease" observes, that "if this plain-spoken, prudent farmer had not been a stranger to Sir Robert Peel, he might have been to the *successor to the estate.*"

[The notion that any confidence *can* subsist between landlord and tenant, which will serve as a substitute for a lease, is too ridiculous to be entertained for a moment anywhere, except in an after-dinner speech by a great man who is practically unanswerable. Not only may the "successor to the estate" take a different view of the duty which this assumed "confidence" imposes, from that originally understood by the tenant, but the landlord himself in nine cases out of ten *cannot be trusted.* His power over a tenant who has laid out his money without a lease is so absolute, that few instances of the kind have occurred in which it has not been abused. A landlord in fear of having a farm—perhaps much out of condition—thrown upon his hands, and the same landlord after a tenant of capital has fairly entered upon the farm, will be actuated by a totally different spirit, as many a tenant who has been so incautious as to enter his farm and commence his outlays before the lease was completely settled has found to his cost. We could cite cases in which the landlord most wantonly set at naught the plainest verbal promises made to the tenant before entry, and where was the tenants remedy? Legal redress there was none; and the violation of a promise to a tenant forms a peccadillo so very venial in the code of landlord morality, that the opinion of his (the landlord's) class would scarcely visit him with a shade of censure. A ludicrous instance of this sort occurred the other day, where a game-preserving landlord had been induced, under the fear of having no tenant for a large and dilapidated farm, to concede to a new occupier liberty to destroy rabbits. The farmer entered under a short agreement, and the landlord then tried to limit the permission to destroy rabbits to the personal act of the occupier.]

"Regeneration" of Agriculture.—At a recent meeting of the Stewponey (Worcestershire) Agricultural Association, the chairman, Sir R. Pigott, M.P., said, "That in the present distressed state of agriculture, and the almost impossibility of *accommodating an old system to a new state of things,* it is through the medium of such societies as these, and these alone, that we can hope to throw off the weight that oppresses us, and *promote the regeneration of agriculture.*"

Well, then, it is now fairly admitted that, after nearly thirty years of legislative protection, English agriculture requires to be "regenerated." Can there be a more severe stricture passed on the policy of the Corn Laws? And the same speaker told his audience that the days of monopoly were passed. He said, "I trust there is no one so blind in this day, *as not to see that a sort of public interdict has gone forth against the return of high prices* throughout the world, and, apart from all political influences—though, no doubt, it is very agreeable to us to be able to *talk over those days when sowing and gathering were mere mechanical operations, and when the profits were sufficient to cover any deficiency either of produce, industry, or skill*—DEPEND UPON IT, THOSE DAYS WILL NEVER RETURN."

This is a very frank admission of the objects of the Corn Laws, viz.—to render the profits, in other words, the price of corn, "sufficient to cover any deficiency of either produce, industry, or skill." But all the lectures of all the landlords at all the agricultural associations in the kingdom will never effect the "regeneration" of agriculture. Mr. Collis at the same meeting afterwards went nearer to the point, when he said—

"The president has said that the landlord would be glad to meet the wishes of the tenant; but, at the same time, I do think that if the tenant had a more fixed tenure in the land (here the speaker was interrupted by the cheers of the farmers), *the landlord would get as good rents, better perhaps, and more regularly paid;* and that it would be to his advantage as well as to the advantage of the tenant. (Loud cheers.) There is no other means of accounting for the prosperity of the Scotch farmer, except that he has a better tenure than we have. (Cheers.) I read with great pleasure a speech of Lord Hatherton, in which he said that light and poor lands were not only better cultivated where the tenant had got a lease, but the tenant was able to pay much higher for them. (Cheers.) We must also recollect the very able paper by Earl Spencer, on Lord Leicester's farm—very light soil, which has been reclaimed, but which now grows excellent crops. It is quite impossible a tenant can do this unless he has a fixed tenure (loud cheering), because, *whatever may be his faith in his landlord, circumstances over which he has no control might occur*—the tenant himself might die as well as the landlord, and then his family would not have any return for the money which he had spent upon the soil. (Cheers.) Besides, great advantage must arise to the landlord as well as the tenant, because the land would be very much benefited, and thus become more valuable. I lately read a speech of the Earl of Stair, in Worcester—*and I find the farmers there are framing it—in which he says he will grant his tenants leases on certain terms;* no scutch is to be burnt, and the tenant is to lay out money as well as the landlord. *and the only advantage to the tenant—and a great one it is—will be that he is to have a lease.*"

Yet even this speaker and his applauders seem to have forgotten that, until something like steadiness of price has been secured, a lease is but a hazardous speculation for the ordinary class of tenants; and that the Corn Law stands between the farmer and a steady price. English landlords should remember that the prosperity of Scotch farmers is attributable in part to leases, and in part to the practice of *corn rents.* By the former, they are assured of a return for their outlays; by the latter, they are to some extent protected against the fluctuations in prices of grain. Besides, a Scotch lease is a business-like contract, very different from the semi-feudal absurdity which passes by that name in England. As a pendant to these hints, we will quote the following remarks by the vice-president of the *Chester Agricultural Association,* who said—

"What was wanted in Cheshire *was more skill and more capital. Too little attention was paid to stock.* If a Cheshire farmer had a large bag to his cow, he never looked to its capability for making beef; the consequence was, that, when a Cheshire cow was taken to the market, there was either no flesh on its bones, or it was not put on the right place. They ought to select and breed cattle which would make a large quantity of flesh on the best place. He concluded by reprobating the badly ventilated and heated state in which many farmers kept their shippons, and which he considered tended to promote disease among cattle."

When our readers recollect the provisions of a Cheshire lease, and the account of Cheshire farming which we published in a former number, they will not be surprised at the deficiency of skill and capital which characterises the agriculture of this county. Until more rational terms of letting land are introduced, Cheshire farming must continue to be a byword of reproach amongst good husbandmen; and, until landlords are alarmed for their rents, they will not abandon these obsolete absurdities.

Value of Leases.—It is recorded by some tourist in the West Indies, previously to the emancipation of the negroes, that negroes who had been rescued from slavery by the exertions of our cruisers were often taunted by their brethren still in bondage as, "You Willyforce (Wilberforce) nigger;" so some few of the farmers of this country seem inclined to be parties to their own degradation, by throwing doubts on the value of leases. One of the worst effects of slavery has always been the mental and moral abasement of its victims; and the farmers, whose present state is that of a modified feudal serfdom, have not escaped this deleterious influence. It seems that a "Practical Farmer" has been writing to the Buckinghamshire papers, in derogation of leases, and on the subject of Sir Harry Verney's observations on leases at the Leighton Buzzard meeting, and trying to show that, in the case of one of Sir Harry's tenants, the lease had been an inconvenience, not a benefit. In the *Aylesbury News* of last week, the tenant, Mr. T. Barry, thus refutes the traitor to his "order:—"

"I beg to assure 'A Practical Farmer' that so far as the lease, under which I hold my farm, having been an inconvenience to me, it has been quite the reverse; as under its security I have felt more confidence in making an outlay in the improvement of the land, and which has amply rewarded me.

"Since the circumstance occurred of my taking another farm (last March), and feeling desirous to leave the Claydon farm, I have had several offers for the purchase of my lease (only four years to run), and the only difficulty felt was that Sir Harry Verney thought he had a right to feel satisfied with the practice and respectability of the person whom he had to accept for his future tenant.

"So convinced am I, Mr. Editor, of the necessity of leases to good farming, that I have just taken a lease for twenty-one years of the farm I am now going to. Nor would I farm any land without a lease, if it was possible to get one. I do not know what Sir Harry Verney stated at the meeting with reference to profits on farming, *but I do know that by a judicious outlay of money he has more than doubled the produce of his own arable land, and has made it worth more than double the rent than it was when he took it into his own occupation.*"

The Per Centage System.—At the late meeting of the *Honiton Cattle Show,* Mr. J. Pyle is stated to have "remarked on the inability of farmers to support as many labourers as formerly, on account of the pressure of the times, *and called on the landlords who had it in their power to allow their tenants a certain per centage, provided they employed a fair number of labourers.* By this all classes would be benefited. He thought if they (the landlords) could afford to maintain such establishments, they could afford to do this. If the labourers were not employed, they would occupy themselves in a bad way."

Mark the consequences of the Corn Laws: tenants are promised by law a fixed price for their wheat, be it 80s., 65s., or 56s. a quarter; but they only obtain such prices occasionally. Their rent is calculated on the act of Parliament scale, and their plan of cultivation just enables them to pay their rent and rub along, whilst they receive the act of Parliament price. When prices are lower, they dismiss their labourers; and landlords and many tenants concur in the belief that the "employment of a fair number of labourers" can be enforced by the granting or withholding abatements of rent. But the truth is that all possible abatements of rent, and all the money saved by discharging labourers, cannot compensate the farmer for not receiving his act of Parliament price, *when his system of husbandry has been framed upon the expectation of a small produce and a high price;* and such is the plan on which nine-tenths of the farmers of England carry on their business. Nothing but a Free Trade in corn will convince landlords and tenants that the business of agriculture can go on without crutches.

Popular Errors on Farming.—Taxation must be reduced, the Tithe Commutation Act amended, rates diminished, *large occupations divided, 'gentlemen farmers' divert their capital into other channels, and then the real agriculturists* will have a chance of competing with the foreigner.—*Suffolk Chronicle.*

[In the above paragraph an assertion of a popular error on the disadvantage of "large occupations" is made, which we should not have expected in a newspaper of the agricultural capital of Suffolk. Large farms, where the farmers have sufficient capital to cultivate them fully, are decidedly most profitable to the tenant, the labourer, and the public. Capital is more economically used, and labour more combined; more human labour, in proportion to the number of acres, is employed, and the aggregate produce is always much larger than on small farms. One of the chief savings on a large farm is in horse-labour. Of course we assume that the tenant has an ample command of capital, otherwise he had better take a smaller farm; for, whatever be the size of the farm, a full capital is indispensable to success in its culture. The notion of the Suffolk editor of driving "gentlemen farmers"—by which we presume he means men of large capital—out of farming, and diverting their capital into other channels, is absurd. The contrary is required for advancing husbandry. Two classes of persons talk glibly against "gentlemen farmers:" the ignorant, who, seeing sometimes a man with a farm greater than he has the means to manage, imagine that he employs too little labour because he has a large farm, whereas he has probably taken too large a farm in the expectation of a high price for half a crop of grain, which the Corn Laws promised him; the other class of objectors to "gentlemen farmers" are your little aristocrats and small landed gentry, who think themselves exalted by getting full rents from a tenant who comes cap in hand, while a "gentleman farmer," who is usually an intelligent man, treads too closely on the heels of the squireen.]

Competition for Farms.—A correspondent of the *Hereford Journal* says, that a farm in the neighbourhood of Leominster having become vacant on Monday se'nnight by the death of the occupier, there were by Wednesday night (*three days*) *no fewer than fifty-seven applications for it.—Farmer's Journal.*

What desperate competition for farms does this indicate. Probably four-fifths of the applicants had little or no knowledge of the circumstances of advantage or disadvantage attending this farm; most likely they had not gone over it; they had made no calculations; they had not ascertained what capital it required; and after all some needy man who will promise the most rent—the landlord resting on his power of distress—will get the farm, and add one more to the list of distressed farmers. A friend, who has lately quitted his farm because the landlord wanted to impose conditions upon him totally restrictive of good husbandry, lately detailed to us the particulars of those restrictions, and some others in addition, under which a new tenant had been found to take the farm. On expressing surprise at the man's folly, and asking how it was to be accounted for, we received this reply:—"Why, Sir, the man is either insane, *or insolvent!*"

We should like to know how many of the 57 applicants mentioned in the Hereford paper would fall under the one or the other of these designations. We wish some of these reckless bidders for farms would read the accounts with which the agricultural journals abound. Take, for instance, the following passages from the Somersetshire agricultural report in the *Farmer's Journal*:—

"Although the past month has been variable, it has, on the whole, been favourable for out-door agricultural operations. Those who *have not employed their labourers thrashing and hurrying their corn to market* have had an opportunity of preparing the land for a wheat crop, &c.; *but there are too many needy farmers who have been compelled to attend to the former.* The abundance of straw, *including weeds,* of the wheat crop, has required much additional labour to bring to market a sufficiency to 'stop the gaps.' The landlord expects his *rent to be paid promptly;* and too many of *the 'rent-charge' owners demand payment the moment it becomes due—no matter whether from capital, or the produce of the farm*—it must be paid instanter."

Again—

"The beef trade has been in a deplorable state, in some measure, perhaps, the result of the markets having been over-supplied with mutton, *but the pressure for money has been the chief cause;* the loss of the grazier is very serious—*ruinous.* The occupier of the soil is obliged to sustain these losses *unheeded by those who have claims on him; there is no sympathy from any quarter.* Rent, 'rent-charge,' poor-rates, &c., and taxes must be paid, *whether he can raise money or not.* THE AGRICULTURAL BODY IS IN A DEPLORABLE STATE."

And this is from the columns of one of the most violent organs of the monopolists. Is the "deplorable state" of the "agricultural body" to be wondered at when fifty-seven farmers bid against each other for one farm? One of the advantages of Free Trade to farmers—solvent farmers—would be a diminution of this ruinous competition: first, by opening other sources of employment to industry; and, secondly, by making landlords more cir-

cumspect in letting their farms, when they found that a high rent could not be paid from a scanty produce.

THE GAME NUISANCE.—On Sunday last 28 cwt. of hares were conveyed by waggon on the Eastern Counties Railway from Bury.—*Times.*

Let the farmer think of the enormous quantity of produce which must have been destroyed by this *ton and a half* of vermin; let him observe the small circle within which they must have been bred; and remember that they have been all kept *at the tenant's expense, for the landlord's benefit.* And all the while the landlord is getting the full rent for his farm. Yet farmers all exclaim against this: they dread and abhor the game, and nothing would induce them to submit to its annoyance but the uncertainty in which their business has been involved by fluctuations in prices. The following passages from the letter of a correspondent of the *Mark-lane Express* (who signs himself "A Sufferer"), wherein he describes game as "one of the most harassing and cancerous grievances to which the tenant-farmers of England are exposed," are much to the purpose. He says:—

"The evil of game preservation has reached such a pitch of extravagance as to be *utterly intolerable, and destructive of every hope which the farmer still dares to cherish.* I speak with reference to the home counties, with which I am intimately acquainted, and I have no hesitation in saying, *that in the counties of Bucks, Herts, and parts of Middlesex, the injury done by game and rabbits falls very little short of ten per cent. on the rental of the arable land.*" * * *

"As regards rabbits, I believe the landlords generally have made up their minds that they shall be destroyed; but the Premier has touched upon hares, and I hope his example will not be lost sight of, as they are at least equally destructive with their smaller coadjutors. I know many estates where the mischief thus wantonly caused would, if it could be fairly brought before the view of the owners, *strike them with feelings of no pleasant nature.* I hope and believe that, since Sir R. Peel has broken the ice, our landlords will at once rouse themselves, and *rescue their tenants from certain ruin,* as well as prove that they are able to go through a fair day's walking for a fair day's sport."

And the writer adds this significant query in his postscript:—

"Can it be that the flourishing state of the farmers in Lincolnshire, as stated by Professor Buckland, is caused in some degree by the large size and recent allotment of the enclosures, *and consequent absence of old bushy fences and rough ground, affording shelter to game and rabbits?*"

Everywhere we hear the same complaints from farmers on the subject of game, but they may be assured that so long as the landlords can keep up their rents by means of Corn Laws, and keep the game at their tenants' expense besides, they will not resign game-preserving. When rents show signs of falling, except the tenant has a rational and exclusive interest in his farm—and where game is preserved he can't be said to have an exclusive interest—then they will give up the game, for, though they love sport much, they love rent more.

TRADE WITH BRAZIL.—We have been politely favoured with the following communication by a most respectable house in this town, and we believe that the statements it contains may be implicitly relied on:—

"We are informed, by letters of the 12th August from Rio de Janeiro, that it is the intention of the Brazilian Government (should the Brazilian ambassador, now in London, be unsuccessful in his negotiations for a treaty with this country) to lay a high differential duty on all sugar and coffee exported by vessels belonging to those nations which do not receive such produce for home consumption. The professed object of such an impost would be to give an impulse to their own shipping, but to us it would have more the appearance of retaliation, and would, doubtless, strike a heavy blow at the interests of British shipping, which, we hope, may be avoided by a favourable termination of the present negotiations. —*Liverpool Mercury.*

DIGNITY OF LABOUR.—In early life, David kept his father's sheep; his was a life of industry; and though foolish men think it degrading to perform any useful labour, yet in the eyes of wise men industry is truly honourable, and the most useful man is the happiest. A life of labour is man's natural condition, and most favourable to mental health and bodily vigour. Bishop Hall says, "Sweet is the destiny of all trades, whether of the brow, or of the mind. God never allowed any man to do nothing." From the ranks of industry have the world's greatest been taken. Rome was more than once saved by a man who was sent for from the plough. Moses had been keeping sheep for forty years before he came forth as the deliverer of Israel. Jesus Christ himself, during the early part of his life, worked as a carpenter. His Apostles were chosen from amongst the hardy and laborious fishermen. From whence I infer that, when God has any great work to perform, he selects as his instruments those who by their previous occupation had acquired habits of industry, skill, and perseverance; and that, in every department of society, they are the most honourable who earn their own living by their own labour.—*What David did: by the Rev. T. Spencer.*

DESTITUTION IN EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW.—At the meeting of the British Association held in Manchester, last year, Dr. Alison, of Edinburgh, who has so strenuously urged the necessity of a new poor-law for Scotland, made some statements before the statistical section, relating to the destitution and mortality of some of the Scottish towns; from which it appeared that, wretched as the condition of the destitute classes throughout England and Wales may be, it is many degrees better than that of a large portion of the inhabitants of most of the large towns of Scotland. For example, he stated that in Edinburgh, with a population of 137,000 inhabitants, there were actually not less than 23,000 persons, or one in every six, in a state of utter destitution. When to this we add another fact stated by Dr. Allison, that, of those 23,000 persons utterly destitute, only 7000 were in the receipt of parish relief, who can wonder at the high rate of mortality among that class? In the comparative view which Dr. Alison gave of the rate of mortality in Scotland and England, he showed, from the mortality bills of Glasgow and the returns of the Registrar-General for England, that the mortality of Glasgow was 25 per cent. greater than that of any town in England.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

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Mr. George Tate, draper (Alnwick)	1	0	0
Mr. John Bolton, draper (Alnwick)	1	0	0
Mr. Michael Paterson, draper (Alnwick)	1	0	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	1	0	0
An Advocate for Free Trade (Alnwick)	1	0	0
Mr. John Busby, Clayport-street (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. George Hall (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	10	0
Mr. James Landells, draper (Alnwick)	0	5	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. Robert Finlay, spirit-merchant (Alnwick)	0	5	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	5	0
Mr. Robert Wood, shoemaker (Alnwick)	0	2	6
A Friend (Alnwick)	0	10	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	5	0
Mr. Richard Moor, Pottergate street (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. John Mattison, Fenkle-street (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. John Marshall, Hotspur-place (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. John Crisp, Rugley, near (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. James Stott, gardener (Alnwick)	0	2	6
W. F. Bow, M.D., Bailiffgate-street (Alnwick)	0	10	0
Mr. Thomas Dunn, jun., Hotspur-place (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. John Bain, grocer (Alnwick)	0	5	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. John Hume, Hartlaw, near (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. Richard Pringle, Freeman-hill (Alnwick)	0	1	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	1	0
Anonymous (Alnwick)	0	2	6
Mr. Hugh Lewis, Knighton, Radnorshire, per Mr. Lewis	1	0	0
Subscription from Workmen of Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field, Lambeth	12	3	0
John May, Esq., 3, Wood-street, City	5	5	0
Mr. Blissatt, 4, Brewer-street, Golden-square, per Mr. Hutchinson	0	5	0
Joseph Fenwick, Esq., 8, Blandford-sq., Regent's-pk.	2	2	0
J. Crockford, Esq., 34, Alfred-place, Bedford-square	1	0	0
Robert Laywell, Esq., Myddelton-place, Clerkenwell	1	0	0
William Simpson, Esq., Post-office, Holywell, Flints.	1	1	0
Stanley Mills Association, Stanley, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, per George Dangerfield, Esq.	5	0	0
James Bowron, Stockton-on-Tees	1	1	0
George Castree, 81, Collyhurst-road, Manchester	1	0	0
Thomas Forrest, Market-street, Manchester	1	1	0
Charles Ogilvie, 27, Royl-street, C-on-M., do.	0	2	6
H. B. Jackson, Prospect-terrace, Longsight, do. per W. M'Carney	1	0	0
A Cheshire Farmer—an Enemy of the £50 Tenant-at-will Clause	1	1	0
G. Everard, 1, Langston-st., Strangeways, Manchester	1	0	0
E. F. Satterthwaite, Gorton, near do.	1	0	0
Rev. J. J. Taylor, York-place, Oxford-road, do.	1	0	0
William Lamplugh, Longloft, near Driffield, Yorkshire, per D. Anderson	1	0	0
Kirkburton Anti-Corn-Law Com., per Benj. Bowan	1	8	0
W. F. Rawdon, Esq., York	20	0	0
Richard Moore, Esq., 50, Lloyd-street, Green-heys, Manchester	1	10	0
Master Edward Moore, do.	0	5	0
Master Robert Moore, do.	0	5	0
Master John Moore, do.	0	5	0
Miss Jane Moore, do.	0	5	0
John Lee, 31, King-street, do.	1	0	0
William Sale, Willow-bank, Higher Broughton, do.	1	0	0
Charles Fiers, Woodland Cottage, Cheetham-hill, do.	1	0	0
George Pollard, Higher Brow Clough, Bacup, Lancas.	1	0	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne, per Joseph Watson	2	10	0
D. A. Weaver, 135, Dale-street, Liverpool	1	0	0
Henry Robinson, Hill-gate, Stockport	1	0	0
Small Sums	12	3	0

DEAR SIR—We beg to hand you an order for the sum of £90 9s., being amount of subscriptions, as per annexed list, to the Anti-Corn-Law League. We expect soon to send you further subscriptions in aid of your glorious cause, as the feeling here is all but unanimous in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

In name of the Paisley Committee, we are, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

GEORGE MITCHELL, Treasurer.
HUGH MACFARLANE, jun., Convener.
MATTHEW WHITEHILL, Secretary.

George Wilson, Esq.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, November* 11, 1843.

Honour to the electors of Kendal! They have well maintained the purity of their borough against the bribery of the Carlton Club, and the insidious artifices of the house of Lonsdale. It was said of Attila that grass never grew where his horse's foot was once planted; and the phrase has been parodied for the family supposed to be omnipotent in Westmorland, that "honesty never flourishes where the hand of a Lowther is once opened." Junius declares that the founder of the family had sufficient power to induce George III. to break his plighted word, and aid Sir James Lowther in wresting from the Duke of Portland the commons of Carlisle, granted to his ancestor by the Prince of Orange. Was it hereditary compunction for this legalized robbery that induced the Lowthers to support a Bentinck at the late election? To those acquainted with the political history of the early part of the reign of George III., the conjunction of a Lowther and a Bentinck must have appeared one of the most ominous signs that ever was seen above the political horizon; but there was an occasion when Herod and

Pontius Pilate made friends. Honour to the men of Kendal! they have beaten the Lowthers when supported by a renegade Bentinck.

Honour to the men of Kendal! Bribery and intimidation were in their instance supported by an hypocritical appeal to the religious feelings of the community by a reverend incendiary, who imagined that the same outcry which induced the Pharisees to stone Stephen could be safely raised to exclude Henry. The honour of religion has been vindicated by the answer of the Kendal electors to this reverend reviler, who dared to use the terrors of another world as a means of corruption in this! Honour to the men of Kendal, who, on the defeated and broken ranks of aristocratic intimidation, monopolist bribery, and sacerdotal libel, have planted the banner of Christian duty and commercial freedom!

CURRENT INCIDENTS.

The grand jury in Dublin have found a true bill against Mr. O'Connell and the eight other persons indicted with him. There appears to have been both negligence and mismanagement on the part of the Dublin officials in getting up the prosecution. The Irish Attorney-General in his anxiety for success seems occasionally to have forgotten his official dignity.——The will of the late Alderman Sir M. Wood was proved last week in Doctors' Commons. The property is sworn under £70,000.——The Irish Arms Act comes into operation on Monday next.——It is understood that a requisition will shortly be presented to the High Sheriff of Gloucestershire, requesting him to call a county meeting, to hear Messrs. Bright and Cobden on the subject of the Corn Laws.——There were no less than 12 incendiary fires in one night last week in two parishes in Carnarvonshire.——There are at present stationed in Ireland, 3200 Cavalry; Infantry, 13,600; Depôts, 3400; Artillery, 2000; Sappers and Miners, 300; Marines, 800—Total, 23,300.——On Tuesday 10 vessels of war were put up to Dutch auction at Somerset House, of which only four were sold, at the very low price of 34s. per ton.——The King of Bavaria has published a decree by which all the municipal magistrates are obliged to become members of a new temperance society.——The Royal Mail steamer Severn arrived at Falmouth from Mexico on Monday morning, bringing seven passengers and 1,005,475 dollars.——Mr. Doyle, the present Chargé d'Affaires, has declared that all diplomatic relations have ceased between England and Mexico, in consequence of some English flags being paraded as trophies at a national festival, and Santa Anna's Minister for Foreign Affairs refusing to remove them.——It appears from a return ordered by the House of Commons that there are 562 savings banks in Great Britain and Ireland; 874,599 deposit accounts. The net surplus profit in 1842, applicable to the expenses of management in 1843, amounted to £33,635 1s. 1d. The expenses of management of the five London savings banks amount to £14,315 13s. 8d.——The yeomanry corps throughout the northern districts have been directed to hold themselves in readiness to assemble at a short notice.——The Cambridge, which recently arrived at Liverpool, brought nearly 4000 packages of cheese from America. The last sales of this article realized for the best quality 52s. 6d. per cwt.——The Queen has granted a new charter to the College of Surgeons. Their future title will be the "Royal College of Surgeons of England."——The boy Jones, who so often obtained admission into Buckingham Palace, is now on board the Warspite. Having lately attempted to desert, he received a severe flogging.——The subscription for Miss Martineau, intended to compensate her for her refusal of a Government pension has been closed. It amounted to £1348.——Last week, a party of fourteen dined on rump steaks on the top of Nelson's Column, in Trafalgar-square, London. The statue of Nelson, which is to surmount the column, stands seventeen feet high, and is formed of Granton stone, a fine-grained and remarkably hard material. The figure presents Nelson precisely as he might be supposed to have stood on the quarter-deck of the Victory at the momen when he had given forth the memorable signal—"England expects that every man will do his duty."——The Edinburgh Musical Festival has terminated with a great loss. The expenditure has been about £4000; the receipts have not reached £2000. The Committee of Management is loud in its complaints, and throws the disgrace of the failure on the "penury, avarice, and want of taste" of the Scottish population.——A new war steamer, intended to exceed by 25 feet in length the largest 120 gun ship in the navy, and to be called the Terrible, is about to be laid down at Deptford.——There are 4165 mechanics and labourers employed on the Shannon navigation improvement works.——A fever, presenting several new symptoms, and said to resemble the yellow fever and black vomit, is very prevalent amongst the poor of Glasgow and other towns in Scotland.——The last stone of the tower of the New Royal Exchange was set by the contractor on Tuesday last, on which occasion all the workmen were entertained. All that now remains to be added to the tower is the vane and its supports. The vane will be the same grasshopper which for a long time adorned the old Exchange, and escaped the fire almost uninjured.——In Boston, Bridgwater, Bridport, Congleton, Derby, Devizes, Hull, Kendal, Lyme-Regis, Northampton, Oxford, Sheffield, Stafford, Sunderland, Truro, Cambridge, Canterbury, Coventry, Hastings, Ipswich, Leeds, Liverpool, and Andover, the municipal elections have gone in favour of the Liberal party.——Mr. Wallack, of Covent-Garden Theatre, has published a letter denying that the *Morning Post* had *his* "authority" for saying that the Queen and Queen Dowager had "discontinued their private boxes, because the meetings of the League had been held in the theatre."——The recent elections in the United States are unexpectedly favourable to the Whig party, giving them additional hopes that Mr. Clay will be elected President, in which case it is believed that Mr. Webster will be Vice-president. The Canada papers give the speech of the Governor-General on opening the Provincial Parliament, which appears to have given great satisfaction.——Her Majesty and Prince Albert have paid their promised visit to Cambridge, from which place they returned to Windsor on Saturday last. The cloistered ecclesiastics and literati of that University, who usually live in a very narrow and rather musty world of their own, seem to have had their heads turned by the too potent fumes of the honour conferred upon them. Intoxicated with the draught, it is not wonderful that their proceedings had about them a certain air of ridiculousness and burlesque—that there was a very undue proportion of mummery, and a very small admixture of grave and reasonable behaviour.——In July last her Majesty's ship Dido destroyed the forts of the pirates on the Seribas River in the island of Borneo.——Father Mathew leaves Ireland in about a fortnight, and commencing his labours at Preston, in Lancashire, will proceed to fulfil his numerous country engagements.——On Monday, a most serious fight took place between two men, near Macclesfield; they fought eighty rounds, at the conclusion of which, one of them reeled and staggered, and being taken off the ground, died in about two hours. The stepfather and brother were present, urging him on. A verdict of Manslaughter has been returned against five of the parties.——The interior of Winchester Cathedral is undergoing renovation and restoration, under the superintendence of Mr. Richardson, the architect.——In an extent against the house of Dean and Candy, for participation in the Custom-house frauds, Government obtained possession of a book-case, valued at £60; among the books were the account-books of the firm, containing good debts to the amount of £40,000, the whole of which Government will now be able to collect, and pay themselves the whole of the penalties.——Some English divers have obtained a license from the Government of Spain, to recover the treasures of the Spanish galleons, sunk in Cadiz harbour by the squadron of Admiral Blake in 1656. They have already recovered a number of brass guns from one, and discovered another laden with treasure, which they expect to raise early in the spring. The same parties are engaged in securing the valuable property in the wreck of the Missouri, in Gibraltar Bay.——During the year 1840, there died in Russia 479 persons aged more than a hundred years; 236 of them had reached the age of 105; 108 had turned 110; 59 reached 115; 45 died at 120; 25 at 125; 4 died at 130; and 2 attained 145.——The present system of pickling seed wheat has nearly exterminated partridges in Ireland.——There was lifted from a field belonging to, and farmed by, Lord William Douglas of Grangemuir, Fifeshire, the astonishing quantity of 100 bolls of Craigmillar don potatoes from a Scotch acre of ground. They are of superior quality.——The O'Connor Don, M.P., has made an abatement of 25 per cent. in his rents on his Roscommon property.——An Order in Council, recently issued, directs that the six minor canons of Westminster Abbey shall each in future receive an annual stipend of £150.——Baron Capelle, formerly minister of Charles X., and one of the signers of the ordinances of July, 1830, died at Montpelier on the 25th ult.——The news from India brings intelligence of an insurrection at Lahore, and the murder of Shere Singh, his son Purtaub Singh, and all their families, on the 15th of September. The Sirdar Ajeet Singh is the perpetrator of this bloody tragedy. General Ventura and party attacked the murderer, but were defeated. The Rajah's body was cut up by Ajeet Singh, and his head placed on a spear. The Rajah's son was killed at the entrance of the town. The wives and children of the murdered victims fell a prey to the murderers, even to a child who was born on the day before. The crime was afterwards avenged by the assassination of Dhyan Singh by the actual murderer of the King. A boy, who is said to be a son of Runjeet, now ten years old, has been placed on the throne, under the protection of the Vizier, a son or brother of Dhyan Singh.——Two thousand of the clergy of the Established Church have signed the protest against Puseyism. This is about a sixth of the number of the English clergy.——The affairs of Russia in Circassia are represented as becoming hourly less promising.——The intelligence from Greece is, to a certain extent, satisfactory. The elections are proceeding quietly, and the persons chosen to represent the various communities are for the most part of the moderate party. M. Mavrocordato was received with marks of the royal favour and general popularity. The Russians appear much disappointed with the result of the late movement. The Russian party is now in power, and the English and French parties are respectively struggling for the ascendency. It is still very doubtful whether Mavrocordato will hold office, and the meeting of the national assembly is looked forward to with the greatest anxiety.——On Thursday an accident occurred on the Croydon Railway by which a young man named Oakley is likely to lose his life. It appears to have arisen entirely from his own want of caution.——On the 9th inst. the Lord Mayor was installed with the usual ceremonies, there was nothing unusual except the fineness of the day.——The harvest has been very good in the interior of Russia.——A dreadful occurrence took place at Cork this day week. A Doctor Quarry was shot, it is said, by his partner whilst endeavouring to gain possession of some saw-mills of which he was co-proprietor with a Mr. Wilson.——Yesterday, at Windsor, the Queen in Council prorogued Parliament from the 14th inst. to the 19th of December.——It appears that upwards of a million pieces of shirtings, and nearly sixty million pounds of cotton twist, have already been exported to China this year, being somewhere about three times the quantity of each shipped for the East during the same period last year.——A War-office circular and warrant for establishing and regulating regimental savings' banks has been issued, with the important object of encouraging prudence and economy in the British soldier.——The supposed attempt on the Emperor of Russia's life is still the subject of inquiry and discussion.——Since the light sovereigns have been called in, no less a number than 600,000 have been forwarded from the Branch Bank of England in Newcastle to the parent bank, London. The loss sustained in this neighbourhood is not less than £10,000, being fourpence each.——It has for the last fortnight been rumoured, that her Majesty intends to have a marine villa erected at Cowes, Isle of Wight, as an occasional residence during the summer and autumnal months.——The Earl of Dunraven, it is said, is about to make a liberal reduction in the rents of his tenantry in Glamorganshire. The noble earl has made an abatement of 20 per cent. on the rents arising from his estates in Limerick.——The Great Western steam-ship left Liverpool on Friday night for Bristol, to be laid up there during winter. It is said that the Great Britain will be sent from Bristol to Liverpool about Christmas, where her extraordinary size and novel style of fitting will naturally excite universal attention. She will cross the Atlantic early in spring.——One hundred convicts have just left Deptford, and been sent to the dockyard, Woolwich; in a few days the remainder will follow them, as it is the determination of the Lords of the Admiralty to abolish the system at Deptford, and the ship is to be removed also. No more convicts will be received at Woolwich, and as soon as those already there are either shifted off or obtain liberty, the establishment will be broken up.——The Marquis of Aylesbury has made a donation of £100 towards the restoration fund of York Minster.——The preachership of Lincoln's Inn is vacant by Mr. Lonsdale's elevation to the episcopal bench.

EMIGRATION OF MANUFACTURERS.—A number of gentlemen, who have carried on manufactories in Leeds, are about to proceed to Constantinople, having made arrangements with the Sultan for superintending different departments of a large manufacturing establishment in that city. This is another instance, in addition to many previous ones, of the way in which Englishmen are now employed to give a start to the manufacturing industry of foreign countries. Monopoly forbids them to stay at home.

FINE WRITING.—The *Stockport Advertiser* is certainly the funniest journal in existence, and, in way of rich and genuine absurdity, beats even the amusing creations of Boz quite out of sight. Take, as a sample, the following remarks upon the recent London election, from the *Advertiser* of Friday last:—"The result of this appeal, which for several weeks has engaged the attention of the public, is now *unlocked*, and we look upon the *verdict*, as we do every other matter of history, without apprehension or alarm. It is true the Anti-Corn-Law League threatened, that if they could succeed in *nominating a representative* for London, they should certainly effect a similar accomplishment in the provinces; and the *realization of that test leaves light work (we dare say) for the sequel.*" "The intelligence of the city of London is still *undiseased, pestilential, as the atmosphere is infused.*" "They at that time assumed a righteous recognition of the parliamentary franchise, and *thought all noblemen great criminals for culling the gems of our universities for the high and solemn purposes of legislation.*" "In our opinion, these foolish folks are *looking at the egg before it is hatched*, and little calculate the *consequence of its produce.*"

ENGLISH ABSENTEISM.—English residents in France are drawn thither by the grand motive of cheap living, cheap education for their children. A family could not exist in England, without undergoing severe privations and severer humiliation, upon the small sum which will enable them to live well in France. This is the magnet which attracts so many people on narrow incomes to the French shores. At the little town of Dinan, on the Rance, there are nearly 300 English residents; at Tours, on the Loire, there are 2000, and there were formerly three times that number, until certain unpleasantnesses broke up and dispersed the community; Avranches, St. Malo, St. Servan, swarm with English; there are 6000 at Boulogne; and they congregate at Rouen, Caen, Havre, and other places in proportion. People do not exile themselves for mere caprice, to a strange land, where a strange language is spoken, where they are surrounded by strange customs, and separated from familiar faces and old ties and associations; they must have a strong motive for making so many painful sacrifices of habit, of friendship within call if not within reach of easy intercourse; and that motive must be more powerful than the claims and considerations it overrules. At home they are exposed to a thousand distresses; they cannot sustain the position to which their connexions or their tastes invite them; and then there are children to be cared for, to be educated, and put out in the world. How is all this to be accomplished upon means so limited as to keep them in a state of hopeless warfare with appearances? The alternative is to settle in a country where the *necessaries of life are cheap*, where education is cheap, where they can escape the eyes of Argus, and do as they like: a sort of genteel emigration. Who is the wiser whether they do this on £100 or a £1000 a year, if they can do it independently? They are out of the realms of spite and tattle. Let nobody wonder, then, at the numbers of English who settle in France and other cheap countries; the real wonder is that there are not more of them. But let nobody, either out of false delicacy or falser pride, mistake the causes of their settling there. It is not from choice but necessity. The question comes home quite as forcibly to the English gentleman of £300 per annum, who rents a house at Avranches or Granville, as to the practical farmer who, before he is ground into a pauper by high rents at home, turns his little property into capital, and transports himself and his family to Van Diemen's Land. The only important difference between the two cases is, that the one can return when he pleases, and the other, having embarked his whole substance in a single venture, must abide the issue.—*Foreign Quarterly Review.*

EXTREMES OF AFFLUENCE AND MISERY.—It appears from a report of the proceedings of the Marlborough-street Police Office, that there is an average number of fifty human beings, of all ages, who huddle together in the parks every night, having no other shelter than what is supplied by the trees and hollows of the embankments. Of these the majority are young girls, who have been seduced from the country by the soldiers, and turned loose upon the world, in all the the destitution of friendless penury, and all the recklessness of early vice. This is truly horrible. Poor there must be every where. Indigence will find its way and set up its hideous state in the heart of a great and luxurious city. Amid the thousand narrow lanes and by-streets of a populous metropolis, there must always, we fear, be much suffering—much that offends the eye—much that lurks unseen. But that within the precincts of wealth, gaiety, and fashion, nigh the regal grandeur of St. James's, close on the palatial splendour of Bayswater, on the confines of the old and the new aristocratic

quarters, in a district where the cautious refinement of modern design has abstained from erecting one single tenement for poverty; which seems, as it were, dedicated to the exclusive enjoyment of wealth—that *there* want, and famine, and disease, and vice should stalk in all their kindred horrors, consuming body by body, soul by soul! It is, indeed, a monstrous state of things.—*Times.*

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Nov. 4.	Mon. Nov. 6.	Tues. Nov. 7.	Wed. Nov. 8.	Thurs. Nov. 9.	Fri. Nov. 10
Bank Stock	179½	179½	180	180½	180½	181
3 per Cent. Con.	96⅛	95	95½	96⅛	96⅛	96⅛
New 3½ per Cent.	103½	103½	103½	103⅜	103½	103½
Long Annuities	12 9-16	12 9 16	12 9-16	12½	12½	12½
S. Sea Old Ann.	—	93½	—	94½	—	—
India Bonds	75	73 75	—	—	74 76	—
India Stock	—	—	—	270½	270¾	271
Exchequer Bills	62 65	62 65	—	63 65	62 65	61 64
Consols for Acc.	96½	96½	96½	96⅜	96⅝	96⅝
Brazilian	73	—	—	—	72½	72½
Mexican df.	10½	10⅜	—	10½	—	9¾
Portuguese, conv.	—	41	—	—	—	—
Spanish 3 per Ct.	32	32½	32	31⅞	31⅝	31⅝
Chilian 6 p. Ct. df.	—	—	100½	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 5 per Cent.	99⅝	99½	99⅞	99⅞	100	100
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	—	54½	54½	54⅝	54⅝	54⅝
Columb. 6 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	11½
Austrian, 5 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	113
Danish	—	85½	—	—	85½	—
Peruvian	23	23	—	22½	24	24⅝
Belgian	—	—	—	—	103½	102⅝
French 3 p. Cent.	82	—	—	81 70	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Nov. 6.—There was a pretty good supply of Wheat from Essex, but very moderate from Kent to this morning's market; the demand was not brisk, and no progress could be made in sales till a decline of 1s. per qr. was submitted to on the best, and 2s. per qr. on the inferior descriptions; and even at this the stands were not cleared by the close of the market. There was also a slow sale for Foreign Wheat, which was held at former rates. The supply of fine Malting Barley was short, and for this description last week's prices were readily obtained; but distilling qualities, of which there was a rather better supply, sold slowly at rather lower rates. Grinding Barley is still scarce. There were rather more old English Beans offering, but they were taken off readily at the advance we noted on Friday. The supply of new Beans was short; there was no alteration in their value, nor in that of White or Grey Peas. Some cargoes of Irish Oats arrived in time for this morning's market, but our market having been quite destitute of supply last week, there was a steady trade, chiefly to consumers, at the advance which we reported on Friday, of 6d. per qr. The stock of Wheat in the United Kingdom in bond on the 10th of October, was 69,086 qrs., and of Flour, 34,813 cwts. The total quantity of Wheat on which duty has been paid this year to the 10th of October, is 854,375 qrs.; during the same period last year it was 2,656,674 qrs.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 30th of Oct., to the 4th of Nov. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	4388	4100	593	1181	1268
Scotch	230	—	533	—	—
Irish	178	—	679	—	—
Foreign	3870	—	—	—	—

Flour, 7349 sacks, 400 brls. Malt, 5425 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed	21s — 23s
——, Distilling	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato	23s — 26s
——, Grinding	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Nov. 10.—There is a fair supply of English Wheat fresh up since Monday. The trade for both English and free Foreign is very dull, and to effect sales lower prices must be accepted, but the holders are not disposed at present to give way. With a moderate supply of Barley, prices remain the same as on Monday. About 20,000 qrs. of Irish Oats have arrived during the week, and 1810 qrs. of English and Scotch. This is a very moderate supply after the small quantity we have had during the last fortnight, and former prices are consequently firmly maintained; but the buyers generally are waiting in expectation of larger arrivals, and there is, therefore, not much activity in the trade. There is no alteration in Beans and Peas.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 3rd to the 10th of November, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	3140	—	1050
Barley	2250	—	—
Oats	1810	19,760	—

Flour 3250 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 4, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	114,949	51 8	66,762	31 7	37,512	18 7	5759	31 5
Aggregate Averages	..	50 6		30 7		17 10		30 8
Duty	..	20 0		8 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

R. KIPLING, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman.

BANKRUPTS.

J. M'LEAN, Sun-street, statuary mason. [Brace, Surrey-street, Strand.

C. W. DAVIES, Holborn, upholsterer. [Dickson and Co., Old Jewry.

G. NETTLETON, Brompton, tailor. [Herbert, Staple-inn.

W. B. COCKERILL, Needham, Norfolk, butcher. [Rickards and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields; Palmer, Great Yarmouth.

J. WILLIS, Osborn-street, Whitechapel, ale and porter merchant. [Goddard, Wood-street, Cheapside.

A. H. WAGSTAFF, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, apothecary. [Hodgson and Co., King's-road, Bedford-row.

D. AUMONIER, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, jeweller. [Patten, Ely-place, Holborn.

J. PHILLIPS, Pinners'-hall-court, Old Broad-street, tailor. [Yonge, Tokenhouse-yard.

D. FRAZER, Little Tower-street, shipowner. [Ashby, Shoreditch.

E. CHARLES, Radipole, Dorsetshire, brickmaker. [Phillips, Weymouth; Coombe, Staple-inn, London.

C. HARRINGTON, Kidderminster, plumber. [Haywood and Webb, Birmingham.

G. H. CROWTHER, Warrington, Lancashire, stationer. [Hampson, Manchester; Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 30. J. Appleton, Three Crown-square, Southwark, hop merchant—Nov. 30. A. L. Bensusan, Walbrook-buildings, merchant—Nov. 30. P. Tagg, Tooley-street, Southwark, slopseller—Nov. 30. W. Hopper, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, carpet warehouseman—Nov. 30. A. Winton and Co., Cheapside, warehousemen—Nov. 30. G. H. Watson, Aldersgate-street, apothecary—Nov. 28. W. Jackes, Guildford-street, Blackfriars-road, corn dealer—Nov. 28. W. Hayes, Salisbury, Wiltshire, grocer—Dec. 7. J. Jackson, Lincoln, chemist—Nov. 30. T. B. Molyneux and P. Witherby, Liverpool, merchants—Dec. 1. W. Drinkwater, Salford, Lancashire, woollen cord manufacturer—Dec. 5. A. Bower, Basford, Staffordshire, banker—Nov. 30. C. B. Buchanan and W. Cunningham, Liverpool, merchants—Dec. 5. J. Whitaker, Newchurch, Whalley, Lancashire, woollen printer.

CERTIFICATES.

Nov. 29. H. Walsh, Reading, Berkshire, watchmaker—Nov. 30. R. Stevens, Stewkley, Bucks, farmer—Nov. 30. J. George, Bread-street, Cheapside, silk manufacturer—Nov. 30. I. W. H. Brown, Little Bowden, Northamptonshire, horse dealer—Dec. 5. C. Duffield, Bath, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. STRACHAN, Strathmartine, Forfarshire, flaxspinner—D. FERGUSON, Greenock, merchant—A. ROSS, Ferry of Cromarty, Ross-shire, innkeeper.

FRIDAY, Nov. 10.

BANKRUPTS.

G. J. POUCHEE, Oxford-street, stationer. [Wilson, South-square, Gray's Inn.

T. BAKER, High-street, Camberwell, carpenter. [Harman, Earl-street, Blackfriars.

C. J. ACUTT, Bath-street, City-road, cabinet maker. [Strangeways, King's-road, Bedford-row.

C. KILLICK and J. SADD, Blackman-street, Borough, paper stainers. [Wood and Wickham, Corbet-court, Gracechurch-street.

C. J. HUNT, Cork-street, Burlington-gardens, billiard table maker. [Lewis, Arundel-street, Strand.

B. G. DRURY, Dudley, Worcestershire, licensed victualler. [Bourne and Wainwright, Dudley.

B. DOWELL, Bishopwearmouth, Durham, builder. [Walker, Furnival's Inn; Davison, Bishopwearmouth.

W. TAYLOR, Springhead in Saddleworth, Yorkshire, oil merchant. [Gregory, Faulkney, Gregory, and Bourdillon, London; Ashcroft, Oldham.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Nov. 7, 1843, is 33s. 10½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—Quarterly Average of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of England, from the 12th day of August to the 4th of November, 1843, both inclusive, published pursuant to the Act, 3 and 4 W. IV., cap. 98.

Liabilities.		*Assets.*	
Circulation	£19,314,000	Securities	£21,392,000
Deposits	10,980,000	Bullion	12,098,000
	£30,294,000		£33,490,000

Downing-street, Nov. 16, 1843.

GRIFFITHS'S VEGETABLE APERIENT CAKES are a real blessing to Mothers, being entirely free from any medicinal flavour; the most obstinate children eagerly take them. They act as a mild aperient, and give speedy relief to children afflicted with worms.—Prepared and sold in packets, 1s. 1½d. each, by J. Griffiths, 41 and 42, Clerkenwell-green, London; and all medicine vendors.

PNEUMONIC COUGH LOZENGES, recommended and used by the Faculty, for the prevention, cure, and relief of COLDS, HOOPING COUGH, HOARSENESS, and ASTHMA. They have for many years been used with great advantage in Incipient Consumption, and other Affections of the Chest, particularly Bronchitis. By promoting expectoration, they surprisingly relieve the oppression and difficulty of breathing, so distressing in most pulmonary diseases. To be had of or through the usual Medicine Agents of the sole Proprietor, H. Lamplough, 87, Snow-hill, London, in boxes, at 1s. 1½d.; or canisters, at 2s. 9d.; the latter containing the quantity of three small boxes.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, continue to restore DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache, and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth £0 10 0
A Set 5 5 0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 60, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD STREET.

CORROBORATION OF THE INNOCENT YET RELIEVING PROPERTIES OF BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

TO MR. PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

19, Lisson Grove, St. Marylebone.

SIR,—In recompense for the great benefit I have received from the use of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, I feel it a duty I have long owed to the afflicted with the excruciating torture of the Gout, to make your valuable remedy more extensively known.

I am upwards of seventy years of age, and have, when occasion required, used them for more than twelve years past. I have at all times found nothing to relieve me but them, and my firm belief is that they are not composed of anything injurious to the constitution, as I always find, after their use, my general bodily health renewed, and my appetite considerably sharpened.

Should you, Sir, think this statement worthy of insertion in your list of testimonials, I can with truth solemnly declare the above.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

April 16th, 1842. ANN MOORE.

P.S.—I will with pleasure answer any application in proof of this testimony.

The never-failing effects of BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS in curing every description of Gout and Rheumatism, have secured to them a celebrity unequalled by any medicine of past or present times. They not only give relief in a few hours, where the patient has been driven nearly to madness by the excruciating tortures of this disease, but restore to perfect health in an inconceivable short space of time. They are equally speedy and certain in rheumatism, either chronic or acute, lumbago, sciatica, pains in the head or face, and indeed for every rheumatic or gouty affection; in fact, such has been the rapidity, perfect ease, and complete safety of this medicine, that it has astonished all who have taken it; and there is not a city, town, or village in the kingdom, but contains many grateful evidences of its benign influence.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government Stamp affixed to each box of the genuine Medicine.

BUYERS of WOOLLEN and MANCHESTER GOODS, who wish to lay in their stock at the lowest possible price, and at the same time to secure first-rate designs and quality, can do so by selecting from the stock of M. BARDWELL and CO., 73, 74, and 75, HOLBORN-BRIDGE; which consists of Cloths, Pilots, 6-4 Tweeds, fancy Doeskins, Woollen and Cotton Cords, and an unequalled variety of Waistcoatings and Tailors' Trimmings, at such prices as will at once show the close principles on which this establishment is conducted.

73, 74, and 75, Holborn-bridge.

H. WALKER'S NEEDLES (by authority the Queen's Own), in the illustrated Chinese boxes, are now in course of delivery to the trade. The needles have large eyes, easily threaded (even by blind persons), and improved points, temper, and finish. Each paper is labelled with a likeness of her Majesty or his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in relief, on coloured grounds. Every quality of needles, fishhooks, hooks and eyes, steel pens, &c., for shipping. These needles or pens for the home trade are sent free, by post, by any respectable dealer, on receipt of thirteen penny stamps for every shilling value.—H. Walker, manufacturer to the Queen, 20, Maiden-lane, Wood-street, London.

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COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET, &c.
Wellington-street, Strand, London.

HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

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TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 28, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. ROWAN."

N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

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THORN'S TALLY-HO SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Chops, Cutlets, Made Dishes, and all general purposes, is the richest and most economical Sauce now in use, imparting a zest not otherwise acquired. In bottles 2s. and 4s.

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The increasing demand for this most delicious preparation proves, beyond all doubt, it is far superior to anything of the kind ever yet offered to the public for Sandwiches, Toasts, Biscuits, &c., and an excellent relish for wine. In pots 1s. and 2s. each.

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STEPHENS' WRITING FLUID.—These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of the STEEL PEN, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary Ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of—

A BLUE FLUID, changing to an intense Black colour. PATENT UNCHANGEABLE BLUE FLUIDS, remaining a deep Blue colour.—A SUPERIOR BLACK INK, of the common character, but more fluid.—A SUPERIOR CARMINE RED, for Contrast Writing.—A CARBONACEOUS RECORD INK, which writes instantly black, and, being proof against Chemical Agents, is most valuable in the prevention of frauds.

Also a new kind of MARKING INK for Linen: and Inkholders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

Bottles at 3d. each convenient for writing from, are prepared, which will enable those who may wish to try either of these articles to do so at a small expense.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, the Inventor, 54, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, London.

Sold in bottles, at 3d., 6d., 1s. and 3s. each.

Be sure to ask for Stephens' Writing Fluid.

N.B. These unchangeable Blue Fluids are patent articles; the Public are therefore cautioned against imitations, which are infringements, to sell or use which is illegal.

STEPHENS' SELECT STEEL PENS.

The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the highest finish, they can be confidently recommended both for flexibility and durability.

FACTS which concern the whole Human Race.—First. Disease, in all its varied forms is but a chain of many links—thus establishing the principle of "An Unity of Disease."

Second. The form it assumes is governed by the peculiarities of the patient's constitution.

Third. A Medicine, to be really useful, should be one calculated to render to Nature just that assistance she requires in her efforts to expel disease.

Fourth. A Medicine suited to this purpose, must be as digestible as our common food, that the whole system may become impregnated therewith.

Fifth. To be digestible it must be entirely free in its composition from all minerals.

Sixth. It is notorious that nearly the whole of the medicines generally in use are either wholly or in part composed of mercury, in some shape or other, however much disguised.

The foregoing facts are important, and happily a medicine has been discovered suited to all the purposes therein laid down. Dr. HAMILTON'S VITAL PILLS are composed of the gums and herbs of the field, to the utter and entire exclusion of any mineral whatever, and possess the peculiar property of establishing in the patient's mind, by every day's use, that they are doing the very best they can for their health; and thus it is they are being recommended by cured patients into every corner of the empire. Let those who have tried, but every thing in vain, make trial of these, and they will be amply rewarded.

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THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW.—Twenty years have now elapsed since the first appearance of the "Westminster Review," in which the first article of the first number (from the pen of W. J. Fox) was entitled "Men and Things in 1823." A literary organ, which, in the discussion of all the various questions in the moral and physical sciences connected with human progress, should be free from the party bias of the "Edinburgh" and "Quarterly" Reviews, was then called for; and such a medium for the utterance of honest convictions is perhaps more indispensable at the present moment than at any former period. The late reaction in favour of the Conservative leaders of the aristocracy has ceased; the hopes which were entertained of a strong government, willing to govern in accordance with the spirit of the times, have proved delusive. It was said of the French *noblesse*, when they returned to France after forty years of exile, "These men are unchanged; the world with them has stood still; they belong not to the present century, but to the past;" and the same remark may unhappily be applied to a large portion of the English nobility and their instruments in office. It has become obvious that the members of the present cabinet and their immediate supporters are still the men of 1798,—dreamers of conspiracies and rebellions, promoters of agitation by the means chosen to suppress it; men who believe in military demonstrations, in state prosecutions, in the power of class interests, in the strength of old established abuses, in the shifts of expediency, in popular credulity, in electoral corruption, but have no faith in moral influences, none in the divinity of truth, none in the growing intelligence of the people, none in the necessity of improved institutions adapted to the new wants of society, none in the stability of that government which should honestly take justice for its basis, and win, by deserving, the affections of the governed. They are men who, in an age of earnest convictions, are without earnestness of purpose—who occupy a position which they do not understand—and one which it will soon be impossible for them to retain.

The time has arrived when, amid st the most encouraging prospects of continued usefulness, the "Westminster Review" may prefer, with confidence, its claims to the support of every section of the Liberal interest. The service it rendered in bygone days, when, in the advocacy of Free-Trade principles, it stood almost alone, will not be forgotten now that those principles are on the eve of practical realisation. The services it may yet render, not only in aiding the present movement, but in helping to ensure those further objects of good government which on the annihilation of monopoly will become attainable, need not be pointed out. With the new number in the press will have been completed forty volumes of Essays and Criticisms, amongst which have appeared acknowledged contributions by Bentham, Mill, Grote, Carlyle, Colonel Perronet Thompson, C. Buller, Molesworth, Roebuck, Bowring, and other distinguished writers; and no labour will be spared to sustain in the future conduct of the work the reputation of the past series.

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Peculiar advantages are offered by this Company. Thus—

Parties assuring the lives of others may make their policies secure, notwithstanding the life assured may go out of the limits of Europe, without the necessary permission of the Directors having been previously obtained.

Credit of half the premiums for the first five years allowed on policies effected for the whole term of life.

Assurances may be effected with or without profits—on an ascending or descending scale, or for short periods.

Advances made to Assurers on real or undoubted personal security, for terms of years, repayable by instalments.

Attention is particularly requested to the detailed prospectuses of the Company, which may be obtained at the Office, 18, King William-street, City, or by letter, addressed to the Secretary.

William Rathay, Actuary and Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 1, Princes-street, Bank, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic., cap. 9.

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The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of £5 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience—he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

A Table of Decreasing Rates of Premium on a novel and remarkable plan; the Policy-holder having the option of discontinuing the payment of all further premiums after Twenty, Fifteen, Ten, and even Five years; and the Policy still remaining in force—in the first case for the full amount originally assured; and in either of the three other cases, for a portion of the same according to a fixed and equitable scale endorsed upon the Policy.

Increasing Rates of Premium on a new and remarkable plan, for securing Loans or Debts; a less immediate payment being required on a Policy for the whole term of Life than in any other Office.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.

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Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Annual Premiums payable during 1st Five Years.			2nd Five Years.			3rd Five Years.			4th Five Years.			Remainder of life.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
20	1	1	4	1	5	10	1	10	11	1	16	9	2	3	8
30	1	6	4	1	12	2	1	19	1	2	7	4	2	17	6
40	1	16	1	2	4	4	2	14	6	3	7	3	4	3	4
50	2	16	7	3	9	4	4	5	5	5	6	3	6	13	7

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained at the Office.

Peter Morrison, Resident Director.

A Board of Directors attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

STRAND LOAN OFFICE, 302, Strand, corner of Newcastle-street.—Loans from £5 to £100 continue to be granted without delay at this office to respectable persons, on the security of responsible householders; to be paid by weekly instalments, for 25 or 50 weeks, at the option of the borrowers. Forms of application may be obtained at the office, 302, Strand, from 10 o'clock till 6, daily.

CAUTION.—The ROYAL HOWQUA'S MIXTURE TEAS must not be confounded with any other Howqua's Mixture, or any other mixture of Black Tea. This was the chosen tea of royalty when others were rejected. The copy of the first order for the supply of this tea to the Royal Family is on every genuine package. This tea is thus described in "Blackwood's Magazine" for this month:—

"We had a sample of this tea from G. Willsher, confectioner, 332, Oxford-street, corner of Regent-circus. The flavour is delicious, combining all the most exquisite fragrances of the richest teas under cultivation. A mere handful is a perfect bouquet."

It is now sold at the reduced price of 6s. per lb., though 17s. per lb. was obtained for it when first imported.—Sold by G. Willsher, confectioner, 332, Oxford-street, corner of Regent-circus; T. Wheeler, confectioner, 81, Lombard-street; F. Davies, confectioner, 10, High-street, Islington; and B. Lawrence, 93, Strand.

Fleming and Co., 2, Botolph-lane, sole importers, to whom applications for agencies must be addressed. Only one agent appointed in any town out of London.

TO THE MERCHANTS, BANKERS, TRADERS, AND OTHERS OF MANCHESTER AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

We, the undersigned, respectfully and urgently request your attendance at a MEETING to be held in the TOWN HALL, MANCHESTER, on TUESDAY, the 14th of November, at Eleven o'clock, to consider the best means of aiding the future operations of the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE.

Thomas Potter, Knt.
Samuel Greg and Co.
J. & N. Philips and Co.
Butterworth & Brooks.
Thos. Ashton & Sons.
Alfred Orrell.
Edward Hollins.
Thos. Fernley & Son.
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Robert Munn & Co.
John Lord.
Robert Lees & Sons.
Jacob Bright.
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Salis Schwabe & Co.
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Wm. Bayley & Brothers.
A. & J. S. Buckley.
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J. and B. Pearson.
E. Armitage & Son.
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Ma. Connell & Co.
James Murray.
Hugh Shaw & Co.
T. Whitehead & Brothers.
Jos. Thompson & Sons.
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John Mayson & Co.
Simpson, Thompson, & Co.
Thomas Price.
Thomas Bosley, jun.
Evans & Nicholson.
Henry Marsland.
William Morris.
James Kershaw.
John Lees.
Thomas Cullen.
Alfred Pennington.
John Harding.
J. Barratt, Sons, & Co.
Richard Holroyd & Co.

Manchester, Nov. 8, 1843.

ONE SHILLING EACH given for Nos. 93 and 103 of the ANTI-BREAD-TAX CIRCULAR, and Sixpence each for 109.

The above may be sent by post to J. Gidsby, Manchester, accompanied by a letter, and J. G. will pay postage of letters both ways.

COACH LINERS, Undertakers, Cap-makers, and Shoe-makers, will find an extensive assortment of Cloths, Lastings, and other goods kept expressly for their trades at H. BARDWELL and CO.'S, 73, 74, and 75, HOLBORN BRIDGE.

G. T. MANSELL AND CO., 2, BUCKLERSBURY, CHEAPSIDE.

COFFEE.—G. T. M. and Co. are enabled to offer great advantages to the purchasers of ROASTED COFFEE. With a view of establishing an extensive trade in that article they abide by their old scale of prices prior to the late advance. The trade, particularly country dealers and large consumers, will find this a favourable opportunity. Not less than pound samples can be had.—Cash on delivery.

COFFEE.—CEYLON COFFEE, 1s. per lb. Notwithstanding the recent advance we still continue to sell at the above price, which is lower than the first cost. Large consumers will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity. May be had in quantities not less than one pound.

COFFEE.—Finest PLANTATION CEYLON, 1s. 4d. per lb. This Coffee is the production of Ceylon, from the Jamaica berry, and is in high estimation. Few require a better Coffee. It possesses a rich mellow flavour, and is far better than most Coffees in use. Pound samples may be had.—Cash on delivery.

COFFEE.—The finest JAVA COFFEE, 1s. 6d. per lb., in quantities not less than a pound, for cash on delivery. Those who like Java Coffee will do well to try this, and they will find it far superior to what is usually sold under that denomination; in fact, most of the Coffee sold as Mocha is Java.

COFFEE.—The finest CUBA COFFEE, 1s. 8d. per lb. This Coffee is most difficult to obtain; it possesses strength and richness not surpassed by any Coffee imported into this country. The connoisseur will duly appreciate, on trial, this superior article, particularly those who have travelled on the Continent, or are fond of a good cup of Coffee. MANSELL and CO., 2, Bucklersbury, Cheapside.

DELCROIX'S MACASSAR OIL, imported under the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury, for the use of her Most Gracious Majesty, and their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, &c., is a delightfully fragrant and transparent preparation for the Hair, and, as an invigorator and beautifier, is beyond all precedent. It bestows the most brilliant gloss, together with a strong tendency to curl; and is the only known specific capable of effectually sustaining the Hair in decorative charm from the heat of crowded assemblies, or the effects of a damp atmosphere; the Original and Genuine

DELCROIX'S MACASSAR OIL

Is protected by two elegantly-executed correct likenesses, in embossed medallions, of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the signature and address of the Proprietors. It produces beautifully flowing curls, and, by the transcendent lustre it imparts, renders the Hair truly enchanting. To avoid the counterfeits generally sold by Hairdressers, be sure to ask for "Delcroix's Macassar Oil," 158, New Bond-street. Price, 3s. 6d., 7s., 10s. 6d., and 21s. per bottle.

DELCROIX'S KALYDOR,

A French Cosmetic, surpassing all others for preserving and beautifying the Complexion, prepared for the use of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and her Majesty the Queen Dowager, by especial command, and protected by letters patent, the label bearing the Royal Arms, elegantly embossed, surmounted by the Prince of Wales's plume. "Cet essentiel parfait" for for the Lady's toilet, imparts a softness to the skin, and removes all cutaneous eruptions, tan, freckles, pimples, spots, and other disfigurements of the skin. The radiant bloom it imparts to the cheek, and the softness and delicacy it induces on the hands, arms, and neck, render it indispensable to every toilet. Ask for "Delcroix's Kalydor," 158, New Bond-street. Price 4s. 6d., 10s. 6d., and 21s. per bottle.

DELCROIX'S ODONTO.

"We do not hesitate to recommend from experience DELCROIX'S ODONTO, or the Queen's own Dentrifice, as the most valuable means of purifying, preserving, and embellishing the Teeth and Gums, hitherto offered to the Public."—Court Gazette.

*** DELCROIX and CO.'s new Perfumes are, the PRINCE OF WALES' BOUQUET, and the BOUQUET PRINCESSE ALICE. The former being a combination of the fragrance of the most delicious flowers, in which the flavour of the moss rose bears the most conspicuous part, while the latter imparts the true essence of the modest "LILY OF THE VALLEY." The lovers of elegant Perfumes are solicited to call at 158, New Bond-street, and try Delcroix and Co.'s Royal Bouquets on their handkerchiefs, for which purpose bottles are always open free.

To prevent fraud, Delcroix's Chancery Protection Lable is affixed to each article.

A BRONZE SCROLL FENDER for 15s.—RIPPON and BURTON are now offering the most extensive assortment of FENDERS in London, embracing every possible variety, at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Iron fenders, 3 feet long, from 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, 3 feet, from 6s.; 3 feet 6, 7s.; 4 feet, 8s.; rich scroll fenders bronzed, from 15s.; or with steel rod and moulding, from 21s.; polished steel and ormolu mounted fenders at proportionate prices. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; ditto steel ditto, from 3s. 6d.; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. 6d.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE ONLY SAFE AND HEALTHY STOVES.

THE PATENT CHUNK and VESTA STOVES are the only ones recommended by the faculty for the bedrooms of invalids, and other places where a genial warmth is requisite. They are without doors, from which, in Arnott's (whether improved or not) and all others, the impure gases escape; consequently, the evils attendant upon such escapes, as headache, dizziness, &c., as well as fatal explosions, cannot occur in the use of them. These stoves having stood the test of five years, during which time upwards of five thousand have been fixed in chapels, shops, halls, forcing pits, nurseries, &c., they are most confidently offered to the public. They have been found to combine, in an extraordinary degree, great simplicity of use and certainty of action, with perfect safety, at an almost incredible small cost for fuel (coke or cinders). Chunk, 60s. each; Vesta, 80s. each.

THE PYRIDON STOVE (also a patent) has most of the advantages of the Chunk and Vesta, with the extremely novel one of showing the fire (as in a register stove) in one moment; it is eminently a ventilating stove, and will be found invaluable where any prejudice exists against a close stove: price 60s. Full particulars, with engravings and testimonials, post free.

RIPPON and BURTON, Proprietors.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The material RIPPON and BURTON offer to the public has for the last eight years been found equal to silver in appearance and sweetness, and superior to it in durability. Of the prices of tea-sets, waiters, candlesticks, and all articles hitherto made in silver, a detailed catalogue, with engravings, will be sent (gratis) post-free.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Threaded Pattern.	VICTORIA Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	28s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto ..	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	26s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto ..	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Established 1829.—Catalogues gratis.

London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton, Crane-court, Fleet-street) by A. W. Paulton, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and 67, Fleet-street; and published by him at The League Office, 67, Fleet-street, on Saturday, November 11, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 8.] SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their addresses as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, 67, *Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

THE MANCHESTER MEETING IN AID OF THE LEAGUE.

We wish to draw the attention of our readers generally to the proceedings at the meeting in the Town Hall of Manchester on Tuesday last; not exclusively, nor indeed principally, for the sake of holding up the munificent subscription there entered into as an example and stimulus to wealthy capitalists in other localities, but on account of sundry considerations which invest that meeting with peculiar importance and interest. The fact of the amount subscribed, and the promptitude with which it was offered—the first half hour having produced £10,000, and nearly £3000 more being realized in a short space of time afterwards—must, indeed, force itself upon notice. The men of Manchester have done their duty, and done it nobly. But there is something more than this, startling and admirable as it is, to be regarded in the proceedings, and which it would bespeak a very narrow and shortsighted view of the subject to overlook.

The state of the trade and manufactures of the country is a matter which the politician must take on evidence. The pulse of the nation cannot be felt merely by handling documents in Downing-street. Those who would rightly and thoroughly understand the case, must have recourse to the testimony of competent witnesses. Now, amongst such witnesses, a prominent place is justly due to the merchants and manufacturers of Manchester. They must know something of the subject. It is their own business of which they speak. It is the prospect that lowers over themselves, their families, and their workpeople, which they describe—and it is a gloomy one. "Unless," said Mr. Alderman Callender, "they had an extension of trade, their children would be unable to provide, as their fathers had, honestly for themselves and those who depended upon them. Emigration would be the only remedy that they could expect to obtain if those commercial restrictions were continued upon the energies of this country." That "there is no question as to its (the sliding scale) being destructive of commerce and manufactures," is the testimony of Mr. Robert Gardner, a gentleman whose Tory politics are well known, though, as we find, he contributes liberally to the League. There is no mistake in Manchester as to the sort of revival which has lately been experienced. No delusion exists there as to the "new era of prosperity" foreseen by the defeated candidate of the city of London. The only feeling is a deep and stern dissatisfaction with the present state of things, and a hopelessness of any real and enduring amendment, unless by the practical adoption of Free-Trade principles. Refuse that, and they regard their families as cast out of the country; doomed to expatriation from the land their fathers enriched; and the multitudes whom they fed left a prey to the worst evils of want and disease, increasing wretchedness, and eventually, perhaps, all the horrors of anarchy. This is the evidence of Manchester. It is backed by pecuniary sacrifices that evince its sincerity. And who rebuts it? Will Leeds? or Sheffield? or Glasgow? or Liverpool? Not the most sanguine monopolist can assume that, for the past; or predict it, for the future. He will find nothing there but corroboration; and we are much deceived if it be not about to take, like that of Manchester, a more emphatic expression than heretofore. They who know best think the worst of our manufacturing condition. And how much is implied in that testimony. Here is no question of abstract points, but of the sinking fortunes of those whose thriving makes the nation thrive; of destroying or expelling the capital which creates for the mass of the people the means of subsistence; of violating justice till the curse comes both on the guilty and the innocent; and of obstinately holding on a downward course towards impoverishment, wretchedness, and ruin. The heart must be as callous as the head is impenetrable, if conviction does not reach the one, nor the determination of applying an efficient remedy animate the other.

This meeting also deserves attention as evincing the steady growth of the agitation, and the spirit in which it is continued. Many of the contributions were doubled upon those of last year, and the aggregate was more than fourfold that raised at the similar meeting last year. The last meeting was convened by a circular from 54 individuals and firms; this by one from 70 principal houses. And in connexion with the determination thus exhibited, there is a disposition more than ever to regard the question as properly national. The denouncing of class legislation did not betray the meeting into expressions of class hostility. Sympathy predominated over antagonism. Those larger views, in which all industrial interests are seen in their unity and mutual dependence, met with the cordial concurrence of the meeting. There was a not very unreasonable repugnance expressed to being taxed for the marriage settlements of landlords with dropsical rent-rolls; but no indifference towards the rights or prosperity of any class. In the manufacturing mind, the Corn Laws have entirely ceased to be a merely manufacturing question. This expansion of the popular view happily coincides with the actual course of the Agitation. While Mr. Cobden has invaded the counties, the counties have invaded Manchester. The condition, wants, and interests of those engaged in agriculture present themselves to the understanding of those embarked in trade, and stimulate their efforts to throw off the incubus that is crushing both. The maker of cottons feels that he is agitating for the producer of food. This reciprocity is rapidly on the advance. Success will not be the work of a class, but of the union of all classes who live and thrive by industry. The late triumph in the city of London showed that the question was no longer that of the manufacturer; and the spirit now raised at Salisbury is further evidence of its real comprehensiveness being increasingly understood and felt. Time is making it the farmer's question; and he comes to it with sympathy, co-operation, and power, all ready to render him efficient assistance in the assertion of his own rights and those of the community.

One word more on this meeting. It bespeaks confidence in the leaders and conduct of the League in quarters where these are best known, and where that can be most strictly scrutinized. On those leaders is spontaneously bestowed the scriptural reward of faithful and diligent stewardship, by intrusting them with a double talent. There are no doubts about the purity or the wisdom of the outlay. If the Council were "strangers" in London, their "home is in Lancashire;" and, at home, they only hear the sounds of gratitude, confidence, and encouragement. Nor is this reliance misplaced. Results are evidence. An extent of popular knowledge, and a moral strength of purpose, have been created which demonstrate that the "money power" can be honourably applied to elections as well as corruptingly; that it may control the briber, whom hitherto it had chiefly been employed to furnish for his nefarious works. Let the Council of the League go forward then, strengthened and cheered in its mighty undertaking; and each one of us lend a hand, as circumstances allow, to lighten their labours, facilitate their progress, and hasten their success.

THE CORN LAWS AND THE MIDDLE CLASSES.

A Spanish diligence was once attacked by robbers; the passengers were sufficiently numerous and well-armed to have made an effectual resistance, but they could not agree upon any definite plan of defence: each resolved to follow his own course, and each was, consequently, overpowered and plundered. Some time afterwards the robbers fell into the hands of justice, and one of those whom they had stripped possessed sufficient curiosity to inquire into the circumstances of the attack. He found out, that though the passengers could not agree upon any plan of defence, there was not the slightest difference of opinion amongst the banditti; and he learned the very useful lesson, that the great secret of the success of plunderers is the want of unanimity in the resistance of their victims.

"You laugh!—'tis well—the tale applied
May make you laugh at t'other side."

A system of monopolist protection, established for the sole purpose of enriching a favoured class at the expense of the rest of the community, is nothing else but legalized robbery, the perpetration of which is rendered easy by the compact alliance of the monopolist classes and the disunited condition of those whom they pillage. The middle classes of England, like the passengers in the Spanish diligence, are, for the most part, conscious of the wrong done them, but they are so divided by petty interests and clashing factions that they are incapable of making any effective resistance.

"And while their tyrants join in hate,
They never join in love."

In fact, the Anti-Corn-Law League is the only confederacy for the protection and defence of the middle and working classes, formed by themselves and for themselves, since England had a history. That this confederacy is not universal throughout the empire will be a subject of astonishment to future ages. Posterity will see that the object for which the Corn Laws are maintained by such statesmen as the Duke of Wellington and the Duke of Richmond is not to save the landed aristocracy from being made poorer, but to prevent the mercantile classes from becoming richer. In the long struggle between British industry and Norman feudalism, the industrial energies of the trading and working community have ever outstripped the privileges of landed ascendency; and were the conditions of the race equal, it would be soon said of England as it was of Tyre, "Her merchants are princes, and her traffickers the honourable of the earth." Now, this is the very consummation which the Duke of Wellington is anxious to prevent. He deems that the mercantile and manufacturing classes are too wealthy already; that their credit and their riches have given them too great a preponderance in the political world; and that the respectability to which they have attained has rendered them reluctant to bear the yoke of feudal tyranny, and the remaining links of the chain of feudal bondage. His complaint, echoed by the majority of his order, is, that "Jeburun has waxed fat and kicked." The political value which he attributes to monopoly is, that it enables him to starve down the energies of the industrious to that point of weakness, which would leave them unable to resist the mandate that they should work for titled masters and not for themselves or their children. This policy has been openly avowed. Sir Robert Peel declared that the main object of the Corn Laws was to maintain the political preponderance of the landed interest; and though he has since shrunk from repeating this precious argument, he never has retracted it. His Grace of Wellington adheres to it still with all the iron obstinacy of determined prejudice. Now, it is to us perfectly unaccountable, that men should be found in the middle classes supporting a policy avowedly and confessedly adopted for the purpose of depressing their own order, and preventing the social advancement of their own selves. It is little short of insanity for a merchant, a manufacturer, or a tradesman, to give his vote for a monopolist: he, in fact, votes for the degradation of his own class, the impoverishment of his own fortunes, and the hereditary bondage of his own children. The man in trade who accepts a bribe makes a worse bargain than Esau did when he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage; and he who yields to intimidation displays cowardice in surrendering property he is able to defend, and consummate folly in yielding up for nothing the honourable profits of trade which independence is certain to secure. The threat of exclusive dealing made in Salisbury and other boroughs is an act of monstrous audacity, and would be an act of still more monstrous folly if it was carried so far as to provoke retaliation. What would be the consequence to the retail dealer, who sacrifices his conscience to keep the custom of one wealthy or titled customer, if he was deprived of a hundred customers, without titles indeed, and in moderate circumstances, but whose aggregate of consumption far exceeds that of the menacing aristocrat? We need not pursue the subject further—it is quite sufficient to say that intimidation is a game at which two can play.

The Reform Bill has given great constitutional weight to the middle classes; the appeal now made

to them is that they should be true to their own interests—that they should take pity on themselves, and have mercy on their own families.

When the nature of the appeal is thoroughly understood, it is impossible that it should be made in vain.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE TERM "AGRICULTURAL INTEREST?"

It appears by a Parliamentary return of registered electors for the year 1839-40,* that the numbers of registered county voters in England and Wales were as follows:—

Freeholders, copyholders, leaseholders, &c.	298,853
£50 occupiers	180,804
Total of registered county voters	479,657

The words of the act† are "lands and *tenements*;" and it may be contended that a considerable proportion of these are occupiers of houses; but we believe it will be found, on examination, that nearly the whole of these £50 occupiers are agricultural tenants.‡ Thus it appears that 38 per cent., or nearly two-fifths of the whole number of county voters in England and Wales are occupiers of land, without *reference to the length of term*, in other words, are tenants-at-will, *dependent on such tenancy for their subsistence*, and therefore completely at the mercy of the lessors, or landlords, as they are called or call themselves.

Now although at first sight it may have seemed a boon to these tenants-at-will to possess the franchise, or right of voting for a member of Parliament, which the clause, commonly called the Chandos clause, of the Reform Bill conferred upon them, a little reflection will prove to them that this right was, in fact, no such thing, but the very reverse. The object of the author of this Chandos clause, and those of the same way of thinking, has always been to persuade the farmers that they, the farmers, and their landlords had common interests, that, in short, they were both equally interested in continuing the Corn Laws. But a man does not usually need to be goaded to pursue his own interest; and if it be the interest of the farmer or the rent-payer, as much as of the rent-receiver, to keep up the Corn Laws, why do not their lessors trust them, and give them those longer leases, that more permanent tenancy, which even Sir Robert Peel admits § it must be the interest of the landlord to grant in order to facilitate and promote the better cultivation of the soil? The only reason that we can think of for their not doing so is a conviction, or at least a very strong impression on their minds, that the interests of those tenant-at-will farmers are not identical with theirs in the matter of the Corn Laws, and that a large proportion of them know that they are not identical; and, if left free agents in the disposal of their electoral votes, would act upon that knowledge, and vote for Anti-Corn-Law candidates.

Before the passing of the Reform Act, men voted for knights of the shire only as *freeholders*, that is, as independent men. But now, without taking into account the effect in favour of the large landholders of the newly-created votes of the new classes of voters under the heads of copyholders, tenants in ancient demesne, and leaseholders, we have grounds for concluding that the Chandos clause of the Reform Act gave the Corn-Law candidates for the counties throughout England and Wales an increase of strength sufficient to turn the scale in their favour. In fact, however, this only was according or not as those individuals of whom they held their uncertain and slavish tenures happened to be Pro-Corn Law or Anti-Corn Law. The sum and substance of the whole matter is, that in direct violation of the ancient constitution of this country, by which the county as well as the town members of Parliament were to be elected by independent men who had a free will of their own, the county members are now elected by men who are as much within the power of those of whom they immediately hold their land, as the copyholders were in very early times, and before the security of their tenures was established by the judges. By the statutes 8 Hen. VI., c. 7, and 10 Hen. VI., c. 2 (amended by 14 Geo. III., c. 58), the qualifications of the electors of the county members or knights the shires were determined. Of these qualifications Mr. Justice Blackstone gives the following account:—

"The knights of the shire shall be chosen of people whereof every man shall have freehold to the value of forty shillings by the year within the county; which (by subsequent statutes) is to be clear of all charges and deductions except parliamentary and parochial taxes. The knights of shires are the representatives of the landholders, or landed interest of the kingdom; their electors must therefore have estates in lands or tenements, within the county represented: these estates must be freehold, that is, for term of life at least; because beneficial leases for long terms of years were not in use at the making of these statutes, and copyholders were then little better than villeins, absolutely dependent upon their lords; this freehold must be of forty shillings annual value, because that sum would then, with proper industry, furnish all the necessaries of life, and render the freeholder, if he pleased, an independent man."*

It is clear from this that, by the English constitution as well as by the laws of correct reasoning and of common sense, the county members or knights of the shire represent that class of the community who have an interest in land totally different from the interest of that large body who pay rent, and are called tenant-farmers. They clearly represent the interest, not of the rent-payers, but of the rent-receivers. The interest of the rent-payers, of the tenant-farmers, is identical with the interest of the manufacturers and merchants, of that class who depend on the profits of stock; or, as in the tenant-farmer, the characters are not unfrequently united, their interest is the interest of those who depend on the profits of stock and on the wages of labour.

It is also clear that another effect of the clause giving the right of voting to these tenants-at-will, necessarily will be to increase the number of those tenancies-at-will throughout the kingdom, and thereby perpetuate the wretched condition of the farmer. It is self-evident that no capitalist, that no one but a man struggling hard for a bare subsistence, would cultivate the soil upon such conditions. And it would even seem from the practice of some of the most enlightened of the lessors themselves, and from that of such bodies as the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, that the true interest of the lessor as well as of the lessee is much more effectually attended to by granting leases of a certain duration than by those miserable tenancies-at-will.

The argument that the tenant-farmer is benefited by the Corn Laws, if it is good for anything, should be able to show that his present condition (after the enjoyment of so many years of Corn Laws, which have certainly benefited the receivers of rent,) is an improved condition, is better than his condition at any former period. It is not always easy to apply a test to an argument of this sort, from the difficulty of procuring accurate information respecting the past condition. Luckily, in the present instance, we have an account, which can be relied upon, of the former condition of the farmers, or at least of the class who corresponded to that class we now call farmers. Sir Thomas Smith, one of the principal secretaries of state to King Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth—after stating that, as a preliminary towards belonging to the class of yeomen, a man must be a freeman, born English, and able to spend of *his own free land* in yearly revenue to the sum of forty shillings sterling, equal, he adds, to six pounds at that time (equal, says Blackstone, to twenty pounds in his time, and to very considerably more at present), thereby showing that he must have at least a small independence to begin with—thus describes his way of life, and the course and nature of his fortunes:—

"This sort of people commonly live wealthily, keep good houses, and do their business, and travel to acquire riches: these be (for the most part) farmours unto gentlemen, which with grazing, frequenting of markets, and keeping servants not idlely as the gentleman doth, but such as get both their own living and part of their masters', and by these means do come to such wealth, that they are able and daily do buy the lands of unthrifty gentlemen, and after setting their sons to the school at the universities, to the laws of the realm, or otherwise leaving them sufficient lands whereon they may live without labour, do make their said sons by these means gentlemen."†

The best commentary on this passage will be suggested by every tenant-at-will's own reflections.

* No. 579 of "Parliamentary Papers" for 1840.

† Reform Act, 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, s. 20.

‡ It is shown in an able article in the *Leeds Mercury* of 18th September, 1841, from the returns from all the townships of the West Riding of Yorkshire, that not 5 per cent. of these £50 occupiers are occupiers of tenements only without land.

§ Speech at the Lichfield agricultural dinner.

* 1 Bl. Comm., 172.

† "Commonwealth of England," book i., ch. 23.

THE BURTHEN OF THE SUGAR MONOPOLY.

The custom of brokers to quote British colonial sugar *duty paid*, while *foreign* is quoted in bond, led our usually very accurate contributor into an error in the figures, though it leaves untouched the general reasoning of his article, headed "Burthen of the Sugar Monopoly," in our last number. So far as the comparison of the "cost and tax of colonial and British sugar" goes, the statement is an error by the amount of the duty on colonial sugar, viz., 25s. 2d. The error was detected, but too late for correction in the same number. The means of detection, in this and similar cases, are always furnished by our returns of the markets; and it is a gratifying proof of the attention with which the LEAGUE is read, that the discrepancy was promptly noted to us by a very considerable number of correspondents. This fact is a test of our success in disseminating information, and promoting habits of accurate observance and investigation.

SALISBURY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Wednesday and Thursday are the days named for the nomination and polling. Every day the interest in the contest becomes more intense. The general opinion is thoroughly in favour of Free Trade; and its rapid rise and progress are proofs that time and energy can convert and rouse the population of any borough in the kingdom. It is not yet two years since a lecturer of the League visited Salisbury, and could not on any terms procure a place in which to hold a meeting; and there were not more than two or three individuals in the city who would venture even to converse with him upon the subject of repeal of the Corn Laws. Bills were posted in the night, and were no sooner seen in the morning than some were daubed over with mud, and others torn down with the utmost fury; now, even on market-day, the placards are unmolested, tracts and reports of speeches are eagerly sought after in the market-place, and the people seem as though they would never weary of hearing speeches. The only dissatisfied persons I meet with are those who are unable to pack themselves into a meeting. There are new listeners in considerable number every time; but hundreds have come night after night, and the proportion of the adult population who have attended must be very great indeed.

On Friday the 10th two public meetings were held. Mr. Cobden urged upon the electors and non-electors that it was their duty to prevent bribery by watchfulness, and that it was in their power by union to put down all attempts at coercion, and to prevent any man being injured by exclusive dealing. He pledged himself to the forming of an Anti-Corn-Law Association in Salisbury, which, no matter how this contest might terminate, should protect the honest elector in the independent exercise of his franchise. The declaration was received with unbounded enthusiasm, and has produced so deep an impression that I have no hesitation in saying that few places will have a greater number of enrolled members of the League, in proportion to its population, than Salisbury. Mr. Cobden also promised that, win or lose, the names of those who vote for Bouverie and Free Trade shall be *printed in letters of gold*, that the list may be framed and kept in every house as a roll of men who in time of need came nobly forward, opposed oppression, and stood by the rights of industry. Mr. Moore addressed both meetings. Saturday, being market-day, no meeting was held, unless gatherings at every corner, in eager discussion and consultation on Free Trade and the election, could be called meetings.

On Monday the 13th there were two meetings. One of them, addressed by the Rev. Thomas Spencer, whose speech, listened to with the most earnest attention, produced a solemn sense of their duties and responsibility in all who heard him. Mr. Moore addressed both meetings; and they were also addressed by Mr. Andrews the celebrated coach-builder of Southampton. I never heard a speech more calculated than his to make men reject all attempts to gain their votes by promises of support, or threats of the withdrawal of custom. *Seventeen years ago he came to Southampton, a journeyman smith out of work, and with but half-a-crown in his pocket. In six years, by incessant industry, he had saved £70, and commenced business on his own account. He employed two men, worked himself, and was but just established in 1832, when the Reform elections excited the whole kingdom, and the two great political parties tried their utmost strength against each other. There were three others in the same business as himself in Southampton, employing, respectively, fifty, forty-two, and twenty-seven men. His competitors, who had always voted for the Liberal candidates, yielded to what is called the screw, and changed sides. Andrews was canvassed; bright prospects were pictured to him if he would vote against reform. He asked half an hour to determine, and then his answer was, "I will vote as my conscience directs me*—FOR REFORM." *Since then one of the screw-changed men has left business, because it left him; the other two are still in business, but on a decreased scale. And he who stood firm, now employs 137 men. During the last eleven years he has sold a greater number of carriages than any other coach-builder in England, and has in short made his fortune; and so has independence prospered, and ever will prosper!* THE SPIRIT THAT REFUSES TO BE HUMBLED, OVERCOMES DIFFICULTIES.

On Tuesday the 14th there were two meetings; the non-electors were addressed by Mr. Sidney Smith, and the electors by Mr. Moore. The meeting of electors was the most completely crowded and enthusiastic that has yet been held. On yesterday (Wednesday the 15th) was the third tea party; some hundreds, anxious to attend, were unable to procure tickets; the room was completely packed. Mr. Moore addressed the meeting for about an hour. The announcement of the Manchester subscription was received with silent amazement, followed by a simultaneous burst of applause. The whole meeting rose to receive Mr. Bright, and seemed as if they would never have done cheering. He spoke with great power and effect, and was heard with the most fixed attention. The audience was thoroughly roused, and went away resolved to leave no fair means untried to win.

Yesterday Mr. Wilson returned to Salisbury with Mr. Bright; to-day Mr. Cobden has arrived; and for this evening two meetings are announced, to be addressed by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Moore.

Every day reports of the speeches have been circulated. The LEAGUE sent to every elector (last Saturday) was well received and eagerly read; the postman required a wheelbarrow to take them round, but he did his work most cheerfully. Last evening Mr. Sidney Smith lectured in a large room, completely crowded, at Wilton.

The non-electors have divided themselves into watch-and-ward committees, each taking charge all night of a district; for the monopolists keep prowling about "seeking whom they may devour."

(From a Correspondent.)

MANCHESTER, Tuesday night.

The meeting to-day in the Town-hall was worthy of the men of this district. South Lancashire has *pronounced* for the League in a manner that will be understood by the monopolists. You will see a full report of the proceedings in the papers; but the speeches, good as they were, will give but a poor picture of the scene I have just witnessed. The meeting was not for discus-

sion or oratorical display, but for action. The men came to *give*, and although they heard with enthusiasm the speakers, I don't believe their eloquent appeals gained a shilling in the room beyond the amounts their auditors came prepared to subscribe. Mr. Chadwick's speech was a fair representation of the spirit that animated the meeting. He is a homely, business-like, prudent man in appearance, and I was very much struck with his style of dealing with the Corn Law. "I have no idea of paying other people's marriage settlements," said he, and then, as if checking himself in the outset of a speech with the mental remark of "Pooh! pooh! what's the use of speechifying?" he threw to the chairman a bundle of bank notes, with the words—"There's my £500 for the League!" and sat down. I have heard Brougham, Canning, and all our best orators, but never heard a speech that produced the effect of Mr. Chadwick's. It would be impossible to describe the excitement that followed as successive contributions were handed in, varying in amount from £500 downwards. One subscription, from Mrs. Robert Ashton, elicited a burst of applause. I have heard of an interesting description of the scene when that munificent gift was made to the League. Mr. Brooks called upon Mr. Robert Ashton a few days ago to ask him to attend the meeting. He found him sitting with his lady, and solicited his subscription to the fund. "I gave you £100 last year, and shall give you £200 now," was the answer. "Give him £500, Robert," was the quiet suggestion of the lady; and Mr. Ashton, who is worthy of such a wife, at once assented. This was too much for the warm-hearted, susceptible Mr. Brooks, whose irrepressible emotions found vent in a burst of tears. Verily, the admirers of noble-mindedness in all parts of the world will be making pilgrimages to see the men and women of South Lancashire! There is one remarkable fact to notice. Many of the individuals who have given the largest sums to the League are unknown as public men or politicians, excepting as connected with the Free-Trade movement. They have been drawn out and *made* by the League. The Lords, Whittakers, Lees, &c., have scarcely ever been seen at any other public meetings. Amongst this number may be included Mr. Robert Munn of Bacup, whose quiet and retiring appearance, as he handed in his munificent subscription of £500, bore a striking contrast to the resolute boldness of the deed; his speech did not exceed a dozen words. These are the men, and not your mere talkers, whom the monopolists should put down. There was the amiable Mr. Whitehead of Holymount, too, whose establishment, with its school and chapel, is so graphically described by Doctor Cooke Taylor in his "Tour in the Manufacturing Districts," with his £300. I could give you a score of similar instances, where the large contributors are drawn from private life solely by their devotion to the cause of Free Trade. Many of them are eminent in their own circles for their piety and benevolence, and they have entered into the agitation for the repeal of the Corn Law with an enthusiasm which partakes strongly of a religious sentiment. These men will never fall back from the cause till it triumphs. Mr. Cobden said in his speech that he would not again call upon them for such heavy sacrifices as they were then making; but I will venture to prophesy that, if the League should repeat its call next year, the men who appeared to-day in the Town-hall will be there again with the same spirit, and if necessary the same contributions. The meeting of to-day has for ever silenced the assertions of our opponents at a distance, that the wealth and influence of this district are not with us. The money-power and ruling strength of the Exchange was in the Town-hall. I calculate that the requisitionists who called the meeting represented a capital of five millions; and you may set it down as a fact that the owners of a majority of the horse power of this district are members of the League.

THE GREAT LEAGUE FUND.—IMPORTANT MEETING.

MANCHESTER, Tuesday Night.

One of the most extraordinary and "sterling" demonstrations in favour of Free Trade—a demonstration indeed entirely without precedent in this country or in the world—was made here to-day. A meeting of merchants, bankers, traders, and others of Manchester had been convened on the requisition of 70 of the principal houses in the town, to take place in the Town Hall, at eleven o'clock this morning, "to consider the best means of aiding the future operations of the League;" and it will be seen that the invitation was responded to in a manner which has completely eclipsed all former meetings of the kind.

Amongst the gentlemen present we observed Sir Thomas Potter, Mr. Robert Hyde Greg, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Alderman Brooks, Messrs. George Wilson, Benjamin Pearson, Thomas Bazley, jun., Thomas Harbottle, J. B. Smith, William Shuttleworth, Henry Rawson, Alderman Kershaw, Alderman Callender, William Bickham, Richard Wilson, William Evans, Henry Ashworth, Edmund Ashworth, Alderman Walker, William Morris, William Dixon of Accrington, Peter Whitehead, Thomas Bright, Alderman Neild, Robert Munn of Bacup, Jonah Andrew, James Wilkinson, Joseph Grave, W. B. Watkins, Peter Platt of Stalybridge, J. B. Crewdson, James Wrigley, Thomas Thomasson, James Kershaw (cotton dealer), John Whittaker, John Lord, Joseph Scholefield, James Chadwick, William Harvey, Ecoles Shorrock, J. Barratt, J. Simpson, —— Hargreaves, John Hoyle, Robert Gardner, Nathan Lees, William Morris, Rev. J. W. Massie, S. Schunck, T. Fernley, jun., Stockport; R. Matley, John Graham, J. Petrie, Samuel Lees, William Bayley, John Butterworth, Richard Ashton of Bury, John Pearson, William M'Connel, Rayner and Brothers, Joseph Crossfield, E. Armitage, R. Roberts, John Sharp, R. Munn, L. Rawsthorne, John Cheetham, J. Whitehead, —— M'Farlan, Robert Ashton, James Wrigley of Bury, &c.

On the motion of Mr. GEORGE WILSON, seconded by Mr. WILLIAM BICKHAM,

ROBERT HYDE GREG, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair. In taking it he said that the meeting had been convened by a circular, signed by about seventy of the first houses in Manchester. He then read the requisition, and said he presumed it was unnecessary to read the names which had already been advertised in the newspapers. He then said:—Gentlemen, before entering upon our sixth campaign against that most gigantic of all monopolies, the Corn Law—(hear)—you will perhaps allow me the privilege of addressing a few words to you, and they shall be but few, on our present condition and future prospects. (Hear.) I may recall to your recollection that it was on the 13th of December, 1838, now five years ago, that we, the merchants and manufacturers of Manchester and the neighbourhood, met, because we considered that our great interests, the manufactures of this neighbourhood, were in a state of great and rapid decline. This we considered arose from different circumstances: first, from the rapid increase of foreign nations in manufacturing skill; partly, too, from the hostile tariffs and the commercial jealousies of foreign nations; but most of all from the difficulties which our merchants experienced in finding returns for their exports—(hear)—that is to say, most of all from our own restrictive and self-imposed laws. (Hear.) Amongst these laws, the prohibition of the importation of corn, as a regular article of commercial returns, stood prominently forward—in the first place, because food must ever be the greatest and most universal article of exchange and of consumption (hear), and also because it was the article in which this country was peculiarly deficient, and in which other countries were peculiarly abundant. The oppression was also increased by the peculiar mode in which the law was occasionally relaxed—namely, by the operation of the sliding scale. (Hear, hear.) Against these crippling, unjust, anti-commercial laws, which were undermining, and which threatened the rapid destruction of our export trade, the merchants and manufacturers of this country, from the one end to the other, entered into a powerful combination. And if their warning voice had been heard at the bar of the House of Commons five years ago, it is impossible to say what an amount of suffering—(hear)—and of starvation—(hear)—we might not have been saved from, individually and nationally. (Hear, hear.) But whatever difference of opinion may exist on that head, on this there can be no difference of opinion in the world—that is, as to the extraordinary zeal and perseverance with which the League has carried on its operations. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) In recalling the past, it is right also to state, that our own views have widely expanded as we proceeded. We soon perceived, that if the great principles of Free Trade were sound, with respect to the article of corn, those principles were equally sound with respect to every other article; that, if the repeal of the Corn Laws would be beneficial to the manufacturers, the same principles of Free Trade would be beneficial to every other class of the community—(hear, hear); nay, gentlemen, we soon perceived, that even those particular interests, the agricultural interests, which at the first moment of our agitation we feared were in opposition to our own interests, were strictly in unison with those interests—("Hear, hear," and applause); and that not only had those Corn Laws opposed a snare and a stumblingblock to the tenant-farmers, but had also seriously impeded the progress of agriculture itself. (Hear, hear.) That the tenant-farmers are convinced of this now is partly owing to the numerous publications which the League has sent forth, and perhaps still more to the extraordinary exertions of the honourable members for Stockport and Durham—(loud and long-continued applause); and, gentlemen, with respect to the landowners themselves, it is difficult to believe that the interests of that class are truly and permanently at variance with the interests of other classes of the community. If the Corn Laws have a tendency to create dropsical rent-rolls—(laughter)—which a deluded and poverty-stricken tenancy cannot uphold, and thereby lead the landowner into expenses which he cannot afford;—if the Corn Laws retard the progress of agriculture, and thereby prevent the natural extension of land, where land is limited, and population is rapidly increasing;—if the Corn Law is for impoverishing the community so as materially to check their power of consuming agricultural produce;—if the Corn Laws have created jealousy and ill-will towards the landowners themselves, then is the interest of the landowners also bound up with ours, in the repeal of those obnoxious laws (hear, hear);—and, I have little doubt, if the honourable members for Stockport and Durham, when they have completed their convincing of the tenant-farmers, will then turn their attention to the convincing of the landlords, that that also will be achieved. (Hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, we meet here as merchants and manufacturers; and it is for us to show that the repeal of the Corn Laws is not at variance with the interests of any other class of the community. I think we are not bound to prove more than this, and this we have done over and over again; but, gentlemen, with respect to our own interests, the repeal of the Corn Laws is of paramount and pressing importance. If we cast our eyes over our commercial prospects, they are any thing but cheering. It is true that, with an abundant harvest at home, and with the importation of some millions of quarters of foreign wheat, and with the abundant cotton crops in America, we have obtained temporary relief from suffering; that we are raised from that state of prostration in which the commerce and manufactures of this country have been for five or six years overcast, yet still our prospects on the whole are not satisfactory. The hostile tariffs of Europe and America, as you know, still continue; and it is to be feared that their asperity is rather increasing than otherwise. With respect to America, and the new market of China which has lately opened to us, America already sends one half of the produce which is imported into Canton. Then, as to the Brazils, our prospects there, I am sorry to say, are of the most gloomy description. It is well known that France has not only formed with Brazil a matrimonial alliance, but also a commercial alliance of the closest nature. It is well known that France is to discontinue her cultivation of sugar from beet root, and to take the sugar of the Brazils; and, in return for this, Brazils is to offer every advantage to our rival in the reception of her manufactured and other articles; and not only that, but she is determined to have no trade with us, except on a perfectly reciprocal basis. The accounts also from Mexico show, that there is a disruption of our commercial, if not, indeed, a disruption of our peace relations. These are partly the fruits of our monopolies and restrictions. We cannot expect to take this article and to refuse the other article of this and that country, without driving those countries to adopt a similar course of proceeding with respect to ourselves. We must be content to reap what we have sown; and, if we sow monopoly we may depend upon it that we shall reap exclusion. (Hear, hear.) I consider therefore, gentlemen, that the position of our manufacturing industry at this moment is very far from being satisfactory; and I am convinced that there is only one means of escape. There is only one means of inducing old countries who have adopted those hostile tariffs to soften their harshness, and that by removing our restrictions and prohibitions; there is no means of benefiting to the full extent from those new markets we see now opened to our commerce, except by adopting entirely and at once a system of perfectly Free Trade in all commodities, and more especially in the great article of corn. (Hear, hear.) This, I am satisfied, is the only chance of escape. In the first place, by doing so we shall create in the old countries which now have excluded our manufactures an agricultural interest which will be favourable to us, and which may in time so far operate as not only to check any further imposition of higher restrictions and more hostile tariffs against the commerce of this country, but actually to induce them to retrace, in part at least, the steps which they have already taken. (Hear, hear.) Then, with respect to those new countries which are now starting into existence, if we take the agricultural produce which they can give us, and which has been the first article of production in every respect, we shall prevent those countries from committing themselves to that hostile system of prohibition which has damaged and disgraced so many of those old countries which ought to know better. Then, with respect to the new markets which are opening in China and India, we can only increase our trade with those countries by taking a larger amount of the articles which those countries produce. And this we may do in two ways: either by reducing the duties on tea and silk, for example, so as to increase our home consumption; or we may take the tea and the silks of China and India to Europe and America, and exchange them for the corn of Europe and America, and consume it at home. In either of those ways we may extend indefinitely the markets of China and of India; but depend upon it, that were 10,000 markets such as China to be opened to us to-morrow, we could not expect to sell a single additional piece of calico, if we would not take an additional quantity of the articles which those countries produce. (Hear, hear.) The great point we have to impress upon the minds of our rulers, simple and elementary as it may seem, is that all trade is merely barter; that it is simply an exchange of one commodity for another; and that we can no more trade with those countries the productions of which we refuse to receive, than we can trade with those countries which absolutely prohibit the productions of this country. This is the great principle which we ought to keep in view, and ought to impress upon the minds of others. Away, then, with all commercial treaties! ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Let us open our ports at once to the commerce of the world (applause); let us take whatever the world has to give us; and, above all, let us take that great universal article of exchange which every country produces, which every country on the face of the earth is willing to give us, which every man, woman, and child in this country consume, and which, with fair play, every man in this country will have the means of procuring. ("Hear, hear," and great applause.) To come, gentlemen, at once to the immediate object of this meeting—an object which you may well suppose is the same as that of the meeting which was held in this room about twelvemonths ago, which was a meeting of the merchants and manufacturers of this district, to express their confidence in the zeal and perseverance and ability of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and to mark the opinions they entertain by a liberal contribution of their funds towards its future operations. (Hear, hear.) I shall not enter into any details of the plans of the following campaign, which, I trust, will be done by some of the gentlemen who will speak to the resolutions; but I will merely advert to the fact, that we have now for five years been doing our utmost, by lectures, by publications, by deputations, and by every peaceful means which our ingenious Council of the League have been able to invent, for enlightening the population of this country upon this important topic. They have, during one year, spent the same means, more especially upon the body of electors; we are now, gentlemen, going to bring that information and that feeling which we believe we have created in the honest electors, to bear more directly upon the election of members of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) It is proposed to raise, gentlemen, what seems a very large sum, and so it is, £100,000, in support of the League (applause), to forward the operations of which you have have had a sketch, which sketch will probably be filled up more at large by-and-by. I shall not delay what is the immediate business of the meeting, but I will merely say, that as £50,000 was proposed last year, and £100,000 is proposed this, I trust that at least most gentlemen will double their subscriptions of last year, that a large amount will be raised from those who have not yet subscribed at all, and that every one will subscribe according to his means. I shall now call upon Mr. Ashworth to move the first resolution. (Applause.)

Mr. HENRY ASHWORTH, of Bolton, then stepped forward, and said it had fallen upon him unexpectedly to take a leading part in opening the proceedings of this meeting, and, knowing that the time of this meeting was very precious, he would proceed at once to move the first resolution (*for which see advertisement*). In drawing up this solemn protest, which he believed they were one and all entering into on this occasion, it might be well to advert to the circumstances which had first gathered them together as a united League, confederately one with another, to see the abolition of those laws. (Hear, hear.) He need not remind them that we inhabited a country which was utterly incapable, in the present state of agriculture, of supplying us with the means of existence (hear, hear), and that we were under the operation of those laws which prevented our free access to the food of other countries. He need not proceed further to say that this involved a piece of direct injustice. (Hear, hear, hear.) We were a body of men existing in this country who possessed powers of skill, of ability, and of industry, capable of furnishing the people of other countries with those articles which they wanted, of wearing apparel and other necessary comforts; but, by existing laws, and more especially by the operation of the Corn Laws, we were prevented from having that freedom of intercourse which would enable us to convert our industry to good ac-

count, by serving the people of other countries who were less able to serve themselves, with those commodities which we produced. He need not remark upon the disadvantage of this. We were at once confined in our purchases of food, and at the same time confined in the sale of our labour. The object of the League would be to establish for the universal people of this country those rights, which they inherited through divine appointment, which were conveyed to them, and which the book of Genesis at once pointed out (hear, hear); to establish the enjoyment of those rights in as full and as liberal a manner as was there conveyed, was the object of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Hear, hear.) Their worthy chairman had alluded to the fiscal regulations of this country, which hindered our freedom of intercourse with all other countries. Those of the meeting who had acquainted themselves with political economy, would easily understand those numerous allusions at which he (the chairman) had just hinted; and, whilst speaking of political economy, he (Mr. Ashworth) would warn the meeting not to be led away by those who, understanding it themselves, told them, that it was a cold-blooded science. Those who told them that it was cold-blooded—let them consider not the words, but where the words came from. (Hear, hear.) The science of political economy was one they would do well to study. Those who had not taken the pains to pursue the study, and had the time, if they would read Adam Smith, Ricardo, Senior, and the authorities, they would not require much more; but those who had not the time to go through larger works, would do well to read the *Economist*, the League, the *Struggle*, and other works, which would well repay the study. (Hear, hear.) Those of the meeting who understood the subject, would find no difficulty in illustrating the fact that our imports are our best customers. (Hear, hear.) The vessel approaching these shores, and bringing the merchandise of other countries, was *bonâ fide* the representative of the foreign merchant approaching this country with money in his pocket. (Hear, hear.) The character of our laws would show us the spirit in which we received those customers, flowing in on all sides with ready money—money to pay for the purchase of those goods which our warehouses were now groaning under. (Hear, hear.) The spirit of our commercial legislation might be gathered from the fact, that, in passing along the southern coast of this country, we might see station-houses, flag-staves, policemen, officers caparisoned, and armed with the musket in one hand and the telescope in the other. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) These men were men who were called the "preventive service;" they were men to prevent intercourse with foreign countries—(hear, hear); and, with the musket and the flag-staff, we received those customers which our country now was so much in want of. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) To bring the subject nearer home; for what was the policy of a country, if that policy was sound, ought also to be the policy of a district of that country, no matter what the country might be engaged in. Supposing we were to carry out the policy of our Legislature, we should have in Manchester, under the direction of the town-council, policemen, flag-staves, muskets, and the power of searching the customers' pockets, in order to prevent them spending any money amongst us, except such money as might be called "colonised" or "protectionised." (Hear, hear.) The people of Manchester appointed their town-council; their local authorities were under their own control; thought they, that if their town-council should take it into their heads some day to place in the streets a class of men that should thus be enabled to compass the destruction of their business—did they believe that at the end of the year they would reappoint those men? (Hear, hear.) Now, that which they would do in the conducting of their own concerns, was that which it was hoped and trusted would hereafter be done in conducting the larger concerns of the country. (Hear, hear.) If our Legislature would not relax those laws which lie at the root of all our distresses, he hoped and trusted that the operations of the League would be felt, and that before long those men who were either so little informed, or so mischievously disposed, would be sent about their business. (Hear, hear.) If he understood the object of the League aright, that was the way to go about the business. Twelve months ago the League asked their friends to come forward with £50,000, for the purpose of enlightening the country. That money had been given; and whether they had enlightened the country, whether the country had responded to those views which had been diffused in all directions through books and lectures, and by the visits of their worthy friends, would hereafter be felt (hear, hear); but they wanted to bring the subject nearer home. The seed was sown; the harvest wanted to be gathered (hear, hear); and the time was now come when the information already diffused should begin to tell with the electoral body. (Hear, hear.) If that information was of any use, that was the place to which they must begin to direct their minds; and therefore the sum of £100,000 was sought to be raised, in order that the constituencies of the country might become possessed of information to induce them to send to Parliament a class of men who better understood what we wanted. (Hear, hear.) There was not time now to go at greater length into this subject; therefore the sooner they got to the subscription the better ("Hear, hear," and applause); but before they went further, let them consider, that amongst them there were varieties of means, and let them compass all those means, amalgamate the powers, and strengthen the many influences which they possessed; and let them use their individual exertions in such a way as to aid the League in carrying out this object. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Those who were lovers of justice, let them come forward and see that the country was justly dealt by (hear, hear); those who were patriots, let them come forward and show their countrymen that they were on the side of those who were entitled to live by the sweat of their brow (hear, hear); those who, even on selfish grounds, sought to advance the prosperity of themselves and their workpeople, let them consider, first of all, how much a year they were suffering by the obnoxious character of those laws. (Hear, hear.) He saw many in that room who, if they would cast up from year to year what they lost by these restrictions, he was sure they would find that their workpeople and themselves were losers to the amount of £1000, £2000, and even to £10,000 a year. Now, he appealed to that class. If any one were to overreach them to the extent of £1000, £2000, or £10,000 a year, what would be the effect? Would they not proceed against him by an action at law? Would they not recover their rights? Would they not bring an action, and, by every means in their power, prevent those inroads from year to year? (Hear, hear.) Now, if a man was justified in bringing an action at law to recover £1000, £2000, or £10,000, which was unjustly withheld from him, he (Mr. Ashworth) would ask them to give one-tenth of what they sacrificed in this way, and then he had no doubt the money would be raised. (Hear, hear.) And, therefore, he said that at the suit of justice, they had a claim to go to the country to raise the sum of £100,000, in order that a large suit against those who oppressed them might be gained in a court of justice. Now that court of justice must first be enlightened. That court of justice was the people of this country; the people must be enlightened; and the jury of the country would be their constituencies. (Hear, hear.) They must enlighten them; and the sum of £100,000 would be but a small sum in comparison with the progress of their cause in the hands of an intelligent jury. On all accounts, whether they looked at the subject as the cause of justice, as the cause of patriotism, or as the cause of self-interest, they had on all those accounts a sufficient plea to go to their countrymen, and call upon them to assist in carrying out those noble efforts, and to contribute in support of this large object; and, leaving it in the hands of the meeting, he begged leave to propose the resolution which he would just read. (Applause.)

Mr. Alderman Callender, in seconding the resolution, said he considered the Corn Law as a master grievance, as a monster grievance, and that every effort ought to be made to get rid of it. (Hear, hear.) He was glad that the League, and the gentlemen who supported the League, were determined that their efforts should not be relaxed, but rather increased, with a view to effect that purpose. (Hear, hear.) His opinions were these: that though most of them, perhaps, in that room, by what they had obtained from honest industry in years that were past, might be able to make it last their day, and to leave it to their children afterwards, yet, unless they had an extension of trade, their children would be unable to provide, as their fathers had, honestly for themselves and those who depended upon them. [At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Brotherton, M.P. for Salford, entered the hall, and was loudly cheered as he took his place on the platform.] Emigration would be the only remedy that they could expect to obtain if those commercial restrictions were continued upon the energies of this country (hear, hear); and therefore he said it was the bounden duty of every man that regarded his offspring, that regarded his country, to come forward at once and put down his money, and with his money to give his very best exertions to carry out the philanthropic views of this association. (Hear, hear.) They knew the old toast that used to be given when they were boys at most of the meetings which were held, "Our glorious country, and let those who don't like us leave us" (hear, hear); and the same sentiment pervaded the minds of those who would keep them by honest industry from supporting themselves and those who were dependent upon them. (Hear.) Now he hoped every man would come forward and support the efforts of those who had done so much for the cause—the honourable members for Stockport and for Durham. (Applause.) He would say to the meeting that they had done nothing in comparison with those gentlemen, to whom was owing a debt of gratitude which he believed could never be paid, whatever subscriptions might be put down to support their noble exertions in that cause. (Hear, hear.) He felt under personal obligation to those gentlemen for their exertions; and he considered that he should best discharge his duty by subscribing to the full amount of his means to carry out those measures which they were exerting themselves to carry out. (Applause.) The resolution then passed unanimously, and with applause.

The Chairman having said, that perhaps Mr. Alderman Kershaw, our late worthy mayor, would move the next resolution,

Mr. Alderman Kershaw moved the second resolution (which will be found in our advertising columns). He could only say that, in the extensive information which the League had conveyed to the public of this country, he hoped, and was sure they expected, to see the fruits another day. If, at the next general election of members of Parliament, the result from that information so abundantly communicated to the country was not felt and acknowledged, he should be greatly mistaken. (Hear.) If we had nothing else to refer to than the result of the late elections in Durham, in London, and in Kendal (loud applause), the Anti-Corn-Law League might be said to have performed a great and noble work; but it had also brought into existence such men as Cobden and Bright (applause)—men to whom we were under the deepest and largest obligations; and he agreed with the seconder of the first resolution, that they were obligations which we could never repay. He also saw present the hon. member for Salford (applause), who, throughout a long life, had devoted himself to whatever could promote the good of the people. Then, he thought, in the acknowledgment of the individual who was at present at the head of her Majesty's Government—if, as he had said, we were entitled to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, we had an acknowledgment of that principle for which the League had ever contended; and he presumed that it was only now a question of expediency, if that principle was acknowledged. (Hear, hear.) He was sure also that it would be acknowledged that the principles of Free Trade, founded as they were upon justice, and equity, and righteousness, must surely and shortly prevail. (Applause.) He trusted that (although he would not detain the meeting longer) they would believe that his attachment to the great cause of freedom of commerce had by no means lessened. (Hear.) During the year of his mayoralty, he had thought it right to abstain from a more public declaration of his sentiments; but he had felt more sincerely interested than ever for the success of the Anti-Corn-Law League. ("Hear," and applause.) He now again felt at liberty to pursue what course he chose; and, free from office, he came amongst them the first opportunity, and was happy to move that resolution. (Applause.) He need not dwell on the subscription, as it had been referred to by Mr. Ashworth and Mr. Alderman Callender, and he was quite sure that the gentlemen present would, according to their means, readily contribute to the success of this great purpose. (Applause.)

James Chadwick, Esq., rose and said:—I have great pleasure in seconding the motion. I was opposed to the Corn Laws before the existence of the League, and shall continue so as long as they last; I have no idea of gentlemen paying marriage settlements at the expense of the rest of the community. I have my £500 ready for the League. (Mr. Chadwick handed a bank note for the above sum to the chairman, and sat down, the whole company rising and greeting him with hearty cheers.)

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., then came forward, and said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have heard a good many speeches in my time, both long and short; but I never heard one before so double-shotted with sterling arguments as the one with which we have just been favoured. (Applause.) I should consider it a waste of time, in the spirit which I am sure animates this meeting, to detain you with any arguments on the subject of Free Trade or the repeal of the Corn Laws; there is really so little difference of opinion, and so little inequality of intelligence, in either this meeting or in the town, that arguments are unnecessary. Gentlemen, we don't meet here to argue now. (Hear.) I see by the requisition that our object now is that of "considering the best means of aiding the future operations of the Anti-Corn-Law League." (Hear.) Mr. Chadwick has hit upon those means exactly. (Laughter, and applause.) It is precisely by the means which Mr. Chadwick has pointed out so eloquently, that he will get rid of that odious charge of marriage settlements avowed by Sir Edward Knatchbull and others. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I need not tell you, as men of business, that the National Anti-Corn-Law League, as well as every other establishment, requires money to carry on its affairs, and that in proportion as the capital of that concern is extended, just in that proportion may its operations be enlarged. (Hear.) It is no disparagement to the righteous object of our labour, that we are obliged to descend to the comparatively low considerations of pounds, shillings, and pence. It has been truly observed, that you cannot carry on a suit at law, however just, without finding money to fee counsel to conduct your case, and to bring your witnesses into court. I might go further, and say that you cannot carry out the objects of any association, however good, even of the Bible Society itself, but you must come to the public, and call upon them to exercise their generosity in finding the funds to carry on its operations. And if subscriptions be necessary to carry out such an object as that—the spread of the divine truth—how much the more necessary to carry out such objects as that which we are assembled to promote, opposed as we are to the sordid interests and the selfish combinations which are always at work against us! (Hear.) Let us not believe—for it has been attempted to make us believe—that we are needlessly associating to effect a change in the laws; let it be remembered that we are at work opposing a confederacy which has always been labouring to maintain a bad law; and whoever would discourage associations such as this, knows right well that he is discouraging the only possible means by which, under a constitutional Government, any changes whatever can be effected in the laws of the realm. It is not necessary, I think, that I should justify the means which have been pursued to carry our objects. We began, five years ago, by applying directly to the Government and the Parliament; we have continued four years perseveringly to press our case before Parliament and the executive; we have had deputation after deputation in London, waiting on the Queen's Ministers; and we have carried up petitions to Parliament, with 5,000,000 of signatures, praying for an alteration or the repeal of those laws;—and you see what has been the result. Now, after nearly five years' exertions in this strictly constitutional way, what is the course which the League proposes to take? Not to repudiate the power of Parliament; not to quarrel with her Majesty's Government or any branch of our constitution; no, we simply transfer our exertions and appeals from the House of Commons to those who are the masters and the makers of that House. (Loud cheers.) We go to the electors of this country, not in a spirit of dictation; not disputing their right or power to return what men they please; but we present ourselves to the electors of the city of London, to those of the borough of Kendal, and we intend to present ourselves to those of Salisbury—("Hear," and applause)—as suppliants; stating our case precisely as it has been stated in the House of Commons, but in vain, and stating it with the most firm conviction that we should be more successful with the electors than with their representatives in Parliament. (Hear.) It is to enable us to carry out this electoral movement—(for this will be strictly and almost exclusively a movement confined to the electoral body)—that we ask you to assist us to carry on our proceedings next year. We have arrived at the last stage of our agitation when we approach the electoral body of this country; we don't aim at going beyond them; if we cannot accomplish our object by the step we are now taking, we have no ulterior step to take—(hear); but that we can succeed, if we are backed by competent aid from you, the experience of the last twelve months convinces me is quite practicable. (Applause.) Do not let it be imagined, however, that, because we are carrying on our agitation with a limited body, compared with the whole people, it will require less means. Do not let it be supposed, either, because we require money for an electoral agitation, and to enter into election contests, that therefore we are contemplating an expenditure of an objectionable kind. The very principle of contested elections in this country has been so tainted, that it is difficult to bring ourselves to the belief that people can go into a borough, and spend money there, without spending it in an illegal, or, at all events, in an impure way. Money is needed for the cost of printing, of public meetings, and of deputations; and these are the three great items—almost the only items—in the expenses that we seek to incur. But, while we eschew all improper means of carrying an election, we have set ourselves a task of Herculean labour and difficulty, for we intend to cleanse out that Augean stable through which so many pass into the Legislature of this country, and are determined to put down the practice in others of carrying elections by corrupt measures; and that will require the expenditure of money. At all events we can only make our threat efficacious by having money in the background, to carry it to fulfilment if necessary. If it be necessary to bring culprits to justice, we must have money to expend in doing so; if it be necessary to expose their transactions before a committee of the House of Commons, we must have money to spend there; and for those purposes I appeal to you to assist us in our operations. The call we make is for a large sum of money; but look at the object we have in view, and see the parties we have to operate

upon, and then judge how trifling it is, compared with the result to be accomplished. There are 700,000 or 800,000 electors, spread over the whole kingdom; we seek to educate them, and to carry a Free-Trader at every borough election. (Applause.) The means are as insignificant as it is possible to conceive, in proportion to the great object we have in view. From what I have heard since I have been in the room, I am satisfied there is a spirit still extant in this district, competent to meet any future claims upon them. I believe that the example which Manchester will set on this occasion will be responded to far more widely than it has been on any former occasion. (Hear.) Our question has now become national, in the strictest sense of the word. You will have support from London, and you have not had a canvass in London before. The few hundred pounds of subscriptions which have been published in the LEAGUE have been volunteers; but I am convinced, as soon as the canvassing committee sets to work in London, you will have as cordial support there as you can possibly desire. I hope, on this occasion, we shall have the support and assistance of gentlemen of all parties (hear); I hope no party will be allowed the honour of monopolising all the exertions in this great cause. If there be any prudent, cautious, scrupulous gentlemen, who have stood aloof from this movement for four or five years past, doubting the purity or singleness of our objects, or not exactly trusting the men who have sought to obtain them, I hope the experience they have had of the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League is such as to warrant them in now joining us, and throwing into the scale of the Anti-Corn-Law League that influence which they possess—all the more powerful from the caution they have used before they gave it. ("Hear," and applause.) Can anything be more unjust than to charge the men who are seeking Free Trade for all, with seeking it for a party or sinister object? If we are a party, and are seeking to benefit a party, we are going the most foolish way to work that ever men did in this world. We are seeking the benefit of all, and not our own exclusive and selfish benefit; and there is not a benefit I ask for myself, which I do not also desire for my neighbour, whether he be Whig, Tory, or Radical. (Applause.) I am anxious that no political party—by-and-by, when this question becomes a matter of history, when monopoly is only known to have existed by the records of the past, where it will stand by the side of slavery and witchcraft, and the only marvel to the people will be, that their ancestors could tolerate it so long—I am anxious that no political party in this country should be excluded from the honour of sharing the efforts we are making to do away with this monopoly. There can be no plea set up by any party hereafter, that has opposed the movement in favour of Free Trade, that will be its justification; for, if the Free-Trade movement has been made a party movement, the question asked by-and-by will be, "Who made it so?" If the question itself be a just one, the party that adopted the principle at all events did not make party the *obstacle* to doing what was right. (Hear.) But what will be said of the party who, because it was an opposite party that was doing what was right, said that for this reason they would not do what was right? (Hear, hear.) What shall we say of those who, however they admit the justice of our principle, prefer Sir Robert Peel to principle, and would not let Free Trade be triumphant, because they are afraid that some party would be triumphant with it? I am anxious that this should not be, and therefore I ask them to come forward now, before this measure takes the final stage of its triumph. (Hear.) I have no doubt, any more than that I stand here, that this question is destined very soon to triumph. ("Hear," and applause.) I don't anticipate ever making an appeal to the inhabitants of this locality again, to make such sacrifices of time and money, and exertion, as they are about to do; nay, I have no objection to saying—though I will not vouch for my friend (Mr. Bright) here agreeing with me—that I will not be a party on a future occasion to an appeal for such disproportionate and almost exclusive sacrifices from the Free Traders of this district. Henceforth we will bring in a wider share of partnership in the matter of subscriptions; and I have no doubt, that by your exertions now you will save us further trouble as to this question. I have no doubt, any more than that I exist, that the question is about to triumph: I should doubt the force of truth and justice if I doubted it; and I am very sure, that when the time does come for the principles of Free Trade to be established, the men of Manchester, and the neighbourhood of Manchester, will be regarded by the whole civilized world as the men who have been primarily the cause of the success of this great measure. The honourable gentleman resumed his seat amidst great applause.

Mr. Alderman BROOKS said, they were not now going into sugar and coffee; but to-day it was to be all a matter of money. (Laughter.) His friend Callender said he was greatly indebted to Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright; but he (Mr. Brooks) owed Mr. Bright two debts of gratitude, and Mr. Cobden one mighty debt. Last year he had intended to give £100, but when Mr. Bright got up he said, "I'll give £300." When he sat down again, he (Mr. Brooks) said to him, "You've spoiled my £100; what must I do?" The reply was, "Give what thou likest." He (Mr. Brooks) did give £300, for he was not going to be behind any man, and he had not at first duly considered the magnitude of the thing. For setting him right he owed Mr. Bright a debt of gratitude, besides that large debt to Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright for their labours, which he could never repay. (Great applause.) He thought at that time he would give £300 a year, and he had not got over this sum till about a fortnight ago. About three weeks ago, he unfortunately got cold, and had an inflammation in his eyes; they bled him three times, with 32 leeches: he was not allowed meat, but lived upon gruel; and after having lived upon gruel for four days, and when his eyes began to be a little easier, he began to think upon the Corn Law; and as he saw better, he determined to give the Anti-Corn-Law League £500 this time. (Loud cheers, renewed from time to time.) That was what gruel had brought him to. (Shouts of laughter.) He had one condition to name. He gave £300 a year as usual to the League; but he would give the other £200 to put down bribery and corruption. Lord John Russell had brought in a bill (which had passed) to put down bribery and corruption, and to protect the voter. Colonel Thompson said that protection only meant robbing somebody else; but this bill was an exception to the Colonel's rule, for, though it protected the voter, it robbed no one else. If bribery were proved against a man, he could be imprisoned, and he wished the £200 to be laid out in convicting men of bribery,—say four cases, at £50 each; but, if the briber were an aristocrat, he would give £100 for his conviction. (Loud laughter, and applause.) For instance, there was great corruption in Liverpool, where there was a sort of born electors, the lowest class of aristocrats, termed "freemen," who collected themselves in a knot of a dozen or twenty, and picked out a leader, who sold them at an election to the candidate who would buy their votes. He (Mr. Brooks) did not seek after the conviction of any of these, but of some of the broadcloth,—suppose it was Lord Sandon's 99th cousin; then, for his conviction, he would give £100. (Loud applause, and laughter.)

Sir THOMAS POTTER rose merely to communicate the contents of a little note which he held in his hand. He would earnestly entreat gentlemen to consider for what they gave their money—to prevent bribery and corruption; to send honourable emissaries to every Parliamentary borough, city, and county; and to endeavour to return Free-Traders, to prevent unequal laws from being enacted. (Hear.) He thought we were the loyal people; for we were making efforts to prevent those undue means of returning members to Parliament, which, if not checked, must ultimately shake the stability of the throne. (Hear.) We would not yield in loyalty towards our beloved Sovereign, to any class of individuals. (Applause.) Let them sink the name of Tory, Whig, Radical, Conservative, and universal-suffrage man; let their only name and motto be Free Trade. (Applause.) No language of his own could better express his feelings towards his excellent friends on the platform, than a note which he had received from the oldest Free-Trader in the county, with the exception of Mr. Robert Philips—viz., Colonel Williams, who said he had publicly recorded that our excellent townsman, Mr. Cobden, deserved a diadem, or such an emblem of power as was suited to his patriotism; and Mr. Bright and many others might be distinguished by coronets, if they could be made to represent merit, instead of monopoly in power.

Mr. ROBERT GARDNER came forward amid great cheering. He said he had not come there because any change had taken place in his political views, or in his views relating to the Corn Law. He was not an unconditional and immediate repealer, but, as regards the Corn Law in its present operations, many friends present knew his views of it; it was an improvement of a very bad law, and there was no language he knew in which he could express sufficiently his utter hatred and abhorrence of the sliding-scale. (Hear, hear.) He thought it to be the greatest evil that ever afflicted this or any other country. Its effects had been demoralising to an extent that no eye but that of the Divine Being could see. While our laws were severe in the extreme against gambling, and our police officers searched the gambling-houses to apprehend parties guilty of it, here was a species of gambling encouraged by act of Parliament to an extent that had never been known in any other way. The operation of this law had been such that wealthy men had combined together to make a scale; they had succeeded; and when they got it to a certain position, had flown over as swiftly as steam could take them to the Continent, and bought corn at the nearest port, and consequently at the highest prices. They had paid so much as from 55s. to 60s. per quarter for it, when it could have been got at a more distant port at 10s., 15s., 20s., and, in some instances, at 30s. per quarter less. They had, in consequence of having that corn imported at the time, employed foreign bottoms at a very high rate, because they were at hand, while our own ships had been rotting in the docks, and our own sailors starving in the ports. ("Hear," and applause.) The payment for that corn, too, has not been in goods; it has been in money (hear); and I say that no measure that ever was enacted has tended so greatly to foster and encourage foreign manufactures as that accursed sliding-scale. With respect to its operations, it is evil in every sense; it was obtained under the pretext of protecting the agricultural labourer and the farmer; of keeping poor land in cultivation, of making us independent of foreign countries, and preserving us from famine. If to protect the agricultural labourers be to increase the price of food and greatly to reduce the price paid for their labour—if that be protection, then it is most effectually done. If to protect the farmer be to promise to him a certain price for his grain, and by that means to give a higher price for his land, and bring ruin upon himself, then it has protected him. As to making us independent of foreign nations, Sir Robert Peel, in the last debate on this subject, stated that the import of corn, during the last four years, was eight millions of quarters, and that they paid on an average a duty of 5s. 7½d. or 5s. 9½d., he (Mr. Gardner) forgot which. He thought the Anti-Corn-Law League would very soon show in figures, and prove as clearly as that two and two make four, that if, during that four years we had been importing wheat at 21s. per quarter, we should have had eight millions of guineas in the exchequer, instead of about one-fourth of that amount; and corn never could have been, during the whole of that time, within 10s., 12s., or 15s. a quarter so high. Therefore he conceived, that this measure had not only robbed the agricultural labourer, but had destroyed the farmer, had not made us independent of foreign nations, and had put poor land out of cultivation, while it had also robbed the revenue to a very great extent, and therefore had compelled a tax to be levied upon other things. (Hear.) And there was no question as to its being destructive to commerce and manufactures. We had heard a great deal lately as to the advantage of the commerce with the Chinese, and the improved trade in the United States: but if the Chinese would receive our goods perfectly free, without any duty; if the United States would take our goods without duty; what then? We should have a glorious trade for a short time, but when pay-day came, could we use more Chinese tea when the duty remained at 2s. 2d. per lb. The first cost of raw teas from China to the producer—at least the prices they got—was not more than from 3d. to 8d. per lb., and upon that a duty was levied in this country of 2s. 2½d.; and if that duty was not altered, the consumption of tea could not be materially increased. It was not foreign tariffs that were inflicting all this upon our trade—it was our own tariff; and while the Chinese were receiving our yarn at 5-8ths of a penny per lb. duty, and our cloth at a duty of 8d. per piece, which was about 6 to 7½ per cent., we were laying a duty on their returns of 200, 300, 400, 500, or even 600 per cent. Could a trade of that sort exist long? If the Americans would take our goods without duty, could we use more flour in return, or more of what they have to send us? Could we take more wheat at 27s. per quarter? If we could have these things reduced, our commerce might greatly increase; but so long as our tariff remains, they will not benefit us. He had no doubt but they were selling tea at 2d. per pound less now, and that before six months were out, tea would be sold at 6d. per pound less than is paid; therefore, all this prosperity, or at least a great deal of it, would be converted into loss. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the second resolution; and, after saying he should be exceedingly happy to receive subscriptions from gentlemen present, or their friends, perhaps as chairman he ought to state what he would do (hear)—he would put down the firm of Samuel Greg and Co. at £500. (Great cheering, the meeting rising and loudly applauding this announcement.)

JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., then came forward, and said, some days ago he had felt considerable anxiety as to this meeting, not lest there should be no attendance or no zeal exhibited; but lest the attendance and the zeal should not surpass those of any former meeting of the kind. From what he had seen that morning, however, he was amply compensated for, and relieved from, all his anxiety on these points. From what they had just seen, they must be quite satisfied that the question in which they took so deep an interest had taken so firm a hold on the minds of their countrymen, that no power on earth, however exercised, could be able to arrest the progress of this cause. The longer we go on, the more we are convinced that we are right. Experience on the one hand had more and more convinced us, and facts accumulated day by day to show, that the principle with which we started was just, and that without its being fairly carried out, there could be no hope for permanent prosperity to this country. We had simply demanded that which even the most intelligent of our opponents acknowledged to be just. He spoke not now of the aboriginal squirearchy of this country; they were not the intelligent opponents to whom he alluded, for their opinions were not worth much on any question in which their own interests were concerned; but he spoke of the opinions of the intelligent men who stood by the policy of that body in both Houses of Parliament, and who were now the statesmen and the active politicians of this country. They said that we were right. We had from our present experience, and that of the last twelve months, the conviction that we were right. We had passed through a hurricane of a most disastrous character, and many a goodly ship had foundered during that hurricane. Many a firm, which started into existence with a fair capital, and the partners in which hoped by industry, attention, and honourable conduct, to make for themselves a competence for after life—many such a firm had gone down; and all this had been brought upon us through the action of this most infamous system of monopoly. If the middle and mercantile classes had suffered from this, what had been the condition of the labourers with whom they lived? He confessed he had more sympathy with the millions of the working classes of Yorkshire and Lancashire, than he had with the merchants and manufacturers of England. The latter were able to help themselves, and if they chose to invite, upon their necks, the hoofs of the landed oligarchy, they deserved the trampling; but the millions who toiled, and who for years had been craving to be permitted to toil for their daily food,—they had little power with, or influence over the Government; they were an enormous, but a disorganised mass—and for them he had a sympathy more intense than it was possible for language to describe; and he hoped the meeting of this day would signify its sympathy with them, and show its willingness to aid them in obtaining their rights, the just and honest reward of their honest industry. (Great applause.) The strife now going on was simply one between the land and the feudal oligarchy, and the trading and commercial classes. Feudalism had always hated trade, and trade had always a tendency to sap, undermine, and overthrow the power of feudalism. There was one class especially of the aristocracy to which we must necessarily be opposed—the mortgaged and desperate and bankrupt class. (Cheers.) We all knew that the brightest ornaments of the aristocracy had united most cordially with us in the object we had in view. We had no contest with them. (Cheers.) We did not tell Earl Fitzwilliam that he was pilfering one-third of the poor man's loaf; we said nothing of the kind to Earl Radnor, Earl Ducie, Lord Kinnaird, and others—we accused them not of injustice. They were the men who would wash their hands of the atrocities which the unscrupulous portion of their body were constantly inflicting on the country; but it was the desperate and mortgaged class of the aristocracy with which we had to contend. (Cheers.) When he (Mr. Bright) looked around upon the meeting, many of them men of large property, and all of them of some—men fulfilling their various arduous avocations every day, and giving employment to scores of thousands of working men in this district—when he saw such men there, he was perfectly satisfied that they would not be content to be the victims of this policy—that they who earned their own livelihood, paid their own debts, and fulfilled all their obligations, commercial and otherwise, would not be content that the trade of the country should be trampled on and destroyed by a parcel of men, who had even the effrontery to tell them that they wanted those laws for purposes for which we should be ashamed to ask any man for a penny. (Great cheering.) Some gentlemen had said much more than was pleasant to him about his friend Cobden and himself, and he would tell those gentlemen, that in the Council there were many whose names were never before the public, and which he should not mention—many who deserved the highest praise. He was sorry that it should for a moment be supposed, that they who were more prominently before the public, and who were but two or three, should be considered the most praiseworthy. There were men whose warehouses, counting-houses, factories, and even homes were the offices of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Hear, hear.) Men whose names were never heard of by the public, but who had done as much labour in the cause as it was possible for men in the time to have done. His colleagues and himself were willing to work, provided the people of this country would back them. Two or three, or a dozen of men, could not do a great deal unless they had a sound principle on which to work, a just cause in hand, and a large portion of their fellow-countrymen to back them. Now, there could be no doubt about the justice of our principles. The intelligent of our countrymen admitted it. There could be no doubt as to

the support they had received; and, from what he had seen this morning, he trusted, that as they had proceeded in the same strightforward path of duty, the support they had hitherto received would be small in comparison with future support. (Cheers.) He was uncomfortable when he considered the position of this district; for he found that they, and their interests, and their prosperity, were the mere sport of a set of politicians at head-quarters; that the present Government admitted the principles we advocated; and many of their own party believed that, if they had the power, they would be disposed to carry those principles out to some considerable extent. Now, he thought it was time for us to assert the dignity of commerce and manufactures, and refuse any longer to be the sport of politicians in either House of Parliament. He was sure that the manufacturers of this district, and Lancashire and Yorkshire, and all engaged in the woollen and cotton trade, had the power to do anything in this country that was just and right to be done, if they would only unite cordially, throw away their party squabbles, become one in heart and soul, and work together for the attainment of these great objects. (Cheers.) There was nothing which had not been done for the material world. Every thing the earth produced we could bring to our own doors, for our own comfort and enjoyment, and there could be no doubt, provided we could mould the minds of the people to view this question in the light we viewed it, so soon as the public opinion took that course, monopoly would totter: indeed, we now behold it tottering, and to its fall. When he looked at the Watts's and Arkwrights (and there were the descendants in spirit of those men in that room), and also the Cromptons and Kays, and saw what they had produced—that this country, once a wilderness, was now almost a congregation of populous, and what ought to be flourishing towns—why ought we to subject ourselves, and submit to a law like this? For his part, he was willing to do any thing, with any of them, to get rid of that law. He asked no man to give up the opinions which he held. He (Mr. Bright) was persuaded that whatever was just and right would be gained by the people of this country, and that it would only be brought nearer when this great barrier of the Corn Law should be thrown down, and industry should be perfectly free. He was anxious to give in his subscription for his father and brothers and himself; and though he must confess it was a subscription which to himself appeared large, and was large considered in connexion with the state of things in this district, yet he was not willing to be behind any person in a cause he believed to be so sacred and so necessary for the salvation of this country, especially of the district in which we live; and being, as he held himself to be, the representative, in some some sort, of a large portion of the working population among whom he lived, and seeing many men present who gave employment to 500, 1000, or 2000 of their fellow-men, feeling that every man who employed them was himself the centre of a mighty power for good or for evil in this country—he was delighted to witness such a large and influential meeting, whose example, he trusted, would be followed till it should tell the monopolist, that though the clouds had separated a little, and there was a little gleam of sunshine, and some people thought a brighter day was arising than had lately passed over us, still the principles of perfect Free Trade, and of justice to all classes, especially to the working classes, were firmly and for ever fixed in our minds; and that we were willing to make any sacrifices which men could be called upon to make for the sake of working out those great, just, mighty, and holy principles. (Loud applause.) He was disposed to give for himself and his family the sum of £500. (Great cheering.) He was a few miles distant last week with one of his excellent friends; and they were commissioned by Mr. Robert Ashton to hand over to this meeting, as the subscription of himself and Mrs. Robert Ashton, £500. (Cheers.) [Mr. Cobden: Three cheers for Mrs. Ashton! These were given with great enthusiasm.] He might say that it was at the suggestion of this noble-minded woman that this subscription of £500 was given. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Cobden said, he had seen Mr. Thomas Ashton, who regretted he could not be present, but desired him to communicate that his subscription last year had been £200, and that he should be happy to double it and give £400. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Robert Munn said, he would follow Mr. Ashton's example, and his subscription, which last year was £250, he would make £500.

The Chairman then announced, amid loud applause, £500 as the subscription of Mr. Munn. [Cards and pencils were sent round to gentlemen, who put down the amount they respectively intended to subscribe; after which, the cards were handed up to the chairman, and retained as I. O. U.'s for the sums written upon them, which sums, together with the names of the subscribers, were announced to the meeting by the chairman.]—The Chairman announced Messrs. William Bailey and Brothers, £300; Messrs. Reyner and Brothers, £300; Messrs. Thompson, Brothers, and Son, £250.

Mr. Bright said, he had been requested to mention two subscriptions from Rochdale: Messrs. Booth and Hoyle, cotton-spinners, £200; and Messrs. James Hoyle and Sons, corn millers, £200. (Cheers.)—[Most of the large sums were received with great applause; but the reiteration of the words would make the account tedious, and we therefore mention the fact once for all.] Richard Cobden and Co., £200; Richard Ashton of Bury, £200; Samuel Ashton, £300; Robert Lees and Sons, £400; Messrs. Whitaker of Hurst, near Ashton, £300.

Mr. Alderman Kershaw (late the Mayor of Manchester), said, before he came, he had been trying to screw up his partners to the sticking-point; but he had not been able to succeed as he could wish. He would give £200 for himself; and he hoped and trusted they would get, as he thought they ought to get, £100 each from his three partners.

The next announcements from the chair were—Mr. James Wrigley, £200; Mr. Robert Platt of Staleybridge, £150; Mr. William Morris of Salford, £100; Mr. J. B. Smith, £100; Messrs. Harvey and Tysoe, £100; Messrs. J. and S. J. Watts, £100; Messrs. Simpson, Rostron and Co., £100; Messrs. M'Connel and Co., £100; Mr. James Procter, £100.

Mr. Alderman Callender said, he could not include all his partners on the present occasion; and in fact he felt it due, at the request of one individual, in offering a subscription from a part of the firm, to say that it would include his own name, that of Mr. T. H. Bickham, and that of Mr. John Cross, and would amount to £200.

The Chairman then announced the following:—Messrs. Eccles Shorrocks and Co., £100; Messrs. Thomas and James Wrigley, £100 (in addition to that of Mr. James Wrigley before given); Messrs. Reddish and Bickham, £100; Messrs. Henry and Edmund Ashworth, £200; Mr. Richard Matley, £100. The Chairman observed, that the greater part of the subscriptions were double the amount of those of last year, and many of them a good deal more. Messrs. Joseph and Benjamin Scholefield of Littleborough, £100; Messrs. J. R. Barnes and Sons of Farnworth, £100; Messrs. Benjamin Smith and Sons (last year £50), £100; Messrs. Elkanah Armitage and Son, £100; Mr. Thomas Thomasson of Bolton, £100; Mr. John Lord of Bacup (last year £150), £300.

Mr. Bright, M.P., said he had been commissioned to give in subscriptions from two gentlemen who did not wish to have their names known. One of them was for £100. To this sum he (Mr. Bright) would put his initials, and see that it was paid.—It was announced from the chair as "A friend by Mr. Bright, £100."

The Chairman said there was an old proverb, "Let bygones be bygones;" but it was not always a good one. He was happy to re-open an old account; for Messrs. Eccles, Shorrock, and Co., having thought better of it, would increase their subscription, a while ago announced, from £100 to £200. Messrs. Thomas Whitehead and Brothers, of Rawtenstall (£100 last year) would give treble the amount of their former subscription, viz., £300. The Chairman said, this was indeed showing confidence in the League, and marking their conviction of the paramount importance of the course in which they were proposing to engage.

Mr. W. B. Watkins said he had hitherto been a subscriber of the humble sum of £10, but, on this occasion, would give five times as much, as would several of his friends; with the consolatory assurance, that if this would not effect the object this year, they would give twice as much next year.

The Chairman announced, in addition to the last, a cheque from Messrs. Watkins and Co. for £50.

Mr. Alderman Callender said, another gentleman, who gave £10 last year, would now raise his subscription to £50. He was one who gave everything in the best way. Mr. Joseph Crewdson, £50. (This amount, we believe, completed the sum of £10,000, subscribed in the short space of half an hour.)

The Chairman announced the following:—Mr. Nicholas Heald, £50; Mr. John Wilson, £25 (together, a cheque from Messrs. Heald and Wilson for £75).

Mr. Bright said he would affix his intitials to the contribution from another anonymous friend, of £50. Mr. Robert Heywood of Bolton, £50; Messrs. Robert and Joseph Lord, £50; Mr. George Howarth of Rochdale, £50.

Mr. Cobden, M.P., said this might be a proper time and place to state, that the gentleman, a stranger, who last year sent £100 as a contribution from "A Landlord," had written to him again; and, although he preferred to remain incognito, he (Mr. Cobden) felt perfectly confident they would receive from him a bank note for £200 before long. (Hear, hear.) Earl Ducie had also written to him to say that he had given £50 last year, but he would give £100 this year. (Hear, hear.) Who would ever again dare to say, that we were enemies of the agriculturists, when the man who was universally acknowledged to be the exemplar of the British farmer came forward on agricultural grounds to support the Anti-Corn-Law League? (Applause.)

The Chairman next announced the following subscriptions:—Mr. Richard Roberts, the Globe Works, £50; Mr. William Hargreaves, of Accrington, £50; Mr. Edward Hollins, of Stockport, £50; Messrs. John Petrie and Co., of Rochdale, £50; Messrs. William Johnson and Co., of Wigan (last year £15), £50; Messrs. Joseph Crossfield and Son, of Warrington, £50; Messrs. George Woolley and Son, £50. [The Chairman said that Mr. Thomas Woolley was not only subscribing to the cause here, but was actively engaged in the same cause elsewhere (Salisbury). (Applause.)] Mr. J. E. Lane, £20; Messrs. Yates and Williams, £30; Messrs. Parr, Curtis, and Madeley, £30; Mr. George Horsefield (last year £10), £20; Messrs. Marler and Brothers, of Newton Moor, £20; Messrs. William and Henry Rawson, £50; Mr. Peter Walker, of Patricroft, £20; Messrs. Simpson, Thompson, and Co, £30; Messrs. Evans and Nicholson, £50; Mr. Standring, £50; Mr. E. J. Kay, of Whitworth, near Rochdale, £50; Mr. B. Nicholls, £20; Mr. T. Bazley, jun., £20.

The Chairman said he would just give them five minutes to hand in the remaining cards, or to increase the subscriptions already given in, and then the amounts subscribed would be added up and announced:—Mr. William M'Call (doubling his subscription of last year), £10; Mr. Isaac Crewdson, £20; Mr. Henry Hewitt, £5; Mr. John Rawsthorne (two guineas last year,) £10.

Mr. Cobden said he had to announce a subscription of £100 in the name of "A Friend, per Richard Cobden;" that friend was in the room; he was forbid to mention his name, but he left it to the meeting to guess. (Loud applause, this intimation being generally understood as applied to Mr. Robert Gardner, a gentleman of Conservative politics, and one who had previously kept aloof from the League, though opposed to the existing Corn Law.)

The Chairman announced—Messrs. James Knott and Sons, £25; Mr. Henry Tunstill of Burnley (£10 last year), £50; Mr. David Morris, £5; Mr. Samuel Hewitt, £10; Mr. Robert Owen, £5; a note to the Chairman from Messrs. Molineux, Webb, Ellis, and Company, announced a subscription from that firm of £10; Mr. Robert Crewdson, £25; Messrs. William and H. Occleshaw, of Piccadilly (new subscription), £7; Mr. William Jones, £10.

Mr. Alderman Brooks said he knew of one subscription of £400, and several others of £100, which, although the parties were not present, and he had not authority to mention them, he was sure would come.

The Chairman then announced Messrs. B. Whitworth and Co., Cannon street, £5; John Hadfield, £5; Messrs. John and Benjamin Pearson, £20.

Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P., would congratulate them on the result of this meeting. Monopoly had received its death-blow. The manufacturers of Manchester would show to the monopolists that they were determined in favour of Free Trade, and that not merely in the abstract, but that they meant to carry out their principles; and he could assure them, that what they had done this day was not only a good investment, as regarded their own interests, but he was convinced was one of the most philanthropic efforts, and combined in it more of benevolence than any other measure to which they could possibly contribute. They might rest assured that all who united in this object had united not only in favour of what was profitable, but what was benevolent and useful, and what would contribute more to the happiness of mankind than the carrying out of any other measure he knew of. It had been clearly shown, over and over again, that the cause was a just one; and it had been also shown to be good policy. He heartily approved of the plan now adopted, as to the operations of the Anti-Corn-Law League. The distinction between wisdom and folly was this,—both desired to accomplish an end, but the foolish adopted the wrong means for the attainment of that end. He believed there had hitherto been wrong means adopted, and to a considerable extent; for they had been petitioning men who had a strong interest in rejecting those petitions. They had been wasting their time year after year, in petitioning the House of Commons, and now he thought they were adopting the more rational mode in applying to their masters. (Loud applause.) Their appeal to the electors of this country, he was well assured, would have its effect. It was impossible to arrest this cause. The so-called representatives of the people might have an interest in refusing justice; but those who elected them could have no interest in continuing a system that must be destructive of the welfare of other nations. He had always considered this cause as one of principle. It was shown as clear as daylight that the Corn Laws were unjust; and if they were unjust in principle, he could not, for the life of him, see how any man could defend his saying, "We will go half-way in justice." It was not a question of degree, but a question of principle; and, if the landed interest were in one way entitled to protection, how, in the name of common sense and justice, could they ask it? What we stood on was the common-sense principle of the entire abolition of what was called protection, but what in truth was robbery. So long as we stood true to this principle, and showed to the world that we were only asking that which was for the general welfare and prosperity of the people, we must succeed. It was acknowledged, that the principles of the cause we were espousing were the principles of justice and common sense. Then let us endeavour to carry them out. We had heard enough of being in favour of Free Trade in the abstract. Our greatest opponents were in favour of it so far. They wished us to be content with their mere professions, but we wished to carry the principle out into practice. The gentlemen of Manchester had shown, and would show, that they were determined this should be done; and he felt the greatest confidence in the perseverance and united efforts of the Anti-Corn-law League, and that we should succeed in putting an end to this most abominable monopoly. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then announced:—Mr. Henry Lees (last year £10), £20.

Mr. Bright said, if any gentleman should see any absentees who would like their subscriptions to be included in that day's list, if they would bring or send them to the rooms of the League, they would be included in the report to be published next morning, and also in the London papers.

The Chairman, after announcing a subscription from the Rev. J. W. Massie of two guineas, proceeded to announce that the sum total (subscribed within an hour) was *eleven thousand two hundred and twenty-nine pounds four shillings.* (This announcement was received with three times three hearty cheers, "and one cheer more.")

Mr. Bright, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for his admirable conduct.

Sir Thomas Potter seconded the motion; which Mr. Alderman Brooks (having taken the vacated chair) put to the meeting, and it was carried by acclamation.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, said that the sum subscribed at the similar meeting of last year, he believed, did not exceed £4000, so that the amount raised at the present meeting had nearly trebled it. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated a few minutes after two o'clock, the business not having commenced till half-past eleven.

We understand that, in the course of the afternoon, further subscriptions were received, amounting to nearly £1400 more, the names and amounts of which will be found in our advertising columns; making a total amount of one day's subscription, in Manchester and the neighbourhood, of no less a sum than £12,606 6s.

At a later period an additional sum of £1149 3s. was subscribed—making in all £13,755 9s.

GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT THE AMPHITHEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

One of the greatest Free-Trade demonstrations ever held in this town took place on Friday, Nov. 10, at the Amphitheatre. The Anti-Monopoly Association originally announced the meeting for Wednesday, to afford their late respected and excellent member, Wm. Ewart, Esq., M.P. for Dumfries, an opportunity of addressing his townsmen. The day of meeting was subsequently altered to Friday, in order to secure the attendance of Mr. Warburton, the newly-elected member for Kendal, as the election for that independent borough took place on Wednesday.

Long before the time announced for taking the chair had arrived, the extensive building was densely crowded with a highly respectable auditory. Several appropriate mottoes and Free-Trade devices were hung round the boxes; and on the stage was a transparency bearing an apposite inscription.

On the platform were most of the influential gentlemen connected with the Liberal and Free-Trade party. We observed—William Ewart, Esq., M.P.; Henry Warburton, Esq., M.P.; Wm. Brown, Esq.; Wm. Rathbone, Esq.; J. C. Ewart, Esq.; James Brancker, Esq.; Rich. Sheil, Esq.; Henry Booth, Esq.; Thomas Bolton, Esq.; James Mullineux, Esq.; James Mellor, Esq.; Lawrence Heyworth, Esq.; W. P. Freme, Esq.; Thomas Viccar, Esq.; C. E. Rawlins, jun., Esq.; J. D. Thornely, Esq.; Dr. Blackburn; Wm. Wood, Esq.; James Cooper, Esq., surgeon; John Finch, jun., Esq.; Thomas Urquhart, Esq.; Wm. Thornhill, Esq.; Thomas Smith, Esq., of Edge-hill; James Stott, Esq.; J. T. Crook, Esq., Samuel Thornely, Esq.; —— Mather, Esq.; Alderman Eyre Evans; J. B. Cooke, Esq.; Thomas Moscroft, Esq.; James Perrin, Esq.; J. Penlington, Esq.; Samuel Stitt, jun., Esq.; John Molyneux, Esq.; Thomas Redisk, Esq.,

county magistrate; S. T. Hobson, Esq.; F. Boult, Esq.; David M'Clelland, Esq.

At half-past seven, Thomas Thornely, Esq., M.P., the President of the Anti-Monopoly Association, accompanied by Mr. Warburton, Mr. Ewart, Mr. James Brancker, and a number of other gentlemen, appeared on the platform. Their appearance produced a burst of enthusiastic cheering, in the midst of which Mr. Thornely took the chair, and the business of the evening commenced.

Thomas Thornely, Esq., in taking the chair, said he felt it to be a high honour to fill the situation of chairman to the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association. It was a most gratifying circumstance to find how great a hold the principles of Free Trade had taken on this great community; that immense assembly was in itself a proof of the progress of those principles, and of the vast number of Free Traders that were in the borough of Liverpool. Several circumstances had occurred since he last had the honour of meeting them to show the spread of Free-Trade principles throughout the realm: he might allude, in the first place, to the recent election for the city of London. (Prolonged applause.) Mr. Baring, who, in private life, was a gentleman of as great respectability as any man living—a gentleman at the head of the greatest commercial establishment in the world—was beaten by Mr. Pattison, an out-and-out Free Trader. (Cheers.) At the last general election, he (Mr. Thornely) was not aware that the electors for the Dumfries boroughs made a *sine qua non* of the principles of Free Trade; but he had the happiness to know that the opinions of those electors were in strict accordance with the principles expressed on all proper occasions by his honourable and distinguished friend, Mr. Ewart, who sat beside him. (Cheers.) But the most recent triumph which the Free Traders had gained was one on which the meeting would have to express an opinion before they separated—they would have to record a vote of thanks to the electors of Kendal for returning to the House of Commons that distinguished friend of Free Trade, his hon. friend Mr. Warburton, who now sat on his (Mr. Thornely's) left. (Applause.) He (Mr. Thornely) had been at the Corn Exchange that day, to inquire what had been the average duty paid on wheat this year under the new bill, and he ascertained that it was at least 14s. per quarter, whereas the average duty under the old bill, for all the years that it was in operation, was only 5s. 9d. per quarter. They would agree with him, therefore, that we had not gained much by Sir Robert Peel's Corn-Law Bill of last year. Free-Trade doctrines were not novel; he had turned during that day to a paper where he had found an extract of a speech of Sir Edward Coke, a distinguished lawyer, who died 200 years ago. He said, "Freedom of trade is the support of traffic, and all monopolies and restrictions in trade overthrow trade." (Cheers.) He (Mr. Thornely) would appeal confidently to Adam Smith, and all the writers of any distinction on political economy that ever lived, in support of Free-Trade views; indeed, all the Free Traders required was to carry into practice the principles which those distinguished men advocated. (Loud cheers.) Having deprecated all Government interference with matters of trade, Mr. Thornely concluded by calling on Mr. Rawlins, the secretary, to read the report of the Association.

The report having been read,

Mr. William Wood said he believed the coming session was big with important concessions to the cause of Free Trade, and, from all which he saw going on around him, he could not doubt but the vessel of the state, after being buffeted about on the tempestuous waters of monopoly, was about to enter the Pacific Ocean of unrestricted prosperity. (Loud cheers.) He trusted, however, when success dawned upon them, they would never forget the obligations they were under to the electors of London. (Cheers.) Those men would go down in history along with the names of those great and good men, Richard Cobden—(applause)—and John Bright—(continued applause)—whose names were as inextricably linked with the triumph of Free Trade as that of Washington with the independence of America—(cheers)—of Wilberforce and Clarkson with the abolition of the slave trade—(applause)—or that of Daniel O'Connell—(three times three and continued cheers)—or that of Daniel O'Connell with Catholic emancipation. (Cheers.) The speaker then entered at considerable length into the principles of Free Trade, rebutting with ability the arguments of those who opposed those principles, and occasionally illustrating his observations with interesting anecdotes, which seemed to have a good effect on the minds of his auditory, and concluded with moving the following resolution:—

"That this meeting presents its most earnest acknowledgments to William Ewart, Esq., M.P., for his consistent advocacy of Free Trade on all occasions, both in and out of Parliament." (Loud cheers.)

William Rathbone, Esq., on rising to second the motion, was received with the most enthusiastic applause, which continued some time. When silence was restored, he said he was well aware they were all naturally anxious to hear their excellent friend and fellow-townsman, Mr. Ewart (cheers); and, therefore, he would not long detain them in seconding the motion before them. (Cheers.) It would be an insult to their discrimination to suppose that anything he could say would induce them to appreciate his character more highly than they then did, or to esteem him more than he was by all of them. (Applause.) There was only one regret he had, and that was, that Mr. Ewart should be obliged to cross the Tweed in order that his character and abilities should be properly estimated, and as a majority of his fellow-townsmen now felt it ought to be. (Loud cheers.) Yes, he did say, honour to the city of London (applause—honour to the constituency of Dumfries (loud cheers)—honour to the constituency of Durham—and last, though not least, honour to the constituency of Kendal (continued cheering)—and he hoped, before he died, to have the proud satisfaction of saying, honour to the constituency of Liverpool. (Tremendous cheering, and cries of "You shall.") It was time for them to arouse themselves, and to say to the Government, "We will have justice (cheers); we will have employment (applause); we will have freedom of trade." (Continued cheers.) He hoped they would not merely attend those meetings and appear enthusiastic in the cause there, but show by their votes at the hustings that they were really in earnest about the matter. (Cheers.) He called on them, in the names of their wives—in the names of their starving children—to be no longer apathetic on the subject, but to act with boldness and determination, remembering the words of the immortal Nelson—"England expects every man to do his duty." (Tremendous cheers.)

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Ewart was received with reiterated cheers, accompanied with waving of hats, handkerchiefs, &c., the whole assembly rising. Owing to the enthusiasm with which he was received, and the consequent difficulty of restoring silence, some of the hon. gentleman's opening observations were but indistinctly heard. He commenced by observing that revolving years had passed away since he last had the honour and gratification of addressing his fellow-townsmen. If there was anything which, in returning amongst them, could deprive him of adequately giving vent to his feelings, it was the unmerited reflection of mingled enthusiasm and kindness which he had met with from them this evening. And if on their part this mingled feeling of enthusiasm and kindness still continued to exist unaltered by the lapse of time, so did his wishes for their political, commercial, and local interests. Whether he considered himself as a native of the country or of this town, those feelings which appeared to be dwelling in their minds were equally congenial to his. Gentlemen (continued Mr. Ewart), if it be with peculiar feelings of pleasure as the partisan of Free Trade that I address you this evening, it is also with peculiar feelings of pleasure and gratification I do so, because I see amongst you not only my hon. friend, your president, who is well known throughout the land as one of the steadiest and most consistent advocates of Free Trade, but because I see returned among us, and returned for the town of Kendal, which has done itself honour by the choice, my political and personal friend, who has been so long tried under all circumstances in this country—my political and personal friend, Mr. Warburton. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, the question of Free Trade has been agitated throughout the country: it has travelled on the wings of the wind; it has spread itself, not only among those interested in its adoption, but even among those who deemed themselves interested in the resistance of it. Gentlemen, I ask you, in the first instance, is it not admitted by every person who has read or written on those subjects, that you ought to take off the tax that presses on what is commonly called the *raw material* of labour? Have we not taxes pressing on the raw material of labour? Does not the Government maintain a tax on the raw material of cotton and wool? Therefore, gentlemen, I call on the Government to take off those onerous burdens, for the labour of the people ought to be free. I exhort you, therefore, as the first object of your exertions for Free Trade, to demand the abolition of the tax on the raw material of labour. The mode in which the sugar duties, so long the object of opposition by a particular part of the Legislature, operate to your detriment is matter of notoriety. Gentlemen, you know they operate most injuriously in two ways: first, you pay enormous prices for your sugar, or, what is more probable, you get no sugar at all to pay any price for; and, secondly, it is now avowed by the organs of the Government, the press, that you eat an almost poisonous article. And by what mode are we to meet this great and almost intolerable evil? It would appear that the most natural mode of supplying you with good sugar, and removing the evil of adulteration, would be to allow foreign sugar to be imported, cheap, for you to feed upon. And what do you think is the notable device which they adopt to ensure an abundant supply of unadulterated sugar? Why, they recommend that the Government should send round the country certain official persons, whom they adorn and encumber with the title of responsible and analysing chemists. (Loud cheers and laughter.) They are to distinguish between what is poisonous and what is harmless, instead of allowing you to purchase in that market where you are sure of getting an unadulterated article. Instead of getting your sugar from Brazil in a pure state, you are obliged to bring it from the West Indies, and have this expensive analytic process as the only remedy against a spurious article. (Cheers.) All who travel round the coast know that our whole island is surrounded and encumbered by coast-guards, for which you are obliged to pay by an annual tax. These high duties, however, encourage smugglers to cross the frontier of our country, in spite of coast-guards and armed boats, and it is impossible to prevent them. I maintain that, in this respect, these duties have an exceedingly immoral effect. But observe in what a grievous manner burdensome duties operate even after the article is introduced into the country. Many of you have read those extraordinary displays of fraud on the part of the Custom-house, by which articles were brought in, notwithstanding the monstrous duties imposed on them. You all have heard of the exposure of those Custom-house frauds which excited the astonishment of the Government and of the Legislature. And what was the consequence of those frauds? A commission was appointed to inquire into them, and the commissioners stated, most truly, that it was impossible to prevent such frauds as long as those high duties were paid. Gentlemen, I have argued, and I hope not unsuccessfully, that those high duties create smuggling on the coast, and, in the next place, frauds on the Custom-house. But I go further, and I find that even articles which have passed the Custom-house are found, in consequence of the high duties, to be impure. They are mingled in such a way that they passed the coast-guards and the Custom-house, and then the ingenuity of the chemist is called into operation, and he extracts from the articles permitted to come in some of the articles that are prohibited. For instance, there is a high duty on spirits, but naptha is admitted at a low duty. A certain proportion of spirits is concealed in the naptha, and having been thus admitted at a low duty, it is afterwards separated by chemical contrivance; thus the coast-guards are baffled, the Custom-house is baffled, chemistry triumphs over both, and the article comes in, notwithstanding the two-fold prohibition. On one article is imposed a low duty, and on the other a high; the high duty article comes in under the disguise of the low duty article, and, having passed the Custom-house, the mask is taken off, and in this way the prohibited article of spirits comes in duty free, under the guise of the other article. (Hear, hear.) What is the cause of all this complicated fraud and injustice? High duties. They are not only unjust to you as consumers, but they are also unjust as holding out temptations to violate the law; they are oppressive to industry, and a premium on fraud. (Cheers.) Well, then, gentlemen, I say that on all the materials of labour, whether cotton wool or sheep's wool, tobacco, sugar, or spirits, the duties ought to be reduced. Here, then, we offer two principles of action for the government of Sir Robert Peel: one, the principle of taking the duty off the raw material, recommended by Adam Smith long ago; and the other, the taking off the duty of those articles the smuggling of which induces immorality. The Free-Traders of England have laid down the abolition of the Corn Law as the basis of their system. On that broad basis the whole superstructure should rest, and until you have achieved the great task of firmly fixing this as the foundation stone—the corner principle of your building—you do nothing. You can accomplish nothing by minor efforts at legislation, until you totally and entirely abolish the Corn Law. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, we have been called agitators, and even by those of our opponents who treat us with the greatest courtesy. A right honourable gentleman, a friend of mine, who wrote an article in a certain review (himself a member of the Government,) about a year ago, calls us in that article "the notorious Anti-Corn-Law League!" Now, gentlemen, that is one of the most courteous in the discourteous things that have been said of us. But we are content with the notoriety, if we can only do some public good. We have in the metropolis many most excellent friends, thanks to the patriotic exertions of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, those gentlemen whose patriotism sent them as peripatetic itinerants throughout the country to diffuse right views on Free-Trade doctrines. These gentlemen have earned a laudable notoriety, and we are content to bear the opprobrium, provided we can do our country good. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Ewart) recollected, to his infinite amusement, an occasion when Sir Robert Peel was presenting, in the House of Commons, a petition against the so-called agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League, signed by the lords, squires, captains, and men of moment and consequence in the country. And what was the terrible grievance of which those honourable and distinguished persons complained? They said that, "Whereas your petitioners represent to the Commons House of Parliament that certain men perambulate the country, and endeavour to convince the people on the subject of the Corn Laws, and for that purpose hold open-air meetings, and endeavour to excite the people to acts of sedition, and use language calculated to lead to insurrection, we entreat your honourable House to exert its authority for the suppression of such nefarious, dangerous, and unconstitutional acts." (Much laughter.) This petition was presented by the right honourable gentleman who is now the Premier of the Government, and then bore his political and medical character fresh upon him; but before he read this petition I saw a smile of contempt illuminating the countenance of that gentleman, and when he read the document he consigned it to that bag in which, unhappily, the petitions of the people are now laid under the table—he consigned those patrician complaints to the same place where the disregarded requests of plebeian origin are usually thrown. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I believe firmly that if the two countries, the United States and Great Britain, were united together by the golden band of reciprocal dependency, it would be one of the best circumstances that ever took place for the regeneration and blessing of the human race. (Applause.) I trust that those nations may be knit to one another, and that no artificial encumbrances imposed by man may keep them asunder. (Cheers.) I believe it is our duty to take the first step in favour of this freedom of commerce. Ours is a cause—a happy cause—which combines that just medium of agitation which at once unfetters itself from the thraldom of bigotry and ignorance, and flings away the unholy weapon of revolution and disorder. The implements with which we have fought in this warfare are the implements of peace. We never condescended to adopt the unlawful, unholy weapons of disorder and rashness—those weapons which now, I trust, are banished from the system of modern agitation; for I believe that it is now becoming a kind of political doctrine, that if agitation is to be successfully conducted it is to be peaceful; and that doctrine is equally true, whether it applies to the eastern regions of Greece, or to the western regions of Ireland. (Cheers.) We ask not for exemptions from burdens ourselves. We demand, on the part of the whole community, that the landlords of England will surrender the exclusive advantages derived from the Corn Law; that they meet us as brethren and as men. We will never consent to meet them on other terms. We will consent to meet them as equals, but will never condescend to continue as inferiors. Gentlemen, when the Corn Laws are repealed you will have a steady trade, and steadiness is the soul of all trade. The farmers themselves are beginning to be convinced on the subject. The peasant is learning that he has a soul as well as his landlord. The tenant is asking for a long lease wherever he can get it. These are great consummations for which you are to look. Gentlemen, from this galling oppression of soul and spirit we call upon you to evince a determination to rid yourselves. We call on you by peaceful agitation to put down the superiority that is assumed over you. It is not founded on the law of nature or the country, but by a law imposed a century ago by a kind of legerdemain, and which the ministry of Queen Victoria ought at once to abolish. (Cheers.) I conclude as I began, by assuring you that all the Free-Traders of Liverpool have not been so successful as they ought to be in carrying out the doctrines of Free Trade in this the modern Tyre of the commercial world. Free Trade ought to be the prevailing spirit—the pervading principle of the population. (The honourable gentleman resumed his seat amid loud and general cheering from all parts of the house.)

Wm. Brown, Esq., moved—

"That, in the opinion of the meeting, the electors of Kendal were entitled to the thanks of the community for their conduct in returning Henry Warburton, Esq., as their representative, thereby declaring their resolution to resist to the utmost every attempt to impose restrictions on trade, and their determination never to rest satisfied until they had obtained a repeal of the Corn Laws." (Tremendous applause.)

Mr. Mellor said he had great pleasure in seconding the resolution. (Cheers.) The electors of Kendal had set a bright example to the rest of the nation, in returning so distinguished a friend of Free Trade, and so great an ornament to the House of Commons, as Mr. Warburton. (Cheers.) He should ever regard it as a deep disgrace to the town of Liverpool that it should be represented by two monopolists. (Hear, hear.) He, however, entertained a hope that the people of Liverpool were beginning to see through the folly of which they had been guilty; and he had no doubt, whenever another election took place, they would imitate the excellent example set them by the town of Kendal. (Loud cheers.)

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Warburton, on presenting himself to the meeting, was greeted with the most enthusiastic applause. When it had subsided he said he felt highly honoured by the marks of attention the meeting had paid to the men of Kendal, principally because they were adding their sanction to a new triumph gained by the electors of that borough in the cause of Free Trade. (Applause). He wished to remind them that it was not less to the electors of Kendal than to the working men—the non-electors—that he owed his return. (Cheers.) That sympathy which was shown by the non-electors for the success of Free Trade—that watch which the non-electing men kept over the peace and purity of the borough—it was through their exertions in that respect, united to the exertions of the electors themselves, that he had gained so triumphant a majority. (Applause.) When he looked at that magnificent assembly, giving them all credit for being in earnest in favour of the principles of Free Trade, he could not but ask the question—how it was that the men of Liverpool did not count among their representatives even one friend of Free Trade? (Loud cheers, and cries of "Give it us well.") Was it that there was any doubt entertained amongst them that that great emporium of trade would not be benefited by the freedom of commerce? Let them consider how they were situated—let them look at the magnitude of their port, the extent of their commerce, the number of their ships, their immense docks, the number of their warehouses, and say whether if, instead of the monopoly which now existed, they would not have much more trade if all the ports of the world were thrown open to them. (Hear, hear.) Could any one doubt that if the trade of the world was thrown open to them, their warehouses would not be increased, their docks would not be enlarged, more ships built, the number of their merchants increased, and more labourers be required, whilst all the great manufacturing towns, Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham, and others, would be greater and richer than at present; and would they not partake of that prosperity, when, for one ship and cargo now sent out of the port, under the operation of Free Trade they would send out at least twenty? ("Hear, hear," and much cheering.) How was it with the example set before them by the great city of London and the small town of Kendal—small, indeed, compared with Liverpool, with a population of 300,000, whilst that of Kendal did not exceed 10,000—how was it that they should be dumb, not, indeed, in that assembly, but in another, where their interests were more deeply affected? Why, he said, shame upon them! (Cheers, and "Hear, hear.") That assembly was so numerous, that if all were, as he concluded they were, in earnest, and each individual would only exert his influence with his friends, he had no doubt there would be such a mass of Free Traders in the town that no monopolist would dare to show his head. (Cheers.) Let them consider another mode in which the Corn Laws acted to the detriment of the people. What was it that had been witnessed during the last few years? Capital migrating to foreign countries. And for what reason? Why, because it did not find profitable employment at home. And why did it not find profitable employment at home? Because Government would not allow those who possessed it to make investments in foreign countries in the way they deemed most advantageous. ("Hear," and cheers.) If capital could be safely invested at home, the trade of the country would be considerably increased, and the comforts of the people more extensively provided for; but then the capital is not employed as it would be without the Corn Laws in the extension of the manufactures of the country, and thereby increase the quantity of labour. And what happened? Why, the middle and lower classes emigrated every year in great numbers to foreign countries; and even in those distant regions they could not find employment, as was evidenced by the fact, that no less than ten thousand persons who had emigrated returned from Canada to this country. (Hear.) If capital could be profitably used in this country, our trade and manufactures would be extended—our labourers would find employment at home—emigration would not be so common, as every one would rather stay in his native country than be expatriated from it, and the nation would become richer and more prosperous. (Cheers.) There was another view in which they ought to regard the question. Unless this country maintained its power it would be impossible for it to continue to hold its position in the scale of nations. All new countries, such as the United States of America, were rising rapidly in wealth and population, and he wished to impress upon them that the power of a country was a very necessary ingredient in its happiness. They all knew they had powerful neighbours, who were running the race of power with us, and if this country lagged back in that race, advantage would be taken of it. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) A new country proceeded rapidly in the extension of her trade, and there was no reason on earth why an old country, if allowed freely to import, should not advance in the same ratio. If they did not take example by other countries in the advance they were making, and keep pace with them, how would they be able to afford that protection which every merchant was desirous should be afforded to every ship which entered every foreign port? ("Hear," and cheers.) Therefore he said, for all these reasons, the question whether they would have freedom of trade or not, was of vital importance to the country. ("Hear," and cheers.) Free Trade would increase their internal resources, and add to their foreign commerce. He congratulated them on the progress which the doctrines of Free Trade had made of late years. Owing to the exertions of that excellent and persevering man, Mr. Cobden, its advocates were now welcomed in places where before no Free Trader durst show his face. (Loud cheers.) It was to him that they were indebted for such an assembly as was there collected. (Applause.) But in naming him he would not forget the strenuous exertions of the Honourable Mr. Villiers in the House of Commons. (Three times three for Mr. Villiers was then instantly given.) It was probably owing to the good example that honourable gentleman set him that induced Mr. Cobden to persevere in his efforts, and but for the exertions of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright the men of Durham would not so nobly have done their duty. (Loud cheers.) But for the exertions of Mr. Cobden, such assemblies as had been collected in various parts of the country would not have been brought together, which he looked upon as the doom of the Corn Laws, and which led him to consider the wished-for boon almost within their grasp. (Loud cheers.) He earnestly implored them to consider the manner in which constituencies much smaller than Liverpool—much less important—he dared not say less informed—he earnestly implored them to consider how they had acted. (Applause.) He besought them to consider how such constituencies as Durham and Kendal had performed their duty, and then to go home with a full determination of doing the like whenever an opportunity offered. (Loud cheers.)

Thomas Bolton, Esq., proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman.

James Brancker, Esq., seconded the motion, which was carried with three times three and continued cheering.

The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the compliment paid him, and said he was sorry he had done so little for the good cause. (Cheers.)

Free-Trade Dinner in the Tower Hamlets.—The members of the Whitechapel District Committee of the Tower Hamlets, who so nobly acquitted themselves in co-operation with the other district committees in securing (by their "volunteer" services and incorruptible patriotism,) the return of James Pattison, Esq., on the recent election for the city of London, and, in his person, the triumph of the "Free-Trade" principle, dined together on Wednesday evening, at the Grave Maurice Tavern, Whitechapel-road, in order to commemorate their great victory, and give expression to their triumph. William Coates, Esq., chairman of the Whitechapel and Stepney Anti-Corn-Law Association, very ably filled the presidency, and was efficiently supported in the vice-chair by — Grainger, Esq. The chairman was further supported, on his right by Arthur Pattison, Esq., son of the sitting member, and on his left by George Wansey, Esq., the gentleman to whose able guidance in his official capacity the success of the Free-Trade candidate owes so much. Besides those gentlemen we noticed, on either side of the dining-table, Messrs. Little, R. W. Hall, Bishop, South Morse, Jackman, W. Bates, Croucher, Wainright, Merriweather, Walters, White, Luke, Smith, Branen, Lucas, and Dr. Bowkett, most of whom were members of the committee. The dinner and wines were of the best description; and the hilarity of the evening was not a little heightened by the excellent singing of Mr. J. F. Smirke, a professional gentleman. After the usual loyal toasts, "The People," &c., the chairman gave in succession, first, the toast of the evening, "James Pattison, Eeq., and may he long live to represent the Free-Trade cause and the independent electors of the city of London," (replied to by Mr. A. Pattison); then, "The independent constituency of London;" "George Wansey, Esq.;" "John Travers, Esq. (the patriotic chairman of Mr. Pattison's central committee)." "The healths of Messrs. Robert Willis Hall, Little, Bishop, Jackman, Bates, Lucas, Grainger, &c." The speeches from the chair, and the replies, were worthy of the triumph which those gentlemen met to commemorate, and we much regret that press of other matter on our limited space precludes us from giving a full report of them. We thank the committee of the Tower Hamlets, and the district committees generally; and we hope that the achievement which their exertions and the high-mindedness of the independent electors of London accomplished, and which Kendal has since so nobly followed the example of, will also be imitated by the spirit and patriotism of the constituency of Salisbury.

The Anti-Corn-Law League.—It is the intention of the Anti-Corn League, in anticipation of their views to return members to Parliament who will support the repeal of the Corn Laws and the principles of Free Trade, to organize the various Anti-Corn-Law Associations, so that they shall in future more particularly direct their attention to the state of the franchise. For that purpose already the borough of the Tower Hamlets has its central association formed, which will in a short time extend its ramifications to the various district associations connected with it in the borough, of which there is one in every parish, and in some parishes more than one. It was entirely by the exertions of these associations that Mr. Pattison was returned for the City at the last election. Measures are in progress for a similar organization of the city of Westminster, where, in the majority of the parishes, there is an Anti-Corn-Law Association. The plan would have been carried into effect there by this time, had not the League had its attention directed to the election which is about to take place at Salisbury. In Southwark, Marylebone, Finsbury, and other metropolitan districts, the same designs will be carried out. It is not, however, meant to confine their operations to the metropolis, but, as far as possible, to extend them to every borough throughout the kingdom; by which means it is expected that they will be able to influence the great portion of the electors of the various constituencies. These facts should awaken the Conservative party. What is to be done? The answer is obvious—"When bad men conspire, let good men associate." There should be counter-associations in every possible locality.—*Morning Herald.*

The valiant Dr. Sleigh came to Kendal during the late election with the view of assisting the monopolist candidate, but finding Mr. Finigan the Anti-Corn-Law lecturer there, he, as usual when he anticipates opposition, took leave without making his public appearance. We shall doubtless hear of him by-and-bye in some quarter where he thinks he is secure of all the talk to himself, boasting that he has challenged Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, but they dare not meet him.

Right of Farmers to Kill Rabbits.—A decision in favour of the right of farmers, either by themselves or their servants, to kill the rabbits on their farms, has lately been given by two justices of the peace for the county of Kincardine. A prosecution was brought by the game association of that county against two farm-servants, and the following is the judgment of the justices:—"Stonehaven, 30th Oct., 1843.—The justices having considered the complaint, declarations of the defenders, proof *hinc inde*, find it admitted, that, at the time libelled, they killed rabbits on the farm of Craig, of Garvock in question—but find it proved, that they did so, as the servants, or by the authority of the occupier of that farm, for protecting his crops from depredation:—Find that a tenant is by common law entitled to destroy rabbits on his farm for such a purpose; and that the defenders, acting in that matter under the employment of the occupier of the farm in question, were not thereby guilty of a trespass, and therefore assoilzie them from this complaint, and decern. Find the complainer liable to each of them in twelve shillings and sixpence of expenses of process, and decern for the same and for the dues of extract." The point of common law here alluded to had been previously decided by the supreme court; and the fact cannot be too widely known.—*Glasgow Citizen.*

The Lowther Bludgeon Men.—It may be as well to mention for the information of the public and the police, in their inquiries as to the election riot on Wednesday last, that about seventy-five of the ruffians, hired on the Lowther estates, took refreshment at the cost of their employers, at Shap, when on their march to Kendal; that several parties were hired from the Fell Side, in this town, by a man named Glendinning; and that, since six o'clock this (Friday) evening, three persons, one named John Gibson, of Stramongate, and another John Shepherd, of the Shambles, received for their services, from Mr. Joseph Benn (Lord Lonsdale's steward's son, and late a candidate for a seat in the town council of this borough), three shillings and sixpence each. The mystery as to the names of their employers, the object of their being hired, and the instructions they received, may, we think, be soon cleared up if the police do their duty.—*Kendal Mercury.*

The Land Tenure Commission.—Mr. Tighe having followed the example of Mr. More O'Ferrall, and declined serving on the Peel commission of inquiry into the state of the land tenure in Ireland, Mr. Redington, M.P., and Lord Carew, are nominated in their places. The commission will therefore consist of the Earl of Devon, chairman; Mr. Wynne, Mr. Hamilton, Lord Carew, and Mr. Redington.—*Globe.*

Lincolnshire Farming.—In the Wolds, as they were called, meaning the wealds or wilds of Lincolnshire—a term expressive of their natural sterility—in those Wolds, not yet forty years ago, in the beginning of the present century, Young, in his "Agricultural Tour," described them as passing through a country covered with furze-bushes. Lord Yarborough, said Young, was an excellent landlord, and he wished him no more harm than that he should be thrown from his hunter into the middle of one of those furze-bushes; for a little pricking would do him a deal of good, and would tend much to the benefit of that part of the country. That same Lord Yarborough lived to plant four thousand acres of trees, which had now attained a height of from fifty to sixty feet, and, what was more important, he lived to bring into existence a race of tenantry now the glory of the land: tenants who occupied from 500 to 2000 acres of land each. Land, which thirty years ago was covered with furze-bushes and was not worth 5s. an acre, now produced 25s. an acre. The rent of land had increased five-fold, whilst the wealth of the tenantry had also augmented in the same proportion. Every farmer whom he visited, possessed the finest hunters. Many have carriages. Some, whom he did not visit, had hothouses and pineries; and yet, whilst this was the situation of the tenantry, the landlord had benefited five-fold. But what was better than all, was the condition of the labourers. He had never heard of such labourers—£38 a year for wages—all of them kept a pig, a cow was kept for each, and they were compelled to eat meat three times a day. Those who had visited Lincolnshire must have witnessed the beautiful architecture with which every village of that county was adorned. Such churches and such steeples! displaying more exquisite taste and skill than was to be found in any other part of the country. But, lofty and beautiful as were those churches, they were, for the most part, outrivalled in height by the ricks which presented themselves everywhere. Such ricks! streets of ricks—acres of ricks, disposed in rows. Near Lord Yarborough's house there were streets of ricks as long as the longest street in Tamworth; streets longer than the length of the Parthenon at Birmingham, and all from land which, thirty-five years ago, was not worth 5s. an acre. And what became of all this abundant produce? It went to the manufacturing districts to be disposed of. But there was another district in the vicinity of the metropolis of a county, not five miles from the town of Lincoln, in the midst of which stood a column, bearing this inscription:—

"Columnam hanc
Utilitate Publicæ
D. D. D.
F. Dashwood.
MDCCLI."

In 1751 that column was erected in the centre of a desert, to guide the traveller in the midst of a howling wilderness. On that plain might now be seen hay-ricks standing together in rows, almost like the squares in London. It was, in fact, a city of hay-ricks. There was there, also, the remains of an asylum of the Knights Templars. There lived there now a farmer seventy years of age, who, in thirty years, had realized a fortune of £60,000. They might ask him (Dr. Buckland) how had those results been produced? They had been produced by a judicious application of capital, and of the good sense which was the characteristic of the farmers of England. The present proprietor of the Templars' Asylum imported ship-loads of bones and oil-cake to be ground for his farm. The cattle ate the straw, and produced that manure which was the foundation of all the success of the crops upon his farm. In that and other farms in that district, the produce was never less than thirty bushels per acre, and that was only one example out of many of what could be done by judicious application of capital.—*Dr. Buckland at the Tamworth Dinner.*

AGRICULTURE.

FREE TRADE THE LABOURERS' QUESTION.

It is impossible to read the reports of any of the recent meetings of agricultural societies, especially in the west of England, without being sickened by the almost nauseous commendations of the agricultural labourers, which commonly proceed from the chairman. The presiding squire professes the most gushing love for the labourer. He delights in such societies because they lead to improved agriculture; but, above all, because they "offer encouragement to industrious servants in husbandry!" He distributes a few pitiful sums of twenty shillings and thirty shillings amongst men who "have reared"—we rear colts and calves—"families of eight, ten, and twelve children, without parochial asssistance," on 7s. and 8s. a week! Can any one, who respects and regards that valuable but oppressed class, the agricultural labourers, see with aught but disgust panegyrics so fulsome, and such paltry pretences of "encouragement?" Moreover, all sorts of intimations are thrown out, wherever destitution appears, that some "hardhearted farmer" is at the bottom of it. Faugh! what shallow hypocrisy! Can the most complacent squire imagine that it imposes upon anybody? If so, let him go where he is personally unknown, and ask the farmers or the labourers!

The truth is, the landlords have profited for the last fifty years at the expense of the industrious classes of agriculturists, the farmers, and especially the labourers; and for the last thirty years of that time they have sought so to profit by a most dishonest monopoly. But the farmers are beginning to find them out. The title of "farmers' friends," which until lately Protectionist landowners arrogated to themselves, is now applied to them as the most sarcastic designation; and they are now trying to assume the style of "labourers' friends." How far they deserve *that* title, the following brief history of rent and wages will show.

We all recollect the pertinacity with which the monopolists at one time urged the necessity of keeping up the price of corn by artificial restrictions "for the sake of the agricultural labourers;" and on that ground they, for a time, secured the neutrality, if not the aid even, of many who admitted some abatement in the general prosperity of trade was the result. Now, what are the facts? We shall revert for a moment to a period anterior to what may be called modern times. Arthur Young tells us that the average price of wheat for the whole of the seventeenth century was 38s. 2d. per quarter; and that for sixty-six years, from 1701 to 1766, it was 32s. 1d. per quarter, being a fall of sixteen per cent. If the arguments of the monopolists were sound, and if it were true, as they assert, that the wages of agricultural labour rise and fall with the price of grain, we should find that the farm-servant of the first sixty-six years of the eighteenth century received less wages than his forefather of the seventeenth century. But was it so? On the contrary, during the seventeenth century, the average wages of a labourer in husbandry had been 10½d. per day; while, for the sixty-six years ending in 1766, wages had risen sixteen per cent., or to 12d. per day.

Here we have an advance in the real wages of labourers in husbandry, partly from an increase of money wages, and partly from a fall in the cost of necessaries, amounting to thirty-two per cent., or *almost one-third*. And how was this accounted for by contemporary writers? Adam Smith, a most accurate observer, tells us that, "*in France the money price of labour* had, since the middle of the last century, been observed to sink gradually *with the average money price of corn*." Not so in this country, for the same authority says, "the money price of labour in Great Britain has risen during the present century:" and that this was caused by "a rise in the real price of labour in the particular market of Great Britain, *owing to the peculiarly happy circumstances of the country*."

This was written about 1756, when corn had been unusually cheap for nearly half a century, and the trade and manufactures of the country had been gradually but greatly extending. Mr. Hallam, in his history of England, speaks of this time as "the most prosperous period that England had ever experienced;" and the condition of the labouring classes had much improved, as is proved, amongst other evidence, by their increased consumption of wheaten bread instead of that made from the inferior grains.

In 1767-1768-1770 the mean rate of wages for a farming man through the whole year was 7s. 4½d. a week; and the average price of wheat was about 48s. a quarter, or 1s. 6d. a peck, which would make the labourer's daily earnings about five-sixths of a peck of wheat. In the twenty years preceding 1766, wheat being only 32s. 1d. per quarter, the daily wages of the labourer amounted to *rather more* than a peck of wheat, those wages being 7s. a week. From that time to 1792 wages tended upwards, in consequence of the increasing demand for workmen in the manufacturing districts, and in part from the gradual improvements which were going on in husbandry. Amongst the signs of improvement in husbandry was the increasing number of enclosures, which caused a greater demand for agricultural labour; but these were not effected without some disadvantages to the labourers. Most of them had kept a cow, a pig, or a few geese upon the commons, by which they added to their means of subsistence; but, when the commons came to be enclosed, the labourer, having no title-deed to show for his right of common, received no share in the lands when divided. Not a few industrious labourers also obtained, by sufferance or at a nominal quitrent, liberty to erect cottages on and enclose patches of garden-ground from the wastes, which prevented that crowding together of several families under a single roof, which is one of the great evils the peasantry at this day suffer from.

We would not be understood to decry these enclosures, for we believe that they greatly benefited the labourers themselves by creating employment, but they have certainly prevented the increase of cottages in something like a proportion to the advances of population. By such improvements, however, the value of land was increased in a ratio far beyond the increase of wages. In 1794 and 1795 the price of wheat rose, in consequence of the failure of the crops, to 108s. a quarter, and this scarcity was aggravated by the difficulty in obtaining foreign supplies, occasioned by the then commencing French war. Besides, the crops on the continent of Europe and in America were also deficient. Did the wages of farm labourers then increase in accordance with the rise of provisions? Nothing of the sort occurred; but as it became obvious that they could not subsist on their ordinary wages, and as there were riots and disturbances in all the agricultural districts, the *allowance system was introduced*. The wages of the farming men remained as before, but in addition to their wages they received an allowance from the parish funds, not in proportion to their services, but according to their necessities. Thus the man with a family received as a pauper a certain number of loaves of bread in proportion to the number of his children; but wages and allowances together were of far less real value to him than his wages alone had been in plentiful years. Here was the fatal source of much of the misery and depression which the agricultural labourers have since endured.

From that time up to 1814 the high prices of corn continued with but few and brief intervals, but the labourers' wages never rose in the same ratio. Rents increased three, four, and five fold by reason of the vast extension of our manufacturing industry, which enabled the community to work and thrive to a considerable extent, notwithstanding the high price of food. Common fairness would have required that the wages should have risen in the same degree as the rent of land and the profits of farming had increased in consequence of the high prices; at that rate agricultural wages must have advanced to from 21s. to 28s. a week. But the landlords had discovered the allowance system; so that in 1801, when the bushel of wheat had risen from 6s. to 16s., and rent had risen in even a greater proportion, the wages of the labourer were raised from 7s. 6d. to 9s., and an eleemosynary allowance of bread was doled out, by order of justices of the peace, to those working men who had numerous families. By such means payment of fair wages was evaded, and the competition of farmers for farms soon caused the whole of that money, which should in justice have been paid to the labourers, to go into the landlord's pocket as rent. That we may not be suspected of dealing in vague generalities, we shall refer to a statement published by Arthur Young, in the "Annals of Agriculture," in 1801, wherein he says,—"A person is now living in the vicinity of Bury, Suffolk, *who, when he laboured* for 5s. a week, could purchase with that 5s.:—

		While in 1801 the same articles cost:
A bushel of wheat.....	5s.	..... £0 16 0
A bushel of malt		..... 0 9 0
A pound of butter		..... 0 1 0
A pound of cheese		..... 0 0 4
One pennyworth of tobacco		..... 0 0 1
		£1 6 5
His wages in 1801 were .....9s.		
His allowance as a pauper....6s.		..... 0 15 0
		£0 11 5."

Showing that the labourer would have required 11s. 5d. more to have placed him in the same position as he had been in times of low wages and low prices. And the same state of things continued throughout the period of landlord prosperity. It was during this time that the whole agricultural population of the south and west of England became pauperised and degraded in condition, their standard of living was lowered, and their habits of industry decidedly deteriorated. Since the termination of the war the labourer has shared largely in all the vicissitudes the Corn Laws have inflicted upon agriculture. He has had his wages reduced to the lowest pittance, and, until the last few years, the degradation of the allowance system pressed him to the earth. The uncertainty of employment, which is occasioned by the varying resources of the yearly tenants of half-cultivated farms, has led landlords and farmers to talk about a redundant population, and to look upon the once stalwart peasant as an intruder in the parish and an encumbrance on the estate, to be shipped for the colonies, or transferred to the manufacturing districts with the least possible expense and delay. We shall next week apply the moral of this history to existing occurrences. In the mean time let the reader reflect on the effect worked in the condition of the agricultural workman,—first, by high prices and parish allowances; secondly, by fluctuation and monopoly—and judge of the real value of landlord professions of interest in the welfare of "THE HONEST AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS!"

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

THE ICE IS BROKEN.—It is not a little curious to observe how rapidly farmers are coming forth and declaring the grievances which we know to have been long rankling in their minds. Leases are universally demanded, and the landlord who does not grant long and reasonable leases will soon find he can only obtain inferior tenants. At the *Ross Farmers' Association*, the squires were singularly tame, for the only sentence worth remark any of them uttered was that of the president, who said, "Were our funds ever so great, we should not expend our money in sending paid orators into the manufacturing districts to sow the seeds of discord amongst the community, and to set the working man against his employer." This, we presume, was a fling at the League, and proves that truths, unpleasant to monopolist landlords, have been told by its deputations in the rural districts. Such grunts are the best compliments the monopolists can pay to the disseminators of Free-Trade opinions. Protection is to benefit the farmers, say the landowners in and out of Parliament. Emboldened by the progress made by the League, in setting the true history of agriculture before the public, farmers have everywhere declared that they have not been gainers by the present system. This is a poser to the squires; and something rotten in the relations of landlord and tenant is now acknowledged. But then, say the monopolists, we must keep up the Corn Laws for the sake of the labourers: and Dorsetshire and the west of England rise up in judgment against them. A mother and two grown-up daughters and a son living in a wretched hovel, *and sleeping in one miserable bed!* Such are the fruits of monopoly to the west country labourers. But of that more elsewhere. Though the Ross squires were shy of the usual topics of such meetings, Mr. Higgins, a farmer, thus opened a fire upon them, by saying—

"It might not be amiss, as they were met for the discussion of agricultural subjects, to allude to what had *become a question for the county's consideration*. He did not wish to allude to politics, *but some time ago the cry was 'petition,' but now it was 'cultivate,'* and much had been said by the new doctors about draining. He would ask any gentleman who knew the nature of the soil of the county, *what would justify the tenant, under the present state of things, in making permanent improvements?* He did not think there were many large landlords who would grant a lease, and, therefore, *it was useless to expect that a tenant would lay out his money in permanent improvements, unless he had better security to stay on his farm*, and reap the benefit of them, and to which he would be justly entitled."

And he sharply rebuked the remark made by Mr. Bailey, jun., one of the county members, "that if tenants would offer 2s. 6d. an acre more of rent, landlords might be disposed to grant leases;" saying, "if that was the remedy proposed, he blushed for the liberality of landlords, and *hoped in vain for redress from them.*"

Now Mr. Bailey is a young man, and he blurted out rather rashly a truth well known to all who have been much amongst landlords, that nine out of ten will do any thing for an extra 2s. 6d. of rent an acre. The meeting responded with cheers to Mr. Higgins' observations, and Mr. Hall, another farmer, said—

"A tenant of skill and ability would give an estate the benefit of his experience, if he had a long lease; and quite certain am I, from observations that I have made, that it is decidedly the interest of the landlord to get upon his estates gentlemen of ability, integrity, and capital. (Cheers.) Now, as it is the interest of the landlord to possess such tenants, it is quite evident the best way for him to secure them would be to grant leases. (Hear, hear.) We must not only cultivate, but we must apply all our experience in endeavouring to increase the productiveness of the land—that is the grand object we should have in view. (Hear, hear.) But we cannot be expected, by any reasonable landlord, to expend our time, talents, ability, and capital in such pursuit, unless we know that our interest in the land is secured by a lease sufficiently long to remunerate us. (Cheers.) I have ever felt the truth of this most deeply; and one of the most correct observations that I have made, *is that those estates always look best cultivated where tenants have long leases upon them.* ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.)

And an expression was used by Mr. Higgins which shows the deep and just suspicion with which many of the farmers regard all objects in connexion with agriculture which the landlords most anxiously promote. He said—

"He regretted he did not see more of his agricultural friends present. Many of them objected to the society because, they said, they were not going to spend the experience they had earned the last fifty years on new societies, and others said *that these institutions were only established to open the eyes of the landlords.*

Meaning, that they were instituted to keep up rents. A remark not far from the truth.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.—The Agricultural Chemistry Association of this place is now about to commence work. To the committee of management much credit is due for the exertion they have made in so meritorious a cause; and, as the services of Professor Johnston of Durham have been secured, there can be little doubt now of the success of the association. These are times in which the aid of science to the practical farmer is much required, and we have little doubt that in this country, no less than in the sister kingdom, they will be duly appreciated by all intelligent men.—*Edinburgh Courant.*

The formation of this society amongst the farmers of Scotland marks their decided advance in agriculture; and proves that nothing but a restoration of the business of a farmer to its natural state is required to render some of the agriculturists of Britain equal in skill and enterprise to their brethren engaged in other occupations. It must, however, be remembered that the distance between such first-rate farmers as those who can appreciate the value of agricultural chemistry and the mass of farmers is immense, and that it is the latter class who will only improve their systems when compelled by necessity so to do.

CATTLE FOOD.—The few bonded Egyptian beans on sale are mostly held at 17s. per qr., and there is about the difference of

the duty between that figure and the price of the article free.—*Mark-lane Express.*

[The duty on the quarter of foreign beans is now 10s. 6d., which is prohibitory. Now, were the trade in grain free, these Egyptian beans at 17s. a quarter might be profitably used in feeding cattle and pigs, to the increase of the manure heap of the farmer, and the benefit of the community; and the farmer's profit both on the cattle and in manure, as well as the extra meat in the market, would be absolute gains, at present non-existing.]

AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.—The injurious effects of competition in agriculture, both amongst farmers and labourers, will, we think, not be denied. *We hear much of high wages in one district, and low wages in another, and of praise bestowed and blame attached accordingly*, but have we any statement of the relative supply of labour to the demand? Can any man show that it is the farmer who fixes the wages of labour, looking at the question generally? *Of the extent to which competition for farms is carried, every landlord, every tenant is aware, and of the evil results too many are cognizant.—Mark-lane Express.*

And what is the cause of this fierce competition, which reduces the wages of labour and increases the rent of farms so unnaturally, but the restrictive laws which narrow the field of industrial occupation?

GAME-PRESERVING.—On Friday week two young fellows were sent to the treadmill for two months, from Preston Bissett, for attempting to snare game. It is a melancholy sight *to see more than a score of young and able-bodied fellows standing about the streets in Preston, having nothing to do*, and have had scarcely any employment since the close of harvest. They fearlessly relate their feats in poaching in general company, seeming to glory in outwitting the gamekeepers. To what a fearful pass has this village come to! *Nor is Preston singular. Steeple Claydon, Tingewick, Padbury, Thornborough, Adstock, &c. &c., are all, more or less, in the same state.* The most sanguine can only anticipate *a troublesome and terrible winter.—Buckingham Correspondent of the Aylesbury News.*

[Here we have another phase of the evils inflicted upon society by game-preserving. We have often pointed out how the farmers are injured by that detestable relic of feudalism, the game laws, and in the above paragraph is a glimpse of the yet more fearful wrongs which are inflicted upon the labouring classes for the sake of the landlords' sport. Sport, indeed! It may be sport to you, most potent lords and worshipful squires, but it is moral and not seldom physical degradation and death to the agricultural population. Landlords are fond of descanting on the benefits conferred on a rural district by the residence of a great landowner, though the accuracy of that assumption, under any circumstances, has been doubted by grave authorities; but of this we are certain, that if the landlord is a game-preserver his residence on his estate becomes a curse to the locality.

We were some years ago acquainted with a gentleman who came, as a young man, into a large estate, and began eagerly to preserve pheasants. He was soon completely successful, but living in a badly-farmed district, where wages were low, he quickly found himself engaged in open war with the surrounding peasantry. At length a desperate night conflict occurred between some eight or ten of his keepers and a greater number of poachers, in which shots were fired on both sides, and after a furious contest four of the offenders were captured and prosecuted to conviction; but so struck was this gentleman with the mischiefs he brought upon his poorer neighbours by means of his game preserve that he immediately discharged his keepers and discontinued his preserves.]

THE GAME AGAIN.—CLERICAL GRATITUDE.—We regret to notice that there are ungrateful recipients of patronage and kindness even in those from whom much better things might be expected. This reflection arises *from the fact, that a long slip of shooting, running a great distance on the edge of the preserves of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, has been let to three young men for the paltry sum of £5 per annum*, although the gentleman who has so let it is the incumbent of the parish, to which benefice he was presented by his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.—*Bucks Herald.*

Here again we see another form of that many-faced wrong the game law. All men seem to become lawless on this subject. Either the hares and pheasants are the Duke of Buckingham's, or they are not? If they are the Duke's, how can a gentleman, a minister of religion, reconcile it to his conscience to become the means of taking surreptitiously another man's live stock? What if the Duke's poultry or sheep or cattle were to be taken in the same way? But if game be not property—if, as the law says, hares and pheasants are *feræ naturæ*, and belong to the person on whose land they happen to be—does it authorize their destruction by the grateful neighbour? Legally it does, morally it cannot. How stands the question between the Duke and his beneficiary? The Duke reared the game at his own cost—or that of his tenants—and, but for the vicinity of the Duke's land, neither fur nor feather would have been found on the reverend gentleman's slip of land. But then the Duke's stock, the game, have got out of their own boundaries, and ought to be impounded as trespassers. True. They are the Duke's property, and he is morally bound to keep them at home. That he cannot, in practice, do so is plain; and this points out the impropriety on his Grace's part of keeping them at all. The time was when the deer of a great man were allowed unmolested to overrun half a county, they are now confined by a park paling; further back, the lord's cattle roamed at free quarters over a parish, but that has long since passed away. The present state of cultivation in this country requires that game laws should cease. *Feræ naturæ* there cannot be here. Let therefore those who breed wild animals be they pheasants or bears, hares or black game keep them within their own boundaries, and mark them as their own property.

LEASES AND RENTS.—We everywhere meet with symptoms of the effect which recent declarations as to the necessity of leases are producing. Thus, we find Mr. Robert Baker, an Essex land-agent, writing a long letter, in the *Mark-lane Express*, in favour of leases, wherein he recommends all the particulars we have often specified, as conditions precedent to good farming. He distinctly suggests corn-rents as a security against the uncertainty introduced by the Corn Laws, saying—

"A tenant is desirous of taking a lease of a farm, upon which a considerable outlay must be made, and consequently a considerable risk would necessarily follow the investment, *from the uncertainty as to how far the Corn Laws may operate for or against him during the term.* He hesitates, but observes—'If the landlord would ensure him 50s. per qr. for the wheat, and 32s. for the barley, peas, and beans, he would take a lease, and invest his capital with confidence.'"

We cite this as the testimony of a monopolist and an employé of monopolists, in proof of the uncertainty caused by the Corn Laws. But it is a mistake to suppose that a corn-rent can secure a tenant from the risk and uncertainty caused by the Corn Laws. It may to a certain extent guard against some of the effects of fluctuation as regards his rent, but it will not enable him to adopt a permanent system of culture. The variations in the breadths of wheat sown will still occasionally reduce his price below that on which his calculations are founded; and we must remember that rent is only a part of his out-goings. Again, he says—

"I think all payments as rent should be reduced to money-payments, *and the absurd, and what appears to me unfair, mode of tasking the tenant, by his finding poultry, straw-carriage, insurance, and other matters* of like nature, for the landlord, should be abolished; but, if they must be retained, they ought in the first instance to be calculated at their value, *and not imposed in addition to the rent?*"

In other words, the nonsensical and inconvenient remnants of feudalism should be abolished. So Mr. Baker bears the testimony of a practical man, against the game nuisance, when he says—

"Another great drawback upon farms is the encouragement of game beyond a limited extent. I have been connected with a parish where it was *considered the damage annually done by the game was equivalent to the sum levied by way of poor-rates.*"

Here we touch a tender subject with the squires. So of the timber, Mr. Baker says—

"The encouragement of timber in hedgerows is also exceedingly injurious to the tenant, from the exhaustion of the moisture and quality of the soil for a considerable distance, by the roots, as well as by the branches shading the crops, added to the difficulty of getting the corn into carting order in wet weather during harvest, does, *in my estimation, reduce the annual value of the land from 15 to 20 per cent.*"

And he elsewhere says that sufficient timber for repairs can always be grown without injury to the tenant. That, however, won't satisfy the landlords: they always want some advantage beyond the letter of the bond; they look to an annual fall of timber *for sale*. A witty and aristocratic spendthrift once designated timber trees as "excrescences formed by nature wherewith to pay debts," and this is the light in which they are regarded by the landowners. But it must be remembered that these excrescences are grown at *the tenant's expense.*

SECURITY OF TENURE.—We hear that two farms, the property of James Adam Gordon, Esq., of Portishead, are to be let for a term of *nineteen years.—Bath Journal.*

[Landlords are beginning to offer leases *as a substitute* for the final settlement of the Corn-Law question. Let tenants beware of being entrapped, until they see the actual result of the changes which Free Trade in corn—which cannot now be long delayed—will produce. At all events, let them make safe terms.]

MR. BENETT, M.P.—It was currently reported here, in the early part of the week, that the respected member for South Wilts was dead. We are happy to say the report is unfounded.—*Wiltshire Independent.*

MR. GEORGE THOMPSON.—We have seen a letter from Mr. George Thompson to a gentleman in this town, dated Begum's Palace, Delhi, Aug. 31st, 1843, in which he says,—"I have now been nearly two months in this city. I am on a visit to the Mogul emperor, the fallen representative of the illustrious sovereigns of Hindostan, the fruitless monuments of whose magnificence are all around me. The kings of Delhi have, for forty years, been under what is ludicrously styled the protection of the British Government, and have, till recently, been permitted to retain some of the emblems and prerogatives of sovereignty. * * He has called me to his court, and has given me many tokens of his confidence and friendship. He has appointed me his representative to the Government of England. * * * * I intend, if it be practicable, to leave Calcutta on the 14th of November, to be home early in January; but I may be a month later, and not arrive till the eve of St. Valentine's day. I hope, however, to see the triumph of the Anti-Corn-Law agitation, and to be in at the death of the landlord's law."

MORTALITY IN LONDON.—The whole number of deaths in the metropolis, as made up by the registrar-general, for the week ending last Saturday, was 1060, being 157 above the weekly average of the last five years, which was 903. A note states that, under the head "privation," is the case of a female, aged 50, who died of exhaustion from want; and, under "atrophy," the case of a child who had died from want of breast-milk, resulting from the poverty and destitution of the parents.—*London paper.*

DESTITUTION THE PARENT OF DISEASE.—Within the last few weeks, the Scotch papers have contained most melancholy accounts of the ravages which fever has been making in several of the large towns of Scotland. In Edinburgh, the number of patients is said to be great beyond all precedent. "One hospital after another has been opened for the accommodation of the ever-increasing victims" in that city, until four large buildings have been set apart for their reception; and still, we are told, "the clamorous diseased press in vain for admission." In Glasgow, the number of deaths was lately said to have been most alarming: indeed, in one part of the Calton—a district in which the poorer classes predominate—the number of funerals is said to have been "almost as great as during the cholera period, nearly all being victims to influenza or fever." In corroboration of this, it is stated that the undertaker for one district of the city of Glasgow had been called upon for 170 coffins for paupers in one week; from which it may be inferred that it prevailed chiefly among the most destitute class. In Edinburgh, it appears from a report drawn up by the physicians of the Royal Infirmary in that place, that, while the disease abounded "among the inmates of low lodging-houses, and in districts inhabited chiefly by the poorest of the people, it is comparatively little known where the more comfortable of the labouring classes principally reside." What a striking confirmation have we here of the doctrine, that destitution is the parent of disease! What a forcible illustration of the injury to health produced by a long-continued scarcity of food, and consequent want of employment, such as the country has so long been suffering under.—*Manchester Guardian.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 15, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

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Henry Nibbs Browne, 46, Baker-st., Portman-square		21	0	0
Henry Bollen, 13, St. Paul's Churchyard		1	11	6
T. E. Botterell, 6, Philpot-street, Commercial-road		1	0	0
Houghton Botterell, 57, Northumberland-place, Commercial-road		1	0	0
Peter Stainsby, 44, Finsbury-square		1	1	0
William Reynolds, Kensington Park		1	0	0
Alfred Towerzey, 10, Glasshouse-street, Regent-st...		1	1	0
James H. F. Lewis, 24, Essex-street, Strand.. ..		1	0	0
Wm. Andrews, jun., 1, Albion Villas, Liverpool-rd., Islington		1	0	0
George Arrowsmith, Perry-street, Northfleet ..		0	2	6
W. Wheeler, Perry-street, Northfleet..		0	2	6
G. Ashby, Isleworth		2	2	0
James Montgomery	Brentford..	2	2	0
W. Hammond		2	2	0
—— Cherry		1	1	0
—— Bontems		1	1	0
Charles Allen		0	10	0
Joseph Sexton		0	5	0
—— Honeybone		0	5	0
—— Whemnan		0	5	0
—— Haynes		0	2	6
—— Stephenson, jun.		0	2	6
—— Bradley		0	2	6
—— Jones, at Mr. Montgomery's		0	2	6
—— Parsons		0	2	6
—— Searle		0	2	6
James Horsfall, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.. ..		1	0	0
Mrs. Price, Abersychaw, near Pontypool, Monmouthshire		1	1	0
Dr. Robertson, Kelso-on-Tweed		1	0	0
John Wratten, Anchor and Hope, East Smithfield, London Docks		1	1	0
Wm. Proctor, Commercial-place, Old Kent-road ..		1	0	0
John Pollitt, Wicken, Newport, Essex..		1	0	0
The Rev. W. Hayward, St. Mary Hall, Oxford ..		1	0	0
Wm. Shorter, Longthorp Lodge, New-road, Hammersmith		1	0	0
Vincent Phillips, 30, Sun-street, Bishopsgate-street		1	0	0
William Hanson, Littleborough, Rochdale		1	0	0
Henry Willard, Crown Tavern, Pentonville.. ..		0	10	0
William Clark, Thornhill-place, Chalk-rd., Islington		0	5	0
John Anderson, Elephant and Castle Inn, West Gate, Wakefield		1	0	0
William Stead, druggist, do., do. .. .		0	10	0
Joseph Williamson, Horton in Craven, near Skipton		1	0	0
Peter White, North Entrance, Yarmouth, Norfolk..		1	0	0
D. Baker, Guisborough, Yorkshire		1	0	0
Isaac Hartas, Rosedale Abbey, near Kirby Moorside, Yorkshire		1	0	0
Alderman Brockett	Gateshead Free Trade Association	1	0	0
Councillor Revely		1	0	0
Councillor Potts		1	0	0
Councillor W. L. Harle		1	0	0
Councillor James Hymers		1	0	0
George Crawshay		1	0	0
J. Robson		1	0	0
Robert Pratt		1	0	0
W. W. Watson		0	10	0
Frances Bennett		0	10	0
James Clephan		0	10	0
John Fawcet		0	10	0
J. F. Brett		0	10	0
Gerald Barbor, Bilston		1	0	0
Wm. Swepson, 68, Cannon-street, City		1	1	0
Robert End, 164, Shoreditch		0	2	6
James Josiah Broad, do..		0	2	6
John Tietkens, 2, Upper Crown-street, Westminster		0	5	0
A. T..		0	1	0
W. A. B.		1	0	0
—— Kendrick, 12, Weymouth-street, New Kent-road		0	2	6
Jonas Dodgson, 127, Mill-street, Liverpool		1	0	0
James Adam, 16, Brownlow-street, Drury-lane ..		0	5	0
S. Fenner, 13, Cumberland-street, Curtain-road ..		0	2	6
Edward Kenyon, 4, Harley-place		1	0	0
John Hersey, 5, Abbey-street, Bethnal-green ..		0	2	6
J. Shee, 59, Aldermanbury		1	0	0
J. T. King, 10, Camden-street, Islington-green ..		1	2	6
G. L., do., do.		1	1	0
Edmiston and Son, 69, Strand		1	0	0
"A Widow's Mite"		1	0	0
William Hawkes, High-street, Kensington		1	0	0
H. S...		1	0	0
L. W., per Cowden Clarke, 69, Dean-street, Soho ..		0	10	0
Thomas B. Lee, Daventry		1	1	0
Henry Weston, Stockwell-place, Surrey		5	0	0
Abraham Shore	56, Wood-street, City	2	10	0
Thomas Smith		1	0	0
L. Tracy		1	0	0
The Packers in the employ of Messrs. Leach, Tweedale and Co.		1	0	0
George L. Jackson, Brook Green, Hammersmith ..		1	0	0

James Jones, 430, West Strand..	£1	0	0
W. B.	1	0	0
C. B. Sheridan, 24, Bolton-street	1	0	0
D. Silvanus, 90, Whitechapel High-street	1	0	0
James Jones, Ilfracombe..	1	1	0
John Phipps, Crowle, near Worcester	1	0	0
William Cox, 9, Glasshouse-street, Regent-street	1	1	0
R. K. Lane, 8, Robert-street, Fulham-road	1	0	0
Robert Cooper, Maidstone	1	0	0
W. Allen, 62, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square..	1	0	0
James Abbey	1	0	0
John Larcoch, 45, Clarendon-square	0	2	6
John Teesdale, jun., 21, Cannon-street, City..	0	2	6
H. W. Teesdale, do., do.	0	2	6
James Owen, 10, Boundary-street, Liverpool	1	1	0
C. Conway, jun., Pontrhydyrun Works, Newport, Monmouthshire	1	0	0
J. and J. Angus, Horsham	1	0	0
C. Gillett, 1, Gutter-lane..	0	2	6
—— Parr, 4, Abchurch-lane	0	5	0
E. Seaman, Water-lane, Fleet-street	0	2	6
Wm. Southern, Broseley, near Ironbridge, Salop	1	0	0
J. Adderley, draper, Market-place, Loughborough	1	0	0
Joseph Gaskins, 143, Suffolk-street, Birmingham	1	0	0
Wm. Hodges, 81, St. Swithin's-lane, City	0	2	6
W. Lewis, Nelson-street, City-road	0	2	6
A. N. Wornum, Bedford-place, Hampstead-road	1	1	0
Thomas Ruston, 25, Mark-lane..	1	1	0
John Toone (Salisbury)	1	0	0
Sarah Toone (Salisbury)	0	5	0
John Vidler Toone (Salisbury)	0	5	0
Joseph Vidler Toone (Salisbury)	0	5	0
William Watts (Salisbury)	0	2	6
Mary Lush (Salisbury)	0	2	6
Robert Warner, 19, Charter House-square	5	5	0
Chas. Venables, 13, Newall's-buildings, Liverpool-rd.	0	2	6
Small Sums	0	3	0

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. R." complains that the fiscal burthens of the country are borne by its industry, and not imposed upon the land. He will find a full account of the wrongs inflicted on industry by the system of taxation established in the reign of Charles II., and brought fully into action after the great national delusion of the Revolution, in a clever pamphlet by Mr. Hilditch, called "Aristocratic Taxation."

"A Conservative" complains that pork is not protected by the sliding scale, though the food for fattening the pigs is. He den ands protection for "the swinish multitude." We recommend to him Porson's Catechism addressed to that body, where he will find it laid down that their chief duty is "to save their bacon."

"A. S. M." has been received; Ripon is not forgotten.

"A Sheffielder" will find on consideration that the greatest evil connected with the Poor Laws is the necessity which the Corn Laws have created for their existence.

"E. S." has called our attention to the effects of the Corn Laws on the millers; he says that they ought to be permitted to grind foreign corn, and that the importation of corn would increase their business. We quite agree in his views, and can only express our regret at the determination of our rulers to grind the millers, instead of leaving the millers free to grind all the grain that might be brought to their mills.

"J. J." has sent us a pamphlet in defence of the Corn Laws; it is a case for the physician, not the critic.

"One of the People" has too much reason in his rhyme, and the law of which he complains has neither rhyme nor reason.

We cannot answer "G. W.'s" question respecting Lord Brougham's sanity.

"F. F." inquires whether Sir Robert Peel has yet bought his promised bull; this we cannot answer, but we know that he has made several.

Communications of "Cash" are always welcome.

"Day-book" reveals the system of credit by which the small shopkeepers in agricultural boroughs are often plundered: but, instead of throwing the blame on the unfortunate farm-labourers, he should rather bestow censure on the shopkeepers themselves, who, by voting for monopolists, protract the existence of a system which crushes industry, and deprives themselves of ready-money customers.

"A Merchant" asserts that what is called "the shipping interest" did not support Mr. Baring by their votes at the late election, but remained *neutral*. The virtue of neutrality, in this instance, consists in seeing the right, talking for the wrong, and doing nothing. As our correspondent is a commercial man, he can easily estimate the marketable value of such virtue.

"Justus" sends us two questions from Padstow, which he has answered for himself in words that would lead us to doubt his sanity:—"You think it right that the land should be taxed for the support of the poor and the ways, and the produce not protected. I think, if corn is free, the land that grows it ought to be free." Land is taxed, and so is every other kind of realized property; but land is not taxed in anything like the proportion to which it ought constitutionally to be subjected. The tax upon produce is levied on the consumer, and he is called upon, in the first instance, to pay an undue proportion; and, in the second, to aid in paying the landlord's proportion. Other classes beside the landed proprietors pay poor-rates, though, equitably, they have no right to do so, for, by original law, the land is bound to the support of all born upon it. Nearly one-half of the poor-rates in this country is paid out of the accumulated profits of industry and the capital invested in the encouragement of labour. With respect to highways, &c., the landlords only pay a very small per centage on the amount of benefits conferred upon their estates. He next says, "If I put one thousand pounds in a ship, or in a mercantile concern, it pays to the support of neither the poor or the ways.—If I put one thousand pounds in land, it pays to poor, ways, &c. &c." If Justus invests his money in a ship, he will find that he has to pay very largely on all his freights for the support of lights, for the maintenance of docks, anchorage-grounds, and safety harbours. Though he may not be taxed for the support of the poor, he will be fleeced to his heart's content for the luxuries of the rich, as he will soon find when he looks at the port-charges of any harbour in Great Britain.

"1, 2, 3," the question proposed to us must be solved by a civilian, not by a political economist.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, November* 18, 1843.

In our next number we shall have to record the result of the SALISBURY ELECTION. A word more to the electors, while the decision is still trembling in the balance.

We tell them, as we have previously told the constituencies of the Metropolis and of Kendal, that they will vote, on the present occasion, under a weight of responsibility greater than has attended any former, or is likely to attend any future, exercise of their franchise. They have gone with a crowd one way, and they may hereafter go with a crowd another way. The present is a time of unsettlement and transition, when each single election has unusual influence upon the policy of the Government and the condition of the people. At a period of this description, the possession of the franchise imposes moral duties of the most serious and solemn description. Every individual should make the use of his privilege a point of conscience, and act up to his convictions as in the presence of his Maker, and about to answer for his deeds. For the people at large to be kept in all the misery which they endure, and which freedom of trade would remove, through the ignorance of electors, would be a sore calamity; but for that misery to be prolonged through the indifference, the inconsistency, or the cowardice of electors, would be a foul crime. The Salisbury voters have not the power, on the one hand, of arresting the Anti-Corn-Law agitation; but they *have* the power, on the other, of contributing materially towards a speedy and satisfactory settlement. They can give monopoly its third warning. From their locality it will resound as a death-peal. All parties will feel that the end is at hand, and will prepare themselves for such an adjustment as will leave the country at liberty to renew its course of commercial enterprise and progressive prosperity.

Let the Salisbury electors look to the late meeting in Manchester. They may emulate that splendid demonstration. The votes that win their own election will not tell less for the cause of Free Trade and universal justice than subscriptions of hundreds and thousands of pounds sterling. The merchants of Manchester, with their ample donations, call on the poorest elector in Salisbury for the efficient co-operation which his vote will render. To use Mr. Cobden's metaphor, Manchester is laid alongside of Salisbury. They are one for one common cause—the cause of national industry; of all industry, whether manufacturing, trading, or agricultural. The power of Manchester is in Salisbury, for protection to the injured, and for punishment to the guilty. Let the electors think of this, when it is attempted either to seduce them, or to intimidate. These are not vain words, trumpeted for a temporary occasion. This is no humbug of the hustings. The tempter and the oppressor shall find, to their cost, that what is said will be done. Our £100,000 fund is realizing more rapidly than the £50,000 of last year; and money shall cure the electoral vices that money has engendered. It has been the agency of Corruption; it is now a sacrifice to JUSTICE. Under the broad shield of Justice let the electors go boldly to the poll.

The London papers continue to be filled with terrible cases of metropolitan destitution, and with recommendations to help poor workpeople by almsgiving. We have noticed this matter, and shall soon return to it. Almsgiving, indeed! Give them their rights, and they will not need an alms. Is the bread tax or the sugar duty remitted to the needlewoman that stitches a shirt for five farthings? The difference to her in work, wages, and outlay, is worth much more to her than the chance of charity from the poor's box of a police office. Men of Salisbury, help us, as London has tried to help itself in this and hundreds of similar enormities. Vote for Bouverie and justice; for independence, purity, and Free Trade. Achieve the triumph you will deserve, and earn the blessings of your country.

CURRENT INCIDENTS.

The state prosecution against O'Connell and others is virtually at an end, the Crown being beaten by a blunder of its law officers in not swearing the witnesses, examined by the grand jury to support the indictments in open court. There can be no doubt but that this informality will be fatal. The Irish Attorney-General has conducted the proceedings on the system adopted by *sharp-practice attorneys*, but without their ability or temper.——The British Association has, since its establishment, expended £83 000 in scientific investigations. ——The stock of bullion held by the Bank of England during the four weeks ending the 14th of October was £12,086,000, showing a decrease of £164,000, as compared with the preceding month; and an increase of £2,285,000, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. ——The Swiss journals mention that a meeting of delegates from the Société Industrielle of some of the largest and most important of the Cantons was lately held at Goffingen, at which resolutions were agreed to for the purpose of abolishing the system of custom-houses between the different Cantons. It is pleasant to find the system of Free Trade gaining ground everywhere.——In 1842 there were no less than 450 steamers plying on the Mississippi, making an aggregate of 90,000 tons of shipping built at a cost of 7,000,000 dollars. The increase has been 130 per cent. in eight years.——A Titian Venus of surpassing beauty, is stated to have been recovered from among a number of old pictures at Dresden, where it had laid unnoticed for a century.——7000 Christian slaves have been liberated from galling bondage at the intercession of Capt. Harris, late ambassador to Abyssinia, whilst hundreds of doomed Pagan prisoners, taken in the bloody forays witnessed by the British embassy, were set at large through the same mediation. Several members of the royal house of Shoa, and princes of the blood, whom a barbarous policy has, since the days of Solomon, doomed to chains and a living grave, have been liberated.——In effecting some repairs in the old castle of Burghausen, in Bavaria, a secret chamber has been discovered, in which was found a quantity of wheat, placed there, as appears from an inscription lying with it, in 1595. The corn was in a tolerable state, and bread made from the flour was perfectly eatable. Both corn and flour had a blueish tinge.——Louis Philippe, it is rumoured, will visit England in 1844.——We have had a little peep into Paraguay. Consistent in its policy, the legislature, such as it is, has refused to make any commercial treaties, or tolerate any religion but the Roman Catholic. 'Tis the very paradise of exclusiveness. We wish some of the Irish Orangemen were there for a month or two, to see how they would like a touch of their own tyranny.——On the 8th ult., at two a.m., a severe shock of earthquake was sensibly felt at Messina. Many of the inhabitants got up and walked the streets till daybreak. ——The Sultan and the Pacha of Egypt are again at variance. The former, it seems, had announced to Mehemet, that, with a view to lighten his labours and cares, he had resolved to spare him the trouble of governing Sennaar, and had appointed Achmed Pacha to be the governor (Achmed paying the Sultan 1,000,000 dollars "down on the nail," and agreeing to pay him 200 000 annually). Mehemet was just as grateful for the kindness as might have been expected.——The ship canal to Pelusium, it is said, will be carried into execution forthwith, by the Pacha of Egypt.——About the middle of September, a belt of country, extending from the right bank of the Ganges across the Dooab, and penetrating over the Jumna into Gwalior, was laid waste by locusts. Every vestige of cultivation was destroyed. The noise of the locusts in their flight was like distant thunder; and when they alighted they broke down branches of trees with their weight.——The whale fishery of the United States employs 654 vessels, with a tonnage of 204,218 tons.——Prince Polignac with his family has arrived in Paris, where he proposes to pass the winter.——On Wednesday week, while the great bell of the cathedral of Notre Dame was being rung, the clapper gave way, and the enormous mass fell down through two floors of the tower, and lodged on the third.——A few days since, whilst all the waiters at one of the restaurateurs on the Boulevards were engaged in attending on customers in the cabinets, which were crowded, some one entered the room where the plate was kept, and took off without being observed, 105 silver spoons and as many forks, and 12 gravy-spoons and soup-ladles.——The number of horses in France in 1810 was 2,498,137; in 1825, 2,423,702; and in 1840, 2,318,495. Thus, whilst the population has nearly doubled, the number of horses remains about the same.——For some days back several acts of vandalism have been committed in the gardens and park of Versailles. On Friday all the fingers of one of the hands of the Venus of the Tapis-Vert were broken off, as well as the head and arms of the child held by Hercules.——The town of St. Calais (Sarthe) has been laid under water by the overflowing of the Anille, caused by the late heavy rains. The river began to overflow its banks on the 8th, and soon rose three metres. The bridges were entirely covered, and all communications were intercepted between the streets, except in boats.——On the night of October 31, the gable-end of a house in the hamlet of Voyette (Eure-et-Loire), belonging to a man named Barre, fell down on the loft of a stable in which six of his children slept, and breaking through the roof killed five of them. A boy of eight years of age alone escaped.——The French brig the Louis, of St. Brieux, from Newfoundland, laden with cod, and bound for Marseilles, was driven ashore near the mouth of the Llobregat on the 30th ult. Although the inhabitants gave every assistance to the crew, five of them perished. The commander of the French station at Barcelona sent out the Papin steamer to save the cable, chains, anchors, &c.——The Spanish Cortes have declared the Queen of age by a majority of 193 to 16. Narvaez was fired at on the 6th inst. in the streets of Madrid. He escaped unhurt, but one of his aide-de-camps was killed. Seven shots were fired.——The Duchess of Orleans and the Princes, her two sons, are settled for the winter in the Pavilion Marsan of the Tuileries.——The editor of the Legitimatist journal *La France* was tried on Thursday before the Cour d'Assizes, "for publishing seditious libels," and acquitted.——A furnace chimney, in construction at the cotton manufactory of M. Delsalle, in the Rue Princesse, at Lille, fell suddenly, crushed three labourers to death, and injured three others. ——Accounts have been received at Dunkirk of the death at Nosbey (Island of Bourbon), in June last, of Lieutenant Jean Pierre Bart, commander of the Sarcelle, and last descendant of the celebrated Jean Bart. The lieutenant died of a *coup de soleil*. ——A conspiracy has been discovered at Brailoff, in Wallachia, the object of which was to poison the army and massacre the boyards. The conspirators were in connexion with the Christians of Bulgaria.——Doctor A. Petit, who was sent on a scientific mission to Abyssinia by the Museum of Natural History of Paris, in crossing one of the branches of the Blue Nile, was seized by a crocodile and devoured.——The number of persons who entered and quitted France by Boulogne, in the week ending Thursday last, was 820, and by Calais 242. The number in the corresponding week last year was—Boulogne, 782; Calais, 268.——A trial of speed between the Great Western and the American steamer of war Princeton is very minutely described in the United States papers. The result was a decided victory by the Princeton, though it is said the Great Western sailed faster than on any former occasion. The Americans, as might be supposed, have not lost so excellent an opportunity of displaying their talent for boasting, and speak of the victory in much the same terms as would have been used had they conquered an important province.——The drying of the moat that surrounds the Tower is now finished, and sewers have been excavated for the purpose of carrying off the soil from this ancient citadel into the river. Next spring trees are to be planted all round, and the whole will be well gravelled, so as to form an agreeable promenade and esplanade for the troops. Since the water has been drained off there has scarcely been any sickness in the garrison, which formerly was always attacked with fever and ague, in consequence of the miasma rising from the putrid state of the water in the moat. New and capacious barracks have been built on the site of the celebrated armoury, lately destroyed by fire. The present barracks are to be transformed into warehouses. It is the intention of Government for the future to have all the arms kept in the Arsenal of Woolwich.——The 10th anniversary of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society was on last Tuesday evening celebrated at the White Conduit Tavern, when upwards of 550 members of the trade sat down to an excellent dinner.——Two years ago steel umbrella frames were imported from Germany, which superseded the clumsier article then in common use, and threatened the home manufacture with ruin. But, unlike the farmer, or the barbers when wigs went out of fashion, the umbrella-makers, instead of running to Parliament for "protection," set their wits to work to contrive a superior article to that of Germany, and soon succeeded, thereby preserving their position in the English market. ——There is now no private bank in Scotland: the last, the Greenock Bank, has merged into the Western Bank of Scotland. ——On Tuesday an estate in Tennessee, U. S., of 12,470 acres of land, with oak timber, minerals, &c., was offered for sale at the Auction Mart. The auctioneer did not obtain a single bidding, although the sale had been extensively advertised.——There had been revolutionary movements at Tarifa, Algesiras, Vigo, and Seville. At the last-mentioned place, by the latest accounts, several sergeants of the King's squadron had been arrested, together with some of the townspeople, implicated in an attempt to revolutionize the city, and proclaim the Central Junta. The activity of the authorities had repressed these attempts.——The opening of the Cortes was celebrated at Cadiz by the singing of a solemn *Te Deum*, at which all the authorities, civil and military, assisted. Of the townspeople few were present. The interior looked more like a parade, so full was it of garrison officers. In Seville the republican party was growing rapidly, having derived much strength from the recent outrages on the constitution. Vigo was to capitulate on the 11th inst., and to be taken possession of by the National Guards and the regular troops. General Yriarte, with 1000 men, had escaped into Portugal, where they were disarmed. Twenty officers took refuge on board the Lady Mary Wood.——The Sacred Harmonic Society has commenced its winter season with the production of Handel's oratorio of "Deborah," a work which has not been played entire for a long series of years. It is one of that master's earlier oratorios, and was first played at the King's Theatre in 1733. The experiment

has proved a most successful one.——When the Ministry of which M. Thiers was the head brought forward the plan of fortifying Paris, it was asserted that any projectiles thrown from the detached forts could never reach the city. It is now ascertained that only one-fifth of the capital is beyond the reach of the bombshells and bullets of the forts, and chance has willed it that this privileged part is precisely the Palais Royal, the Bank, the Exchange, the Place Vendome, the Opera, Chaussée d'Antin, the Faubourg St. Honoré, the Place St. George's, the Tuileries, and the hotel of the Minister of Finance.——Some of the islands adjacent to Greece, encouraged by the late revolution, are seeking a change in their government, and Turkey is obliged to be on the alert.——Italy is far from tranquil; but the Pope will neither make concessions nor accept of foreign aid.——On the Dublin and Kingston line passengers are carried in one of the trains at the rate of half a farthing per mile. Before they reduced their fares, shares were at eighteen per cent. discount; now they bear seven per cent. premium, and the passengers increased two hundred thousand.——A match at chess, for 200 guineas, is about to be played, this month, at Paris, between Mr. Staunton, of London, and M. St. Amant. The first who wins eleven games wins the match.——That magnificent edifice, Luton Hoo, one of the seats of the Marquis of Bute, has been reduced, in the course of a few hours, to a mass of smoking ruins, with the exception of only a small portion of the fabric. The mansion stood on an eminence in Luton Hoo Park, which was laid out by the celebrated "Capability Brown;" and a few years ago it had been greatly enlarged and embellished. The river Lea runs through the grounds in a circuitous and picturesque manner, forming in its progress two extensive sheets of water. Upon the origin of the calamity it is not easy to give any positive opinion. The supposition is, that it was caused by some embers which had been left on the roof of the hall, where some plumbers were at work, and had a fire, on the preceding Wednesday.——At the recent quarter sessions held at Folkestone, Deal, Hythe, and Dymchurch, there were no cases for trial; and at Sandwich there was only one case. At Dover the calendar was so light that the business of the court was over by half-past one o'clock on the first day of the sessions; and at St. Augustine's, Canterbury, the business was over by four o'clock.——There is a journeyman smith working at the chain-cable foundry, Greenock, upwards of 101 years of age.——The immigration into Canada this year exhibits a very marked falling off, viz., from 43,699 to 20,744 persons; still the latter is, under the circumstances, rather a large number. In New Brunswick the weather had been rather unfavourable.——Two iron revenue steamers and an iron steam frigate are in preparation for the American Government at Pittsburgh. The sloop-of-war Portsmouth was launched at Portsmouth, United States, a few days ago.——At present Germany possesses twenty-two different railways, the whole length of which is 440 German leagues, which have cost 132,000,000 Rhenish florins.——In the United States Senate, during the next session, there will be—Whigs, 28; Locofocos, or Democrats, 24; Whig majority, 4.——News has been brought by the schooner Triumph, which arrived on Tuesday afternoon from Sierra Leone, that the day before she left the port of Goree it was reported that the natives had risen on the French residents at Senegal. Two of the French inhabitants were killed, and 40 of the natives. Three French men-of-war, lying at Goree, were immediately despatched to their assistance.——Mr. Fox, the British Minister at Washington, has been dangerously (so it is said) ill of the bilious fever. His health is now improving.——Professor Dwight, of Yale College, United States, was killed a few days since by a student named Fassit.——The greatest uneasiness and alarm prevail among the merchants connected with the Mexican trade, on account of the last intelligence received from the Republic. A decree made its appearance that all foreign shopkeepers who did not marry natives within the space of six months must give up their business. The merchants are anticipating the very worst in the way of prohibition from the new tariff. The effect of this alarm has completely paralyzed the trade; and, looking for nothing from the Mexican Government but decrees bringing utter destruction to commerce, the merchants have ceased to ship their goods, which remain on hand without any certain destination, while the premiums on insurance are rising on the supposition that the voyage to Mexico is accompanied by increased risk.—Latest news from Mexico states that no reconciliation appears to have been effected between Santa Anna and the British Ambassador.——The United States papers are principally filled with electioneering matters. Mr. Webster is to be the candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the Whig interest.——At New Orleans the yellow fever still prevailed, as it did also at Mobile; but the epidemic was much more virulent at the latter place, and the number of deaths is stated to be on the increase.——General Bertrand, so devotedly attached to Napoleon, had arrived at New York, and had received from the citizens and corporation the liveliest marks of respect.——On Monday, the judges of the Irish Court of Queen's Bench refused to grant a copy of the caption attached to the indictment against one of the repeal traversers. The refusal, however, was not unanimous—the three Tory-appointed judges dedided against the application, while Mr. Justice Perrin was of an opposite opinion.——At the usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association, some important documents, bearing on the state of Ireland, were read. The amount of repeal rent for the week slightly exceeded £1000.——Queen Isabella II. of Spain took the oaths on the 10th inst., before the two chambers assembled in the Hall of the Senate. Her Majesty was everywhere received with the utmost enthusiasm.——Messrs. Broadwood, the pianoforte-makers, recently gave £3000 for three logs of mahogany, the produce of a single tree.——It is in contemplation at Carmarthen to establish a model farm after the model of Karl Ducie's and other similar establishments in England, for the advancement of agriculture in the district. W. Williams, Esq., M.P. for Coventry, has promised a subscription of £200 for this purpose.——Mr. Peake, one of her Majesty's messengers attached to the Foreign office, was found dead on Thursday morning at the door of his own residence in Lambeth.——Two extra *Gazettes* have been published this week, on account of the great number of notices for private bills which are to be introduced in the ensuing session of Parliament, and which, according to law, must be advertised in the *Gazette* beforehand.——The Belgian Parliament met last Tuesday, when the King opened the session with a speech, which was of purely local interest.——The first sale of foreign provisions by public auction took place on Wednesday last, in Pudding-lane. The sale consisted of 59 tierces of beef, which were sold at 68s. per cwt.——Liverpool has been astonished by the sudden announcement, that a capacious tidal harbour, and a vast floating dock, are to be formed at Birkenhead, on the Cheshire shore of the Mersey. As soon as the news reached the great Lancashire port, the excitement was unprecedented. The tidal basin is to have an area of forty acres—three times the extent of Prince's Dock at Liverpool; and it will never have a less depth of water than twelve feet; the gated dock will have an area of a hundred and twenty acres, a space exceeding that of all the docks in Liverpool. On Monday evening a crowded meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Wolverhampton, to memorialize the Queen to dismiss her Ministers. The speakers referred to the conduct of the Ministers towards Ireland, where they had, it was alleged, violated the constitutional liberty of the subject, and where they were employing the taxes levied from the English—and particularly the income-tax—in suppressing liberty. The speeches were loudly applauded, and resolutions disapproving of the conduct of the Ministers, and memorializing the Queen to dismiss them, were almost unanimously agreed to.——We hear that it is the intention of Lieutenant Munro, principal in the late fatal duel, to surrender and take his trial forthwith, and that Mr. Thesiger is retained for his defence.——The French Mint has just struck a very fine medal, in commemoration of the visit of Queen Victoria to the Chateau d'Eu. On the obverse is the profile of the young Sovereign of Great Britain, and on the reverse the following legend:—"S. M. Victoria, Reine d'Angleterre, visite S. M. Louis Philippe, Roi des Francais, au Chateau d'Eu, en Septembre, 1843." The die was cut by M. Borrel.——Mount Etna was, at the close of last month, throwing out volumes of flames.

REVIEW.

Reports of the Special Commissioners on the Employment of Women and Children in Agriculture. Published by authority. Parker, London.

This report is the result of the labours of a commission appointed by the present Government to *prevent* the acquisition of accurate information respecting the condition of the agricultural labourers and their families. The commission was limited to thirty days, two of which were necessarily spent by Mr. Alfred Austin in going from and returning to London, so that only seven days were allotted for each of the four counties, viz., Wilts, Dorset, Devon, and Somerset, which he was appointed to examine. The simple statement of this fact is sufficient to show that the commission was in itself a fraud, and designed to be a delusion in its results. Fortunately for the country the commissioners were able and honest men; they exerted themselves sedulously to make the most of the very limited time which had been allowed them, and, though their labours are necessarily incomplete, they still throw much valuable light on the condition of the farm-labourer, and reveal to us further proofs of the intense suffering produced by the gigantic monopoly of the Corn Laws.

Every one remembers the outcry raised about the condition of the factory operatives some years ago, and the horrible tales which were circulated respecting the tyranny of millowners and master manufacturers. The utter falsehood and absurdity of these calumnies having been demonstrated by the report of a body of commissioners, and by the results of an inquiry before a committee of the House of Commons, it might reasonably have been supposed that the matter would be set at rest; but hypocrisy and pretended humanity having raised themselves for the nonce to the dignity of a fourth estate of the realm, the Ministers of the day deemed it prudent to treat those whom their own commissioners had acquitted, as convicts, and to create a system of inspection for the prevention of evils which their own published reports demonstrated to have no existence.

Of course we give no credit to the insinuation that this concession to prejudiced and interested clamour was caused in a great degree by a desire to provide for a respectable but not very conciliatory gentleman, who having, when warden of London University College, brought the institution to the brink of ruin by his quarrels with the professors, could not be safely trusted with any office requiring prudence, temper, and discretion, and was therefore appointed inspector of factories, where such moral qualifications were quite unnecessary. It is not to be supposed that a job would be perpetrated to get rid of an irritable claimant, and send him to display his temper at the risk of the most important branch of our national industry, even though mill-owners, ashamed of their order, and ignorant of the social dignity of their class, displayed greater apathy and subserviency than that which was manifested by many manufacturers of Lancashire when they were declared by act of Parliment unfit to be intrusted with the government of their own workpeople, to whom they gave employment and paid wages. We should rather look upon the concession as part of the system of conciliation adopted at the period by the popular leaders—a system which consisted in complimenting away the rights of the people as a bribe for vested interests to give up some fractional portions of hereditary oppression.

Whatever was the cause of its origin, the system of factory inspection worked less mischief, and produced infinitely more good, than its authors intended. From very shame the Government could not refuse to inquire into the greater social evils alleged to exist in mines and metal-works; they then issued a second commission to inquire into the condition of the mining population, and the labours of the commissioners brought to light a mass of moral and physical misery, such as it had never entered into the imagination of man to conceive.

Investigation had acquitted the mill-owners, and yet they were degraded by having the stigma of inspection branded on their order: investigation had convicted the mine-owners not only of all that was charged, but of infinitely more than was even suspected, and yet no one ventured to propose a system of inspection for collieries. The reason was, of course, apparent: mill-owners were mere men of the middle class, who had no Parliamentary influence, no hold on the world of fashion, no recognised rank in the state, and little or no sense of proper pride which would induce them to stand by their order; in fact, many of them, by crouching to the aristocracy, seemed to court oppression; they loved a lord for the same reason that Eloise assigned for loving Abelard, because stripes were laid on their shoulders when they had not learned their lesson. The inconsistency was, however, too glaring not to strike the plain sense of the thinking people of England; the hypocrisy of the late pretended pity for women and children employed in laborious and unwholesome occupations was too apparent, and our rulers felt that in an evil hour they had virtually shown that the infliction of intense physical suffering, and the brutalities of demoralizing toil, were aristocratic privileges reserved expressly for men of land, fashion, and title—luxuries for noble houses, which men of inferior rank should not presume to share.

There was an uneasy consciousness that an agricultural inquiry, honestly undertaken and impartially executed, would lead to the same result; but the precedents which they themselves had been so eager to establish rendered it impossible for the most bronzed faces to refuse investigation; the only artifice left was to set such limits to the inquiry as would render complete investigation physically impossible. Thanks to the honesty of the commissioners, who felt that the duty which they owed their country was a weightier obligation than the wishes of their immediate employers, some valuable truths were collected, and materials supplied for at least an imperfect sketch of the condition of our agricultural population. Let us first take a glance at the dwellings of the farm labourers:—

"Cottages generally have only two bed-rooms (with very rare exceptions); a great many have only one. The consequence is, that it is very often extremely difficult, if not impossible, to divide a family, so that grown-up persons of different sexes, brothers and sisters, fathers and daughters, do not sleep in the same room. Three or four persons not unfrequently sleep in the same bed. In a few instances I found that two families, neighbours, arranged so that the females of both families slept together in one cottage, and the males in the other; but such an arrangement is very rare; and in the generality of cottages I believe that the only attempt that is or that can be made to separate beds, with occupants of different sexes, and necessarily placed close together from the smallness of the rooms, is an old shawl, or some article of dress, suspended as a curtain between them. At Stourpain, a village near Blandford, I measured a bed-room in a cottage consisting of two rooms—the bed-room in question up stairs, and a room on the ground-floor, in which the family lived during the day. There were eleven in the family; and the aggregate earnings in money were 16s. 6d. weekly (Dec. 1842), with certain advantages, the principal being the father's title to a grist of a bushel of corn a week, at 1s. below the market price, his fuel carted for him, &c. They had also an allotment of a quarter of an acre, for which they paid a rent of 7s. 7d. a year."

But this is not all. Mr. Austin has further evidence to give of the *comforts* of those for whose protection it is asserted that the Corn Laws were enacted:—

"It is impossible not to be struck, in visiting the dwellings of the agricultural labourers, with the general want of new cottages, notwithstanding the universal increase of population. Everywhere the cottages are old, and frequently in a state of decay, and are consequently ill adapted for their increased number of inmates of late years. The floor of the room in which the family live during the day is always of stone in these counties, and wet or damp through the winter months, being frequently lower than the soil outside. The situation of the cottage is often extremely bad, no attention having been paid at the time of its building to facilities for draining. Cottages are frequently erected on a dead level, so that water cannot escape; and sometimes on spots lower than the surrounding ground. In the village of Stourpain, in Dorsetshire, there is a row of several labourers' cottages, mostly joining each other, and fronting the street, in the middle of which is an open gutter. There are two or three narrow passages leading from the street, between the houses, to the back of them. Behind the cottages the ground rises rather abruptly; and about three yards up the elevation are placed the pigsties and privies of the cottages. There are also shallow excavations, the receptacles apparently of all the dirt of the families. The matter constantly escaping from the pigsties, privies, &c., is allowed to find its way through the passages between the cottages into the gutter in the street, so that the cottages are nearly surrounded by streams of filth. It was in these cottages that a malignant typhus broke out about two years ago, which afterwards spread through the village."

Let us glance at the moral results of this system:—

"The morality of the agricultural labourer is a subject to which my inquiry did not extend, nor had I sufficient opportunities of making any satisfactory inquiry respecting it; but certain things forced themselves upon my attention, and amongst others the consequences of the want of accommodation in their dwellings for sleeping. The sleeping of boys and girls, young men and young women, in the same room, in beds almost touching one another, must have the effect of breaking down the great barriers between the sexes—the sense of modesty and decency on the part of women, and respect for the other sex on the part of the men. The consequences of the want of proper accommodation for sleeping in the cottages are seen in the early licentiousness of the rural districts—licentiousness which has not always respected the family relationship. It appeared to me that generally the accommodation for sleeping is such as necessarily to create an early and illicit familiarity between the sexes; for universally in the villages where the cottages are the most crowded, there are the greatest number of illegitimate children, and also the greatest depravity of manners generally."

Among the calumnies vented against the factory system, when it suited the monopolists to raise a cry against manufacturers for the purpose of diverting public attention from the iniquity of the Corn Laws, none was more frequently put forward, and none was more decisively refuted by the reports of the commissioners, than that factory labour interfered with the valuable virtues that arise from the ties of family and the domestic affections. Let us see what the agricultural report states on this subject:—

"A great many women accustomed to work in the fields, like other women of the same class, are unable to read and write, or if to do either, it is very imperfectly.

This is more particularly the case with women above thirty; but generally, even where they have been taught to read and write, the women of the agricultural labouring class are in a state of ignorance affecting the daily welfare and comforts of their families. Ignorance of the commonest things, needlework, cooking, and other matters of domestic economy, is described as nearly universally prevalent; and when any knowledge of such things is possessed by the wife of a labourer, it is generally to be traced to the circumstance of her having, before marriage, lived as a servant in a farm-house or elsewhere. A girl brought up in a cottage until she marries, is generally ignorant of nearly everything she ought to be acquainted with for the comfortable and economical management of a cottage. The effects of such ignorance are seen in many ways, but in no one more striking than its hindering girls from getting out to service, as they are not capable of doing anything that is required in a family of a better description. The further effect of this is, that not being able to find a place, a young woman goes into the field to labour, with which ends all chance of improving her position; she marries, and brings up her daughters in the same ignorance, and their lives are a repetition of her own.

"There are other consequences, however, resulting from the women working in the fields, besides those affecting their own physical or moral condition, and these consist in certain disadvantages to her family.

"When the mother of young children is absent from home the whole or greater part of the day, the mischief to them is very great. They are neglected in every way, morally and physically. Under the most favourable circumstances, they may be left in the care of a grandmother or aunt; but the more common way is to leave them in the custody of the eldest boy or girl, of eight or nine years old, or in that of a girl, of the same age or a little older, hired for the purpose. Sometimes, however, her children are locked up in the cottage, without unybody to take charge of them at all. Where a girl is hired to take care of children, she is paid about ninepence a week, and has her food beside, which is a serious deduction from the wages of the woman at work.

"When children are locked up by themselves, sometimes the most fatal accidents happen, those from fire amongst others. One woman, accustomed all her life to work in the fields, and a most excellent specimen of her class, industrious, careful, and thriving, and having, moreover, a large family, told me—'I have always left my children to themselves, and, God be praised! nothing has ever happened to them, though I have thought it dangerous. I have many a time come home and have thought it a mercy to find nothing has happened to them.'"

We have here a very faint picture of the evils to which the agricultural population is subjected by the system which hypocrites declare to have been devised for their protection. But we must not forget that this is the evidence of reluctant witnesses; that the most palpable artifices were used to prevent the inquiry from being complete; and that other incidental investigations (for instance, the Constabulary report) show that these evils are not partial but universal. We are therefore not surprised that a monopolist Government, supported by a monopolist majority in the Legislature, should use every means at its command to stifle investigation, for the voice of Truth has declared—"Men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil."

Religion in the United States of America. By the Rev. Robert Baird. Glasgow: Blackie and Co. London: Duncan and Co.

In our last number we called attention to the unwearied energy, determined spirit, and manly independence manifested by the Anglo-Saxon race under circumstances which would have broken down the moral powers of any other population with which history has made us acquainted. We showed that the hardy Saxon foresters and yeomen, when their country was betrayed by cowardly peers and selfish prelates to the titled Normans, still asserted their claim to the heritage of freedom, and, in the midst of what seemed hopeless defeat, began a struggle which has scarcely known intermission during eight centuries, but which has daily won from the cause of aristocratic privilege a portion of their ancient inheritance to be added to the rights of the people. We are not ashamed of the Saxon race to which we belong—no, not even when we see some of our brethren won by the fripperies of feudalism to sell their birthright for admission into circles where they are derided, and reception at tables where they are scorned. We feel sympathy with the triumphs of Anglo-Saxon industry, intelligence, and integrity, wherever they are manifested, whether in resisting the open force and corrupting intrigues of feudalism in Europe, or contending with all the difficulties of soil, climate, and solitariness in the wilds of America.

Efforts have been made to break the links of sympathy which unite us with the country which has been raised from the condition of a neglected province to high rank among nations, in a space of time within the memory of men alive. But we, who regard the Americans as "bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh," rejoice that a scion from the same Anglo-Saxon stock as ourselves, has become the source of civilization to half a globe, and based on the foundations of successful industry and social happiness an empire tenfold more extensive, and a thousand times more prosperous, than that of Alexander, or of Cæsar, or of Charlemagne. We feel interested, sincerely, fondly interested, in the history of American progress, for it is the history of the triumphs of our own national character, our own national blood, and our own national race, where circumstances afforded full scope for the free exercise of its energies and its activities.

It is true that travellers have come home to us from the United States, and informed us that in several of the American cities there are families, respectable from industry, sedulously labouring to render themselves ridiculous by aping the fashions of feudal aristocracy, and by adopting the conventional habits of a state of society which they cannot successfully imitate, and which it would be all the worse for them if they succeeded in imitating. We have been told that New York, like Liverpool, can show those who are ashamed of the industry that enriched them, and who are ready to barter away, in political corruption, the integrity which was the pride of their commercial life. But we protest against such men being represented as the types of the general American character, just as we should protest against Lord Sandon's wooden Bible being taken for the symbol of English religion—the breaking up of the Liverpool corporation schools being received as a specimen of English charity—or the transactions of the monopolist jobbers as examples of English honesty. In such matters there might easily be an exchange of American and English "notes," and we doubt if England would always be the gainer. If brother Jonathan does not give sufficient heed to the dancing-master and the posture-master, he has learned to dispense with the tithe-collector and the exciseman; and though we may offend the delicate sensibilities of a Trollope or a Marryat, we should be content to forego all the figures of quadrille, and all the attitudes of waltz, to save our countrymen from paying for the support of a creed which they do not believe, and from the iniquity of a system which bribes a spy in every household and an informer in every factory.

Sentimentality is the curse of our country and our age. Nine-tenths of our writers affect to be "very lady-like gentlemen;" and nations are measured by the standard of tea-table proprieties and the rules drawn up to regulate a servants'-hall. We admit no such "sliding-scale." We ask, "What has the nation done?" And the answer which America can make renders us proud in asserting our brotherhood of family and identity of race.

The best and bravest of England's middle-class chivalry—the only chivalry in Europe whose proudest boast was not robbery, and whose highest achievement was not murder—sought the wild woods of America from that bold spirit of adventure which they inherited from their Teutonic ancestors. The British merchants of the Elizabethan age—a naval chivalry more illustrious than any incorporated by despots and administered by tricksters—sought those distant shores, to extend the trade which was not less their pride than that of the nation. Above all, the pilgrim fathers, the stern assertors of at least their own right of conscience, carried to America's coasts the spirit of Anglo-Saxon freedom, sullied indeed by some defects of the age, but still possessing inherent energies, which only required time to develop themselves and work away all impurities. It was such men as these—men who would not barter the freedom of their trade, their vote, or their conscience, for the paltry bribe of a courtier's purse, or the still more paltry gain of some titled blockhead's half-sneering, half-condescending smile—who have given England the highest place that any country ever held in history. These were the men who rendered our land "the Cybele of nations, the mother of mighty sons, and every son a god."

We are told that America is not rich in the produce of the scented men of fashion, such as haunt Fops' Alley in the Opera House; that she does not possess many whose fashionable lisp would pass as a Shibboleth with John Wilson Croker; and that she has a very moderate assortment of persons fit to share in the refined immoralities of a Marquis of Hertford, or the graceful profligacies of a Wharton or a Rochester. Let us grant this to be a grievous defect, still America has something to offer in compensation; she has a martyrology of those who died for their faith, and a calendar of those who lived for it; a glorious list of statesmen and warriors whose political and military talents were guided by patriotism alone. In her brief annals of two centuries she can show a roll of names entitled to a world's reverence, which few European nations, however ancient, can parallel. Assuredly our own cannot, for the two last centuries of our history, have had little to chronicle at home but parliamentary corruption and monopolist degradation. With such legitimate boast, then, America may safely be pardoned for not producing those who are well calculated to matriculate at Almack's and graduate at Crockford's.

The education of future America is not conducted in the great cities visited by our fashionable tourists, our sentimental skimmers of the surface, or our female speculators in easy trade; the future guides of American destiny are trained, as their fathers were, in the woods; and here is the process of their tuition:—

"Take the following case as an illustration of the process that is continually going on on the frontier. A man removes to the west, he purchases a piece of ground, builds a house, and devotes himself to the clearing and tillage of his forest acres. Ere long he has rescued a farm from the wilderness, and has reared a family upon it. He then divides his land among his sons, if there be enough for a farm to each of them; if not, each receives money enough to buy one, as he comes of age. Some may settle on lands bestowed on them by their father; others, preferring a change, may dispose of their portion and proceed, most commonly unmarried, to 'the frontier country' as it is called; that is, to those parts of the west where the public lands are not yet sold. There he chooses out as much as he can conveniently pay for, receiving a title to it from the district land-office, and proceeds to make for himself a home. This is likely to be in the spring. Having selected a spot for his dwelling, generally near some spring or where water may be had by digging a well, he goes round and makes the acquaintance of his neighbours, residing within the distance, it may be, of several miles. A day is fixed for building him a house, upon which those neighbours come and render him such efficient help that in a single day he will find a log-house constructed, and perhaps covered with clap boards, and having apertures cut out for the doors, windows, and chimney. He makes his floor at once of rough boards riven from the abundant timber of the surrounding forest, constructs his doors and erects a chimney. Occupying himself, while interrupted in outdoor work by rainy weather, in completing his house, he finds it in a few weeks tolerably comfortable, and during fair weather he clears the underwood from some ten or fifteen acres, kills the large trees by notching them round so as to arrest the rise of the sap, and sows the ground with Indian corn, or maize as it is called in Europe. He can easily make, buy, or hire a plough, a harrow, and a hoe or two. If he find time, he surrounds his field with a fence of stakes. At length, after prolonging his stay until his crop is beyond the risk of serious injury from squirrels and birds, or from the growth of weeds, he shuts up his house, commits it to the care of some neighbour, living perhaps one or two miles off, and returns to his paternal home, which may be from fifty to three hundred miles distant from his new settlement. There he stays until the month of September, then marries, and with his young wife, a waggon and a pair of horses to carry their effects, a few cattle or sheep, or none, according to circumstances, sets out to settle for life in the wilderness. On arriving at his farm, he sows wheat or rye among his standing Indian corn, then gathers in this last, and prepares for the winter. His wife shares all the cares incident to this humble beginning. Accustomed to every kind of household work, she strives by the diligence of her fingers to avoid the necessity of going to the merchant who has opened his store at some village among the trees, perhaps some miles off, and there laying out the little money they may have left. With economy and health they gradually become prosperous. The primitive log-house gives place to a far better mansion, constructed of hewn logs, or of boards, or of brick or stone. Extensive and well fenced fields spread around, ample barns stored with grain, stalls filled with horses and cattle, flocks of sheep and herds of hogs, all attest the increasing wealth of the owners. Their children grow up, perhaps to pursue the same course, or as their inclinations may lead, to choose some other occupation, or to enter one of the learned professions."

The admirable work before us, though its title seems to confine it to only one phase of American society, really discusses all the topics which can enable the philanthropist and the philosopher to estimate the moral and intellectual condition of the American people. But the Rev. Robert Baird, its patriotic and enlightened author, is no indiscriminate adulator: he points out some of the evils which clung from their very origin to the New England States, and while he states the palliation arising from the primary circumstances, he does not disguise the evils arising from ancestral absurdities:—

"I have already stated that in Massachusetts, and, if not in all Connecticut, at least in New Haven, political trust and power were confined to members of the churches of the colony. It were absurd to suppose that this law was adopted as a means of promoting religion: its authors were too well acquainted with human nature to have any such expectation. Their grand object was to confine the exercise of political power to persons in whom they could confide. As they have been severely censured for their intolerance in this respect, very much from ignorance, I conceive, of their peculiar position, I may be allowed to dwell for a moment on the subject. They had made a long voyage to establish a colony in the wilderness, where they and their children might enjoy liberty of conscience, and worship God in purity. Being all of one mind on the subject of religion, as well as other great points, they thought that they were fully authorized to establish such a colony, and certainly it would be hard to prove that they were not. In these circumstances, what more natural than their endeavouring to prevent persons from coming in among them, to defeat their object? Desiring, above all things, that their institutions should continue to be pervaded in all time coming with the spirit in which they had been commenced, they determined, in order to secure this, that none but the members of their churches should enjoy the rights and privileges of citizens, and by this they hoped to guard against both internal and external enemies. Dreading interference on the part of England, alarmed lest the partisans of the prelacy from which they had just escaped should come amongst them and overthrow their institutions, both civil and religious, their object was to put an impassable gulph between themselves and persons who had no sympathy with their views and feelings. And this object they certainly accomplished. They rescued their institutions from the clutches of Charles I. and Archbishop Laud. But in doing so they exposed themselves to the greatest of evils—evils which, in their disastrous influence on truth, have not ceased to be felt down to this day."

Mr. Baird's chief object is to show that the voluntary principle, which even in the New England States has been substituted for compulsory maintenance, is quite adequate to support an efficient ministration of religious ordinances. This is a con-

troverted topic on which we have no wish to enter; but we feel some interest as spectators in the result of such an experiment when fairly brought to trial, and we shall therefore give an extract describing the erection of a church in some new village of the "Far West;"—

"Let us suppose a settlement commenced in the forest, in the northern part of Indiana, and that in the course of three or four years a considerable number of emigrants have established themselves within a mile or two of each other in the woods. Each clears away by degrees a part of the surrounding forest, and fences in his new fields where the deadened trees still stand very thick. By little and little the country shows signs of occupation by civilized man.

"In the centre of the settlement a little village begins to form around a tavern and a blacksmith's shop. A carpenter places himself there as a convenient centre. So do the tailor, the shoemaker, the waggon-maker, and the hatter. Nor is the son of Æsculapius wanting; perhaps he is most of all needed; and it will be well if two or three of his brethren do not soon join him. The merchant of course opens his magazine there. And if there be any prospect of the rising city, though the deadened trees stand quite in the vicinity of the streets, becoming the seat of justice for a new county, there will soon be half a dozen young expounders of the law, to increase the population, and offer their services to those who have suffered or committed some injustice.

"Things will hardly have reached this point before some one amid this heterogeneous population come from different points of the older States, intermixed with wanderers from Europe,—Irish, Scotch, or German,—proposes that they should think of having a church, or, at least, some place of worship. It is ten chances to one if there be not one or more pious women, or some pious man with his family, who sigh for the privileges of the sanctuary as once enjoyed by them in the distant east. What is to be done? Some one proposes that they should build a good large school-house, which may serve also for holding religious meetings, and this is scarcely sooner proposed than accomplished. Though possibly made of mere logs and very plain, it will answer the purpose for a few years. Being intended for the meetings of all denominations of Christians, and open to all preachers who may be passing, word is sent to the nearest in the neighbourhood. Ere long some Baptist preacher in passing preaches in the evening, and is followed by a Presbyterian and a Methodist. By-and-by the last of these arranges his circuit labours so as to preach there once in the fortnight, and then the minister of some Presbyterian congregation, ten or fifteen miles off, agrees to come and preach once a month.

"Meanwhile, from the increase of the inhabitants, the congregations, on the Sabbath particularly, become too large for the school-house. A church is then built of framed beams and boards, forming no mean ornament to the village, and capable of accommodating some 200 or 300 people. Erected for the public good, it is used by all the sects in the place, and by others besides. For were a Swedenborgian minister to come and have notice given that he would preach, he might be sure of finding a congregation, though as the sect is small in America, and by many hardly so much as heard of, he might not have a single hearer that assented to his views. But it will not be long before the Presbyterians, Methodists, or Baptists feel that they must have a minister on whose services they can count with more certainty, and hence a church also for themselves. And, at last, the house, which was a joint-stock affair at first, falls into the hands of some one of the denominations, and is abandoned by the others who have mostly provided each one for itself. Or, it may remain for the occasional service of some passing Roman Catholic priest, or Universalist preacher."

Into the religious history of the United States it is not our purpose to enter further; our chief reason for noticing this admirable work was to select from it some traits of those who are conquering the forests for us if we are wise, but the results of whose victories must pass into other hands if we continue to be fools. For us—if we will receive the produce of their industry—these men bridge the torrent, drain the morass, and clear the forest. From us they are willing to take the implements of their industry, the covering of their bodies, and the furniture of their huts. All that they ask is, that we should take the produce of their industry in return for the produce of ours. But some titled fop, reeking with the fumes of foreign wines, and disgusting with the scent of foreign essences, bids us "not depend on foreigners," and informs us that, in order to prevent such dependence, the English operative ought to starve and the Backwoodsman to shiver. Now, we tell this graceful scion of a very ungracious order, that we should sooner depend on the Backwoodsman than on any Knatchbull, or Tyrrell, or Buckingham, or Richmond in existence. The American's wants are securities for his fair dealing; it is no more his interest to have nakedness on his side of the Atlantic than it is our interest to have starvation on this side; there is a universality in the free exchange of industrial products which renders its obligations compulsory on all the parties that once enter its brotherhood, and gives a better security for the continuance of peace than a burthen of eight hundred millions imposed upon the energies of a people by the credulity, the bigotry, or the folly of their ancestors.

The Progress of the Nation. By G. R. Porter, Esq. Sections V. to VIII. London: Charles Knight and Co.

There are few persons who have so zealously and successfully laboured to connect statistical science and political economy as Mr. G. Porter of the Board of Trade; there is no one who has equalled him in giving to both sciences a direct moral purpose, by showing that the facts collected by the one and the principles developed by the other are connected not merely with the material prosperity of the community, but also with the formation of the character of the individual, and the ultimate destiny of the nation. Though social science may for convenience be divided into several departments, yet all its parts are intimately connected, and can never be so beneficially studied as when viewed in relation to their unity; physical advancement is to a great extent connected with moral improvement; a system which in any way produces the destitution of savages, must of necessity superadd the degradation of savages. Industry was given to man by his Creator as the means of social improvement; everything that limits his amount of employment places a check on the development of his moral being, and is consequently, in direct proportion to its extent, an agent of immorality. These agencies separately may appear weak and trifling, but their collective force frequently exceeds the power of any human strength to break; no single Lilliputian could have fettered Gulliver, but the multitude of little beings chained down the strong man motionless and helpless on the ground. Labour may be fettered in two ways. The ruling class may fix at the outset such conditions of labour as will give them immediate possession of all its fruits, and leave it directly at their option to determine what share shall fall to the lot of the producers. This system is called slavery, or the monopoly of power and land. Instead of this system, it has been found possible to place such artificial restrictions on the articles of consumption with which labour is ultimately paid, as may enable the ruling class to obtain a large share of the producer's earnings. This is monopoly, which, as our readers will at once see, is nothing but slavery with a circumbendibus. It needs not to show that a system of direct slavery is less profitable to a nation than a system of free labour, because all the civilized countries of Europe have proved their conviction of the truth centuries ago, by emancipating all serfs and vassals. A single instance will suffice to show that the disguised slavery which, under the name of monopoly, imposes on the exchange of the profits of labour the same restrictions which avowed slavery placed upon labour itself, is equally injurious to the financial condition of a nation. Let us take the article sugar. The average consumption of this article per head of the population was 20lb. 1 oz.; but in 1840 this average had fallen to about 15lb. 4½oz., the difference between the two quantities being so much subtracted from the comforts of every individual in an article which must be regarded not so much a luxury as a necessary of life. But this is not all:—

"The quantities stated as the yearly consumption of each individual are average quantities, calculated on the assumption that the rich and the poor, the nobleman and the beggar, fare alike in their use of this condiment. It would be difficult to discover with accuracy the consumption of the various ranks into which the community is divided. There are of course many whose use of sugar is not governed by its market-price, so far at least as any fluctuations that we have experienced would be likely to affect them. The outlay for this article forms so small a part of the household expenses of the easy classes, that whether the price should be sixpence or a shilling per pound might have no influence in increasing or diminishing its use. The decrease or increase of the quantity consumed throughout the country is therefore evidence of a very great degree of fluctuation in its use by all other classes. From inquiries carefully made, it appears probable that in the families of the rich and middle ranks the individual yearly consumption of sugar for all purposes is 40 pounds; if then we assume that one-fifth of the families in the kingdom are so circumstanced as not to vary their mode of living with every fluctuation in the market-prices of provisions, we shall find that in 1831 the average consumption per head of the remaining four-fifths was 15lb. 2oz. In 1840 the average consumption was 15¼lb., or 76¼lb. for five persons, one of which taking the constant quantity of 40lb., left for each of the remaining four only 9lb. 1oz. Every person serving on board one of her Majesty's ships is allowed 1½oz. of sugar per diem, or 34lb. 3oz. yearly; and the allowance given to aged paupers in the union-houses is 1oz. per diem, or 22¾lb. per annum."

Let us inquire what is the cause that six pounds of sugar have been subtracted from the nutriment of the labouring population.

"This result has been occasioned under our protective system, by short production in the West India colonies. The importations thence, which in 1831 amounted to 200,000 tons, did not in 1840 exceed 110,000 tons; and although during the interval, by a partial reform in our tariff, which now admits sugar, the produce of Bengal, at the same rate of duty as West India sugar, we have thence received an additional supply equal to 12,500 tons, yet the importation of sugar in 1840 fell short even of the greatly diminished consumption by 22,000 tons.

"If this state of the trade could be viewed as likely to continue, it is clear that the wants of the consumers and the deficiency in the revenue would together compel the Government to remodel the system of sugar duties, at least to such an extent as would let in for consumption a considerable quantity of foreign sugar. If the approach to a right system—made when the produce of Bengal was admitted at the British plantation duty—had been delayed for only a few years longer, so that we had not yet received increased supplies from that quarter, it is evident that some such measure of relaxation must have been adopted in 1840."

The monopoly not only shortened the supply, but it occasioned a still further national loss, by the price fixed on the amount supplied.

"The cost to the people of this country of the differential duty on sugar, imposed for the benefit of the English sugar colonies, has become of late extremely burthensome. The cost, exclusive of duty, of 3,764,710 cwt. retained for consumption in 1840 was £9,156,872, if calculated at the *Gazette* average prices. The cost of a like quantity of Brazil or Havanna sugar of equal quality would have been £4,141,181, and consequently we have paid in one year £5,015,691 more than the price which the inhabitants of other countries in Europe would have paid for an equal quantity of sugar. This, however, is an extreme view of the case. If our markets had been open at one rate of duty to the sugar of all countries, the price of foreign sugar would have been somewhat raised, while that from British possessions would have been lowered; but it may be confidently said that even in that case the saving would have been more than four millions of money.

"Again, if the public had thus been able to buy sugar at about the average price of the year 1831, we may fairly assume that the average consumption per head would have been as great in 1840 as it was in 1831, and in this case the revenue upon this article would have exceeded the sum received by more than £1,500,000."

A further item of loss must be noticed—the freight of the vessels which would have been employed in bringing over the sugar, and the wages of those that would have been engaged in its distribution. Now, two members of the present Ministry are directly interested in the support of this monopoly, Messrs. Gladstone and Goulburn. In other words, we have, as President of the Board of Trade, a gentleman deriving, through his father, a large share of his income from cutting down trade; and we have a Chancellor of the Exchequer equally deriving an income from the withholding more than a million annually from the revenue. To complete the whole, we have a candidate for the city of London resting his claims for support on his advocacy of a system, of which even this piece of mischievous absurdity is not the worst specimen. It was once said that the Irish Martello towers were built to puzzle posterity; it would seem as if English cabinets were sometimes constructed for the same special purpose.

None but the most senseless of dolts and idiots with these facts before them can deny that monopoly inflicts serious economic injury both individually and nationally; but its moral consequences are not less pernicious. Every article of comfort subtracted from the poor man's home is equally taken away from his motives to cultivate the domestic virtues; every injustice inflicted upon him by the representatives of the community cuts away an obligation to observe the laws of that community, for allegiance and protection are reciprocal duties; every honest gain kept away from the poor man is an incentive to acquire gain by dishonest practices. These are direct and undeniable consequences of monopoly; but who can venture to depict the results which have arisen from its diminishing employment on one hand, and plundering the wages of the employed on the other? It has doomed thousands to the filthy cellar and the crowded lodging-room, where misery and vice hold united empire, "those catacombs of living death where the wretch that is buried a man lies until his heart has had time to fester and to dissolve, and is then dug up, the enemy of his race." We shall not dwell on pictures too painful to contemplate; one powerful artist, Mr. Fox, has given the ghastly portraiture in his speech reported in our first number, and no one after him dare venture to wield the pencil.

We shall return to Mr. Porter's work at an early opportunity; it abounds with the most valuable information, and the industry with which its facts have been collected is only rivalled by the skill with which they are arranged.

NEW HARMONY, INDIANA, 1st Oct., 1843.—I informed you, in my last, of the state of the lead trade in Galena, and showed you that pig lead raised and smelted in that neighbourhood can be sold in the Liverpool market, at any period of the year, with a good profit to all parties, all expenses paid, at less than £15 per ton. In the winter, pig lead may be bought in Galena at 1 dollar 75 cents; shipped in the spring to New Orleans for 20 cents; and sent from thence to Liverpool, as ballast, free. In this case, it might be delivered at Liverpool, insurance and duty paid, at £11 per ton. This is manufactured without the aid of other machinery than the pick, the shovel, and common hand-windlass, and smelting furnaces of a very inferior description. The mining district of Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa, alone surveyed by David Dale Owen, is larger than all England and Wales together, containing seams, beds, and veins of coal, iron, lead, copper, limestone, common fire and porcelain clay, sand, zinc, and other minerals inexhaustible. The mining district of Missouri is probably more extensive, and is known to have been partially worked by the Indians and Spaniards for 300 years. There are large quantities of iron and coal in Ohio. In Tennessee and Kentucky charcoal iron can be made cheaper than in other countries: it can be made with coal. Wood fuel can be had for 62½ cents per cord, 4 feet by 8 feet, ready for use, and is delivered at the furnace mouth for 1s. per ton. There are immense beds of iron ore in these two states. In Pennsylvania the iron and coal are even more plentiful than in Wisconsin, &c. The nominal wages of workmen in the mines, and at the smelt and iron works, are very little

higher than they are in England; but the workmen obtain at least three times more of all the necessaries of life for their money than they do in England. Pork can be had almost anywhere in the west for ½d. to 1½d. per lb.; beef and mutton, 1d. to 2½d.; Indian corn flour, 10d. per bushel; wheat, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per bushel; butter, 8d. to 4d. per lb.; eggs, 1½d. per doz., &c. Whisky, I find, is selling here, at this time, at 8d. per gallon. The credit system is nearly abandoned in the States, and a great deal of the business done is by barter. Clothing, ironmongery, groceries, &c., have been reduced in price almost as much as food; and American manufactured goods, as well as British, are sold in the shops, for *cash*, nearly as cheap as in England; and the Americans are making the greatest efforts in the west, as well as in the east, to increase their own manufactures. My impressions, from all that I have seen, are, that America can at present successfully compete with us in some mineral and many manufactured articles; and that, in a few years, it will be in their power to drive us from most of the markets of the world. *Our only chance of meeting them is by easing our burdens, and carrying out immediately the principles of Free Trade.—Liverpool Times.*

THE OVER-PRODUCTION FALLACY.—But what will reflecting readers say of a governing class, such as ours, addressing its workers with an indictment of "over-production!" Over-production: Runs it not so? "Ye miscellaneous, ignoble, manufacturing individuals, ye have produced too much! We accuse you of making above two hundred thousand shirts for the bare backs of mankind. Your trousers, too, which you have made of fustian, of kerseymere, of Scotch plaid, of jean, nankeen, and woollen broad cloth—are they not manifold? Of hats for the human head, of shoes for the human foot, of stools to sit on, spoons to eat with—nay, what say we, hats of shoes? You produce gold watches, jewelleries, silver forks and epergnes, commodes, chiffonniers, stuffed sofas—Heavens! the commercial bazaar and multitudinous Howel-and-Jameses cannot contain you. You have produced, produced; he that seeks your indictment let him look around. Millions of shirts and empty pairs of breeches hang their in judgment against you. We accuse you of over-producing: You are criminally guilty of producing shirts, breeches, hats, shoes, and commodities in a frightful over-abundance. And now there is a glut, and your operatives cannot be fed!" Never, surely, against an earnest-working mammonism was there brought by game-preserving aristocratic dilettantism, a stranger accusation, since this world began. My lords and gentlemen—why, it was you that were appointed, by the fact and by the theory of your position on the earth, to "make and administer laws;" that is to say, in a world such as ours, to guard against "gluts;" against honest operatives, who had done their work, remaining unfed! I say you were appointed to preside over the distribution and apportionment of the wages of work done; and to see well that there went no labourer without his hire, were it of money coins—were it of hemp gallows-ropes; that function was yours, and from immemorial time has been yours, and, as yet, no others. These poor shirt-spinners have forgotten much, which, by the virtual unwritten law of their position, they should have remembered; but, by any written recognised law of their position, what have they forgotten? They were set to make shirts, The Community with all its voices, commanded them, saying, "Make shirts;" and there the shirts are! Too many shirts! Well, that is a novelty in this intemperate Earth, with its nine hundred millions of bare backs! but the Community commanded you, saying, "See that the shirts are well-apportioned—that our human laws be emblems of God's laws;" and where is the apportionment? Two million shirtless or ill-shirted workers sit enchanted in workhouse bastilles, five million more (according to some) in Ugolino Hunger-cellars; and for remedy you say,—what say you? "Raise our rents!" I have not in my time heard any stranger speech, not even on the shores of the Dead Sea.—*Past and Present, by T. Carlyle.*

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Nov. 11	Mon. Nov. 13	Tues. Nov. 14	Wed. Nov. 15	Thurs Nov. 16	Fri. Nov. 17
Bank Stock.....	180	180½	180½	181	181	181
3 per Cent. Con.	96⅝	96½	96½	96⅝	96⅝	96½
New 3½ per Cent.	103½	103½	103	103½	103½	103
Long Annuities..	12⅛	12⅛	12 9-16	12⅛	12⅛	12 9-16
S. Sea Old Ann.	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	76	77	78	74	74	74
India Stock.....	—	—	—	271½	271½	271
Exchequer Bills..	61 63	61 63	61 64	60 62	60 62	60 62
Consols for Acc..	96½	96⅝	96½	96½	96⅝	96½
Brazilian	74½	75	75	—	—	—
Mexican df.....	—	9½	9½	9⅝	9½	—
Portuguese, conv.	43¾	43½	43¾	—	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	31⅝ 31	31½	30½	31	31⅝	31⅝
Chilian 6 p. Ct. df.	99 101	—	—	—	100	—
Russian	—	—	—	—	—	115½
Dutch 5 per Cent.	100 100½	100	99¾	99¾	100	100
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	54½ ⅝	54½	54½	54½	54½	54⅝
Columb. 6 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	11⅝
Austrian, 5 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	112½
Danish	85½ 86½	86	—	—	—	—
Peruvian	24	24½	23½	—	23½	—
Belgian	103½	102½	103	—	103	—
French 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Nov. 13.—The supply of Wheat from Essex and Kent this morning was rather short; the condition of most of it was better than last week. The best samples were taken off readily, and before the close the stands were nearly cleared of all descriptions, at fully the prices of this day week. There was scarcely so good a demand for free Foreign Wheat at former rates. There was a better supply of Barley, and all descriptions were 1s. lower. New Beans come forward slowly, and the recent advance was maintained. White Peas for boiling were 1s. lower. No alteration in Maple and Grey Peas. The arrival of Irish Oats during the last week amounted to 31,000 qrs.; there were also several cargoes of Scotch, chiefly new, and a few English. The distillers were buyers of some of the finest Irish Oats at full prices, but for other descriptions the trade was heavy, and chiefly confined to country buyers.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 6th to the 11th of Nov. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	7778	2991	1912	1457	1835
Scotch	203	621	2376	130	—
Irish	52	—	31083	—	—
Foreign	3418	1000	—	—	1520

Flour, 6013 sacks, 3130 brls. Malt, 4598 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do, Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple.....	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	48s — 56s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk.....	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin.....	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting....	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed ..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old....	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Nov. 17.—The supplies of all grain this week are short. Both English and free Foreign Wheat sell slowly at Monday's prices. The trade in Barley is dull, and Monday's prices are barely supported. With a very scanty supply of Oats we have slow trade at former rates. In Beans and Peas there is no alteration.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 10th to the 17th of November, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	3910	—	4010
Barley.....	3790	—	—
Oats.....	810	1470	—

Flour 6370 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 11, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	110,378	52 1	77,975	32 5	35,440	18 9	7496	32 2
Aggregate Averages..	..	50 11		30 11		17 11		30 11
Duty.....	..	20 0		8 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

CROWN-OFFICE, NOV. 14.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

BOROUGH OF KENDAL.—Henry Warburton, Esq., in the room of George William Wood, Esq., deceased.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

J. WARD, Nottingham, tailor.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

W. SMART, Billingshurst, Sussex, dealer.

BANKRUPTS.

T. G. JAMES, River-street, Myddelton-square, Middlesex, builder. [Tucker, Sun-chambers, Threadneedle street.

J. SEWELL, Charles-street, Paddington, victualler. [Trott, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street.

T. THORPE, Chertsey, Surrey, plumber. [Allen and Nicol, Queen-street, Cheapside.

R. TOULSON, Westminster-bridge-road, Lambeth, furnishing warehouseman. [Sole and Sole, Aldermanbury.

J. ZULIANI, Mincing-lane, merchant. [Appleton, Fenchurch-buildings.

E. SWIFT, Chingford-mills, Essex, miller. [Tippetts, Pancras-lane, Queen-street, Cheapside.

I. T. COUCHMAN, High-street, Kensington, builder. [Fisher, Doughty-street, Mecklenburgh-square.

J. WILLIAMS, jun., Abingdon, Bucks, carpet manufacturer. [Turner and Mensman, Basing-lane, Bow-lane, Cheapside.

A. W. LOWMAN and T. S. LOWMAN, Eastcheap, City, cheesemongers. [Lawrence and Plews, Bucklersbury.

G. CHAMBERLAIN, Wivenhoe, Essex, shipowner. [Mawe, New Bridge-street.

R. H. FRARY and J. FRARY, Oxford-street, carpet warehousemen. [Lloyd, Milk-street, Cheapside.

J. PEACOCK, Bradford, Yorkshire, ironmonger. [Cooper, Bradford; Bond, Leeds; Sudlow and Co., Chancery-lane, London.

L. F. BINGHAM, Bakewell, Derbyshire, flourseller. [Rodgers, Cheapside, London; Vickers and Jervis, Sheffield.

T. WITHELL and W. WITHELL, Padstow, Cornwall, ship builders. [Coodes and Shilson, St. Austel; Coode and Browne, Bedford-row, Holborn.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 5. C. Oldin, jun., Stamford, Lincolnshire, mercer—Dec. 5. T. Brettell, Rupert-street, Haymarket, printer—Dec. 5. J. L. Gray, Jermyn-street, St. James's, Westminster, tailor—Dec. 5. J. Y. Oliver, Cambridge, jeweller—Dec. 6. T. Cooper, East Dereham, Norfolk, merchant—Dec. 6. D. Lawson, Marylebone-street, Piccadilly, woollen draper—Dec. 6. G. Hewitt and G. Hewlett, Manchester, woollen drapers—Dec. 12. T. Eskrigge, Warrington, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—Dec. 6. R. Davies, Mallwya, Merioneth, shopkeeper—Dec. 5. T. Asphall, Southouram, Yorkshire, worsted spinner—Dec. 8. W. Cooke, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted spinner—Dec. 8. J. L. Fernandes and Co., Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn millers—Dec. 7. R. Nicholls and J. Groves, Stamford, Lincolnshire, linen and woollen drapers.

CERTIFICATES.

Dec. 5. W. M. Smith, Strand, upholsterer—Dec. 5. J. Smith, Hoxton Old-town, linen draper—Dec. 5. J. Gollop and Co., Charles-street, City-road, ironfounders—Dec. 5. G. Strawbridge, Bristol, builder.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. HONKYMAN, Cupar, Fifeshire, merchant—G. ALLAN, Pulteneytown, merchant—A. CLARK, Edinburgh, ironmonger—T. H. Rigbye, Paisley, coal merchant—A. WEIR, Kilmarnock, teacher—A. BRYCE, Glasgow, victualler.

FRIDAY, Nov. 17.

BANKRUPTS.

S. PEARS, Old Jewry, wine merchant. [Guillaume, Bucklersbury.

T. H. WOOD, Penton-street, Pentonville, draper. [Reed and Shaw, Friday-street.

W. HEYWARD and J. JENNINGS, Walbrook, City, commission agents. [Reed and Shaw, Friday-street.

T. THORPE, Chertsey, painter. [Allen and Nicol, Queen-street, Cheapside.

R. COLLIER, Folkstone, Kent, draper. [Reed and Shaw, Friday-street.

J. G. PORTT, University-street, St. Pancras, surgeon. [Buchanan, Basinghall-street.

J. PIERCE, Dean-street, Soho, victualler. [Atkinson, Carey-street.

T. BAYLEY, West Smithfield, victualler. [Teesdale, Symes, Weston, and Teesdale, Fenchurch-street.

G. WHELDON, Dudley, Worcester, clothier. [Fellowes, jun., Dudley.

R. HALK, Margate, bookseller. [Berry, Trafalgar-square.

R. T. MILBANKE, Burwood-place, Edgeware-road, surgeon. [Braham, Chancery-lane.

D. COLLINS, Bennett's-place, Pollard's-row, Bethnal-green, machine maker. [Hudson, Bucklersbury.

T. BOURNE, Liverpool, corn factor. [Gregory, Falkner, and Co., Bedford-row, London.

J. WARD, Nottingham, tailor. [Rowland and Hacon, White Lion-court, London.

J. CRISP, Liverpool, auctioneer. [Fairclough, Liverpool.

A. WESTMORE, Lancaster, joiner. [Norris and Co., Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn.

T. BARROW, Sheffield, grocer. [Blackburn, Leeds.

J. HUDSON and J. BROADBENT, jun., Manchester, calico printers. [Makinson and Sanders, Elm-court, Middle Temple, London.

T. SPINK, Hillam, Yorkshire, farmer. [Clapham, Leeds.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Nov. 14, 1843, is 33s. 5½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

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TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 23, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant.
"C. ROWAN."

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Tea ditto and ditto, ditto ..	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
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AT a MEETING of Merchants, Manufacturers, Traders, and others, held at the Town-hall, Manchester, on Tuesday, 14th November, 1843,

It was moved by Henry Ashworth, Esq., seconded by Mr. Alderman Callender, and passed unanimously:—

That we, the merchants, manufacturers, traders, and others, inhabitants of Manchester and its vicinity, do hereby repeat our solemn protest against the laws which prohibit the free importation of foreign grain and provisions, believing them to be most oppressive to the great mass of the people, and destructive alike of the true interests of agriculture and commerce; and relying upon the justice of our cause and upon the intelligence and honesty of our countrymen, we declare most emphatically our determination not to relax in our exertions until those laws be entirely abolished.

Moved by Mr. Alderman Kershaw, seconded by James Chadwick, Esq., and passed unanimously:—

That this meeting hereby expresses its high sense of the invaluable services which the National Anti-Corn-Law League has rendered to the cause of Free Trade; and in order to enable the Council to make renewed and increased exertions, a subscription in aid of the great fund of £100,000 be now commenced, and that the following gentlemen be appointed a committee to canvass for subscriptions in Manchester and the surrounding districts:—

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R. H. Greg, Chairman.

Moved by John Bright, Esq., M.P., seconded by Sir T. Potter, and passed by acclamation:—

That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Robert Hyde Greg, Esq., for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

John Brooks, Chairman.

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30	1	6	4	1	12	2	1	19	1	2	7	4	2	17	6
40	1	16	1	2	4	4	2	14	6	3	7	3	4	8	4
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THE LEAGUE.

No. 9.] SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their* addresses *as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, 67, *Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

THE LEAGUE FUND—(£100,000).

The time has now arrived for the friends of Free Trade throughout the kingdom to consider the mode and extent in which they will afford their aid to the labours of the Anti-Corn-Law League for procuring the full and practical recognition of their principles by the Legislature. The plans of the Council of the League have been, for several weeks, before the public. They were distinctly and unreservedly announced in the Address issued on the 28th September last; and, so far as appears from the comments of the press, from private corresondence, or from the resolutions of public meetings, they have obtained general concurrence, as the best and most efficient that can be adopted. The course of action there described has already commenced; the electoral contests that immediately ensued, first in the metropolis, and then in Kendal and Salisbury, were occasions not to be neglected; and the Council forthwith employed the means to which they had pledged themselves for appealing to the understandings and honest feelings of the possessors of the franchise. Public meetings were held from day to day; statements and arguments affecting the great question at issue were forwarded to every elector; the whole registered constituency of the city of London, consisting of about 15,000, was five times addressed, by means of the press and the penny-post; the zeal and intelligence of the non-electors were rendered subsidiary to the movements of the voters; large rewards were offered for such detection of bribery as would lead to its legal conviction; and, without adverting to the results of those contests—results most propitious to the progress of our cause—this merit may at least be claimed for the League, that it did whatever could be done towards upholding the purity and freedom of election, and bestowing upon the favourable verdict which was pronounced, all the worth and weight that are imparted by competent knowledge and sincere conviction.

The sanction of experience and success has thus been affixed to the operations of the League in that portion of them which had most novelty of character, the proposed action upon the electoral body. Former efforts had, no doubt, prepared the way. The outlay of £50,000 upon lectures, tracts, meetings, and the press; the series of large metropolitan meetings in one of the principal theatres; the labours of local associations; and the indefatigable zeal of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, in their mission to the agricultural districts, had plentifully sown the seed, of which we are beginning to reap the harvest. The path of success is now plain before us. A demonstration of opinion, on behalf of Free Trade, by an efficient majority of the electoral body, is a consummation within reach of practical attainment, and at no distant period. The approaching certainty of that result cannot but have its previous influence upon the question. The only essential condition of the abolition of the Food Monopoly is perseverance in the course hitherto pursued; and the only condition of that perseverance on the part of the League, is the supply of the pecuniary funds required for their continued and extended operations.

It cannot be too often repeated, that the Anti-Corn-Law League has no other object than that which its name imports. The abolition of the Food Monopoly will, it is believed, inevitably bring in its train that of all other Monopolies. But the League has no political or ulterior purposes. It interferes not, as foe or ally, with any parties, whether local or national. Its agitation is simply for the recognition of a great principle by the public mind, and the embodiment of that principle in legislative measures. With no question of Taxation does it meddle, provided the Taxation, in whatever mode levied, be for the purpose of national revenue, and not for the profit of a class. The importance of many political and financial questions is not disputed; but the League has not been constituted for effecting reforms in those departments. Even the great good which it is confessedly working in the conduct of elections, by transforming them from personal or party conflicts into a struggle between true principles and false; by making the canvass an investigation of facts and laws in which all are deeply interested, instead of a personal solicitation for the favour of a vote; and by the endeavour to check intimidation and put down bribery; even this is only subsidiary to its one paramount object, for the accomplishment of which, through the agency of electoral opinion, it is needful for that opinion to be deliberate and enlightened in its formation, and free, firm, and decisive in its expression. To this incidental good, as regarded in its bearings upon national character, order, and prosperity, no sincere lover of his country can be indifferent. That the plans of the League imply and require it, in their progress, is no slight addition to its claims for a general and liberal support of such endeavours after the prompt and total abolition of taxation upon food by the Legislature.

Other commercial and trading towns will, it is hoped, call meetings, as has been already done at Manchester, "to consider the best means of aiding the future operations of the League." The subscription, during that meeting, of near £13,000, is a strong testimony to the confidence reposed in the Council in the neighbourhood of a large proportion of its members. Nor is it alone to manufacturing localities, to capitalists, or to great meetings, that we look for contributions. To realise a fund of £100,000 requires extended co-operation. We look to landowners, who consult the permanent worth of their estates rather than the temporary pressure of improvident obligations. We look to the growing perception of their own interests by the cultivators of the soil. We look to the honest zeal of the many, the accumulating, though small subscriptions of the middle and working classes towards the first great confederacy which history records for their defence and rescue from spoliation. The question is eminently theirs; one of immediate and vital urgency, as daily observation and experience of the hard pressure that continues to produce distress and destitution, must make them feel. With sympathy and pride will their names be recorded on a list which will soon become the noble muster-roll of the triumphant abolitionists of taxation upon food. They will earn their "charter and freehold of rejoicing" in our common victory over the most unjust and oppressive, the most impoverishing, demoralizing, and destructive impost ever inflicted upon a people by the blind cupidity of a Class Interest.

The prompt success of the present appeal will, it is calculated, render any future one unnecessary. The Council will be put by it in possession of the entire registration of the kingdom, and in communication with all its constituencies. Every city, town, and county will have had the question brought fully under its consideration. The power of public opinion will have been fully developed. Truth, Justice, and Humanity, will be brought face to face with usurpation and oppression; the rights of the many and the robberies of the few will be confronted for trial before the institutions of our country. We cannot doubt the result, for "there is a God that judgeth in the earth."

"SIGNS" OF THE *TIMES**.—FIXED DUTY VERSUS FREE TRADE.

A French nobleman, conspicuous for hereditary stupidity, is said to have asked a literary gentleman for the loan of some books, in order that he might discover the nature of the pleasure which so many persons took in reading. The student, knowing his man, lent him an odd volume of an Encyclopædia, and when the nobleman brought it back, lent him the same volume over again, as if it had been a continuation of the series. When the student had repeated this trick eighteen times without detection, he felt some curiosity to learn what the nobleman thought of his course of reading, and he asked him how he liked the work. "It is a most interesting series," replied the nobleman; "but I think that there are some repetitions in it." Without laying claim to any portion of aristocratic stupidity, to which we have no legitimate right, we find ourselves sharing no small portion of the nobleman's perplexity when we read over the history of the long struggle between feudal oligarchy and mercantile industry—there are repetitions in it with a vengeance. We meet not with historical parallels, but with historical identities: costume and actors vary, but the drama remains the same; the characters of the "TAKES" and the characters of the "KEEPS" have remained unchanged during the vicissitudes of ages.

The history of the middle ages affords abundant proof of the facts stated in one of the Plantagenet proclamations, which begins—"Whereas certain right noble lords and right honourable ladies do commit continually robbery on the high roads and piracy on the high seas"—doubtless, very pleasant aristocratic amusements, and profitable withal; that the public revenue was injured "by reason, that merchants were prevented from coming to make their purchases in England"—dependence upon foreigners being at that time, as it must be in all times, a necessary condition of fiscal prosperity. History further avers that merchants and traders were never thoroughly reconciled to this plundering system. Unlike the eels, they never get used to being skinned; and, to put an end to so unpleasant a process, they formed a League for self-defence; and, to use the language of the *Times*, this "League was a great fact: it would have been foolish, nay, rash, to deny its importance."

There were statesmen in that day who, like the writer of last Saturday's leader in the *Times*, declaimed against the sordid rapacity which rendered such a confederacy necessary, and lamented the infatuation which did not prevent such a League from acquiring strength, by a system of compromise and concession. They told the titled plunderers that a "sliding-scale" of robbery, however profitable it might appear in its results, was very expensive and difficult in its management. It was moreover very invidious, because, like the existing Corn Laws, it pressed with crushing severity on the poor and weak, but was frequently evaded by the wealthy and strong. The men of those *Times*, therefore, proposed, as a more systematic and cheap plan of extortion, that "a fixed duty" should be established on the transit of merchandise, and that traders and merchants should pay a stipulated tax to the "right noble lords and right honourable ladies," for their kindness in abstaining from taking what was not their own, and their morality in observing God' commandments.

Whether it was owing to stupidity or obstinacy, or, as some have insinuated, to plain common sense, it appears that the confederated merchants could neither understand the beauty nor the equity of this regulated, but not mitigated, system of robbery. They protested against being compelled to pay for liberty to traverse those seas which the great Creator had appointed to be "the highway of nations," or to be taxed for travelling on roads which the leviers of "black mail" had neither made nor kept in repair. The obstinate buttoning of the breeches pocket has, in every age, been regarded as a grievous offence against Church and State; so, of course, the protest of the confederates against the payment of unjust exactions was answered by imputations of treason and infidelity. The crime of the merchants in objecting to part with their money was treated like that of Naboth in refusing to part with his vineyard:—"They set Naboth on high before the people, and behold two men, sons of Belial, stood up to witness against him." We have not the names of the worthy witnesses engaged by Jezebel, but no doubt one was a *Standard* of untruth, and the other a *Herald* of ignorance; for both urged against the protector of his property the same charge which their modern representatives bring against those who in our day resist injustice—"Thou didst blaspheme God and the King!"

Fortunately, "the right noble lords and right honourable ladies" of the middle ages, though they had all the inclinations, did not possess all the power of Ahab and Jezebel; and the confederate Naboths not only escaped from being "stoned with stones until they died," but exhibited such strength and such resolution to assert their rights, that the announcement of their determination, like that of the subscriptions at the Manchester meeting, spread

* See *Times*, November 18 and 20.

confusion in the ranks of the oppressors. The compromise which had long been spurned was now eagerly sought by the wiser portion of the titled plunderers, and they recommended their "fixed duty," by pointing out the power of the League to those who wished to cling to the old sliding-scale, and by maligning the motives of the League to those who had a common interest with that body in the advancement of freedom. The double-faced Janus of those *Times* addressed his hearers in terms similar to those which our cotemporary has addressed to his hearers; so that there is room for doubt whether the following specimen of "hinting fault and hesitating dislike" belongs to the fourteenth or the nineteenth century:—

"You may tell us, and with truth, that there are men in the League sworn foes to Church and Crown—to Peers and Dignities—to Bishops and to Judges: that, now speaking and declaiming, and begging, and taxing, and, an' you like, plundering men to resist the Corn Laws, this monster-being will next raise its head and subdue all laws beneath it. You may tell us, that its object is not to open the ports, to facilitate commerce, to enrich England, but to ruin our aristocracy, whom Leaguers envy and detest. You may tell us, that no men of honesty or intelligence could, consistently with their honour and their knowledge, seek to rifle an embarrassed state of that just subsidy which all states impose upon articles of the most necessary consumption. You may tell us, that, whatever be the specious pretext which they hold out, or the disguise under which they work, they can really only look forward to that disastrous crisis in the annals of a kingdom when indiscriminate plunder consummates the work of hopeless and inextricable confusion. You may tell us, that the League has whined and canted about the sufferings of the poor; that its orators wink with malicious cunning at the 'point' they make about the miserable victims of landlord legislation. In all this there is, doubtless, much truth."

No one knows better than this new witness against Naboth that this mass of insinuation is false from beginning to end. There are no men in the League hostile to Church and Crown, else would they never have had the Pearsons, the Callenders, the Kershaws, the Whiteheads, and countless others equally conspicuous for piety and loyalty as their associates. The charge is a mere travestie of that made by the sons of Belial, "Thou didst blaspheme God and the King;" and it is made for the same purpose, to furnish an excuse for depriving honest men of their property.

There are no men in the League "sworn foes" to peers and dignities, else would they not have had amongst their allies such men as the Earls Fitzwilliam, Ducie, and Radnor. Some Leaguers may have spoken against individual bishops, as the *Times* has done itself on very many occasions; but no one of the body has ever denounced episcopal institutions; and, if any Leaguer has insinuated that the horsehair wig of a judge does not always cover the perfection of intelligence and integrity, there is not one who ever showed himself mad enough to propose the abolition of the judicial system.

But this attempt to fix upon an entire body the delinquency of some unnamed individuals supposed to be members of it, is as absurd as it is unjust. Its impolicy will appear equal to its wickedness, when one reflects on the retort which it is well calculated to provoke. Would the supporters of Corn-Law taxation desire a rigid scrutiny into the piety and morality of many in their ranks, and of not a few whom they have placed at their head? Deem they that the world is ignorant of convicted guilt, recorded profligacy, and ostentatious immorality, attaching itself to many who occupy high places? We should not object to place the issue on such a comparison, and let the Corn Laws be decided by the test whether their supporters or their opponents have best obeyed the commands of God, and advance the moral character of man. Will the *Times* risk the investigation?

It is not true that the Leaguers "hate and envy the aristocracy;" it is true that they hate oppression and wrong, inflicted upon a whole nation by a selfish oligarchy; and it is also true that they reverence and respect those members of the aristocracy who have separated themselves from that oligarchy, and tendered their support to the cause of humanity and justice. The absurd assertion that the Leaguers look forward to a general scramble is sufficiently refuted by pointing to the property, united with intelligence, to be found in their ranks. Are Samuel Jones Loyd, Robert Hyde Greg, and such like, men likely to look forward to confiscation and confusion? The *Times* may describe commiseration for the sufferings of the poor as cant and whine; the manufacturers have proved the reality of their sympathies by large subscriptions to alleviate existing sufferings, as well as by their donations to relieve the industrious from the pressure of unequal and destructive laws. In the very number of the *Times* in which this article appeared, we have a very significant example of the commiseration for the poor evinced by the supporters of the Corn Laws:—

"An able-bodied man in a parish in the union of Cirencester has this week been offered breast ploughing at the rate of 4s. 6d. an acre, which he has refused, because at this laborious work he could not at that rate earn more than 6s. per week. The master then says, 'You need not think to get into the house, I'll prevent that, and also that you get no work elsewhere;' and this is literally the case as to work, and the man is afraid to go to the guardians, although the poor fellow told his master he was ready to take the job at 5s. per acre, by which he would be enabled to earn nearly 7s. per week, and the man is starving. All this can be confirmed. Who can wonder at 'Beccaism' and other outrages?"

And yet this paper, which tacitly assents to "*Beccaism* and other outrages," pretends to be alarmed at designs of the Leaguers for which there is no evidence, and imaginary plots which are all but physically impossible.

The *Times* dislikes "gregarious collections of cant and cotton-men;" the alliteration is pretty, and deserves to be rewarded with a smile. We, too, have a dislike to gregarious collections of cant and corn-men, such as have ere now assembled in the city of Westminster. On which side there is the greater amount of cant it is no difficult matter for the nation to decide, because the whole history of the Corn-Law discussion is nothing better than a record of the successive cants and fallacies of the monopolists detected, exposed, and abandoned. In the words of the *Times*,—

"These are facts important and worthy of consideration. No moralist can disregard them; no politician can sneer at them; no statesman can undervalue them. He who collects opinions must chronicle them. He who frames laws must to some extent consult them."

There is no necessity, and assuredly we have no inclination to discuss the possible evils that may arise from the continuance of the League, as a confederacy to obtain protection of their property for the mercantile and industrious classes. But this we declare that this confederacy shall endure until the full measure of equal justice is obtained. Nothing less than the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws can establish those rights of industry for the assertion of which the League has been instituted. "That flag is nailed to the mast," and our cotemporary only echoes our frequently-expressed resolution when he declares—

"There is a stern retribution that awaits legislative stubbornness. The Nemesis who haunts the precincts of a statesman's cabinet is as fleet as she is sure. The wisdom of the moderate, the authority of the old, the influence of the rich, are frail and tottering barriers against the impetuosity of thoughtless and incensed myriads. The madness of the multitude palliates its excesses by the indifference which was repaid to the admonitions of temperate, and the scorn which was heaped on the remonstrances of wise, men; and when the trembling Minister, at the eleventh hour, calls out, 'Take the boon now,' there is but one reply which greets him, 'It is too late.'"

We repeat the emphatic words, "It is too late;" the time for compromise has gone by; the feudal oligarchy must yield as certainly to the Anti-Corn-Law League as the feudal plunderers of the middle ages did to the Hanseatic League. A correspondent of the *Times*, in the very paper from which we have been quoting, shows that the concession of full justice is required not less by the interests of the landlords themselves than by those of the trading community:—

"Let landlords look a little sharper after their estates, and think less of their dogs and the Opera. If they will only copy the industry of the manufacturers, they may make something of their land yet. If they expect it to support six where nature has only intended it for three, they are surely in error. Landlord, tenant, labourer, the poor, the lawyer, the surveyor, all living upon the land—this cannot be as it ought."

This writer evidently regards "landlord, agent, middleman, steward, lawyer, and surveyor" as what Grattan would have called "a subordination of vultures;" and the *Times*, by giving to his communication "all the dignity of lead," has shown approbation of his sentiments. We, too, give our hearty assent, and we call for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, to deliver the agricultural labourer from the weight of one half of those who are enriched out of his poverty and fed out of his starvation.

MONOPOLY VIEWED IN CONNEXION WITH DESPOTISM.

The modes in which despotic governments, above that degree of barbarism which robs openly without any colour of law or pretence of right—whether those governments be monarchical or oligarchical—take the property of their subjects have been principally two—TAXATION and MONOPOLY. The subject of taxation we shall reserve for some other opportunity; at present we shall offer a few remarks on *monopoly*, considered as a feature of despotism.

But the monopoly which a despotic government uses as an instrument of its despotism must have a peculiar character. It would not be worth while having a monopoly of articles for which the demand is neither urgent nor extensive. In order that the profit and the power accruing thereby may be large—large enough to be worth the attention of a government, of a king, or an aristocracy—the monopoly must be of some commodity the demand for which is of that urgent, incessant, universal, all-pervading nature, that, like Jacob's mess of pottage for which Esau sold his birthright, men will be willing to give in exchange for it all that they have, except their lives; that is, they will give property, labour, and even liberty itself. The true nature of the monopoly of which we are now speaking is very well explained by as apt and as determined an instrument of despotic power as ever appeared upon earth—certainly as dangerous an enemy as ever threatened the constitutional rights and liberties of Englishmen.

Wentworth, the arbitrary and violent Minister of Charles I., recommended, in addition to the unconstitutional taxation and to the many then existing monopolies, that the King should be "*sole merchant*" of salt in Ireland, because, said he, it is "OF SO ABSOLUTE NECESSITY, AS IT CANNOT POSSIBLY STAY UPON HIS HAND, BUT MUST BE HAD WHETHER THEY WILL OR NO, AND MAY AT ALL TIMES BE RAISED IN PRICE—WITNESS THE *gabelles* OF SALT IN FRANCE."* Why did he not advise the King also to become "sole merchant" of corn? It would have been a commodity still more profitable than salt; but Strafford himself was a manufacturer and merchant of corn, and it would hardly have answered his purpose to have created such a monopoly just then. But that monopoly was to come in time, that is, when a monopoly of corn served the interests of the governing body in England, as the monopoly of salt did those of the former despotic monarchs of France and England.

It is now full two hundred years since the unconstitutional taxation and monopolies of Charles I. were successfully opposed and put down. But in the course of those two hundred years other unjust monopolies and unconstitutional modes of taxation have grown up, for the suppression of which we of the nineteenth century have a duty to perform as sacred and as urgent as that the performance of which has gained so much renown for our ancestors of the seventeenth century.

Throughout Asia salt is made one of the instruments of despotism. Coffee, as being in Asia a necessary of life, is another. We make the following extract from Mr. Macintyre's very valuable work lately published, on "The Influence of Aristocracies on the Revolutions of Nations."

"Coffee is an absolute necessary of life in all eastern countries, and is indeed the principal food of the inhabitants in Arabia; 'the poorest labourer never takes less than three or four cups a day;' but the Pasha of Egypt strictly prohibited the importation of West India coffee into his dominions, and no doubt justified such a law on the necessity to give protection to *native-grown coffee*, meaning coffee from his own lands. He thus secured a monopoly, and a monopolist's price, for the three or four cups of coffee consumed by his poorest labourers. We have thus laid bare by Burckhardt the principle on which Eastern despotism is based; the principle of the English Corn Laws is precisely similar; and we have thus the Arab of the Hedjaz, and the cotton-spinner of Manchester, compelled to buy grain at high prices to escape starvation."—p. 13.

But Burckhardt's account (also cited by Mr. Macintyre,) of Ali Pasha's corn monopoly is still more to the point. He says:—

"The corn trade was formerly in the hands of individuals, and the Sherif Ghalib also speculated in it; but at present (1814), Mohammed Ali Pasha has taken it entirely into his own hands; and none is sold either at Suez or Cossier to private persons, every grain being shipped on account of the Pasha. This is likewise the case with all other provisions, as rice, butter, biscuits, and onions, of which large quantities are imported. At the time of my residence in Hedjaz, this country not producing a sufficiency, the Pasha sold the grain at Djiddah for the price of from 130 to 160 piastres per 'ardeb,' and every other provision in proportion; the corn cost him 12 piastres by the ardeb in Upper Egypt, and including the expense of carriage from Guana to Cossier, and freight thence to Djiddah, 25 to 30 piastres. This enormous profit was alone sufficient to defray his expenses in carrying on the Wahaby war; but it was ill calculated to conciliate the good will of the people. His partisans, however, excused him by alleging that, in keeping grain at high prices, he secured the Bedouins of the Hedjaz in his interest, as they depend upon Mecca and Djiddah for provisions, and they were thus compelled to enter into his service, and receive his pay, to escape starvation."—p. 13.

But, as the necessary expenses of a government must undoubtedly be defrayed in some way, it may be alleged as at least some pretence for the existence of a monopoly, that it is kept up as a mode, though a very bad one, of defraying those expenses. This line of defence, however, cannot be taken with respect to the English Corn Laws; for it is not even pretended that, of the money taken out of the people's pockets in the shape of a monopoly price for their corn, any portion whatever goes into the public treasury to relieve the British people, even in the minutest degree, from that burthen of taxation which is now crushing them to the earth. This circumstance arises from the peculiar nature of our Government, and could not have happened before that revolution which, while it retained the old monarchical form of our Government, completely changed the real nature of it. One consequence of that revolution (of 1688) was that, whatever advantages we may have gained thereby, we have had for the 150 years that have elapsed since to pay for a monarchy and an aristocracy or oligarchy at one and the same time. It was a remark of Milton's, that the very trappings of a monarchy would pay for the cost of a republic. However that may be, we in England have had to pay at once for the trappings of a monarchy, and of one of the most extensive oli-

* Strafford's Letters and Despatches. Vol. i., p. 193.

garchies that ever existed; for it does not consist of a few families or a few individuals, but of that numerous body of families who enjoy parcelled out among them the soil of Great Britain and Ireland, with all those powers which God and nature have bestowed upon it, quite independently of the labour of man.

If, indeed, we were to make the supposition that the difference of price caused by the Corn Laws went, not into the pockets of private families, but into the Queen's Exchequer, to defray the expenses of Government, and not merely the ordinary expenses of Government, but that part of the public expenditure which is now provided for not by public and general but by local taxation, such as the keeping up of public roads and bridges, the maintenance of the helpless, and the relief of the poor, there might be some colour of a reason for maintaining this gigantic monopoly. Such an effect would be produced if the Queen or the State were *de facto* as well as *de jure* (for she is by fiction of law) the real owner of all the land in England, since the increase of rent caused by the monopoly price of food would be an increase of the public revenue, and not of the income of a given number of private individuals or families. But in fact there would in such a case be no need for such a pernicious, at least questionable, mode of increasing the revenue of the State, which, without any monopolies mischievous to the manufactures and trade, and consequently to the prosperity of the country, would be more than amply sufficient for all necessary purposes. The operation of such a mode of raising the public revenue as that above referred to is thus described by an eminent political economist:—

"If a body of people," says Mr. Mill,* "were to migrate into a new country, and land had not yet become private property, there would be this reason for considering the rent of land as a source peculiarly adapted to supply the exigencies of the Government, that industry would not, by that means, sustain the smallest repression; and that the expense of the Government would be defrayed without imposing any burden upon any individual. The owners of capital would enjoy its profits, the class of labourers would enjoy their wages, without any deduction whatsoever; and every man would employ his capital in the way which was really most advantageous, without any inducement from the mischievous operation of a tax to remove it from a channel in which it was more, to one in which it would be less productive to the nation. There is, therefore, a peculiar advantage in reserving the rent of land as a fund for supplying the exigencies of the State.

"There would be this inconvenience, indeed, even in a state of things in which land had not been made private property, that the rent of the land, in a country of a certain extent and peopled up to a certain degree, would exceed the amount of what Government would need to expend. The surplus ought, undoubtedly, to be distributed among the people in the way likely to contribute the most to their happiness; and there is no way, perhaps, in which this end can be so well accomplished as by rendering the land private property. As there is no difficulty, however, in rendering the land private property with the rent liable for a part of the public burdens, so there seems no difficulty in rendering it private property with the rent answerable for the whole of the public burdens. It would only in this case require a greater quantity of land to be a property of equal value. Practice would teach its value as accurately under these as under present circumstances; and the business of society would, it is evident, proceed without alteration in every other respect."

If it should appear on a minute examination of the evidence, that by its fundamental constitution England enjoyed this peculiar advantage arising from the rent of the land being reserved as a fund for supplying the exigencies of the State, some most important questions immediately present themselves. How came England to be deprived of such a pre-eminent advantage? By what steps was the change accomplished? And by what causes were the forces put in motion that made these steps be taken? These are questions which appear to us of paramount importance, and we shall not consider any time wasted which is employed in attempting to obtain a satisfactory answer to them.

THE "HERALD" OF THE TIMES.

There is a species of cuttle-fish which when chased by an enemy emits a quantity of black fluid, under cover of which it makes its escape, leaving the pursuers quite unable to conjecture at what point it will make its next appearance. The article in the *Times* on which we have elsewhere commented has been received by its cotemporary rivals as an effusion of ink in the style of the cuttle-fish, designed for the same purpose of evasion and creating quite as much uncertainty as to the precise position which the "leading journal" intends for the future to occupy. The *Chronicle* exclaims your fixed-duty cry is "our thunder;" the *Post* exclaims "there is treason in the camp," the *Standard* raves in bewilderment; the *Sun* rejoices; and there is doubt spread over the whole *Globe*. The *Morning Herald* alone takes a sober view of the matter: it recognises in the altered language of the *Times* involuntary homage to the power of the League; it sees that a confederacy of honest men for self-protection has won respect from envy and reverence from hatred; and it dissects the hollow excuses put forward to cover meditated desertion with a skill and temper highly creditable to its powers of moral anatomy. We have never denied that the League has been the creation of continued injustice; the party squabble respecting the share which the several factions that divide the Government had in the perpetration and the maintenance of the wrong is "a very pretty quarrel as it stands," and we care little for the answers which the *Times* may make to the following sharp queries of the *Herald*:—

"If the rise and advance of the present power of the Anti-Corn-Law League were so easily augured years ago, why was Sir Oracle then dumb—why was the Prophet after the event silent before its occurrence—why, if the refusal of a fixed duty was foreseen to lead to the present condition of things, did the *Times* join in placing in power a Cabinet bound in honour and honesty to refuse it?—why did it formerly speak as the organ of a party nearly unanimous in opinion against such a Corn-Law scheme?—why has it continued down to the present time to support, more or less, an Administration still pledged to resist a fixed duty?"

To this the *Times* replies in effect, that nobody was disposed to pay the least attention to any discussion connected with political economy until the League showed that the Corn Laws and other monopolies were impoverishing the community individually, and destroying the nation collectively; and for this service to itself—seeing that, on its own showing, the *Times* would have found no readers for its fiscal articles had not the League educated them for the purpose—it proposes that the League should be forthwith dissolved.

The *Herald* shows that the proposed dissolution is not a matter of easy attainment; and it thus cleverly portrays the progress which this confederacy to protect the rights of individuals and to prevent the ruin of the nation has made since its objects have begun to be understood. The *Herald* thus describes the present state and future prospects of the League:—

"But the manifest and dishonest inconsistency of that journal is unimportant in comparison with the present strength and future prospects of the League. That confederacy *is* powerful; its inherent power is increased by the supineness of those whose great interests it assaults; and its ultimate success is certain unless vigour and unanimity be re-infused into the Conservative party. The sincerity of its leading men is testified by their subscriptions; and the determination of its moving men is certified by their indomitable perseverance, their incessant activity, and their remorseless unscrupulousness. Flushed with triumphs at London and Kendal, the League now assails Salisbury, threatens to invade every vacated borough, and has an organised correspondence in every town and village."

The *Herald* clearly sees what the *Times* does not seem to have discovered—that a body which has taken such a position as the League, has pre-occupied the ground which the advocates of fixed duty wish to take.

"If the present law cannot be maintained, substantially all protection is abandoned; if the present Cabinet cannot be sustained in power, that law cannot be maintained. In expressing dissatisfaction with Ministers, farmers are lessening the power of their only friends; in assisting to overturn the present Cabinet, they are striking away the plank beneath their own feet."

The arguments of the *Herald* against a fixed duty are really excellent: they are those which have been constantly urged by all who have examined the question with the knowledge of science or the feelings of patriotism:—

"A few Conservatives are enamoured of a fixed duty; they regard it as a compromise to be made for the sake of a permanent settlement; they look upon it as a means of detracting from the power of the Anti-Corn-Law League. A fixed duty is a fixed delusion; either it must be too low to be worth having, or too high to be capable of being maintained. If it be fixed at an amount injurious to farmers and labourers, it would be a mockery to be swept away; if it be fixed at a sum more restrictive than at present, it would only be another argument for total repeal. And yet one or the other a fixed duty must, in nine years out of ten, be. Were the seasons regular—were crops of equable average—were prices only slightly variable, then might a fixed duty be imposed which would afford both adequate protection and abundance; but inasmuch as the reverse of all that is the case, protection on the one hand and abundance on the other can only be attained through the agency of a sliding scale. But the time is passed when a fixed-duty scheme can be discussed: the declared object of the League and its power render any such compromise hopeless; the present alternative is the principle of the present law or total repeal; the present question for agriculturists to decide is, are they resolved to sleep whilst Mr. Cobden sails on to triumph?"

If we were not disgusted by the affectation of scholarship which is manifested by quoting scraps of school-boy Latin, we should say that the League is

Nullius addictus jurare in verba magistri.

Mr. Cobden is one of its most distinguished ornaments, but he is neither its guide nor its leader: its guide is the principle of commercial policy, derived from the accumulated experience of ages, supported by all that is wise and intelligent in the community, and reluctantly confessed by the heads of the very party embodied to prevent its immediate application; and its leader—the only leader which the League has ever acknowledged or ever will recognise—is the security of the earnings of industry, and the consequent advancement of the economic, the social, and the moral position of every individual in this our great commercial community.

* Elements of Political Economy, p. 249, 3rd edit.

ALDERMAN NEILD AND THE LEAGUE.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the following letter from Mr. Alderman Neild of Manchester. If to establish the righteousness of our cause other testimony were required beyond that which is afforded by our known principles and past history, the addition of such men to our ranks as Mr. Alderman Neild would furnish it. Numbers are now engaged with us in prosecuting the great object we are seeking to accomplish, and others are daily flocking to our standard whose names are never to be found mixed up with the mere political squabbles of the day, and who would instinctively shrink from joining any body, banded together for the mere purpose of agitation. The Spanish proverb says, "Judge of a man by the company he keeps;" and perhaps the best reply we can make to the furious but groundless charges of the monopolists, is calmly to point to such men as Joseph John Gurney, Alderman Neild, and others, and ask, if with such supporters our aim can be unholy, or our conduct impeachable?

"MANCHESTER, Nov. 17, 1843.

"DEAR SIR,—The Anti-Corn-Law League have again made a powerful appeal to the public, to enable them to carry on their operations.

"Although I have ever felt the deep importance of a repeal of the present Corn Laws, yet, in the early movement of the League, it did appear to me that the views put forth by that body had too much reference to the interests of a class or section of society only, and had not sufficient regard to those of the whole community, which, in my opinion, is alike interested in the settlement of the question; and on that account I did not feel justified in giving to the League that support which, under other circumstances, I should have felt called upon to afford.

"The zeal and industry which the League have displayed in so very extensively disseminating sound views on a question of such vast importance—treating it as they have latterly done, not as a one-sided question, but in my opinion clearly demonstrating that it embraces the interests of the whole community—entitle them to the gratitude and support of all their fellow-countrymen.

"By placing before the public a mass of information calculated to enable them to form correct opinions upon the subject of Free Trade, in the place of the obscure and incorrect notions which have generally existed in the public mind on this subject, the League have conferred a most essential service upon the community.

"Few will be disposed to dispute the importance of correct views upon subjects of vital interest being extensively disseminated; and surely nothing can be a better precursor to sound legislation: for where the former obtain general and complete hold of the public mind, the latter must of necessity follow.

"I do not consider that it is necessary that any one who feels the importance of a settlement of this question should, before giving his support to the League, wait until the opinion of that body and his own are brought into perfect agreement upon every point.

"It is because the League have done these important services that I think they are entitled to the aid which they now solicit; and, so far as concerns myself, I wish to do that which appears to me my duty; and request you to add my name to your list of contributions for £100.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly, WM. NEILD.

"The Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League."

SALISBURY ELECTION.

THE NOMINATION.

SALISBURY, Wednesday Evening.

Early this morning the two parties were parading the city in every direction, the banners were carried through the streets, the church bells were ringing, and the old city once more bore the appearance of a contested election.

Soon after ten o'clock Mr. Campbell came in procession to the waggon-place, in front of the Town-hall, in a dark blue carriage drawn by a pair of horses, his band playing "The Campbells are coming," and his blue banners bearing, amongst others, the inscription of "Our glorious constitution," "The Crown and Bible," "The Queen, Lords, and Commons."

During the interval between his arrival and that of Mr. Bouverie the Liberal part of the crowd amused themselves with calling out "Come up to the scratch;" "They'd be with us if they dare;" "We don't want 'em;" "Where's the prizefighter?" "Where's crowbar?" "No London blackguards."

At half-past ten Mr. Bouverie appeared, surrounded by an immense body of friends and electors, his red banners inscribed, "Vote for plenty and the good of all;" "Free Trade and no monopoly;" "No intimidation, no corruption, no bribery;" "Bouverie and freedom;" "The Queen supports our cause." Among the flags, also, was the union-jack and the American ensign side by side. Among the persons with him were General Michell, Admiral Bouverie, Dr. Fowler, Dr. Finch, John Peniston, Esq.; Henry Cooper, Esq.; Robert Squarey, Esq.; John Lambert, Esq.; C. W. Squarey, Esq., &c.

The usual preliminaries having been gone through in front of the Council-chamber,

The MAYOR (J. H. Hussey, Esq.) came forward and said they were assembled, by virtue of the Queen's precept, to return a citizen to serve in the present Parliament for the city of Salisbury, in the room of their late respected representative, whose memory was so justly dear to them all. (Cheers.) He trusted that they would give a fair hearing to any observations that might be addressed to them, and that they would conduct the election in a manly spirit, and with brotherly good will. (Cheers.)

Dr. FOWLER then came forward, amid loud cheers, and addressed the electors:—Fellow-citizens, and gentlemen of the constituency of Salisbury, will you allow me, on the present occasion, to propose as one of your representatives a gentleman who has resided long among you, whom you are aware possesses kindly feelings towards the men of Salisbury, and to whom you have formerly testified your approbation—I mean your old friend, the Hon. Edward Pleydell Bouverie? (Cheers.) I understand, then, by that shout, that I have your permission to nominate Mr. Bouverie as a fit and proper re-

presentative for this city in the Commons' House of Parliament. (Renewed cheering.) Much as I am attached to that gentleman, I would not have ventured to recommend him to your notice had I not been well aware that in the relations of private life he is most excellent and irreproachable, and also that, as a public man, he is eminently qualified for the trust he seeks at your hands. (Cheers.) I defy the gentlemen on the other side, or indeed any party, to produce a man better versed in the laws of this country than Mr. Bouverie. I challenge any one to produce an individual so well acquainted with the colonial interests as he is; with all the relations between this country and foreign nations, upon all of which subjects he has taken the best means to inform himself. There is one objection I have heard stated to Mr. Bouverie upon the present occasion, and that is, his advocacy of the repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) I can myself most conscientiously say, after the most strict investigation of that question, that I agree heartily with the honourable gentleman upon that subject. (Loud cheers.) Of this question I am at least an unbiassed advocate, for more than half the income upon which I subsist is derived from land. I cannot consider that as a wise, good, or righteous law which withholds bread from the stomachs of our fellow-countrymen to put money into the pockets of the rich. (Loud cheers.) Be assured of this great truth, that no law can be right or just in the sight of God which is not in accordance with the principles he has laid down for the government of the world. (Cheers.) I now leave you to say who shall be your representative. (Dr. Fowler retired from the front of the hustings amid reiterated cheers.)

R. Squarey, Esq., then came forward and said:—Mr. Mayor and fellow-citizens, I rise with a species of pleasure which I cannot describe to you to second the nomination of Mr. Bouverie. It is, indeed, a source of the greatest satisfaction to me that you should have thus again honoured me in placing this duty in my hands. Dr. Fowler has described to you the character of the Hon. Mr. Bouverie as he justly deserves. I again repeat that he is a man of consummate talent, and that if you choose to send fools to Parliament you must be fools yourselves. (Loud cheers, met by groans from Mr. Campbell's friends.) I have no doubt that you are perfectly aware what are the duties of a member of Parliament. If you do not, I will tell you. He is sent there to represent the great majority of the people of England, and the lower classes in the country. The aristocracy have the House of Lords to represent them and to protect their interests; the House of Commons is an assembly representing the people of England; and I say that, if the people are fools enough to send men there who will not support their interests, they deserve all the ills which may befal them. (Hear, hear.) I am confident, gentlemen, that your voices are all in our favour, with the exception of a very few persons on the other side. When I look at that little squad there, I am sure, as Mr. Peniston has said, that half of them would be glad to be with us if they could. Among that party are many men who met at yonder reading-room, and bothered me out of my life to get up a meeting in favour of the Reform Bill. (Hear, hear.) I would name them, but their own consciences will tell them who they are. (Cries of "No, no, they have no consciences.") What is this Corn Law? In the year 1815 it was passed with fixed bayonets: soldiers surrounded the doors of the House of Commons, because the enraged people were determined to do all in their power to prevent it passing. The inhabitants of this country knew perfectly well for what purpose it was passed. The aristocracy knew that when peace came they would be compelled to reduce their rents, and they said, "No, instead of doing that, we will pass a bill which will raise the price of wheat to £20 a load, and then the farmers will be able to pay us high rents." That is the naked truth, disguise it how you will, and beat round the bush as you may. (Hear, hear.) But you voters of Salisbury will, I hope, to-morrow send a man to Parliament who will do all in his power to abrogate that wicked bill—(cheers)—which taxes the poor man to fill the pockets of the rich. I will now address a few words to some gentlemen among the other party, of whom I know there are many who wish they were with us. All that I ask of them is that they will conscientiously carry out their convictions and vote as their consciences dictate to them. I admire and respect every man who votes from conscientious motives, let him in so doing support what side he will; but I despise, with the most ineffable scorn, the wretch who wishes to vote for Mr. Bouverie, but refrains from so doing under the pretext that his interests will not let him. I say such an individual merits the most supreme contempt, not only of me, but of every man in existence; and I am afraid that there are many amongst the opposite party who will deserve and have that contempt. Poor pandering wretches, they creep between the legs of the great man who comes to them, lays out 25s., and says, "I hope you will remember that I am your customer, and give your vote to Mr. So-and-so." Why, what if one man does lay out 20s. at your shop, here are 1000 or 1500 men who would lay out £50 or £100 with you. Do not then, I entreat you, be that poor snivelling, sneaking, miserable creature which you assuredly will if you act upon such contemptible principles. I respect the man who votes for Mr. Campbell, if he votes conscientiously. (Hear, hear.) If he is an honest man I admire him; but those who skulk about—the bats, as they have been called—who would sell that glorious right with which the constitution has endowed them, are of all men most despicable. Why, after the commission of such an act, you will not be able to look your children in the face another day; your very wives will despise you. (Hear, hear, hear.) Your sons and daughters will say, "There goes our father, I wish he was a more respectable man, but he betrayed our interests when he ought to have done his duty, and meanly sneaked and truckled to some customer." (Hear, hear.) I beg pardon for having detained you at this length. I only again say, as I have before repeated over and over again, that I hope you will discharge your duty conscientiously upon this important occasion. I have no desire whatever to offend Mr. Campbell, or to say anything which may be considered personal to him; and I hope I have not uttered a word which may be justly considered [illegible] to him. I believe in private life Mr. Campbell is a very worthy and estimable man. Do your duty as you ought to do to-morrow, and Mr. Bouverie will be at the head of the poll. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Henry Jacob, the brother-in-law of the bishop, and a fox-hunting squire, who would think mobbing a fox and repealing the Corn Laws two of the worst things, came forward, amid much cheering, to propose Mr. Campbell. He commenced by adverting to the melancholy event which had rendered an election for the city necessary. He could, he said, safely appeal to those who conscientiously differed from Mr. Wyndham in political opinion to bear testimony to his manly and in every respect estimable character. (Cheers.) If they should return his relation as their member, which he had not the slightest doubt they would do (cheers, and cries of "Where do the hounds meet to-morrow?"), they might depend upon it that he would do his duty equally well. (Cheers.) He could not but regret that the honourable gentleman (Mr. Bouverie) had closed his last contest in Salisbury by charging the citizens with having been the instruments of bribery and intimidation. (True, true.) Some talk there had been, it was true, about proving these charges, but they had not done so. (Cheers, "Who paid for the £20 breakfast?") Another source of deep regret to him was, to observe this day a body of Englishmen—ay, and among them English officers too, holding her Majesty's commission—marching under foreign colours (cheers), a parallel to the system which introduced a foreign body into this city to intimidate and insult the citizens in the exercise of the elective franchise. (Cheers.) He was convinced, however, that in spite of the unconstitutional efforts of the League the electors would do their duty firmly and conscientiously, by returning Mr. Campbell, whom he now proposed as a fit and proper person to represent them in Parliament. (Cheers.)

Mr. Richard Hetley, who every few seconds turned round to be prompted, seconded the nomination. After eulogising the character of the late member, he observed that he had known Mr. Campbell from his childhood, and could, from experience, safely say that if they should elect him as their representative—which he was certain they would do to-morrow—(cheers, and cries of "Sally Morgan's coming")—they would find him a stanch and unflinching advocate of their true interests—a supporter of those sound institutions under which our country had attained and kept her proud position among the nations of the world—an advocate for that protection to the agricultural interest to which it was fairly entitled, in order that it might meet the foreigner in the market upon equal terms. (Cheers.) One subject he could not avoid adverting to in terms of deprecation—the interference in this election of an organised body of strangers, who had in a most unconstitutional manner forced themselves into the city—("Do you mean the prizefighters?")—nay, into the very houses of the honest electors, and endeavoured to make them break their pledges to Mr. Campbell. (Cheers.) He would be loth to suppose that Mr. Bouverie was patronised and sent here by such a body as this; but it was a fact worthy of note that the first intimation they had of Mr. Bouverie being about to contest the borough was from the League. They had claimed him as their own, and he had not disclaimed them. (Cheers.) They had boasted that the Conservatives had not answered them. They had not done so because they did not recognise them as antagonists in this contest; they did not allow that the League had a right to interfere with this election; the League, whose leaders cried out against monopoly, were themselves the greatest monopolists in the known world. ("Hear, hear," answered by "Free Trade for ever.") They wanted even to monopolise members of Parliament. Mr. Hetley, after assuring the electors that Mr. Campbell, if successful, would be equally consistent in his private as in his political principles as their late representative, concluded, amidst loud cheers from the left of the hustings, by seconding Mr. Campbell in the usual form.

No other candidate having been nominated,

Mr. Bouverie came forward amidst great cheering, and said—Gentlemen, I believe it is usual, before people come to the scratch, to Peel (great laughter), so I will off with my coat, though I will not take to that of Sir Robert. (Cheers.) I have heard very little that has fallen from the gentlemen on the other side of the hustings, but I caught a few words, on which I will shortly comment. I heard something which fell from my friend Mr. Jacob about bribery and intimidation. Now, I should like to know from him and from you on which side bribery and intimidation are likely to come. ("From the Blues, to be sure.") They have brought down an old fat gentleman in spectacles to creep about the town, and see if he can pick up any stray voters (cheers), a man who is perfectly known elsewhere as well versed in such dirty practices. I should like to know from him, and from you also, whether there were not bribery and intimidation at the last election. (Cheers.) I have the evidence at home in my desk. (Cheers, and "No, no.") I have the legal evidence in my desk, and I challenge gentlemen opposite to deny it. (Loud cheers.) I have heard, too, of voters kindly accommodated with money on the understanding that they should always vote for the Wyndham family. I am not one of the Wyndham family, and therefore it cannot be given to vote for me. (Cheers.) Then, again, with regard to the League of which Mr. Hetley accused me of being a member. Gentlemen, I am independent of the League—I beg to say that I am not a Leaguer, but I am a Free-Trader. (Cheers.) I agree in opinion with the gentlemen here who have advocated their opinions by fair arguments and open discussion, and who have not yet been met or contradicted in argument. ("It can't be done.") So much for that point. (Cheers.) And now, gentlemen, I have to add that no one can regret more sincerely than I do the sad event which has given to you this opportunity of exercising your voice in electing a representative. I knew Mr. Wyndham from my childhood—I did not agree with his political opinions, but I knew him to be a kind-hearted, a good-tempered, and an amiable man: that, however, has nothing to do with the present question: but Mr. Wyndham—and Mr. Campbell professes to follow his steps—always maintained that everything in this country is perfectly good as it is, that it requires no change, and that the people of this country are the most perfectly happy, moral, and contented people on the face of the globe; in short, gentlemen, they think ours such a glorious constitution and so perfect that it ought to be carefully shut up in a glass case, and never be touched, or changed, or moved. (Cheers.) Mr. Campbell treads, as he says, in his uncle's footsteps; does Mr. Campbell know that there are in this country 20,000 people yearly convicted of crimes against the laws? (Cheers.) And does he not think this a crying evil, which requires a change? (Cheers.) Does he not know also that three-fourths of those are for crimes against property, and that the great cause of such crimes is want and necessity, and pinching starvation? Does he not know that there are many more hard-working industrious men who are perfectly willing to labour, and who do not ordinarily have more than three decent meals in a week? Is that a happy state of things, and would you wish it continued? (Cheers.) Does he not know that in the neighbouring county of Somerset there have been 360 prisoners passing through the county prison during the last three years, not one of whom had the slightest knowledge of religion or moral duty, or the name of his God, except to swear by? (Cheers.) Is that a happy state of things? Does that show that the people are as moral, and as happy, and as well off as they ought to be? (Cheers.) Does Mr. Campbell wish to preserve such a state of things? Is it all so good and so admirable that it never ought to be altered? Let any man say whether this ought to be. This state of things is all very well, gentlemen, for me and for Mr. Campbell—for Mr. Campbell, who enjoys his horses and his dogs, and drives his four-in-hand about your town, and for me, who, although I would not drive my four-in-hand, yet have my books to occupy me. Why, we have each our bellyful of food, and this state of misery does not touch us, or signify to us, except as we are interested in the happiness of those around us, and in the general condition of the people. That, gentlemen, is the question of general politics, in which I differed from Mr. Wyndham, and now differ from Mr. Campbell. Yet there is one particular application of that principle, as it affects a question of the deepest interest in the country, which is of the grestest importance to ourselves, to our families, to our wives, and to our children, and which will be so to our descendants, and that question is, whether we are to have Free Trade or not. (Cheers.) I do not mean by Free Trade, as some foolish people believe, that there is not to be any revenue or duty to carry on the Government; but what I mean is, that all protective restrictions should be removed, and that no one party should have a monopoly which benefits, or may seem to benefit, that one party at the expense of the remainder of the people. I say, gentlemen, that the present system of Corn Laws is not founded in justice; that they are contrary to the law of God and to the principle on which all laws ought to be founded. (Great cheering.) Gentlemen on the other side, like me, are no doubt very fond of a quiet life, and, though peace be the great object of all society, we shall never have peace unless our laws are based on justice. Look, gentlemen, at Ireland. There is the immense population of 7,000,000 on the very verge of rebellion, who would be ready at the voice of one man to break out in rebellion, and to give us all the horrors of a revolution; and why is this? Because they have been oppressed for centuries by laws which are not founded in justice; therefore are they discontented, and therefore are they ready to break out into rebellion, so that nothing but troops can keep them quiet. (Cheers.) Look, again, at Wales. Who is Rebecca? Rebecca is merely the people of the country, who have been roused and goaded on by oppression to unjustifiable acts. I hope never to see like acts brought to the removal of other unjust laws; but, depend upon it, we shall never have peace and happiness till we repeal a law which grinds down the people of the country to the lowest point of misery. (Cheers.) Mr. Campbell says that he is for protection. I am for protection too; but the protection on which I would have the farmers rely is the protection of their skill, their ingenuity, and their industry. (Loud cheers.) This is the protection which will enable them to compete with the whole world; but that is the protection which the law does not give. One would think, to hear the farmers spoken of, that they are the happiest race of men, that they are never distressed, that they have mints of money (cheers); but I have heard of such things as farmers ruined, of rents reduced 20 and 30 per cent., and of parliamentary committees to inquire into agricultural distress. Why, there have been five of these committees since 1815, when these laws were passed, to inquire into this agricultural distress, and in each case it was proved most satisfactorily that the farmers were ruined, and that something must be done for them. That was what this Corn Law protection had been to the farmers. (Loud cheers.) Yet there is one protection which, beyond all others, I would wish to see the law of the land, a protection which would give security to the honest and conscientious voter. (Renewed cheers.) Do you think, gentlemen, that Mr. Campbell would ever ask your support or expect your votes if the ballot existed? (Great cheering.) I say no, and I will tell you why, because, if we had the ballot, he never would have ventured to come amongst you. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Campbell, no doubt, will rake up some of the old arguments against the repeal of the Corn Laws which have been made a hundred times, and as often answered. He will tell you that we ought not to depend on foreign countries for what is requisite for our subsistence. Does he not know with reference to this very article of corn, this first necessary of life, that from two to three million quarters have been imported annually during the last three years, and, as each quarter sustains a man, that from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 persons in this country have been in each of the last three years, dependent upon foreigners for food? (Cheers.) Is that being independent of foreign countries? Besides, if we are to be independent in one thing, let us be independent in everything. Let us take Mr. Campbell himself. Let us take his hat—that is beaver, and the beaver inhabits a foreign country. Then let us have his coat—that is made of Saxony wool. (Laughter.) Then his neckcloth—that is a beautiful specimen of blue and white silk from Italy. (Renewed laughter.) Then, again, his trousers—there again he is dependent upon Saxony. Then his boots—they are most probably made of foreign hides. Last of all, his cotton stockings—he actually stands in cotton from America; and there he is in his shirt, this candidate who would be independent of foreign countries. (Great laughter.) Then, perhaps, Mr. Campbell will tell you that this is by nature an agricultural country. So it is, and so it always will be. It is a great bugbear to suppose that there is an enormous quantity of foreign corn ready to be let in upon us. What we want is not so much cheap corn, but that we should be always sure of finding it, and to have it at a steady price. (Cheers.) This, however, is an agricultural country in a higher sense than Mr. Campbell would have us suppose. That great field for cultivation, three-fourths of the whole world—the ocean—is ours: we plough it with our ships, and we reap the produce of all countries.

(Cheers.) It is not, however, the monopoly in corn alone to which I am opposed. That is only one among many. There is the monopoly of sugar, of timber, and of coffee—all grievances in their way, very grievous to us, and kept up because it is pretended that they benefit the colonists. I have been in the colonies, gentlemen—they are ruined with these monopolies, and they would be better without them. (Cheers.) Some of my friends on the other side will say, "Free Trade is a very good thing if you can get it." I say that we can get it—and, more, I say that we will get it. (Loud cheers.) To suppose that foreign countries will not trade with us if we will take their produce would be much the same thing as saying to the electors, "The sun will not rise to-morrow, and so you will not be able to go to the poll." Why, you would reply, "We say the sun will rise to-morrow, and we will go to the poll." (Cheers.) But do not let gentlemen on the other side suppose, though they do win this election, which I am far from admitting, that they will be able to resist the progress of Free Trade. The question is settled; it is only a matter of one, or two, or three years—the days of monopoly are numbered—the handwriting is on the wall, and I will even ask them whether they will be able to resist the progress of Free Trade? The first commercial city in the world has struck the death-blow of monopoly, and it will bring the downfal and the ruin of this accursed system. (Great cheering.) Gentlemen, I have no more to add. You may be as blue as the Asiatic cholera, or as red as a boiled lobster, but the fight is not a battle of colours, it is a fight for Free Trade for yourselves and for your children. If we win, it will be the victory of Free Trade, and of nothing else. The hon. gentleman retired amidst three times three enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. Campbell then presented himself, and was received with loud cheers by his party. He said, in coming forward to solicit their suffrages, he experienced feelings both of pleasure and regret—regret at the melancholy circumstances which had called them together. They had lost an estimable and respected member, and he a dear and kind relative. (Hear, hear.) It was needless for him to dwell upon this topic. The character of Mr. Wyndham was well known to them, and they could testify that there never was a man who gave so little offence to his political opponents, or was so beloved by his friends. (Cheers.) They might truly say with the ancient bard,—

"Take him for all in all,
We ne'er shall look upon his like again."

It was in compliance with Mr. Wyndham's wish, as well as that of the friends about him, that he (Mr. Campbell) had come forward as a candidate. If he should be elected, he pledged himself to uphold the constitution as at present established, to support the Church and State, and to use his every endeavour to secure to the agriculturist that legislative protection which he was fairly entitled to—a protection which the manufacturers have so long enjoyed and still retain. (Cheers.) He would ask his opponents, who said so much about Free Trade, if the farmer were deprived of protection against the foreigner, what would become of that excellent and patient class of men the British peasants? Would they make cotton spinners of them all? If they did, they would not like the exchange. Let them read a certain blue book, entitled "The Report of the Factory Commissioners," in which the tender mercies extended to that class of labourers were well described and fully developed. (Cheers, and "Look at your book; who wrote your speech?") As regarded cheap bread, which his opponents professed to be seeking for through the repeal of the Corn Law, he could tell them that good bread in France was at the present moment nearly as dear as in England. ("Look at your book.") But they were told that we should be able to exchange our manufactures for the corn of other countries. Now, it was well known that a great quantity of very inferior goods were sent to the Continent, and the foreigners did not look upon our manufactures with such a favourable eye as had been represented, and were having manufactures of their own. ("That's the Corn Laws.") If the Corn Laws were repealed, we should doubtless have plenty of foreign corn; but, instead of getting rid of our manufactures in exchange, we should have to pay for it in gold ("Lower your rents"); and who then would be the monopolists? why, the great manufacturers, who would accumulate the corn in their granaries, and dole it out just at their own price. (Cheers.) If Free Trade were a thing of great importance now, he would ask Mr. Bouverie whether it was not equally important when his friends the Whigs were in power. (Loud cheers.) Did he not consider it to have been their duty to propose the repeal of the Corn Laws? And why did they not do so during their nine or ten first years? Because the leading man of their party (Lord Melbourne) denounced the system of Free Trade, and declared that so insane a scheme never entered the mind of man as to have Free Trade for this country. ("Look at your book; there's a fellow to speak.") Ten or twelve years ago he recollected the city flourishing, and he regretted on his canvass to find so many houses shut up. At that time they were told that the Reform Bill was to do wonders for them: everybody was to have his pockets full of money, and prosperity was to reign throughout the land. The result they were all well acquainted with; and the Free-Traders came to them now with precisely the same story. ("No starvation laws.") Under the specious guise of cheap bread, lurked the attempt to obtain cheap labour. (Tory cheers.) That was the real object. (Cheers.) Mr. Bouverie had referred to his (Mr. Campbell's) driving about Salisbury with his four horses. He could only reply, that he trusted he should be enabled for many years to pursue the same practice. (Cheers.) In conclusion, Mr. Campbell expressed his confident belief that the independent electors of Salisbury would spurn the attempted interference of the League, and declared that his object in presenting himself as a candidate was neither place nor private emolument; and that, if he should be elected, his first and most anxious care would be for the interest and welfare of the city of Salisbury. (Cheers.)

The Mayor then put the two candidates' names to a show of hands: about two-thirds were held up for Mr. Bouverie, and one-third for Mr. Campbell; and his worship thereupon declared the show of hands to have fallen on Mr. Bouverie, amidst three times three cheers.

A poll was demanded by Mr. Campbell, and a vote of thanks having been passed to the Mayor, the meeting separated.

There was not the least attempt at disturbance on the part of the Free-Traders, and not the least excuse for sending for the London police or the military.

SALISBURY ELECTION.

Salisbury, Nov. 23.

A great moral triumph has been achieved by the Free Traders in this cathedral and agricultural town, by the increased numbers which have now voted for Mr. Bouverie. In May last there were 188 voters for Mr. Bouverie. The Anti-Corn-Law League appeared in the field upon the vacancy in November. The same register is in force as there was in May, and out of that same register 186 electors had recorded their votes for Mr. Bouverie before ten o'clock, and by one o'clock 80 more had declared their adherence to the candidate, who boldly avowed on the hustings that he was a Free Trader. If any one had said, in July, that in this cathedral town, and in the midst of the stick-in-the-mud farmers, not only would the Anti-Corn-Law League appear openly on the field, but would carry eighty more men than could be then brought to the poll, he would have been called a madman.

The returns of Durham, of London, and of Kendal, were not less an evidence strong of the progress of public opinion than the temporary defeat of Mr. Bouverie by such numbers. Taken altogether this is, perhaps, a greater triumph for the League than they have hitherto gained. The power of their principles is more strongly proved than ever: for if they can do such things in Salisbury, what can they not do elsewhere!

But, more than all this, the actual return might have been secured to Mr. Bouverie, instead of Mr. Campbell, if his committee had not manfully rejected the infamous offers of men to sell their consciences for money. Those same men have carried the majority to Mr. Campbell. How long he will keep it is a question for a committee of the House of Commons, where a petition will meet him on his entrance. The bribery was very clear. One man who came up to vote for the monopolist would not take the bribery oath, and actually went out without voting. Thrice was he brought up, and at last swallowed it. Another, when the oath was tendered by Mr. Campbell's agent, at the poll, told him flat to his face that the giver of the oath had offered him £10. The triumph, however, is quite great enough, without appealing to these facts to enhance its value.

I need not tell your readers that the usual method of cooping voters, and carrying them out of the town to enjoy the country air, were very freely resorted to, and that so desperate were the Tories, that doubtful voters were regularly mobbed in the early part of the morning.

Some of the clergy made themselves very active in the cause of dear corn and large tithe averages, and men in spatter-dashes and top-boots, walked the streets in great plenty. A gang of some fifteen or sixteen were very conspicuous.

The polling commenced at eight o'clock with great spirit on the part of Mr. Bouverie's friends, and they had reached a number at ten o'clock which quite dismayed their opponents. They did this in spite of the grossest insults, for though not sixpence was spent illegally by the Free-Traders, and the whole of the "doubtfuls" were safe in the clutches of the Tory committee, the Tory agents at the poll dared to offer the bribery oath to some of the most respectable men in the city. Not a man was left unpolled by the Tories, who could be got up by hook or by crook. To win twenty battles, Mr. Bouverie declared that "he would not dirty his hands"—he kept his word. The Tories have got their return—they have "won at all risks"—they will keep the seat till February—much good may it do them. They have run the risks.

STATE OF THE POLL.

	Bouverie.	Campbell.
9 o'clock	100 ..	46
10 ,, ...	186 ..	161
11 ,, ...	230 ..	235
12 ,, ...	257 ..	280
1 ,, ...	267 ..	304
2 ,, ...	268 ..	307
3 ,, ...	270 ..	312
4 ,, ...	270 ..	315

Colourable majority for the monopolists, 45.

The truth is manifest. The return was in the hands of the corrupt and "Swiss;" they have carried their point.

The peace of the town was well preserved by the Free-Traders: the prize-fighting bullies were fairly driven in to their nest at an early hour this morning, and did not afterwards show. "The Crown and Bible" flag was torn to shivers, but there has not been the least pretence for calling in the dragoons, which were marched into Wilton last night.

It will be seen that Mr. Bouverie had polled more men at twelve o'clock than Mr. Hussey was returned by in May last.

The Mayor has refused to make the official return this evening.

The monopolists make the final numbers—Bouverie, 266; Campbell, 318. But they fudged a list at eleven o'clock to pretend they were ahead, and have not corrected the error.

Between three and four o'clock, a chimney-sweep, decorated in the monopolist colours, rode on horseback from the Close, near the Cathedral, through the town to the Town-hall, amidst much laughter from his friends.

Twenty-two votes pledged to Mr. Bouverie remained unpolled, rather than suffer them to be subjected to persecution without securing a triumph; only *one* man, named Weaving, *broke* his promise to Mr. Bouverie, and voted with the monopolists.

IMPORTATION OF PRIZEFIGHTERS AND BRIBERS BY THE MONOPOLISTS.

On Monday evening the last Free-Trade meeting previous to the election in this city was held at the Salt-lane School-rooms, which was as crowded and as enthusiastic as any of the former assemblages in this place, demonstrating that, notwithstanding the League have held about a score of meetings, the intense interest which has been excited in the minds of the inhabitants of Salisbury, with reference to the important question of Free Trade, has not in the slightest degree subsided. The greatest indignation has been expressed both by the electors and non-electors of this city at the introduction of London pugilists and agents of the Carlton Club by the monopolists, who, finding the combined influence of the clergy, the Pembroke family, and the landed oligarchy, insufficient for the purpose of carrying the election, have not hesitated to call in as their auxiliaries men who, by common consent, are admitted to be the scum of society; and who, by creating a riot, it is intended should destroy the free expression of the opinions of the inhabitants of Salisbury at the nomination this day; as well as a class of men who have acquired an unenviable notoriety, as the unscrupulous agents of the Carlton Club, in repeated acts of wholesale bribery.

Mr. Wristbridge having been voted to the chair, called upon

Mr. Cobden, who delivered a most eloquent and impressive speech, in the course of which the honourable member said—"To-morrow the whole population of this city will have an opportunity of assembling together, and declaring, by a show of hands, which of the two candidates they would prefer to represent them in the House of Commons. I have not the least doubt in the world what that decision will be. (Hear, hear.) I am anxious that the nomination to-morrow should be conducted as orderly as the meetings in this place have been, and I am quite sure that, if the character which we have borne in our Free-Trade assemblies be maintained to-morrow in the market-place by those who are opposed to us, there will not be the slightest disorder. We do not come here relying upon physical force. (Hear.) Had we done so, instead of visiting you in a deputation of half a score individuals, we should have invaded your city with a much larger number. We came into Salisbury relying upon the truth and justice of the principles we had to lay before you; and we have nothing else upon which to trust. Now, any disorder and confusion—anything like violence—at once deprives us of all the advantage which we at present possess over our opponents in our appeals to the reason and judgment of the electors. Our enemies are quite on a level with us. I believe they may even be superior to many of us when they come to the use of brickbats and bludgeons—(cheers)—but so long as we continue the course we have hitherto pursued, and appeal only to the intellect and moral feeling of the people, so long will our opponents be found mute, and continue, as they have done up to the present time, to hide themselves in their retreats. I have heard of an importation into Salisbury of some members of the London prize ring. (Loud cries of "Shame;" "the Salisbury men will beat them though.") I do not speak at random, for we know everything that our opponents are doing. (Hear.) I know who brought them to the coach in London; I know the names in which they were booked; I know the hour at which they started, and the minute at which they arrived here. (Loud cheers.) Yes, men of Salisbury, you have had London prize-fighters brought into your city. (Loud cries of "Shame.") Not, I say, by the Anti-Corn-Law League, but by whom I will leave you to judge. (Hear, hear.) Now, what is their object? Doubtless it is to produce confusion to-morrow, in order that the monopolists may have some shadow of justification for having brought down fifty policemen, at an expense of £200 or £300, which will have to be borne by your rates. (Hear.) I will tell you how you must treat these men. In case they attempt to create any disturbance to-morrow at the nomination, or one of these men should lift his hand against a Free Trader, or any one who really has our cause at heart—do not strike a blow in return, but seize the man by main force, and hand him over to the custody of the police. (Hear, hear.) I now distinctly promise, that to every man whose evidence goes to the conviction of one of these men of an outrage upon the peace and order of the city at this election, a reward of £5 will be paid by the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Loud cheers.) Moreover, I will undertake that the prosecution of these ruffians shall cost nothing to the parties here; that they shall be remunerated for their loss of time in attending the magistrates, which shall be paid in addition to the above reward. (Cries of "Hear, hear.") But there is another class of people who have come into your town of a far more dangerous character than prizefighters. You have some notorious London election-bribers in Salisbury. (A voice—"We will look out for them to-night.") We know their names, who they are, what they are about; and there is not a step which they will take which will be unknown to us. Now, these people have been brought down here upon the supposition that there are to be found about twenty individuals in the city of Salisbury upon the registry who may be induced to poll, from pecuniary considerations, upon the side of the monopolists. Now, I hope nobody in this city may be deceived or misled. Our object is not to catch the poor, distressed, and probably to be pitied, men—our desire is to detect the briber, and not the bribed. I do not charge any of the electors with being capable of taking a bribe; but these men have come upon a speculation of the possible venality of about twenty electors of this city. If there be any such, I wish to caution them again, for it is the last time, as to the consequences of their taking a bribe. I again remind them that they are liable to two years' imprisonment, to have their hair cropped, to be robed in prison dresses, and stand during that period upon a tread-mill. In times past, you know that nobody was ever brought to justice, either for bribery or being bribed. Why was this? There was what was called a "feeling of honour" between the two factions who were contesting for political honour in this country. Both had recourse to bribery, and therefore they considered it not according to the rules of the political turf that they should bring each other to Newgate. Now, we are not fighting a sham battle; we have come here as the upholders of the law, and not its violators. The Anti-Corn-Law League have raised upwards of £14,000 at Manchester, and intend to raise £100,000 for the purpose of putting an end to this system of bribery and corruption. (Hear, hear.) We cannot have a fair chance in the electoral field of combat until we have put down this nefarious system. If a single farthing would turn this election in our favour we would not be guilty of an act of bribery. But we have resolved, go where we will, to clear the ground of these corruptionists. We are satisfied that the election is won if we can only prevent bribery. Now, if any elector should be tampered with to-night or to-morrow night—for it is generally *at night* that these evil deeds are transacted—and if he take the bribe, and fulfil the condition of it—that is, if he give his vote for a bribe, he is liable to the penalty imposed by the law, and we will do our best to bring him to justice. But, at the same time, we would much rather prosecute the man that offers a bribe. (Cheers.) Now is the time for the good men and true in this city—those who have keen wit, sharp eyes, and good heads upon their shoulders—during the next thirty-six hours to look about them, to keep a watchful eye upon the movements of any strangers who may come into your borough—to notice where they go, what they are about, and to see if they

cannot earn the £100 that we have promised to give upon the conviction of every briber. (Hear, hear.) I will tell you how the thing was managed at Cambridge. A voter presented himself one morning in the committee-room, and stated that he had just been offered £10 by the opposite party for his vote. "What shall I do?" said he. The answer was, "If you take it, bring it here immediately." In a short time he returned with the proffered ten pound note. He described the person who gave it him, and where he was. An application was immediately made to a magistrate for a warrant to apprehend the man who had given the money. He was taken into custody, and while he was being conveyed to the magistrates between two police officers, he slipped a paper out of his pocket, and tore it up by the way. The officers perceived it, and picked up the fragments, and pasted them together on a board, and it was found that this paper contained a list of the electors to be bribed, with the respective sums of money placed opposite the name of each person who had taken a bribe, and among the rest the name of the person who had given the information, to which was placed the sum of £10. Now this briber was tried and convicted, and was very mercifully dealt with, inasmuch as he was merely sentenced to ten months' at the treadmill. ("Hear," and laughter.) Now, every elector who may be tampered with and insulted by any stranger, or others who may come to him and whisper an offer of a bribe, should go straightway with his information to the League-office in the Poultry-cross. They well know where to find it. By so doing they will make a better day's work than by taking a bribe. It will not be as it was at Cambridge, merely the satisfaction of having patriotically produced a conviction for one of the greatest of crimes, but he will get £100 for his trouble into the bargain. Now this information I hope you will communicate to others, for understand I do not suppose I am now addressing myself to those who will be bribed, but I hope you will retail all this to-morrow. No man can have any ground of complaint, if he should be dealt with the utmost severity of the law, if after this explanation he either receives or offers a bribe. Now mind, if the bribe is taken and the vote given, do not let it be supposed that Thursday next will terminate the risk of detection. If it is necessary, not merely £100 but £1000 shall be paid for the next six months to bring any man to justice who has been guilty of bribery. (Cheers.) We will find it out, depend upon it. Mr. Cobden then alluded to the intense interest felt throughout the country respecting the result of the Salisbury election, in proof of which the hon. gentleman read letters from Poole, Ilfracombe, and other places, requesting early information of the final result. The hon. gentleman sat down amid loud and continued cheering.

Mr. Bright followed in a long and eloquent speech, in the course of which he read an address, numerously signed, from the inhabitants of Poole to the electors of Salisbury, calling upon them to return the Free-Trade candidate.

The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. Moore and the Rev. Mr. Barfett.

Three cheers were severally given for Mr. Bouverie and Free Trade, and the meeting separated.

Free-Trade Meeting at Prescot, near Liverpool.—On Monday evening the 13th inst., a deputation from the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association was received by a numerous meeting of the friends of Free Trade in the Town Hall of Prescot; the Rev. Thomas Rogers in the chair. The first resolution condemnatory of monopolies was proposed by Mr. Thomas Blackburn, and seconded by Mr. Samuel Stilt; the speeches of both these gentlemen were listened to with the greatest attention; and this resolution being carried unanimously, the second resolution was moved by a member of the deputation, and seconded by Mr. C. E. Rawlins of Sutton, when the meeting again confirmed its verdict for the *total and immediate repeal of all monopolies*. In exposition of the sugar-monopoly fraud, samples of the best moist—*but prohibited*—*Porto Rico sugar*, selling at 2¼d. per lb. to any one who will give bond not to eat it in this country, was exhibited side by side in most tantalizing contrast with the very same quality of monopoly Jamaica sugar, not to be had under 4½d. per lb., besides the duty of 2¾d. per lb. It was confidently expected that an amendment would be moved by one of the Chartist leaders of the Colliers' Association; but as no opposition whatever occurred during the evening, it is to be hoped that the question between the Monopolists and the Free Traders is beginning to be better understood among the working classes of the neighbouring mining district.

Great Yarmouth Anti-Corn-Law League.—A meeting of this association was held on Tuesday evening last, at the St. George's Tavern, Mr. James Douglas in the chair. The meeting took into consideration the propriety of procuring subscriptions in Yarmouth, towards the League Fund, when it was proposed and carried "That the subject be referred to the committee, in order that it may report at the next meeting of the association, to be held on the 27th inst., the best means to be adopted in raising subscriptions." Mr. Bayly, Hon. Secretary to the Association, said, that a report having been circulated in the borough that the Yarmouth League, although advocating a total repeal of the Corn Laws, would be satisfied with a four-shilling fixed duty, he would at once set the question at rest, by proposing a resolution to the meeting. From the moment he formed the association, he was resolved to vote for no candidate unless he were in favour of a total repeal of the Corn Laws; and he advised that association to make the total and unconditional repeal the basis of its operations. He begged to move the following resolution:—"In consequence of a report having been circulated in the town that this association will be satisfied with a four-shilling fixed duty on wheat, this meeting begs to refer all persons, previous to having their names enrolled as members of the Yarmouth Anti-Corn-Law League, to the rules and regulations framed for its guidance; in which the total repeal of the Corn Laws is declared to be its primary object; and, to prevent any misunderstanding on the part of the present members of the League, this meeting pledges itself to adhere to the principle of a total and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws." Mr. N. J. Norfer seconded the resolution, which was carried without a dissentient voice. The names of twenty additional voters were enrolled members of the League, and the meeting separated in high spirits, after being urged to canvass as many voters as possible previous to its meeting on the 27th.

Mr. Falvey, during the past week, has been lecturing in various parts of the counties of Huntingdon and Cambridge. The lectures at St. Ives were well attended, and a resolution in favour of Free Trade carried by acclamation, as well as one pledging the meeting to form an Anti-Corn-Law Association, and to assist the League in carrying out their object by all legal and constitutional means.

At Chatteris, in the Isle of Ely, such was the interest felt in the subject, that great numbers stood in the yard, the large room at the Horse and Gate Inn being full to inconvenience. Here, as elsewhere, a Free-Trade resolution was carried unanimously. Mr. Falvey was to lecture in the Huntingdon Institution on Thursday evening.

DURHAM CITY REGISTRATION ANALYSIS.

Total objections by Monopolists			103
Withdrawn	46		
Struck off	44		
Not sustained	13		
		—	103
Objections by Free Traders			49
Withdrawn	15		
Struck off	31		
Not sustained	3		
		—	49
Amongst the 44 struck off by Monopolists—			
4 voted for Mr. Bright			4
21 were dead previous to last election, but inserted by Town-clerk in the new lists ..			21
4 for non-residence, but not on the previous register			4
2 excisemen, who could not have voted, not on last register			2
13 not on rate sufficient time, but will be good next year			13
			44
Amongst the 31 struck off by Free Traders—			
11 voted for Purvis at last election			11
5 Monopolists on register, but unpolled at the last election			5
9 were dead, but again inserted by the Town-clerk			9
6 not on rate sufficient time, and *in*sufficient valuation			6
			31

The 4 struck off who voted for Mr. Bright—1 in Leeds, 1 Newcastle, 1 Houghton-le-Skerne (out of distance), and 1 householder not sufficient value, but, by a decision in the Common Pleas will be good next year.

Struck off by Free Traders, who voted for Purvis	11
Struck off by Monopolists, who voted for Bright	4
Majority	7

NEW CLAIMANTS.

Free Traders 12, sustained	11
Monopolists 9, sustained	2
Majority	9
Majority of Free Traders	16
Besides 6 which appear on the *original* list, giving a clear gain of	22

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

WRITTEN FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION.

Chapter IV.

The Valley of the Nore—Soils—Crops—Fertility—Landscapes—Mansions and Parks—Sir John and Lady Power—Armed Police—No Trade—Wages sixpence a day—Questions on these topics.

There are three rivers in Ireland—named the Barrow, the Nore, and the Suir—which, after lengthened and devious courses through valleys unsurpassed in beauty and fertility in any country—where summers are green and harvests yellow—unite together and form the vast breadth of water that sweeps majestically to the sea abreast of Waterford. Were we to advance to Tipperary, into which I have already, though briefly, conducted the readers of the League, we would go westward, taking the river which branches on the left, the Suir. Were we to advance eastward or north-east, into the county of Carlow, enjoying by the way the borders of Wexford and Kilkenny, we would keep to the right-hand river, the Barrow. And if we sought neither east nor west, but advanced into the heart of Kilkenny, we would take the banks of the Nore.

The Nore is a river of sweet, clear water, of a size similar to the Tweed at Kelso, of the Clyde at Glasgow, the Thames at Oxford, the Trent at Newark, or the Tees at Darlington—the latter when weather is rainy. In conducting the reader up the Nore, I shall not waste his time by the way, farther than is absolutely requisite to let him see that he is in Ireland. If we look only at the noble trees that overshadow the road and occasionally conceal the river—and again at the gentle eminences, now wooded, now crowned with corn, luxuriant and green; eminences that give beauty and variety to our journey—we shall see what we sometimes must in the river valleys of England, and which, when seen in England, call forth so many praises and invite so many visitors. If we look narrowly at the soil and its products, we may still conclude we are in England, save, indeed, that we find the fertility of the soil and luxuriance of the crops to surpass what we have hitherto seen. Should we leave the direct line of journey to Kilkenny, we may visit Woodstock domain, and astonish ourselves with its abundance of all that is considered beautiful in park scenery. And if we deem the regal splendour of its ornamental laurels—plants which are but bushes in any other park we have seen, but which are trees of forest stateliness here—if we deem these, and all their associates, too fine and noble to be a fair specimen of the products of the district, we may go to other parks that still lie in our way.

Having passed Thomastown, and asked ourselves if ever we saw a town occupying a situation so lovely, and having answered, very few, if any, we may turn aside and visit Kilfane. Here we shall not find a domain equal to Woodstock, but we shall find it ample and beautiful nevertheless. Although strangers (I speak from personal experience), we shall, after walking through the park, and admiring that intense greenness so characteristic of Ireland, and the fine undulations of surface, variegated with trees which rank in the world of timber as aldermen rank among mankind; and, after resting in bower or cove, each flowery enough to profusion, we shall be welcome visitors at the mansion. Here we are (my own visit), two gentlemen and two ladies. We are answered by a footman at the door, who tells us Sir John and Lady Power are walking somewhere in the park. He immediately finds a messenger, who carries our card to Sir John, and soon after returns with an intimation that we are at full liberty to inspect the collection of pictures, for which the house is notable. It now comes on a perfect deluge of summer rain, and we are more fortunate than Sir John and Lady Power; for we are under their roof, and they have only the shelter of a forest tree. We are conducted through several apartments, the walls of which are adorned with paintings of great variety; and at last we go to the library, and find that variety and value are alike remarkable. The rain being over, we return to the entrance-hall, and are about to leave, when Sir John and his lady come in. The summer foliage of the trees they have taken so much care of has returned their kindness, and they are not so very wet as might have been expected. They have also had an umbrella, conveyed to them in the emergency by a servant; but, as Sir John is aged and liable to rheumatism, his lady urges him to go immediately and change his clothes. He disappears, and we see no more of this venerable and excellent man; but his noble figure and simple dress of grey frieze dwell with us, as does also the remarkable fact that he was the only landlord whom we heard everybody speak in praise of in Ireland. His lady, younger in years, puts off her shawl, finds she is not wet, and proceeds to point out to us the most noticeable objects adorning the apartments, but first of all invites us to partake of luncheon. The poorest peasant in Kilkenny, if he had a potato at all, would ask a stranger entering his house to partake of half. We now find that in the mansion of Sir John Power there is no exception to the national character. We decline; for in truth we had lunched in one of the flowery arbours, on provisions which we had taken the unnecessary precaution to carry with us. Her ladyship shows us with an evident feeling of pride, what to us is also interesting in a high degree, the various portraits of her husband. We see a hunting scene, in which are hunters in scarlet coats and hounds in natural colours. This her ladyship acknowledges to have no great merit as a painting, but it is to her one of the most valuable in the house, for that is Sir John on the grey horse, in his favourite sport, in the prime of life. To me this painting is also the most valuable, for were it the veriest daub it is beyond price. Lady Power, one of the best of women and of wives, loves it because her husband is one of its subjects.

We may now suppose ourselves nine miles higher up the Nore. We shall be at Kilkenny. We shall see that even here the soil is fertile as lower down. We shall see then the noble castle of the Ormondes overhanging the beautiful river, and resembling that of Windsor, which overlooks the Thames. We shall find that all that has been said and sung of Kilkenny—of its "coal without smoke," its "water without mud," and its "streets paved with marble"—is true. As truly shall we find that,

> "In the midst of Kilkenny there runs a clear strame;
> In the town of Kilkenny there lives a fair dame."

And more, we shall find that the stream is a large river; and that the fair dame is not one only, but one of many. We shall also find the best of accommodation for travellers, and either in the Club House or in Fluyd's we may sit down and reflect on what we have seen on our journey up the Nore.

It is already evident to the reader who has not been there, that in respect of beauty and variety of landscape, fertility of soil, and luxuriance of crops, there is everything to be pleased with. But amid this beauty and fertility we must have observed what was never seen in any other country of the world. How is it, for instance, that we see a field of eight or ten acres, or sometimes three or four fields together of as many acres each, lying without a crop save the rank weeds, while all around are cultivated and full of bountiful promise for the coming harvest? How is it that we see a house in ruins—the substantial stone walls (for here there are no mud cabins, all are good stone-and-lime houses)—how is it that we see these now and again roofless and deserted, while the stone and mortar of the walls tell that decay had never taken hold of them, that their age was not more than from twelve to twenty years? How is it we see in some crook of the road, undershelter of a tree, or beneath a hedge, a family of six or seven or more persons, from the aged grandmother to the sucking infant, sitting houseless and hopeless, and yet within half an hour's journey of the spot where they were born, and of land a lease of which was their legal inheritance? Why do we meet on every mile of road constables with carbines, bayonets and ball cartridge? How is it that some landowners, of whom Sir John Power is a specimen, live under the protection of their

own good name, while others between Kilfane and Kilkenny live under the protection of an armed police? How is it that, with so much mineral wealth, Kilkenny has no trading communication with the sea—neither by river, which is navigable half-way between the town and Waterford, nor by canal, nor railway? Why, in a district so rich above ground and below, occupying one of the finest positions ever occupied by an inland town, has Kilkenny no trade? Why do able-bodied men assemble each morning by sunrise, from the country many miles round, in the market place, to the number of hundreds, and go home again unemployed and penniless and hungry, though willing and eager to work at sixpence a day? Why do the streets resound with the hoofs of cavalry and mounted police? the barracks with the ceaseless din of drilling and of mounting guards? Why are old houses fortified for troops that the barracks cannot contain, and the barracks loopholed for defence, and provided with ammunition and stores, as if for a siege?

Setting ourselves down in Kilkenny, after our journey up the Nore, to ponder on what we have seen by the way, and on what we now see in the town, we cannot help asking such questions. The answers of some will be that wages are thus low, and employment thus scarce, because there is no trade; that there is no trade, because there is no railway nor canal to the sea, nor capitalists to establish a trade; that there are none of these because the country is disturbed by agitation; and that because it is so disturbed the armed police and military and preparations for a siege are indispensable. Other persons of whom we may inquire will agree with the former so far—they will allow that the want of trade and capitalists to establish it is attributable in a great degree to the disturbed state of the country; but they deny that such disturbance is attributable to political agitation. They point to certain facts which they allege to be the causes of all local disturbance and crime, and argue that out of these arises political agitation. Thus we are reduced to the necessity of inquiring into the primary facts, and of judging for ourselves; for not to be inquisitive in such circumstances in such a country—a country so fair and fertile, yet so poor and depressed—is impossible. I devoted myself to the inquiry, and I shall now, having presented a picture of the district of the Nore as at first seen by a stranger, relate what I saw and heard and discovered to be true.

Chapter V.

Facts of a "disturbed district"—The law in Ireland—The violation of leases—Specimen cases—P. R.—J. R. W. R.—M. D.—M.—Extracts of letters to a gentleman in London, &c. &c.

In different parts of the county of Kilkenny, in several directions from the town, there were what is usually called "disturbed districts." In one place a murder had been committed, and in several others there had been attempts at murder—at all events, there had been accusations against certain parties of attempting to murder; but we shall see by-and-by, from the trials at assizes and from other evidence, that it is no unusual thing in Ireland, and especially in a "disturbed district," to get up accusations of attempted murder for purposes which, when we come to the facts, will be easily understood.

I visited several of these localities, but as the causes of disturbance in some of them were similar to what I saw in Tipperary, and have written of in the second chapter (League, Nov. 4), I shall now speak of a locality where the disturbances arose from ejectments.

These ejectments were of a kind common in Ireland, but not universal. The exceptions are the "clearing away" of tenants-at-will for the non-payment of rent, or because the landlord may be a Protestant, who desires to clear off a Catholic tenantry that he may have in their stead Protestant tenants who will be Protestant voters, and, what is to him and his party of equal importance, Protestant jurymen! But the cases of ejectment now about to be particularized were not the cases of tenants-at-will, nor of an under tenantry who held their land from some one subordinate to the landlord: they were leaseholders, holding direct from the landlord himself, under covenants as indisputably legal as any lease in Scotland or in England. The landlord never attempted to dispute the validity of the leases; he knew that most of them had been granted by his immediate predecessor, and some by the predecessor's father. He knew that he could not eject any one of the tenants by disputing about the lease, but he knew that the law gave him power to eject if the tenant did not pay his rent. But here he encountered a difficulty. The very fact which excited him to a war with his tenantry operated to defeat him. The farms were generally held at about 30s. an acre, and from that to 40s.; he knew the land could be let for more; for in some cases, where farms on the same estate were not let on lease, he had raised the rent to 60s. and 70s. an acre; and found that the people would rather pay that than renounce their holdings. Thus, because the farms were let at a moderate rent to the leaseholders, he sought to get them into his own hand, that he might re-let them at higher rents; but, because they were cheap, the tenants kept clear of arrears; and he, having no means of breaking through the leases, was at a considerable loss to know how to act: but he did act; and a history of his proceedings will not only exemplify the condition of landlord and tenant in Ireland, but will, at the same time, show how the laws in Ireland can be set at defiance by a man who has money and the reputation of being a stanch adherent of the dominant party. This last fact is most necessary to be borne in mind, because the landlord now under notice has been defended by the press of the dominant party as one of the best though worst used of churchmen. He has been heard of through the Government newspapers over the world as a martyr and a Christian. How far he is entitled to the honour of either will become apparent in the sequel. Suffice it now to say, by way of preface, in addition to what is already explained, that my authority for the following statements rests, first, on the narratives of the tenantry themselves; second, on the account given me by a gentleman of unquestionable respectability, who for two years acted as the agent of this landlord, but who, at last, threw up his situation out of sheer disgust at the odious work he was called on to perform; third, on the testimony of several magistrates and other gentlemen in the towns of Kilkenny and Thomastown; fourth, on the information, very comprehensive and very valuable, afforded me by the solicitor who has been engaged in the defence of most of the tenants in the numerous lawsuits which have arisen during the last three years; fifth, on evidence given in various cases tried at the sessions and assizes, part of which has been published in the local papers, all of which has been recorded by official persons, who furnished me with matters of importance not published; and, sixth, from what I heard with my own ears from the witnesses in the assize court.

The district in which this estate is situated, it may be proper to say, was, until three years ago, a peaceable one; agrarian crime was unknown; the people were industrious and moral, and there were no constabulary in the neighbourhood, nor any need of them. It is only four years since the present landlord came to the estate; since which he has had upwards of 250 lawsuits with his tenantry; has erected a police barrack on his property, and obtained from Government a detachment of armed police to remain there continually. The military, both cavalry and foot, have been greatly augmented in the district in the same time. Several men have been tried for their lives—some transported, and some hanged. The tenantry amount to between seventy and eighty, and the estate occupies a beautiful situation on each side of the Nore.

The first proceeding of the landlord was against a tenant who held on a lease of thirty-one years and a life, and who owed no arrears up to 1842; the proceedings against him began in March, 1841, and have given rise to a complicated variety of actions at law, ending with his ejectment and utter beggary. The following is an extract from a letter written by the tenant to a gentleman in London, under the date of the 8th of the present month:—

"I mentioned, in my last letter, ———, of his turning me out and all my family; and we had to stop out one night in the eye of my limekiln, till my sister came and took my family with her. There were thirteen cases of his (the landlord's) this time before the sessions—civil bills and ejectments—of which all were dismissed; and he had one case so bad that the barrister" (this is the presiding judge at quarter sessions to whom he alludes,) "cried shame on him; and he has got shame enough before, and he has no mind to stop yet, after all was said to him in the public papers. He has distrained Mr. J—— C—— now, and his rent paid; and he has three Chancery replevins against him, and another this day for seizing illegally on him the fourth time" (this is on Mr. J—— C——); "and he canted" (sold by distraint) "J—— R—— to the potatoes, and did not leave his family one bit that would eat."

The J—— R—— here alluded to had been a road contractor as well as a farmer. The landlord alleged a debt against him, and threw him into prison. While there his contract was unperformed, and he lost it, and sacrificed his security to perform it. It was satisfactorily proved, in a court of law, that the debt never existed; that it was brought forward by the landlord at the expense of forgery and false swearing; upon which J—— R—— brought an action for false imprisonment. Had the defendant not been a landlord, the plaintiff might have prosecuted him criminally; but being a landlord there was no chance of succeeding against him. Even in the action of damages there was little hope for J—— R——; but the case was so very bad, and the judge in summing up made such severe comments on the conduct of the landlord, that the jury gave a verdict for plaintiff. I was present at the trial, and I quote both from my notes and from the report of the trial as published in the local papers, when I give the following words as a portion of the judge's summary:—"Gentlemen, if you believe that the defendant fraudulently alleged this debt against plaintiff, that he might put him in prison and ruin him, you will give a verdict accordingly. In that case you will make him worse than the man who goes boldly to the highway and robs openly. You will weigh well the evidence you have heard, and if you are satisfied that plaintiff has been injured, you will give damages accordingly. Do not give overwhelming damages; still you must teach defendant that, though he is a gentleman of rank and property, he is not to trample on a poorer man than himself with impunity."

To this the jury gave a verdict for plaintiff—damages £100.

This case is worth notice now, because, although the landlord, out of about two hundred and fifty actions at law of various kinds in less than three years, has been defeated in four-fifths of them—and though he had thirteen cases at last quarter sessions, and was defeated in all—he still triumphs. He appeals to higher courts. He does not pay the £100 damages to J—— R——. He makes an appeal which will not be settled until some time next year. Meantime J—— R——, by being in prison, and by being involved in litigation, of which this is but a mere sample—by losing his contract for the roads, having all his implements and farming stock seized and sold while in prison—was unable to cultivate his land so as to enable him to pay his last Michaelmas rent. The rent being less than £100, which the landlord owed him in damages, it might have been supposed that this £100 would be a set off for the rent. But no, the letter of the 8th of November says:—"And he (the landlord) canted J—— R—— to the potatoes, and did not leave his family one bit that would eat." This J—— R——, it must be borne in mind, was a leaseholder, and never owed a farthing of rent until those proceedings were taken against him to compel him into arrears which would justify an ejectment. His case, from first to last—from the time that he was an independent man, with as happy a family around him as lived in the Queen's dominions, living in a house of his own building, with a farm-steading erected at his own expense, which are equal to any cottage or farm-steading of the same extent in England or Scotland for cleanliness, order, and substantiability—I saw them with my own eyes and judged for myself; from the time that J—— R—— was an independent man in that farm, to the present when he and his family are potatoless and penniless, and on the point of being ejected, the proceedings against him have been of the most extraordinary kind, and almost beyond belief. I could not detail them in less than two or three chapters, so they must for the present stand over. For the same reason I do not begin with the case of P—— R——, he who writes the letter to say that he is ejected, and who was the first of the leaseholders against whom the landlord proceeded. Suffice it for the present to say that P—— R—— has been five times in gaol at the suit of the landlord, and has been a party to upwards of twenty actions at law, and that he is now a houseless, landless, penniless, potatoless outcast, though born on the estate, though a leaseholder, and though he never owed a farthing of rent until twelve months after the landlord proceeded against him to break his lease.

But though not entering at present into a detail of these primary and most important cases, because of their length, I shall present a view of one or two others connected with them.

W—— R—— is also a leaseholding tenant on the estate, and is uncle to P—— R——. He is considered a man of substance, and was never known to owe any man a sixpence unreasonably, being at all times scrupulously punctual. He has a limekiln on his farm, and makes and sells lime. On one occasion, eighteen or twenty months ago, the landlord had lime from him to the amount of £9. W—— R—— sent in his account, but the landlord, through his steward, taunted him with having assisted P—— R—— to plough and sow his land at a time when the landlord had seized and carried off P—— R——'s implements (these were carried off, as afterwards appeared, by the decision of a jury, when no rent nor debt of any kind was due; they were carried off that P—— R—— might be unable to cultivate his land and pay his rent. P—— R—— went to law and got damages against the landlord. He also got assistance from three of his neighbours to plough and sow his fields; all the other neighbours, though willing to help him, being afraid of the landlord, save these three, one of which was his uncle W—— R——, whose case about the lime I am now relating). The landlord refused to pay the £9 for the lime, saying, through the steward, that, as W—— R—— had thought fit to set himself against him by helping P—— R—— to plough and sow his fields, he, the landlord, would set himself against W—— R——; he would not pay the £9 for the lime; he would let W—— R—— do his best.

W—— R—— might have let it remain to be deducted from the next payment of rent, some one will say. But this would not do in Ireland, at least with a landlord such as his, who hesitated not to seize on tenants who owed nothing. He knew that an immediate seizure would be made on the day the rent was due if this £9 was deducted from it; because it had become common on this estate, and is yet, as shown by the reports of the trials at the last sessions, to proceed to distrain on the day following term-day. Seizures in some cases had been made at one o'clock for rent due at twelve; and in one case, that of M—— D——, brother-in-law of P—— R——, a distraint was made at ten o'clock of the rent-day; therefore W—— R—— did not let his claim for the price of his lime stand over to be deducted from the rent. He summoned the landlord, and in due course got a decree against him. The landlord had to pay; but on the same day he did so, he got a party of the armed constabulary who are located on the estate, for the purpose of carrying on the war, and with them and a carpenter and his steward he proceeded to W—— R——'s farm. The farmhouse and haggard (garden, &c.) were sheltered and ornamented by trees and bushes which had been planted by W—— R—— and his forefathers, and which were highly prized by the farmer and his family. In law, they were the property of the landlord; and the landlord, the carpenter, the steward, and the police, set to work, cut them all down, and carried them home to the landlord's residence.

Having mentioned M—— D——, the brother-in-law of P—— R——, I may state that he is a leaseholding tenant, but holds only a small field of about three acres. The other farms are from twenty to fifty acres. M—— D—— does not depend on his land further than for potatoes to his family and for keep to his horse, with which and a cart he does jobbing work. He had assisted P—— R—— in time of trouble, and thus brought on him the power of the landlord. His field can only be approached by either of two roads through other farms from the village where M—— D—— lives. Having paid all rent, the landlord had no power on him but by shutting him out of his field. The tenants who occupied land through which M—— D—— had to pass were served with notices that if they allowed him ingress with a cart or horse they would be ejected. I went and saw the field, and was told by M—— D—— and his neighbours the whole case. He had planted his potatoes without manure, and, though it was August when I saw them, they were not four inches above ground, nor did they show symptoms of at any time being more. And this because M—— D—— was not allowed to carry the ma-

nure, of which he had abundance, to his field. He was told by the lawyers that he had a good case and would be sure to gain a suit at law; but while that is pending the potato season has passed over with almost no crop, and winter has come without a potato for his family; worst of all, his barley, which occupied, I think, about two-thirds of the ground (I saw it when nearly ripe in August), and from which he hoped to pay his rent and get provender for his horse, was still in the field rotting on the 8th of October (the date of the first letter from P—— R—— to a gentleman in London; subsequent letters do not mention it). Thus M—— D—— will be unable to pay his November rent, and a process of ejectment will of course issue and take effect.

Another case which may be mentioned now is brief and characteristic. A tenant who held on lease went with his rent to the landlord last spring on the day it was due. Says the landlord, "Mr. M——, you need not be so particular about paying your rent, you are always very punctual, and you may perhaps want the money for some other purpose. I should advise you now to buy some cattle and sheep at the fair, and repasture your grass fields instead of making hay this year; but, even if you do make hay, you have not enough of stock." To which Mr. M—— replied, "I am exceedingly obliged to you; I would have bought stock had it not been for my rent; but if you forego it for the present I will do as you suggest; and if you have no objection I will hire R——'s field for the season as well, and put cattle in it." "An excellent thought," said the landlord; "buy all the cattle your money will afford; you will no doubt be able to hire pasturage for them." And Mr. M—— did as his landlord advised. But what was his astonishment when, in less than a week, indeed within three days, the landlord distrained on the whole, and sold all the cattle, and all the farm implements as well, for his rent. This of course gave rise to litigation, which will only end in the ruin and ejectment of the tenant, with the relletting of the farm at a higher rent, an object not far from being accomplished.

The remainder of the light cases, of which these are specimens, will fall to be noticed after I have given, in subsequent chapters, a recital of the heavy ones.

REUBEN.

UPWARDS OF £16,000 RAISED TOWARDS THE £100,000 FUND.

The following is a corrected list of subscriptions raised in pursuance of the resolutions passed at the meeting of Merchants, Manufacturers, &c., held in the Town-hall, Manchester, on Tuesday, the 14th instant.

James Chadwick	£500	0	0
Jacob Bright and Sons	500	0	0
John Brooks	500	0	0
Robert Munn	500	0	0
Samuel Greg and Co	500	0	0
Robert Ashton	500	0	0
Thomas Ashton	400	0	0
Robert Lees and Sons	400	0	0
William Bayley and Brothers	300	0	0
John Lord	300	0	0
J. B. Reyner and Brothers	300	0	0
John Whittaker and Sons	300	0	0
Samuel Ashton	300	0	0
T. Whitehead and Brothers	300	0	0
George Cheetham and Sons	300	0	0
Thomson, Brothers, and Sons	250	0	0
Henry and Edmund Ashworth	200	0	0
Richard Cobden and Co	200	0	0
Richard Ashton (Bury)	200	0	0
Booth and Hoyle	200	0	0
J. Hoyle and Son	200	0	0
Callender, Bickham, and Cross	200	0	0
Eccles, Shorrocks, and Co	200	0	0
Sir Thomas Potter	200	0	0
James Wrigley	200	0	0
A. and J. S. Buckley	200	0	0
James Kershaw	200	0	0
A and S. Henry and Co.	200	0	0
Oxford-road Twist Company	200	0	0
Robert Platt	150	0	0
Elkanah Armitage	100	0	0
Reddish and Bickham	100	0	0
James Procter	100	0	0
Thomas Thomasson	100	0	0
A Friend, per John Bright	100	0	0
M'Connell and Co.	100	0	0
J. S. and J. Watts	100	0	0
Harvey, Tysoe, and Co.	100	0	0
Joseph and Benjamin Schofield	100	0	0
William Morris	100	0	0
J. B. Smith	100	0	0
Benjamin Smith and Sons	100	0	0
Richard Matley	100	0	0
Simpson, Rostron, and Co.	100	0	0
Schofield and Brother	100	0	0
T. and J. Wrigley	100	0	0
A Friend, per R. Cobden	100	0	0
Schunck, Souchay, and Co.	100	0	0
Charles Howard	100	0	0
J. R. Barnes and Sons	100	0	0
William Neild	100	0	0
A Friend, per John Brooks	100	0	0
Astbury and Critchley	100	0	0
Daniel Lee	100	0	0
John Burd and Sons	100	0	0
George Andrew and Sons	100	0	0
H. Bannerman and Sons	100	0	0
Hyde, Sons, and Sowerby	100	0	0
Robert Stewart	100	0	0
Adam and George Murray	100	0	0
W. Richardson and Sons	75	0	0
Evans and Nicholson	50	0	0
George Woolley and Son	50	0	0
E. J. Kay	50	0	0
George Howarth	50	0	0
John Standring	50	0	0
W. B. Watkins	50	0	0
Nicholas Heald	50	0	0
Joseph Crewdson	£50	0	0
A Friend, per John Bright	50	0	0
Robert Heywood	50	0	0
R. and J. Lord	50	0	0
Richard Roberts (Globe Iron Works	50	0	0
William Hargreaves (Accrington)	50	0	0
Edward Hollins	50	0	0
John Petrie and Co.	50	0	0
W. Johnson and Co.	50	0	0
J. Crossfield and Son	50	0	0
William and Henry Rawson	50	0	0
Henry Tunstill	50	0	0
John Graham	50	0	0
Thomas Hunter	50	0	0
John Mayson	50	0	0
John Swindells and Co.	50	0	0
Tennants, Clow, and Co.	50	0	0
Edmund Potter and Co.	50	0	0
Salis Schwabe	50	0	0
Nelson and Knowles	50	0	0
James Hall	50	0	0
John Owen	50	0	0
Jos. Whitworth and Co.	50	0	0
Jos. Thompson and Sons	50	0	0
Thomas Barge, jun., and Brothers	50	0	0
Henry Hilton	50	0	0
Binyon and Hunter	50	0	0
A Friend, per J. Gadsby	50	0	0
Wells, Cooke, and Potter	50	0	0
Samuel Brewis and Co.	50	0	0
David Ainsworth	50	0	0
W. and E. Wilson	50	0	0
John Rawson	50	0	0
J. Barratt, Sons, and Darbishire	50	0	0
Edward and John Jackson	50	0	0
Richard Holroyd and Co.	50	0	0
Langworthy, Brothers, and Co.	50	0	0
Thomas Mason	50	0	0
Leese, Kershaw, and Co., Mersey Mills	50	0	0
James Sidebotham	40	0	0
Joseph Leese, jun.	40	0	0
Wilson Crewdson	40	0	0
Yates and Williams	30	0	0
Simpson, Thompson, and Co.	30	0	0
Parr, Curtis, and Co.	30	0	0
S. A. Butterworth	30	0	0
Christopher Shorrocks	30	0	0
Mathew Binns	30	0	0
Goodier, Krauss, and Cooke	30	0	0
Thomas Dodgshon	30	0	0
W. M. Christy	25	0	0
Joseph Rushton	25	0	0
Richard Clarke and Sons	25	0	0
Thomas Barton	25	0	0
H. J. Merck and Co.	25	0	0
Robert Charlton and Son	25	0	0
Henry Winkworth	25	0	0
Abraham Troost and Sons	25	0	0
Adam Roxburgh and Co.	25	0	0
John Wilson	25	0	0
J. Knott and Sons	25	0	0
Robert Crewdson	25	0	0
Daniel Procter	25	0	0
S. D. Darbyshire	25	0	0
Findlater and Mackie	25	0	0
Binns, Dean, and Co.	25	0	0
J. E. Lane	20	0	0
George Horsefield	20	0	0
Marler and Brothers	20	0	0
Peter Walker	20	0	0
Benjamin Nicholls	20	0	0
Thomas Bazley, jun.	20	0	0
John Smith	20	0	0
Henry Lees	20	0	0
John Sykes	20	0	0
S. Flersheim	20	0	0
Benjamin Syddall	20	0	0
Isaac Crewdson	20	0	0
J. and B. Pearson	20	0	0
Eden and Thwaites	20	0	0
Potter, Brothers	20	0	0
Wm. C. Moore	20	0	0
A Friend, per E. Hollins	20	0	0
James and John Gibb	20	0	0
Greig, Watson, and Greig	20	0	0
R. and J. Kershaw	20	0	0
J. and S. Alcock	20	0	0
J. F. Petitjean and Son	20	0	0
A Friend, per Alfred Reyner	16	13	4
G. Heginbottom	20	0	0
John Butterworth	20	0	0
William Sale	20	0	0
Vernon, Marchanton, and Edge	20	0	0
J. Wardley and Sons	20	0	0
William Holme and Brothers	20	0	0
Nicholson and Evans	20	0	0
John Lees	10	0	0
Smith P. Robinson	10	0	0
James Andrew	10	0	0
James Hertz	10	0	0
James Edwards	10	0	0
A Friend, per Richard Cobden	10	0	0
A Friend, per John Brooks	10	0	0
John Wright	10	0	0
N. Bannatyne	10	0	0
J. E. Gallemore	10	0	0
John Jackson	10	0	0
F. P. Willert	10	0	0
Wm. Gill	10	0	0
John Slagg	10	0	0
George Olliver	10	0	0
J. Dodgshon	10	0	0
James Saul	10	0	0
Thos. Gill and Son	10	0	0
A Friend, per J. Ashworth	10	0	0
Edward Ede	10	0	0
J. Clarke	10	0	0
A. W., per Mr. Harvey	10	0	0
Robert Ryder	10	0	0
Richard Johnson	10	0	0
A. S. Sichell	10	0	0
P. Houghton and Co.	10	0	0
William M'Call	10	0	0
John Rawsthorne	10	0	0
Samuel Hewitt	10	0	0
Molyneux, Webb, Ellis, and Co.	10	0	0
William Jones	10	0	0
J. M'Naghten	10	0	0
R. Lodge	£10	0	0
John Kershaw	10	0	0
W. T. and E. Platt	10	0	0
W. Occleshaw	10	0	0
Henry Hewitt	7	2	0
David Morris	5	0	0
Robert Owen	5	0	0
B. Whitworth and Co.	5	0	0
John Hadfield	5	0	0
George Bradshaw	5	0	0
William M'Cartney	5	0	0
A Friend, per W. Morris	5	0	0
Harrison and Sale, per W. Morris	5	0	0
John Harland	5	0	0
John Barlow	5	0	0
John Walker	5	0	0
John Aspinall	5	0	0
J. N. Rawson and Co	5	0	0
Matthew Berry	5	0	0
Josh. Berry	5	0	0
William Blakeman	5	0	0
R. K., per W. B. Watkins	5	0	0
An Uncompromising Opponent of the Corn Law, by H. Rawson	5	0	0
C. P. Henderson	5	0	0
David Hordern	5	0	0
J. B. Peacock	5	0	0
Charles Duffield	5	0	0
Absalom Watkin	5	0	0
S. Mendle	5	0	0
Mr. Cavafy	5	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Royle	5	0	0
John Youil	5	5	0
J. and W. Maskell	5	0	0
P. Passavant	5	0	0
Stephen Franghiadi	5	0	0
Richard Holme	5	0	0
Mathew Burton	5	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Graham	5	0	0
A Friend to Just Laws, per Mr. Harvey	5	0	0
John Dracup	5	0	0
William Hounsfield	5	0	0
A Friend, per Wm. M'Cartney	5	0	0
Horsleys and Co.	5	0	0
Thomas Clegg	5	0	0
A. Lascaridi	5	0	0
J. Douglas	5	0	0
Edward Shawcross	5	0	0
Thomas Loyd	5	0	0
Sums under £5	137	0	0

THE SIGNS OF "THE TIMES."

"The League is a great fact."—*Times.*

TWELVE THOUSAND AND SIX HUNDRED POUNDS,
All in a short hour or two sack'd!
We begin now to fancy, odzounds!
The League is a very great FACT!

In vain we have tried to "write down"
Moore, Cobden, and Bright;—they are back'd
All the more for our "thunder" and frown,
And the League "goes a head," it's a FACT!

At Durham, the Corn Lords they trounced,
And Purvis to Plawsworth they pack'd;
And London since then has "pronounced,"
And Kendal has own'd "THE GREAT FACT!"

"Sliding scale" and "fix'd duty" are slain,
By the men we have scorn'd and attack'd.
Their object they shortly will gain,
For the League's an omnipotent FACT!

We've spoke of it oft with a sneer,
And its principal orators black'd;
But, really, the *Times* must now veer,
For the League, after all, is a FACT!

The landlords we now must desert,
For they'll shortly be every where whack'd;
We mustn't be dragg'd through the dirt,
But take care of ourselves, that's a FACT!

The play is play'd out, very near:
We've enter'd, just now, the fifth act.
It is time on the stage to appear,
And try to eclipse "THE GREAT FACT!"

The *Times* must lay claim to the glory,
Or what will folks think of its tact?
O yes! this must now be our story,
The *Times* "did it all," that's a FACT!

Gateshead Observer, Nov. 25.

TROMSOE.—COMMERCE.—The rocky shores of our island are crowned with woods, and the waves of the sea play round them in quiet gulfs and havens. Our well-built town lies pleasantly on the southern side of the island, only separated from the continent by a small arm of the sea. My house stands upon the bay road which runs along the large, convenient harbour. At this moment twenty boats lie here at anchor, and the flags of many nations are fluttering in the wind. Here are Englishmen, Dutchmen, and above all, Russians, who came to our coasts to exchange their wheat and furs for our fish and eider-down. Besides these, the natives of more southern lands bring hither many articles of luxury and fashion which are eagerly purchased by the inhabitants of Kola, and the countries bordering on the White Sea. Long live commerce! My soul expands at the thought of its living power! What has not commerce done from the beginning of the world for the embellishment of life—for the friendly intercourse between different lands and people—for the amelioration of manners? It has always heartily pleased me that the wisest and mildest lawgiver of antiquity, Solon, was a merchant. "His soul was formed," says one of his biographers, "by commerce, by wisdom, and by music." Long live commerce! What does not live through her? What, indeed, is all that is most dear and beautiful in life, but commerce—exchange, gift for gift? In love, in friendship, in the great life of the people, in the narrow circle of the family; wherever I see prosperity and happiness, there I see commerce.—*Strife and Peace, by F. Bremer.*

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"E. G." should take into account the principle, that capital is, in fact, "accumulated industry," and that, consequently, it is sheer absurdity to speak of capital as naturally hostile to industry.

"R. F."—The money rate of wages has no more to say to the price of food, than to the flowing of the tide. The market-price of labour, as of everything else, is regulated by demand and supply. Wages, indeed, generally fall when provisions rise; because the larger the proportion of income spent on food, the less will be the surplus left to purchase the produce of manufacturing labour.

"R. S."—The verses to which he alludes are Moore's, and are published in the last edition of his works.

T. P.—"Whig" is a Scotch phrase; it was originally applied to the Covenanters of the western counties, who took up arms against King Charles." "Tory" is an Irish word, and was first used to describe rebels and robbers."

"J. F."—The cost of "a just and necessary war" is about one hundred pounds per minute.

"T. W."—It was the second Earl of Clarendon who proposed that a free importation of Irish cattle should be deemed adultery. He did so to expose the absurdity of the Duke of Buckingham, who was as stanch an advocate of monopoly as his namesake of modern times."

"Censor" is unintelligible.

We thank an "Old Free Trader."

"Crito."—The constitution has given the middle classes the power of self-protection in the elective franchise, and the system of plunder to which they are subject would not last a year if all the constituencies in the kingdom formed an electoral union for mutual defence.

"J. B."—It is not enough that men should "know their rights;" it is further requisite that, "knowing, they dare maintain them."

"A Son of the Soil" has not been received.

"A Non-elector."—Arthur Young's letter has not escaped our notice.

"The Wretch's Prayer" will not suit us.

"Verax" is right.

"J. C."—We feel much obliged.

"N. R."—Ditto.

"C. D." has a right to vote out of each freehold.

We shall be glad to hear again from "J. H."

"N. C. L."—We regret to answer in the negative.

The following letter *against* the Corn Laws, written by the Duke of Northumberland in the early stage of the cry for agricultural protection, appeared in the *Newcastle Courant* of March 3, 1821. We have been requested to republish it by a valued correspondent, and we do so with much pleasure, for it is equally creditable to his Grace's head and heart. We shall not weaken its force by a word of comment:—

"St. James's-square, Feb. 24, 1821.

"Gentlemen,—I regret to learn, from a variety of sources, the increasing difficulties of the agricultural interest; but I have derived my information, more particularly, from several petitions on this subject, which have been recently presented to the two Houses of Parliament. With the tenor of these petitions I find it impossible to concur; because experience has proved the inefficacy of a Corn Bill (the favourite object of these petitioners), and, above all, because I question the justice of an attempt to exonerate ourselves at the probable expense of that large portion of our fellow-subjects who are engaged in commercial, manufacturing, and trading concerns. I should, however, be a landlord unworthy of that just and honourable body of men who occupy my estate in Northumberland, if I could hesitate, as an individual, to mitigate that distress, which, in my opinion, under the present circumstances of the country, no legislative enactment can, with propriety, diminish. I desire, therefore, that at the approaching audit you will return to each of my agricultural tenants the sum of twenty per cent. on their respective payments.

"I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
"NORTHUMBERLAND.

"Messrs. Smith, Buston, and Laws,
Alnwick Castle."

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, November* 25, 1843.

The electors of Salisbury have disappointed expectations that had, perhaps, risen to an unreasonable height. They have returned the Monopolist and Bread-tax candidate, Mr. Campbell, by a majority of 315 to 270. We regret, but no one certainly can feel any surprise, that in such a town as Salisbury there should be 315 electors capable of making this use of their suffrage. The decline of their trade has not yet taught them the necessity of legislative measures for averting its further decline and facilitating its restoration. A numerous body of cathedral and parish clergy has not yet taught them the sacred right of the labourer to the food which he earns in the sweat of his brow. Experience of the insolence of squirarchal domination, and of the degradation of servility towards a few wealthy customers, has not yet taught them the inestimable worth of an independent spirit. They need more instruction, and they shall have it. The mission of the League is to deal with such cases. Why, else, do we call for our £50,000 one year, and our £100,000 the next? The attention already bestowed upon Salisbury is not wasted, though the election be lost. Mr. Bouverie polled 84 votes more than in May last, and 28 more than sufficed, on that occasion, for the return of Mr. Hussey. We may fairly put this difference down to the recent discussions of the Free-Trade question. Here is strong encouragement to persevere. Nor is this the whole. Had all those voters who have been led to the adoption of Free-Trade opinions possessed courage and devotedness enough to act up to their principles, Mr. Campbell would have been defeated by a majority as large as that which obtained his success. Means will be taken to strengthen these feeble-minded victims of a demoralizing influence. Another contest is in all probability not far distant. Mr. Campbell is returned; but his retention of the seat is quite a different question. There is no occasion to despair of seeing Salisbury, fortified as it is by ignorance, family influence, and monopolist brutality, represented by a Free-Trader before the next session of Parliament shall have very far advanced.

The *Times* ascribes the result of the election to the "disguised republicanism" of the League, and the annoyance occasioned by its lecturers. This is very facetious. How came the *Times* to be able to penetrate to the hidden republicanism? And in what mode were the Salisbury electors confidentially apprised of so wonderful a discovery? When will the *Times* open its green bag of League treasons, and favour the public with its proofs? We await the portentous communication. And it may also be asked how the *Times* accounts for the large addition to the number of Mr. Bouverie's supporters? Its reasoning might serve as an hypothesis to explain a decrease; but what has it to do with an increase? In May, 186 electors voted for Mr. Bouverie; in November, the electors had been so terribly disgusted by the League, that his poll is 270! Such is the logic of the leading journal.

Moreover, apropos to Mr. Bouverie's speech, the *Times* has made another discovery, viz., "The whole question is not, or ought not to be, one of dependence or independence, but of revenue and finance." Let the seven sleepers hide their heads. No mesmeric trance ever produced a parallel to this wilful obliviousness? Was there ever a debate, in either House of Parliament; or a public meeting, in town or country, on the Corn Laws; or a speech or address at any recent election contest—in which the notion of independence has not been the *cheval de batai e* of the monopolist class? "Revenue and finance!" who has not disclaimed them, in connexion with the duty on corn, from the Duke of Wellington down to Lord Winchilsea, and from Sir Robert Peel to Sir Edward Knatchbull? And what a moment has the *Times* chosen to advocate a tax on food for the purposes of revenue. Its columns are full, from day to day, of the sickening details of metropolitan destitution. It records the rise of new forms of charity, and the erection of police magistrates into public almoners. It denounces, incessantly, not only the cruelties of the New Poor Law, but its inadequacy to grapple with the abounding wretchedness. It reports frequent cases of enforced dishonesty, from those miserably low wages for hard toil which are the inevitable result of restricted trade and diminished employment. It invokes the aid of clerical zeal, and Exeter-hall meetings, and charitable subscriptions. The distresses of the poor are so great, so enormous, that the tender-hearted *Times* is eloquent for every vain, paltry, pitiful, dribbling, and aggravating expedient of almsgiving; and in the same breath proposes a fixed duty on corn, a bread-tax to raise public revenue from the intercepted food of the famishing; and treats the starvation of millions as a question of "finance." No matter for independence, says the *Times*, in effect; independence is all stuff, as everybody knows; but let us have the money out of the bowels of the poor, over whom we are weeping every morning of a publication. A fixed duty of 5s. the quarter would be about a halfpenny out of the pay for every two shirts that the much-commiserated sempstress makes, when she takes it to the baker's for her pound of dry bread. What a humane proposition, to levy a penny upon her loaf for public revenue, and exhort the parson of the parish to make a begging speech on her behalf at Exeter Hall. It has been often, and truly said, that a fixed duty is a fixed injustice. It is a robbery on the industrious; not the less so for being perpetrated by the Government. Such public counsellors as the *Times* give this advice to the State: "Do not let the monopolists rob the poor any longer; rob them yourselves; stop their plundering and commence your own. There is much yet to be got out of those hungry creatures. Take a turn with the screw, at the same time rebuking those who have hitherto employed it, and encouraging all people to contribute their alms to the wretches about to be squeezed." Will this nauseous compound go down with the public? Will this transparent hypocrisy pass? We think not. But if it does, there must be more lecturing, though by "obscure persons." A "great fact" is just the thing to expose a great falsehood.

CURRENT INCIDENTS.

The state prosecutions in Dublin have advanced a stage; the traversers have pleaded not guilty. It is the intention of the Attorney-General to apply to the court to fix a day, in the sittings after term, for the trial.——More than a thousand slaves escaped from the Island of Guadaloupe to British islands, in the confusion which followed the great earthquake.——On Wednesday morning several hundred tons of earth and chalk slipped into the sea, near Kemp Town, Brighton; carrying with them two men and a boy, one of whom was killed on the spot.——At the recent Durham election twenty-three Wesleyans voted, of whom twenty-one voted for Mr. Bright.——The Delhi, Laura, Elizabeth Rowell, and Seagull were lost in Algoa Bay September the 1st. The Seagull grounded furthest out, and suffered most from the sea. Five poor fellows perished—four by being washed overboard, and one who it is supposed had sought shelter in the cabin. Their names were George Russell, James Hunter, carpenter (belonging to Montrose); James Blackwall, Robert Bell (apprentice), and William (name torn away). Five men were also lost belonging to the Delhi, and one to the Laura. Everything was done by the people of the place that humanity could suggest, or energy execute, to save the remainder of the men, and a subscription was set on foot to aid the suffering crews; the men of three of the ships lost every article of clothing. The gale extended along the whole line of coast; a ship was lost in Plateuburgh-bay. At Natal the Government steamer had to leave without the captain, and all vessels lost anchors and cables, or sustained other damages.——The accounts from Mexico confirm the statement recently put forth in this country, to the effect that the Government of that country has issued a decree prohibiting foreigners from engaging in trade in that republic. Naturalized foreigners, foreigners married to Mexican women, and those who reside in the republic with their families, are made exceptions.——The proprietor of an estate in the parish of Aylesbury some few years ago offered to sell the whole for £7000, and could not find a customer at that price. He has lately divided the estate into lots, and offered them for sale, when the greater part of them were disposed of. The realized prices amount, together with the sums offered for the small portions remaining unsold, to the sum of £10,000. Who after this will say that the agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League is injurious to the landed interest?——The Frolic arrived at Rio September 10, with a slaver she had captured off Cape Frio, having on board 360 slaves, men, women, and children. The poor unfortunate beings were packed in her like so many herrings in a cask. It appears that they had been stowed in this space for forty-five days. Death had happily released a great many of them from their torture. The sight of the living masses of corruption was enough to strike terror into the most flinty heart, as they were covered with sores from head to foot.——The long expected rolls for the second dividend of the Burmese prize-money have at length been received at the East India House. The several claimants will, in all probability, be paid their respective demands early next month.——An extra *Gazette* published on Saturday evening, on account of the number of notices required for private bills, contains the following official notice of the appointment of the commission for inquiring into the tenure of land in Ireland:—"Whitehall, November 18, 1843:—The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, nominating and appointing William, Earl of Devon, Sir Robert Alexander Ferguson, Bart., George Alexander Hamilton, Esq., Thomas Nicholas Redington, Esq., and John Wynne, Esq., her Majesty's commissioners for inquiring into the state of the law and practice in respect to the occupation of land in Ireland.——By a recent convention, arrangements between the Post-offices of England and Holland have been established which secure to both countries a liberal reduction of postage.——The yellow fever was raging last month with fatal violence at Tobasco, Yucatan, and had carried off a number of the inhabitants.——A great portion of the mill of Mr. John Lees, Primrose-hill, Oldham, together with a considerable quantity of valuable machinery, was consumed on Thursday morning last by a conflagration, the cause of which remains at present unknown. The property destroyed is estimated at about £3000.——A report prevails, according to a letter in the *Banner of Ulster*, that Mr. Irving, M.P., means to resign his seat for the county of Antrim.——Lieut. Munro passed through Inverness last week, on his way to visit his venerable father in Tain, previous to surrendering to take his trial at the forthcoming sessions of the Central Criminal Court, in reference to the late unfortunate duel with Col. Fawcett.——The working men of Edinburgh have commenced a movement to establish baths on a grand scale for their own use in that city. They are to hold a public meeting under the auspices of Lord Dunfermline, and his lordship, with many leading men in Edinburgh, has resolved to encourage the project, as tending to promote the many virtues which are the offspring of cleanliness.——The post of Lieutenant-Governor of Chester Castle has become vacant by the demise of General Sir John Fraser. It is not to be filled up. A portion of the annual emoluments arising from the appointment is to be appropriated in aid of the fund set apart for defraying the pensions awarded for distinguished services. The residue reverts to the public.——It is intended to open Hungerford Suspension Bridge in May next. The abutments on either side of the Thames, and the pier on the Hungerford side, are completed. The pier on the Lambeth side is expected to be finished by Christmas. The length from pier to pier will be 600 feet. The entire length of the bridge from the abutments on the Hungerford side to the opposite will be 1440 feet. Its breadth in the "clear" will be about 14 feet, and its height from the water level to the footing 28 feet. The height of each pier from its basement to its top will be nearly 100 feet. The links that compose the supporting chains are made of malleable iron, 700 tons of which will be necessary for the construction of the bridge. The property required for approaches has cost £13,000, and a contract has been made for the completion of the bridge at a cost of £80,000. The total cost, including expenses incidental to the progress of the works, the Act of Parliament, &c., will be £106,000. The projectors calculate that a net annual income of £8010 will be derived from tolls, being at the rate of eight per cent. on the capital. More than ten thousand persons must cross daily to yield this sum.——The Earl of Harewood has given the munificent donation of £300 to the subscription for the restoration of York Minster.——The annual expense of the convicts to the Government at the Cape was £11,860.——Last week Mr. Bines, one of the Chatham constables, apprehended a man, named William Devereux, in a beershop in that town, on suspicion of his being a deserter from the depot of the 77th Foot, stationed at Sheerness. He was given up to the military authorities, and confined in the guardroom at Chatham Barracks. On the following day the man, who had fully made up his mind to escape military service, managed to get possession of a knife, with which he completely severed the fore finger of his right hand, in order to incapacitate himself. He was immediately conveyed to the hospital, where he remains in a very precarious state.——The viaduct over the Foord valley, South Eastern Railway, was finished on Monday last, and on Tuesday the engine and tender passed over for the first time. It must be gratifying to the feelings of the contractors, Messrs. Grissell and Peto, that this stupendous work has arrived at completion without any appearance of settling in any part, and without the loss of the life of any one employed on the works. This is one of the highest viaducts in England. The view from the top embraces a great extent of country—Folkestone, the cliffs between Folkestone and Dover, and the French coast.——A few days since a cabman, named Jones (who is called Black Bob), came into possession of nearly £30,000. The property has been in dispute for nearly 20 years. The party, who is the oldest cabman in London, is in his 83rd year.——On Thursday sennight a singular event occurred in Mr. Wombwell's extensive menagerie, now open in Vicar's Croft, Leeds. In one of the large compartments in the menagerie were two fine lions, and two equally fine and very docile leopards, and these four animals were usually kept together for the purpose of showing their training and the command held over them by their keeper, who was in the constant habit of going amongst them, and putting them through a variety of performances after the style of Van Amburgh or Carter. Though the four animals are kept in one den for the purpose of exhibition, the lions have been always separated from the leopards during the time of the feeding, until last night week, when the experiment was tried of feeding them altogether; but no sooner had four pieces of flesh been put into the cage, and one of the leopards had seized hold of a piece, than one of the lions rushed upon the unfortunate beast, and almost immediately killed it. Had it not been for the speedy interference of the keeper, there is little doubt the other leopard would have also been killed.——The *employés* at the Royal Mint are daily at work in striking off the new gold sovereigns and half sovereigns of 1844, so as to meet the demand that is likely to be made when the royal proclamation of her Most Gracious Majesty, dated the 2nd day of October last, respecting the light gold coinage, comes into

effect, on the 1st of January next, as no doubt there will be a run upon the Bank of England for the full-weight gold in exchange. From and after the 1st of January, 1844, no gold sovereign will be allowed to be current, or pass in any payment whatsoever, unless of the weight of five pennyweights two grains and a half, nor any gold half sovereign of less weight than two pennyweights thirteen grains and one-eigth; and all those that are deficient are to be cut, broken, or so defaced that they shall no longer pass in circulation.——Lieutenant Edward Walter Agar and Miss Dalzell (passengers), with the remainder of the crew of the ill-fated Memnon, arrived safely at Aden on the 9th of September.——On the morning of the 11th of November the insurgents of Vigo submitted unconditionally. The submission of Vigo, and the declaration of the Queen's majority, had produced the most lively satisfaction in Corunna.——A black fellow, named Dave Gridley, had been for some weeks committing many depredations upon the property of the citizens of Raymond, Mississippi, when he was at length caught, with the assistance of dogs, and delivered to a guard. Subsequently he was taken from the guard in the night, dragged into the woods, and hung. His body was then thrown into an old house, which was set on fire and burnt, together with the body. It is not known who the perpetrators of this outrage were.—— Lord Aberdeen has declined to enter into any negotiation with the Mexican Minister, Mr. Murphy, on the subject of the affront lately offered to the British flag. He intends sending out a new Minister to Mexico, in a frigate, which will call at Jamaica, whence the Minister will take a squadron down with him to the Mexican coast, and require an apology for the affront before landing. By the packet before the last, advice was received that Mr. Doyle had made a remonstrance to the Mexican Government on the subject of a breach of contract between it and a British house in Mexico in such strong terms, that the Government objected to the expressions. Mr. Doyle refused to retract a word, and the consequence was that the Mexican Government sent a special messenger with dispatches to Mr. Murphy in London, requesting him to complain to Lord Aberdeen of the language in which it had been addressed. This grievance preceded the affair of the flag.——Public discontent at the completion of the detached forts in Paris, or, as they are termed, bastiles, is said to be progressing, and the desire of the Government for the termination of those works is on the increase, as the period for the opening of the session of the Chambers approaches. The Municipal Guards have just taken possession of the small "bastile" erected in 1843 on the site of the citadel demolished by our fathers in 1789. This edifice being no longer hid by the planks which hitherto concealed it from the public view, the people may now judge how admirably it is fitted out to support a siege. The walls are massy and well built, and the loopholes are *chefs d'œuvres* of the kind. The arch of the gateway, under which two pieces of artillery may be planted, is adorned with sculptures representing muskets, pistols, cannons, poignards, sabres, swords, cartridge-boxes, shakos of the Municipal Guards, epaulets, uniforms, and drums; there are even among the emblems cocked hats, like those worn by the town-sergeants. This arch is closed by a strong iron railing. Workmen are now occupied in encircling the little "bastile" with another railing nine feet high, leaving between it and the edifice a space of 10 or 12 feet to facilitate the movements of the municipals.——Peace was concluded in September last with the Boers at Natal. Macke was the only doubtful proselyte, and every hope appears to be entertained that he will before long declare in favour of the British Government. The Rev Mr. Faure had arrived out, and was well received by the inhabitants. He had gone on to Pietermauritz Bay. Mr. Commissioner Cloete was making all arrangements for future administration.——On Monday morning, shortly before five o'clock, at the house of Mr. Hume, M.P., the screams of Mrs. Gubbins (the hon. member's daughter) awoke Mr. Hume and his family, and it was discovered that Mr. Gubbins had thrown himself from his bedroom window, on the third floor, on to the pavement. Having been conveyed into the house in an insensible state, Dr. Arnott, of Bedford-square, Mr. Liston, and several other eminent members of the medical profession, were sent for, and promptly arrived, when it was discovered that Mr. Gubbins had sustained a compound fracture of one of his thighs in two places, and that his other leg was broken. Mr. Gubbins was visited two or three times throughout Tuesday by his medical attendants, and but very faint hopes are entertained of his ultimate recovery. The sad event has thrown the family of Mr. Hume and his Grace the Duke of St. Alban's into a state of great affliction.——Towards the end of February last a galley-slave, named Gianno Coltroni, escaped from the fortress of Augusta, Palermo, and placed himself at the head of a numerous banditti, who mercilessly robbed all travellers who journeyed without an escort between Palermo and Carini. The Government sent troops in pursuit of them, but all the marches and counter-marches of the latter were unavailable, when, one evening last October, Coltroni and a few of his accomplices, disguised as friars, presented themselves at the Franciscan Convent, near Palermo, and asked hospitality for the night. The good monks readily assented, and afforded them a frugal repast. Whilst they were at table, the prior of the convent entered the refectory, and was instantly struck with the resemblance of the principal friar with the description of Coltroni, published by the authorities. So convinced was he of his identity, that he despatched one of the monks to Palermo to give notice to the police, who immediately despatched a detachment of troops to surround the convent; but one of the stores of the convent, containing corn, flour, dry fruits, wood, and other provisions, having taken fire, Coltroni and his followers profited by the confusion that ensued to effect their escape. The next day the monk who had gone to town to apprise the police was found strangled near the convent, with a piece of paper fixed to his neck, with these words—"Recompense of the traitor."——On Monday last the house of Mr. Vickerman, farmer, of Thwing, near Driffield, was broken into by thieves. The female servant, having risen at two o'clock to wash, thought she heard a noise in the house, and alarmed her fellow-servants. On proceeding to the top of the house they descried through the crevices two men in a long garret running the whole length of the house, who were rummaging about with a light. The foreman, having his gun charged, with the other servants, took his stand at a window, and called to the robbers, who were escaping, to stop, but refusing to do so the foreman levelled his gun and fired at them. The charge entered the posterior quarters and legs of one of the burglars, who, finding himself disabled, surrendered, and turned out to be a notorious thief who had long been prowling about the country, known by the name of William Fisher, *alias* Bendigo.——During the last week a whale has been visiting the coast of Kent in search of herrings, its favourite food, and was distinctly seen on Sunday morning in the Downs, sending up its natural fountains. It was since seen off Dover from the shore, and some men who were in a boat just as it was approaching had a narrow escape of an upset; but they luckily got on board a galliot which was passing at the time, and saved themselves from a watery grave. The finny giant is supposed to be upwards of 60 feet in length.—— The adulteration of guano is said to be carried on in this country to a dangerous and unwarrantable extent; one amongst the numerous methods by which the efficacy of this manure is impaired is the admixture of stone, ground into powder.——Five children were nearly poisoned the other day, at Beaconsfield, from eating a few buds of laburnum seeds, which they took for little beans.— Mr. Tophs, the surveyor to the Sun Fire Office, has estimated the cost of restoring Luton Hoo, the seat of the Marquis of Bute, at between £30,000 and £40,000.——There are 624 prisoners now confined in the Wakefield House of Correction.——The Porte has determined on establishing a general police, on a European model, at Constantinople. The consecration of the Cathedral of Versailles took place on Sunday week. The building was commenced one hundred years ago.——The steamers that ply between Kingston and Montreal, when passing through the Cedar Rapids, run at the rate of sixty miles an hour! The new steamer Knickerbocker made her first trip from New York to Albany (160 miles) in seven hours and thirty-three minutes.——We have heard that the manager of banks for savings take light gold for full value, and place the deficiency to Government account. The loss in light gold, to individuals, is a source of general complaint.——There is one party in Liverpool who "turns over," in eggs only, above £20,000 per annum.——The Poor-law Commissioners have issued a peremptory mandate for forming a union in the city of Canterbury. Up to the present time this step has been successfully resisted.——The establishment of a joint-stock bank at Algiers is announced. Its discounts are to be regulated by the rate allowed in that country, which is 10 per cent. per annum.——At the period of high water, on Monday evening last, the tide in Blennerville Bay, Tralee, ebbed and flowed a few feet five times within an hour. Such a phenomenon is supposed to indicate an earthquake, and, probably, on the opposite extreme of the globe.——It is a remarkable fact, that until last week the town of Carmarthen, with a population of 10,000 souls, was destitute of that which is so common in every town and almost every village in England, namely, a butcher's shop. One, however, has just been opened.——In the county of Bedford, 25 in 100 women marry under age; in Huntingdon, 25; in Cambridge, 28; in Essex, 23; in Northampton, 22; in the West Riding of York, 21; in the East Riding of York, 11; Cumberland, 10; Westmoreland, 10; Devon, 9; Salop, 9; Hereford, 9.——The Low Moor Iron Company, near Bradford, have received an order for 1220 iron cannon, 22,000 eight-inch shells and 150,000 cannon shot, 32 pounders. It has not publicly transpired whether the order is from the Hon. the East India Company, or from the British Government.——The Secretary of the Treasury of the United States Government is about to issue 5,000,000 of Government paper money, under the name of fifty-dollar Treasury notes. The rate of interest on these notes is to be merely nominal, and they are to be redeemable on demand in the banks of New York and New Orleans. The intention is openly avowed of making them a circulating medium, instead of bank-notes; and this barefaced violation of the Constitution is to proceed from an Administration which glories in the fact that its chief has twice vetoed bills to establish a Bank of the United States.——The last stone of the lighthouse tower, at the western head of the Plymouth Breakwater, was set on Thursday week by the Rear-Admiral Superintendent of the dockyard, Sir Samuel Pym, K.C.B. The tower is 122 feet in height from the level of the bottom of the sea, and 56 feet from the level surface of the breakwater. It is composed of 31 courses of large blocks of dressed granite. The lighthouse is divided into five stories, in which are an oil room, a store room, a dwelling room, a bed room, and a watch room. It has 14 windows, seven of which are in the watch room, the frames being constructed of bell metal, as are also the outer doors. The lantern is the only thing now necessary to complete it for service, which will be ready to be brought into use early in the next year, when it will supersede the old light vessel, which has been moored in the Sound ever since 1813.——In the year 1742, there were within the bills of mortality 20,000 houses and shops in which gin was sold by retail. In 1840, the number of publicans and hotel keepers, who, though they deal in spirits, retail far greater quantities of porter, ale, wine, &c., was only 5840: yet the population of London has, since 1742, nearly trebled!——On Friday week the Bury petty session was adjourned for half an hour, in order to allow the solicitors, county policemen, overseers, and other officials, an opportunity of witnessing the entrance of Van Amburgh with his large collection of wild beasts.——The number of admission tickets sold for the ball and concert given at Guildhall on Thursday se'nnight, in aid of the funds for the relief of the Polish refugees, exceeded 1500. The expenses for refreshments, quadrille band, &c., amounted to about £450; and after deducting all necessary outlay, a surplus of £470 remains to be handed over to the association.——Her Majesty intends honouring Nottingham with a visit, on her way to Belvoir Castle.——

COLONEL THOMPSON AND THE NORTHERN STAR—Among the events of the day we cannot pass over in silence the outpourings of scorn and contumely with which the *Northern Star* has honoured our gallant friend, Colonel Thompson. He is too honest to pass muster among the incorrigibly violent; but their abuse will give him a stronger hold on the esteem and confidence of all true and thoughtful men.

THE GREAT LEAGUE FUND.—The subscription to the £100,000 fund is progressing in the most satisfactory manner. Friday week evening the total amount subscribed in Manchester and the neighbourhood was £14,133. Since then Messrs. A. S. Henry and Co., and the Oxford-road Twist Company, have given subscriptions of £200 each; Messrs. H. Bannerman and Sons, and Messrs. Hyde, Sons, and Sowerby, £100 each, besides various amounts of £50, £30, £20, and smaller sums, including a large number of subscriptions of £1 each, from shopkeepers, who last year gave not more than 5s., and many of them nothing. Up to last evening, just a week from the commencement of the subscription, its total amount had reached £16,000. There can now be no doubt that Manchester will contribute at the least £20,000, or one-fifth of the whole amount required.

The frequent seizures of smuggled tobacco, and the notoriety of extensive illicit traffic, attract general notice in commercial circles. When the last act of Parliament was introduced by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer to the consideration of the Legislature, by which a new attempt was made to suppress this fraudulent trade and adulteration, by means of more stringent penalties, we predicted its total failure. Adulteration is carried on to a very large extent, also, in sugar; and we observed by a late speech of Mr. Ewart, at Liverpool, that the remedy proposed for this monstrous evil is to place stocks of sugar under the surveillance of the myrmidons of the Excise. In foreign silks and spirits the extent of illicit traffic is immense, and carried on systematically with impunity, to the great injury of the revenue and fair trader. These truths were all expiscated before the select committee on import duties, and were fully explained in the evidence of Mr. M'Gregor, Mr. Deacon Hume, Mr. Porter, and Dr. Bowring. A reduction of the duties, the abolition of all protective duties, and a tariff framed solely for revenue, are there suggested by these able authorities as the only fit and efficacious remedy to be applied; but their advice has been disregarded, until the mischief has become so great and overwhelming as to force conviction of the truth of their advice home to the hearts of the strongest foes to freedom of trade. In the mean time so gigantic is the evil and amount of illegal traffic, that instruments, knowingly tainted with the guilt, have been employed to obtain information likely to lead to the detection of their accomplices. This of itself furnishes most cogent proof of the depth and breadth of the system of evasion and corruption which is in existence, and demands the immediate attention of Government.—*Morning Chronicle.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 22, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
R. Owen, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester	£5	0	0
James Smith Buckley, Esq., do.	50	0	0
James M'Cullock, Esq., Tarare, France	5	5	0
John Walker, Esq., Stand, near Manchester.. ..	5	0	0
Richard Bury, Esq., 58, Cannon-street, do. ..	3	3	0
Saml. Butterworth, Eagle and Child, Rock-street, Bury, Lancashire	1	15	0
Benj. Nichols, Esq., Ancoats-crescent, Manchester	20	0	0
Nicholson and Evans, Market-street, do.	20	0	0
William Johnson and Co., spinners, Wigan ..	50	0	0
John Aspinall, Esq., Wigan-lane, do...	5	0	0
C. P. Henderson, Esq., George-street, Manchester	5	0	0
Gordon M'Connel, 9, Maskell-street, C.-on-M., do.	2	0	0
Edwd. M'Keand, 55, Temple-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	0	0
R. Bell, Walton-buildings, do.	2	0	0
Richard Lord, 54, Cannon-street, do.	1	0	0
George Andrew and Sons, Church-street, do. ..	100	0	0
A Friend, per John Brooks, Esq., do.	10	0	0
R. K., per W. B. Watkins, Esq., do.	5	0	0
Rev. Joseph Fox, 16, Brunswick-place, Leeds ..	2	0	0
Richd. Clarke and Sons, Hodson's-ct., Manchester	25	0	0
Joseph Lowry, Belfast, Ireland	1	0	0
Wm. Naish, jun., Wilton, Wiltshire	1	0	0
James Hoyle and Sons, Rochdale	200	0	0
Booth and Hoyle, do.	200	0	0
A Friend, per Alfred Reyner, Esq., Ashton-under-Lyne	16	13	4
Jos. Crewdson, Esq., Back Mosley-st., Manchester	50	0	0
Thomas Kitts, Black Horse-street, Bolton	1	0	0
Thos. Crooke, Hall-ith-Wood, near do.	1	0	0
Abel Heywood, 58, Oldham-street, Manchester } Per David Winstanley	0	10	0
Robt. Aspell, 432, Oldham-rd., do. } Per David Winstanley	1	0	0
Wm. Hanley, 434, do., do. } Per David Winstanley	1	0	0
John Jackson, 122, Ormond-street, C.-on-M, Manchester } Per David Winstanley	1	0	0
Marmaduke Burnell, 12, Chapman-street, do. } Per David Winstanley	1	0	0
H. P. Reather, 316, Oldham-rd., do. } Per David Winstanley	1	0	0
Henry Fletcher, 302, do., do. } Per David Winstanley	0	2	6
Harold Partington, 472, do., do. } Per David Winstanley	0	2	6
Miss Greenhalgh, 458, do., do. } Per David Winstanley	0	2	6
James Davy, 1, Butler-street, do. } Per David Winstanley	0	2	6
Langworthy, Brothers, & Co., Greengate Mills, Salford	50	0	0
John Skeet, Woodbridge, Suffolk	1	0	0
John Whewell, Hollin's-vale, near Bury	1	0	0
J. & W. Maskell, Maskell-street, C.-on-M., Manchester	5	0	0
John Hewitt, King-street, do.	2	0	0
A Friend, York-street, do.	2	0	0
William Woodward, 47, London-road, do.	2	0	0
William Gee, Pimmill Brow, Ardwick, do.	2	0	0
Walter Malon, Ardwick Foundry, do...	2	0	0
David Hood, 29, Brazennose-street, do.	2	2	0
William Irwin, 39, Oldham-street, do...	2	0	0
J. M'Connochie, 9, Maskell-street, C.-on-M., do. ..	1	0	0
C. M., per Mr. Royle, do.	1	0	0
A Friend to the Cause, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Cockshot, Stevenson-square, do.	1	0	0
William Gray, do., do.	1	0	0
William Kearsley, do., do.	1	0	0
Ebenezer Patchett, 69, Piccadilly, do.	1	1	0
Henry Balfe, at Gallemore's Print Works, Ardwick, do.	1	0	0
H. Walker, 54, Rusholme-road, do.	1	0	0
Mansfield and Newland, 33, Oldham-street, do. ..	1	0	0
William Todman, 53, Oldham-street, do.	1	0	0
Mrs. Todman, do., do.	1	0	0
J. and M. Robinson, 85, Oldham-street, do. ..	1	0	0
John Boardman, Harvey, Tysoe, and Co's., Salford	1	0	0
James Weston, do., do. ..	1	0	0
James Webster, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Abraham Troost and Sons, 10, St. James's-square, Manchester	25	0	0
Stephen Franghiadi, 3, Bow-street, do.	5	0	0
Samuel Jones, 101, Oldham-street, do.	1	0	0
John Dearden, jun., 100, do., do.	1	0	0
Richard Platt, 94, do., do.	1	0	0
William M'Intosh, 88, do., do.	1	0	0
J. W. Evans, 80, do., do.	1	0	0
T. and J. Hawthornthwaite, 44, do., do.	1	0	0
J. H. Stephenson, 56, do., do.	1	0	0
James Scholes, 32, do., do.	1	0	0
James Hughes, 24, do., do.	1	0	0
William Lane, 6, do., do.	1	0	0
J. and R. Abram, do., do.	1	0	0
A Friend, Manchester	1	10	0
A Friend, do.	1	0	0
T. Hofland, King-street, do.	0	5	0
J. Manson, 39, Rusholme-road, do.	0	10	0
John Massey, 66, London-road, do.	0	5	0
David Evans, 55, do., do.	0	5	0
Samuel Rathbone, Ogden-street, Ardwick, do. ..	0	2	6
John Mycock, 69, Oldham-street, do.	0	2	6
John Thistlethwaite, 79, do., do.	0	5	0
J. S. Gregson, 76, do., do.	0	5	0
Nathan Ellison, 98, do., do.	0	5	0
John Harper, Manchester	0	5	0
Robert Woolstencroft, 109, Oldham-street, do. ..	0	5	0
Joseph Woolstencroft, 113, do., do.	0	3	0
J. Holderson, 74, do., do.	0	2	6
John Page, 66, do., do.	0	2	6
Thomas Knight, do., do.	0	5	0
W. Burton, do., do.	0	16	6
Small Sums, do.	0	3	0
Thomas Darbyshire, 18, Islington square, Salford	2	2	0
F. Jewsbury, King-street, Manchester	1	0	0
Richard Holme, 5, Shelbourne-st., Strangeways, do.	5	0	0
W. G. Taylor, 11, Brunswick-st., Leamington, Warwickshire	1	1	0
John Jackson, Esq., Cannon-street, Manchester ..	10	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Grey of Manchester, two American gold coins	1	9	6
William Richardson and Sons, Meal-st., Manchester	75	0	0
E. G. Kay, Esq., Whitworth, near Rochdale ..	50	0	0
John Holme, 47, Market-street, Manchester ..	1	0	0
George Oliver, Esq., 40, Spring Gardens, Manches.	10	0	0
John Slagg, Esq., 14, Pall Mall, do.	10	0	0
A Friend, per E. Hollins, Esq., Stockport ..	20	0	0
Jos. and Benjamin Schofield, Littleboro', near Rochdale	100	0	0
John Smith, Stamford-street, Ashton-under-Lyne	1	0	0
James Bevan, Horwich Vale, near Bolton ..	2	0	0
James Kershaw, Esq., Dearnley, Littleboro', near Manchester	4	0	0
Thomas Gill and Son, Warren-street, Manchester	10	0	0
C. W. Williams, Parliament-street, Liverpool ..	1	0	0
James Ashworth, 79, Church-street, Manchester	2	0	0
Thomas Ferneley, 79, do., do...	2	0	0
Robert Banks and Co., 27, do., do.	1	0	0
James Sheldon, 73, do., do.	1	0	0
Thomas Whittaker, 87, do., do.	1	0	0
John and George Cooper, 87, do., do.	1	0	0
Robert Froggatt, 13, Joiner-street, do. ..	1	0	0
Robert Bunting, Land of Nod, Pendleton, do ..	1	0	0
Patrick O'Hara, 19, Church-street, do. ..	0	5	0
James Wilson, 168, Great Ancoats-street, do. ..	1	0	0
John Goodall, Downing-street, do.	0	5	0
Jonathan Wetherill, Temple-st., C.-on-M., do. ..	0	5	0
T. P. Halton, Piccadilly, do.	1	0	0
John Glossop, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
George Robinson, 22, Swan-street, do. ..	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
William Woulds, 33, Church-street, do.	1	0	0
Samuel Andrews, 33, do., do.	1	0	0
J. and R. Wilson, 31, do., do.	2	2	0
J. and T. Greenwood, 40, do. do.	2	0	0
Moses Mawson, Rose Grove, Ardwick, do.	2	0	0
A Friend, per R. Bunting, do.	3	0	0
Richard Hall, 33, Church-street, do.	1	0	0
J. M. Wells, 45, do., do.	1	0	0
A Friend, per J. Ashworth, do.	10	0	0
Joseph Wood, 69, Church-street, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Howarth, Droylsden, near Manchester	1	10	0
A Friend	5	0	0
James Mathews, 98, London-road, do.	0	5	0
Wm. Makinson, at Mr. Gallemore's, Ardwick, do.	1	0	0
J. E. Gallemore, Pinmill Brow, do., do.	10	0	0
John Balmforth, Pinmill Iron Forge, do., do.,	2	0	0
W. C., per Mr. M'Cartney, do.	2	0	0
William Murray, 5, Edward-street, do.	2	0	0
J. B., per Mr. M'Cartney	1	0	0
J. W., per do., do.	0	10	0
A Friend to Just Laws, per Mr. Harvey	5	0	0
A. W., per do.	10	0	0
John Dracup, Chapel-street, Salford	5	0	0
Robert Ryder, Esq., Ardwick-place, Manchester	10	0	0
Richard Johnson, Esq., 27, Dale-street, do.	10	0	0
A. S. Sichel, Esq, Portstreet, do.,	10	0	0
Wilson Crewdson, Esq., Dacca Mills, do.	40	0	0
John Bell, Ducie Arms Inn, Strangeways, do.	1	0	0
Rev. Joseph Gill, Egerton, near Bolton, Lancashire	1	0	0
Wm. Hounsfield, Esq., Back Mosley-st., Manchester	5	0	0
A Friend to Free Trade in Religion as well as Corn	0	10	0
Robt. Bell, 39, York-street, C.-on-M., Manchester	1	0	0
Leigh, Lancashire, per Charles Jackson	10	0	0
P. Houghton and Co., Fountain-street, Manchester	10	0	0
Thomas Woolfe, 11, Rook street, do.	1	0	0
John Huthart, draper, Carlisle	1	0	0
Benj. Smith and Sons, Manchester	100	0	0
Bew Lupton, Esq., Cheadle, Cheshire	1	0	0
T. M.	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mrs. Upham, Mylne-street, Myddelton-square	0	5	0
Richard Burnett, Piazza, Covent-garden	1	1	0
R. Wornum, 2, Camden-street, Camden-town	5	5	0
H. N. Wornum, do., do.	1	1	0
G. Mussell, Church-street, Camberwell	0	5	0
C. F., per J. A. Lyon	0	3	6
J. T.	1	0	0
J. F. L.	0	2	6
R. W.	1	0	0
J. T. M.	1	0	0
Joseph Hill, 254, Blackfriars-road	1	0	0
Wm. Brown, West-street, Gateshead, Durham	1	0	0
David Pitty, 13, New-road, Whitechapel	1	0	0
W. Lindsay, 9, Aldgate High-street	1	0	0
Robt. Hastings, 2, Castle-street, Falcon-square	1	0	0
Joshua Morris, Greenwich	1	0	0
John Bradshaw, 27, Warwick-street, Regent-street	1	1	0
—— Shingleton, Church-row, Hampstead	0	2	6
Joseph Reeve, 32, Warwick-street, Golden-square	1	10	0
Alex. Brockway, 19, New Broad-street	0	1	0
J. R. Holmer, Hammersmith	1	0	0
W. E. Holmer, do.	0	5	0
S. Mills, 26, Seymour-place	1	0	0
Frederick Monro, Cheltenham	1	0	0
Richard Duncan, Rood-lane	0	10	0
Henry Watts, 30, Hoxton-square	1	1	0
W. Wainwright, Prospect-place, Upper Holloway	1	0	0
W. G. Gover, 8, Chester-square, Pimlico	5	0	0
Henry Jackson, 66, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell	1	1	0
W. H. Jackson, do., do.	1	1	0
J. F. Reed, 5, White Hart-street, Newgate-market	1	0	0
Samuel Fawcet, Kidderminster	1	0	0
Anthony Guy, Lymington	1	0	0
Arthur Lupton, jun., Headingley, near Leeds	1	0	0
A few Poor Men, per Mr. Jos. Hardiman, Hayes Fire Clay Works, Stourbridge	0	10	0
Wm. Kell, Town Clerk, Gateshead	1	0	0
M. M. Monro, Enfield	1	0	0
John Belemore, Willesden	0	5	0
J. Swiney, Brett's-buildings, Hoxton	1	0	0
W. B. Murley, Shepherd's-market, May Fair	0	5	0
J. Goudge, 13, Little New-street, Shoe-lane	0	2	6
Timothy Bevington, 67, King William-street, City	10	0	0
C. Johnson, 15 Sadley-street, Islington	0	2	6
W. T. Alway, 24, Barnsbury-row, Islington	0	6	0
J. Hodges, Beauvan-place, Kingsland	0	10	0
Wm. Sharpe, 22, Woburn-square	10	0	0
Capt. John Colling, 87, Bartholomew-close	1	1	0
—— Dutton, 5, Peel-terrace, Deptford	1	0	0
—— Evans, George-yard, Prince's-street	0	2	6
—— Barrett, 2, James-place, Hoxton	0	2	6
—— Noden, 28, Swinton-street, Gray's-inn-road	0	5	0
J. Spencer, 18, Newton-street, Holborn, per R. D. Cumming	1	0	0
—— Thelwall, 9, East-street, Manchester-square	0	10	0
M. P. Guimaraens, 1, Northwick-terrace, St. John's Wood	1	1	0
J. Pritchard, Glenleven, near Gourock	10	0	0
John Evans, Chipping, near Preston	10	0	0
W. Wrigley, Malton	1	0	0
Jas. Curtis, Harpenden, near St. Alban's	1	0	0
John Hodgskin, Chatham	1	0	0
Thos. Beveridge, builder, Union-street, Chatham	1	0	0
W. Wood, appraiser, &c, Chatham	1	0	0
John Liles, New-street, Covent-garden	1	0	0
John Boothby, 15, Upper Thames-street	1	1	0
H. and R. Perks, Coombe, near Bath	1	1	0
Henry Booth, 1, Haberdasher-street, Hoxton	1	0	0
James Smith, 12, Jeffrey's-terrace, Camden-town	1	1	0
David Owen, 98, Oxford-street	1	0	0
Rev. George Kenrick, 26, Regent-square	0	5	0
John Rowland Gibson, 115, Holborn Hill	1	0	0
J. H. Roddon, Wardour-street	0	5	0
Fred. Towgood, Riversfield, St. Neot's	5	0	0
George Jones, 10, Bow Churchyard	1	1	0
Stephenson Nodes, 16, Upper Bedford-place	0	5	6
John Bell, London	2	2	0
W. Turnell, Old Pitt's Head, Tysson-st., Bethnal-green	1	0	0
Chas. Lea, Beauvoir Cottage, Finchley	1	0	0
John Hill, Albany Cottage, Fitzroy Park, Highgate	0	5	0
—— Priddle, Wilson-street, Gray's-inn-road, per J. C. Buckmaster	0	5	0
George Chapman, 18, Drury-lane, per do.	0	2	6
C. Pulling, 25, Great Titchfield-street, Marylebone, per do.	0	2	6
Robert Willis Hall, 7, Rodney-terrace, Mile-end-rd.	1	0	0
John Barnard, Great Catworth, Huntingdonshire	0	2	6
G. Buckland, miller and baker, Exeter	1	0	0
John Trumper, Rock Ferry, near Liverpool	1	0	0
Lieut. A. Boyack, R N., Bridge House, near Canterbury	0	5	0
J. E. Gray, British Museum	1	0	0
Thomas Allen, 41, Rupert-street, Haymarket	0	2	6
James Griffiths, 246, Strand	1	0	0
Robert Howitt, 202, Whitecross-street	1	0	0
—— Saunders, 56, Leadenhall-street	1	0	0
A Friend of Humanity	1	0	0
T. M.	1	0	0
F. Tebbutt, Priest-ct., Foster-lane, (Per J. P. Burnard)	1	1	0
J. Keighley, 5, Foster-lane, Cheapside (Per J. P. Burnard)	1	1	0
J. Mahon, 1, Somers-place West, New-rd. (Per J. P. Burnard)	1	0	0
Oxoniensis (Per J. P. Burnard)	1	0	0
W. Gould, St. Margaret's Bank (Rochester.)	1	0	0
J. Darch, High-street (Rochester.)	1	0	0
J. Edwards, do. (Rochester.)	1	0	0
Philip Harrow, do. (Rochester.)	1	0	0
W. Aldridge, do. (Rochester.)	1	0	0
G. Harraud, do. (Rochester.)	1	0	0
P. Goldston, Eastgate (Rochester.)	1	0	0
F. G. Goldston, do. (Rochester.)	1	0	0
W. Smith, King's Head, Chatham	1	0	0
F. Noble, 8, Onslow-pl., Brompton, per Mr. Hutchinson	1	0	0
George Ewings, 6, Foley-street, Portland-place	0	2	0
F. Wheeler, Stroud	0	5	0
John Boyd, 141, Blackfriars-road	1	0	0
William Warry, 18 John street, Islington	0	2	6
"A Reformed Drunkard"	0	2	6
James Woolley, 77, Cheapside	1	1	0
The Workmen in the employ of Messrs. Bryan, Donkin, and Co., Bermondsey	1	10	10
Arthur H. Cox, 29, Ship-street (Brighton.)	1	1	0
Christopher Spencer, 39, do. (Brighton.)	0	2	6
Thomas Gardner, 41, do. (Brighton.)	0	2	6
W. D. Savage, Edward-street (Brighton.)	0	2	6
T. Grinyer, 45, Borough-street (Brighton.)	0	2	6
John Bumley, Batley, near Dewsbury	5	0	0
A Friend, per Jas. Stirrat, West Brae (Paisley.)	1	0	0
Peter Kerr, New-street (Paisley.)	3	3	0
William Phillips, Forbes-street (Paisley.)	3	3	0
John Connal, baker, High-street (Paisley.)	2	2	0
Robert Wilson, Town Clerk (Paisley.)	2	2	0
R. Campbell, spirit mercht., New Town (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Matthew Lochhead, New-street (Paisley.)	1	1	0
James Arthur, draper (Paisley.)	1	1	0
James Millar (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Parker and Co., manufacturers (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Thomas Fulton, do. (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Kerr and Wilson, do. (Paisley.)	1	1	0
J. and W. Caldwell, do. (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Walter Nicol, do. (Paisley.)	1	1	0
William Fleming, do. (Paisley.)	1	1	0
William Coats, Broomlands (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Lamberton and Tennant, drapers (Paisley.)	1	1	0
David Barr, dyer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Robert Pattinson, Causeyside (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Robert Rule (Paisley.)	1	1	0
William Reid, writer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Rev. Dr. Burns (Paisley.)	1	1	0
James Boyd, glazier (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Robert Brodie, Commercial Bank (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Robert Laird, draper, High-street (Paisley.)	1	1	0
John M'Arthur, manufacturer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
John Snodgrass, painter (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Baille Telfer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
J. and W. Fulton, Glenfield, near (Paisley.)	1	1	0
D. Campbell, dyer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
William Wotherspoon, bookseller (Paisley.)	1	1	0
John Kerr, Abbey-street (Paisley.)	1	1	0
John Hood, tinsmith (Paisley.)	1	1	0
George Symington, ironmonger (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Harrow, Wilson, and Co., Colmelie (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Archibald Leckie, dyer (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Robert Kerr, Oakshaw Head (Paisley.)	1	1	0
Wm. Robb and Co., manufacturers (Paisley.)	1	1	0
James M'Murchy, Causeyside (Paisley.)	1	1	0
T. H. Ryland, Broad-street, Birmingham	1	0	0
Small Subscriptions, per John Twigg, Newhill Pottery, near Rotherham	1	0	0
Do., per W. Malone, 10, Old-square, Birmingham	1	0	0
Balance, per J. A. Lyon, Old Kent-road	4	6	6

A Mr. Wyett of 92, Cheapside, complains that we have published his name to a contribution of 2s. 6d. in our list of subscribers without his knowledge or authority, and have refused to insert a letter which he has concocted on the subject. We can positively assert that the 2s. 6d. was received in our office, and the name as inserted in THE LEAGUE given in by the person who paid it. We can also with equal certainty affirm, that when Mr. Wyett's letter was placed in our hands after his name had appeared, we could not help suspecting that the half-a-crown might have been sent by the complainant himself for the purpose of affording him an opportunity of figuring in print—a suspicion, we must confess, not by any means decreased by a letter from the same individual, which appears in the *Morning Herald* of the 22nd instant. In this letter the writer asserts, that his name, with the munificent sum of 2s. 6d. attached thereto, was inserted "*for the purpose of deceiving the unwary.*" Modest Mr. Wyett. Unwary, indeed, must those parties be who could be "*deceived*" into giving their support to the League, because they might happen to find the name of A. Wyett of 92, Cheapside, amongst the two-shillings-and-sixpenny contributors.

TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm.

FIFTH LETTER.

Mr. Brown in this letter gives some account of his visit to Salisbury; of the Cathedral; of the country around; and states some facts about education. This letter was not written in the order in which it is printed; but its appearance now will perhaps be excused, as all eyes are turned to Salisbury.

NEW SARUM, Nov. 8, 1842.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—We came here this day week, but I doubt if you will know what part of the world New Sarum is in. You will, however, have a guess that Old Sarum is in England, as the parliamentary debates on the Reform Bill made its name familiar to every one who read them, and you all read them. Old Sarum, I must tell you, is a mound of chalky rock and earth, about as large as the Calton Hill at Edinburgh, standing a mile north of Salisbury; and New Sarum is Salisbury itself.

You must not think that I am so calling Salisbury from any fantasy of my own: it is so named on the milestones on all the roads leading to it, and in the bills and advertisements of its shopkeepers. It is also so called in its public documents and historical records; and the commonalty around it think there is a dignity in calling the city by the learned and ancient name of Sarum rather than by the modern and less-hallowed designation of Salisbury. The bishop signs himself "Sarum," and everybody here follows the bishop.

I have never yet written to you of bishops and cathedrals, which are so distinctive of England, and so little known or understood in Scotland. But, though seeing the cathedrals occasionally, and hearing of the bishops continually, I am afraid I do not understand much about either; yet, if I would write to you what I do know, this is the place to write it from.

The building here called the Cathedral is very great, very fine, and exceedingly pleasing to look upon; it is not so solemn and massive as St. Paul's in London, and yet it is larger; at least its spire is seventy feet higher than St. Paul's: the height of this is 410 feet. Mary, who has been to it several times—and who has been reading its historical records and listening to the tales told by the people about it—says they have the following descriptive lines:—

"As many days as in one year there be,
So many windows in this church you see;
As many marble pillars here appear,
As there are hours throughout the fleeting year;
As many gates as moons one here does view:
Strange tale to tell! yet not more strange than true."

This may be true; but true or not, the pile is beautiful and majestic, both outside and in. Thus far I will praise it; but as far as its uses go, I can say little in their praise, seeing I am ignorant of them. I have gone almost every day at 11 o'clock to hear what is called religious service, and have each day seen several men and boys in black and white, who sing and read prayers; but save on two occasions, Sunday and Guy Faux's day, nobody listened to them but two or three or four infirm old men, who, being pensioners of the church, must attend. The music is exceedingly rich and effective, and on us, as strangers, had a very solemn effect. But, so far as I could see, those who have to listen to the same thing over and over every day do not pay much respect to it. I saw the official men who are called vergers, and others wearing robes of office, amusing themselves with all manner of antics, poking each other with the rods they carried in the ribs, tickling each other and skipping into corners out of sight, all the while the prayers and reading of the Scriptures were going on.

This cathedral is very rich: much land in several counties belongs to it. I find those who live on its revenues are—a bishop, a dean, a precentor, a chancellor, three archdeacons, a subdean, a subchanter, forty-five prebendaries, six vicars, six singing men, eight choristers, an organist, besides many other officers, some of whom are they whom I have spoken of as jinking, and playing at bogly with each other behind the pillars and tombs, when the clergy are reading the daily prayers.

As to any explanation you may require of what deans, archdeacons, prebendaries, subchanters, and so on, are, I can give you none. I might as well attempt to tell you each office and its duties in the palace of the Emperor of China. One thing, however, I find information on, and that is, that most of the offices, if not all, are filled by the relatives of the rich and the noble of the land.

Besides the cathedral and its clergy, their are several other churches in Salisbury. In that town alone there is more church revenue centred than in the whole of the the three Lothians, Berwick and Roxburgh shires. I do not know precisely what the revenue of the cathedral is, nor does any person who is not connected with it; but that portion of the revenue which is known is more by £1000 and odds than the whole of the stipends paid to the clergy and schoolmasters of East Lothian, Berwick, Roxburgh, Selkirk, and Peeble shires. In those counties there is rarely a person found above the age of childhood who cannot read and write; perhaps, as to reading, there is not one in two hundred. In Wiltshire, in the centre of which stands this cathedral, one half of the grown-up population, keeping out of the large towns, are ignorant of the merest rudiments of education; while of those who can read, a large proportion even in the towns, are unable to write or calculate accounts. A curious instance of this is to be seen in evidence taken before an election committee of the House of Commons, which I have just been reading in a printed report. A borough down this way, Shaftesbury, having been accused of bribery and drunkenness at the election, the sitting member was petitioned against. The innkeepers of the town were summoned to give evidence of what liquor they gave away. They were sworn as to their accounts; and on oath, several of them doing respectively a large business, proved that they kept no accounts, they being neither able to read nor write. We think this very extraordinary; but it is quite common here.

But, besides the enormous establishment in Salisbury, each parish in the county has its church, and many of them two or three clergymen. No attempt is made anywhere to educate, that is, to give a rational education—a useful, practical teaching to the rural population in this part of England. I have been answered, when speaking on this subject with some of the churchmen here, that the revenues of the cathedral were never destined for secular education. I told them that might be so; but, in the days of the Catholic Church, these revenues were in a large part devoted to the support of the poor, from which holy purpose they were now entirely diverted. Moreover, I pointed out to them that most of the original grants of land for their maintenance, and almost the whole money expended in rearing the vast fabric of the cathedral, were obtained on condition of prayers being said for the souls of the donors; and that to use such bequests for any other purpose was unlawful. They replied, it was better to devote themselves to the living than to the dead. "That point I shall not dispute," said I; "but, since you have diverted your revenues from their original purpose, do something that is useful to the living—support the aged, educate the young."

Salisbury is a very pleasant town, of about 11,000 inhabitants. It stands in a valley, or rather at the junction of two valleys. The river Avon comes from the north, and here joins the waters of the Willey and the Nadder, which were wedded at the town of Wilton three miles westward. This town of Wilton takes its name from the Willey, and gives name to the county Wiltshire. It was a place of importance before Salisbury existed, and is still the county town. The valleys in which the several rivers wend their way to Salisbury, where, being all joined, they take the name of the Avon, and run into the sea on the Hampshire coast; these valleys above and below Salisbury are exceedingly rich in soil, but they are narrow. They soon merge with the uncultured land which stretches for many miles on every side, and is called Salisbury Plain. This is all "down" land; a thin soil on a chalky subsoil, bearing a soft, downy herbage, which, at first sight, gives you an idea of hunger and starvation when you see great flocks of sheep upon it; but which possesses a generous sweetness, acceptable at all times to sheep, and productive of the most delicately-flavoured mutton.

The farm-buildings are generally situated in or near the valleys, each having a portion of arable, and a large extent of down land, the latter lying several miles rearward. Since turnip culture was introduced here twenty or thirty years ago, sheep-stock has increased fourfold. Previous to that time there was no winter keep for them.

Travel on which side of Salisbury you will, one is struck with the vast breadth of country treeless, unsheltered, and bare and cheerless. If travelling alone, you are so very lonely that you may suppose yourself the first being created, with this difference, that the earth has been

created naked, and not you. But if in the neighbourhood of Old Sarum, bare as it is and naked as is the wide view from its brow, this thought will not arise. You will find yourself a creature of to-day, while around you are memorials of antiquity older than the Cæsars.

On the south side of the old citadel, on the lower grounds nearly level with the river, is a tree partly decayed, at which, up to 1832, two members of Parliament were elected for Old Sarum; the proprietors of the adjacent fields had the sole franchise vested in them. I viewed the tree, and found by an opening in its side it was decaying in the heart. A man at work near it told me it had never thriven since the elections were taken away from it.

An account of the farming hereabout I must reserve until another occasion. We are, in the meantime, as ever, yours,

ADAM AND MARY BROWN.

AGRICULTURE.

THE TRANSITION TO FREE TRADE.

It has been distinctly shown that the "protection" which the makers of the Corn Laws professed to give to the tenant-farmers has done them no good; nay, farmers are now universally convinced that, had Corn Laws never existed, their own condition would have been much better than it is. Again, it is pretty generally admitted by agriculturists, that whenever a free trade in corn shall have been attained, and everything adjusted to natural prices, the business of a farmer will be more safe and more profitable than at present. But some fears are entertained of the transition. This is now the single point upon which the landlord-monopolist has the slightest chance of exciting the apprehensions of his victim—the tenant-farmer. On every other part of the question the landlord has cried "wolf" too often; and the farmer always receives the most elaborate eulogy of monopoly with the thought, and sometimes with the ejaculation of—"It's *rent* you mean!" On the topic of a transition from restriction to freedom, however, the often-deluded farmer is not altogether deaf to the syren voice of his deluder, the landowner.

Accordingly we find in the *Mark-lane Express* of this week an article on the Corn Laws, "from a correspondent," which dilates on the dangers of the transition more ingeniously than ingenuously. The writer, who is obviously a landowner—we should suspect one who knows the meaning of a *mortgage*—says "that circumstances thickening around the tenant-farmer are pregnant with danger;" and he refers to the recent and splendid subscriptions at Manchester as decisive of the fate of the Corn Laws. After some reflections on landlords for not forming counter-societies to oppose the League, and meeting the subscriptions to abate monopoly with subscriptions for the purpose of maintaining it, he says—

"Increased consumption, occasioned by an increased demand for our manufactured goods, might, and after a time, doubtless would, exist; but in the interval what is to become of the farmers? We say—and we say it most emphatically—that *total and immediate repeal without compensation would inevitably ruin nine out of every ten of the tenant-farmers of the kingdom, and that too during the interval that must elapse before a sufficiently increased consumption could be occasioned by any increase in the demand for labour, which any, the most flattering state of trade can produce.*"

And afterwards he adds—

"Prices would not only fall to their natural level, but much beneath it, and what that natural level would be it would take the wisest some time to determine. Out of what means, then, would the next half-year's rent be paid? And the next? And the next? And what matter to the existing farmer—what compensation or consolation to *him*—if, after some two or three years, there were an increased demand, and prices again rose, and the farmer could once more raise his head, *he* would not be that farmer, in nine cases out of ten—*he* would not have the capital to prevent distraints and executions. Somebody else, under a different order of things, might thrive, but *he* must, in the meantime, perish."

Now these passages are not unskilfully designed to work upon the prejudices and the fears of the less intelligent classes of farmers. But, in the first place, the assumptions made are directly contrary to facts and evidence; and in the second place, it is taken for granted that the landlords will be able, as we know well enough they would be willing, to throw upon the tenants all the loss—if any loss there should be—of reverting to natural prices.

If the Corn Law were immediately repealed, there would be *no* interval before all the increased demand for farm produce which is occasioned by the full employment of our manufacturing population would arise. Before the repealing statute could actually pass, capital, which now lies dormant or comparatively useless, would be embarked in manufacturing and commercial enterprises, in anticipation of the opening markets which Free Trade would produce; and this in *one week* would act upon agricultural produce. And as the tendency of a Free Trade would be to render our commerce steadily progressive, its effect upon agriculture would be to cause a steady and advancing demand for its productions. Perhaps we cannot offer to our agricultural readers a better practical illustration of the immediate effect an opening foreign trade has upon our working population, and of the way in which capital, credit, and enterprise are combined in commercial transactions, than to state an actual operation of the sort. A wealthy house in one of the great provincial ports has a branch establishment at Canton, in China, to which it naturally desires to direct as much business as possible. With that view it acceded to the proposal of a London firm to draw bills for £10,000 for the acceptance of that firm, and to procure the discount of them. This was done, and by arrangement £5000 was laid out in goods by the provincial house, and the other half of the money thus raised was also invested by the London firm in the purchase of goods for the Chinese market. Both lots of goods were sent to the branch house in Canton, sold there, and the produce again laid out in silk, and sent back to this country. The bills were kept on foot by repeated renewals until the return cargoes had been sold, when they were paid, and a handsome profit was reaped by both of the parties to this adventure. Such are the transactions which, in an infinite variety of forms, take place whenever the prospects of commerce are hopeful, and their instant effect is to set our manufacturing population to work. Here, then, is a complete refutation of the fallacy of an interval between increased trade and increasing consumption of farming produce. It is, in truth, nothing but a landlord-begotten bugbear; for whatever increased demand arose would be a clear addition to that previously existing.

Then prices of corn, it is said, would fall to *or below* their natural level. Why below? It has been proved that no wheat can be imported into this country much, if at all, below 48s. or 50s. a quarter; and that the whole quantity which can be brought from abroad in any one year is comparatively small, certainly not exceeding one-seventh or one-eighth of our total consumption. Now, when our own crops are deficient, such an importation is barely sufficient to prevent prices of corn rising to an exorbitant pitch; and when our own produce is very abundant, there can be no profit in importing wheat at all, and consequently none would be imported. The free-trade price of wheat then would be somewhere about 50s. a quarter, that is pretty nearly the average price in Holland, where the trade is absolutely free. This writer also assumes, that with such prices farmers could not pay the present rents; that landlords *would* make no reduction; that they *would be able to resist* reductions of rent; and that they would sell up existing farmers by means of distraints and executions. That the landlords would do all this if they could, we are unwilling to believe; though certainly the cool assumption made by the writer in the *Express*, that half-year after half-year's rent *at the present rate* is to be exacted "by distraints and executions," when, *as he says*, farming produce shall have fallen far below *the prices on which present rents have been calculated*, implies his belief in such landlord-dishonesty. And the same opinion has been expressed by one of the Monopolist's chosen organs; for the *Standard* of the 21st of last April says on this subject—

"Under what head, then, is the farmer to look for relief? Under the head *rent*. The landlord must reduce rent; but the farmer knows, *by rather bitter experience, the process by which this reduction must be effected.* HE MUST BE FIRST HIMSELF RENDERED UNABLE TO PAY RENT, AND *then* THE LANDLORD WILL GIVE WAY, AND NOT BEFORE."

We would fain think better of the landlord class, though the iniquities of their Corn Law go far to confirm the harsh opinion of their own organ.

But, in truth, whatever may be the will of the landlords, it would not be in their power so to oppress their tenantry. They do so now in periods of depression because farmers fall one by one, and others, led on by a delusive reliance on the Corn Laws, are ready to take their places. Thus the existing competition for farms is kept up, and it is by means of that competition amongst farmers that landowners are able to screw up their rents.

Now, to whatever extent Free Trade might alarm farmers, it would in the same degree abate this competition for farms; and landlords, instead of having fifty applicants for one vacant farm, might be under some apprehension of having farms thrown upon their hands. If Free Trade should, in fact, reduce prices, there will be a cause for reduction of rents which everybody can understand, and the tenant-farmers will rise as one man and demand adjustments. This landlords cannot resist, even if they wish it; but we believe that they will be too glad to come to reasonable terms with their tenants. We believe that the "panic" which the writer talks of will exist chiefly amongst the mortgaged landlords.

Let us see what remedy this writer proposes. He is aware that the Corn Laws are almost gone, and—(here the landlord peeps out)—he urges the farmers to ask for COMPENSATION!! What! compensation for promising to pay to their landlords rents based on a false calculation? Rents estimated according to the promises, and not the performances, of the Corn Laws? What is this but compensation to the landowners?

The tenant-farmers have been kept in a state of vassallage by the Corn Laws, they have been made sponges to be squeezed at their landlords' conveniences, and now a prospect of their emancipation appears, their *owners* ask for COMPENSATION. British farmers, are you slaves, that your lordly masters demand money as a COMPENSATION for setting your industry free? Where is the spirit of English yeomen, that a monopolist dare to breathe such a proposition? Some time ago the agricultural classes in the islands and highlands of Scotland were in a state of grievous destitution, and large sums were raised throughout the kingdom for *their* relief; but what was the result? Why, nine-tenths of this fund, obtained from the charitable of the empire, went into the pockets of the Highland lairds as rent! And this is what the writer in the *Express* is driving at. He says, in effect, we, the landlords, have made a law to enhance prices, and thereby to enhance our rents; the "national will, or the national good," requires a return to natural prices, and we ask you, the farmers, to demand compensation from the public purse, to *enable you to pay us the artificial* rents! Farmers, you are to be made cat's-paws in the dirty demand; you are to be the conduit pipes through which the landowners are to extract their final largesse from the sweat and toil and blood of the industrious! We know you will spurn the vile proposal. Your compensation for prices, occasionally, and only occasionally, unnaturally high, will consist in steadiness of price, rent adjusted according to a real and not an imaginary scale of prices, long terms of years on reasonable covenants, the abolition of game preserves and other semi-feudal burdens, and above all, in the steadily advancing prosperity of the nation. These are the only COMPENSATIONS worthy of the acceptance of honest men; and, whatever landlords may desire, we know that no others will be seriously demanded by the TENANT FARMER.

THE LOST WORD.

"Oh no we never mention it, its name is never heard,
Our lips are now forbid to speak the once familiar word."

It is a common remark, that what is left unsaid is often far more significant than the most laboured and eloquent discourse. How frequently do we see the great lights of the bar warmed into grandiloquent flights of eloquence upon every part of their case except that part of it which most pinches them, and upon which the whole matter in dispute turns. Just so it is with the landowners at the agricultural meetings: they are exalted into ecstasies by the *modern discovery* that wet land produces tenfold more produce when drained, and they become perfectly enthusiastic when urging the tenant-farmers to improve their stock, to buy artificial manures, and to procure modern implements. They will even themselves experiment on artificial manures; they will buy a parish bull of the most approved pedigree, they will forego rabbit-shooting, and will only *half-stock* their tenants' lands with game. All these things, and much more of the same kind, they are eager to do and to advise to be done; but somehow or other they are rather coy on the subject of leases, and never say a syllable about permanently reducing their rents. No one could imagine from anything he hears fall from the landowners at their agricultural gatherings that such a thing as rent existed. Oh no, they know nothing about rent; *they leave all that to their agents*, by whom they well know *it will be treated as a matter of business;* in other words, that they will *screw out the uttermost farthing.* The way in which landlords deal with questions of rent reminds us of an anecdote told with great glee by an old barrister. It is the etiquette of the bar to know, or rather to seem to know, nothing about fees—that is the clerk's business; but, like landlord and agent, barrister and clerk quite understand each other. Our friend was asked, when in Westminster Hall, to undertake a special business, and it was intimated that a fee of 150 guineas was intended to be indorsed on his brief. This he thought was too little by half; but he merely referred the solicitor to his clerk at chambers, taking care, however, to despatch a messenger to the clerk, to tell him not to receive less than 300 guineas. When he got back to chambers he found a check for that sum. Just so the landlord; he goes to the farmers' club, breathing nothing but generosity. Dear to his heart is the "science of agriculture," and the interest of the farmer; draining pipes are the chief objects of his thoughts; muck and manure smell sweetly in his nostrils; rent has no place in his——discourse; the agent attends to that. But, like our pleader's clerk, a significant hint has probably been given that the vacant farm is not to be let to farmer Johnson unless he bids so much more than farmer Thomson has offered.

This subject has been so well handled by Colonel POWELL at the meeting of the *West Herefordshire Farmers' Club*, lately held at Bredwardine, that it would be a neglect of our duty to overlook such an illustration of landlord tactics. Colonel Powell was described by the gentleman who proposed his health as "one of the best gentlemen of the county—the poor man's friend, the good man's friend, the tenant's friend; in fact, a friend to *all*." Hear what this unimpeachable witness says of the landlord exhorters to improvement:—

"In the month of June I had the honour to address you in this room, and then I was in hopes that ere this an improvement in matters would have taken place, but I am sorry I am doomed to disappointment. At this time I could have wished that the cloud that now envelops the agricultural horizon had been dissipated, and that a brighter dawn had arisen—*that an amendment in the value of property would have taken place*—but I am sorry to say that the cloud still impends over of the same dark hue, and I see no prospect of its being chased away by a more prosperous state of things. *In the value of agricultural produce*, not much alteration has taken place for your benefit; although I believe re-action may be seen, still nothing materially to assist you. *I can see no prospect of any benefit till rents become more equalised with, and parallel to, the value of the produce of the land.*" (Cheers.)

It would seem that this gentleman, like most of his class, sighs for protection to keep up prices of agricultural produce; but he is too honest, when he sees that protection is virtually gone, not to meet the question fairly and submit to a reduction of rent. Here is a home

thrust at the lordly and right honourable preachers of improvements :—

"Many meetings connected with agriculture have of late taken place, and various plans at these meetings have been adduced to meet the pressure of the times; but, gentlemen, although good in themselves, they do not hit upon the right remedy. One says drain! drain! You are all to be drained. (Laughter.) Another tells you to keep up your orchards—nothing equal to Herefordshire orchards; but I fancy I hear some one saying, I will put the apple juice down if I can get it. Others say guano, this new manure, will produce such immense crops that you yourselves will fail to receive the bulk; this will be a remedy for all evils. Another says, if you are eaten up with hares and rabbits I will have them all killed—*by-the-by, a proposition not to be entirely despised.* (HEAR, HEAR.) This will be quite sufficient—*nothing more is wanted;* however, I will do you every justice in my power, and render you all the assistance I can; I will send to Birmingham to buy a bull for you. (Cheers and laughter.) I knew Birmingham in my younger days, and there would have been no difficulty in purchasing a bear or a monkey; but as to a Birmingham bull, a capital place to get a cast-iron one; I cannot judge what figure it would cut in a farm-yard; I think it would cut a much better one in the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's-park than in a Herefordshire farm-yard amongst breeding cows. (Laughter and cheers.) *Gentlemen, there is only one thing that can be done to alter your position at the present time; it must come to this, that rents must be adjusted to the prices of the produce, and long leases must be granted.* (Prolonged cheering.) *There must* BE FRESH RENTS, AND CORN RENTS.

By such means only Colonel Powell thinks tenants can be prevented from swelling the cry for a free trade in corn. He said—

"I say it must come to this, or *tenants will be dissatisfied, and they will soon join the immense efforts that are being made to get a free trade in corn;* and unless the landlords meet the tenants upon fair and equitable terms, *confidence will be lost between them, which, indeed, is beginning to be the case in some instances,* AND A FREE TRADE IN CORN WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCE."

This is most true. Tenants *are* dissatisfied, and the shallow mockeries with which landlords have of late attempted to delude them go far to make many of them Free Traders. Nor is this passage without instruction for landlords. It seems they can only prevent their tenants joining our ranks and becoming total and immediate repealers by reducing their rents. Now it is to avoid this reduction that landowners are struggling to maintain their monopoly of corn. If, then, they must submit to reduce rents, even to keep the Corn Laws, would they not be wiser to go for Free Trade at once?

But, says Colonel Powell, there is one important omission at all these meetings :—

"Draining, manuring, &c., are subjects worthy to be attended to certainly; but these, if we may judge from the tone of the addresses that have taken place at some of our meetings lately held, *are to be a specific remedy.* There is a new dictionary just published which contains *a vast number of words; many new ones, and a most excellent work it is,* and some critics speak most highly of it, *but it has an omission of one little word—one little word is left out—that word, gentlemen, is* "RENT." *To some this is a most perplexing little word,* and to many it proves so; at all meetings that take place *the speakers use excessive caution about repeating this little word, and I observe invariably the word "rent" rarely comes out*—this bolus (laughter), gentlemen, they cannot articulate, much less digest."

No, rent rarely comes out, but it lies deep in their hearts; it is the motive to all the scientific disquisitions on farming, at which good farmers laugh, and bad ones grumble: for both quite understand what such lectures mean. Colonel Powell honestly tells his hearers there is nothing new in all these much-vaunted improvements. He said—

"*Draining is no new thing*—all my lifetime this has been advocated; *and even in my memory it was almost impossible to live in the vale of the Wye, and at this season of the year they were obliged to quit it.* But now, gentlemen, *the vale of the Wye is all, or nearly so, drained;* although I do not say but that some improvement in this department may yet be effected, and this district rendered as healthy as any other part of the county. *A foreigner would imagine, in looking over our agricultural reports, and take it for granted that we were living in bogs from one end of the kingdom to the other*—that the whole kingdom was like the fens in Lincolnshire or Cambridgeshire."

Draining new, indeed! why, the Essex and Hertfordshire system of draining, which the Royal Agricultural Society has lately *rediscovered*, was introduced into this country by the Romans. *Varro* and *Columella* have described it most minutely. It was known in 1815 and in 1828, when the corn monopoly was rivetted on this nation, and it is only so prominently put forward now by the landlords with reference to the lost word—RENT.

Colonel Powell thus concluded his able and honest speech :—

"I say, gentlemen, that one thing only can benefit us so as to do us any lasting good—that is, *fresh rents, corn rents, long leases.* These form a just and equitable guide between landlord and tenant. *The farmer would then know what to depend upon. This would be only fair between man and man.*" (The gallant colonel sat down *amidst loud and long applause.*)

GAME AND CRIME.

The following paragraphs, extracted from the *Aylesbury News*, seem so naturally to fall together, that we have ranked them under one head :—

"A HINT TO THE FARMERS OF BUCKS.—The present system of pickling seed wheat has nearly exterminated partridges in Ireland.—*Limerick Chronicle.*"

"AFFRAY WITH POACHERS.—On the night of the 9th inst., a body of poachers, who were on the Duke of Buckingham's preserves at Wotton Underwood, beat and grossly ill used a looker-out of the name of Brockleyhurst."

"ROBBERIES.—We regret to say that petty robberies are almost nightly taking place at Brill. The lawless depredators have hitherto escaped.—*Aylesbury News.*"

"A DESPERADO.—On Saturday last, Moses Shrimpton of Long Crendon was charged with poaching on the Duke of Buckingham's preserves, before the Rev. G. Chetwode, at Chilton. He was on that charge committed to Aylesbury Gaol for six months' imprisonment. There were also some charges of assault against him. It appeared that he had been at the poultry house of Mr. White, farmer, of Pollicott, on the evening before, and on that occasion very narrowly escaped from Mr. White's hands. On the morning of Saturday he was found on the Ashendon estate, snaring. He had about twenty snares down when the keepers detected him. He had a powerful bludgeon with him, with which he knocked one of them down, and escaped from the other. He was then followed by a shepherd, who succeeded in capturing him, notwithstanding his desperate efforts to knock him down with his bludgeon.—*Aylesbury News.*"

In these paragraphs what a dark chapter in the history of our landed aristocracy is touched upon. Good farming is obstructed by the adherence to an obsolete system on the part of the landowners, for the sake of lordly sport and political influence. In spite of the acknowledged deterioration of landed property which game preserving occasions, the majority of the great landowners of this country are eager preservers of game. With many of them irregularity in payment of rent is an offence on the part of their tenants more easily excused than any overt act of treason against the supremacy of hares and pheasants; and with all, the game ranks second only to rent as an object of solicitude. Not a little of the energy with which landowners resist a free trade in corn arises from their knowledge that the same rents could not then be secured unless the land be well cultivated, and that a condition precedent to good husbandry is a total destruction of the game. We know an instance in which a farmer in the West of England sowed a particular field with grain three successive years, and each year the plant was so completely destroyed by game that no attempt was made to reap it in either of the years; yet the farmer had all the expense of a crop, and not a shilling of allowance was made by the landlord. So much for the direct effect of game preserving. And what a state of things in connexion with this subject do the above paragraphs disclose? First, we have the editor of a newspaper suggesting to the farmers a plan for poisoning the game, which is by *law* their landlords' property. This was no doubt a hasty and unconsidered suggestion, and is by no means likely to be acted upon by English farmers; for every agricultural meeting shows that they are beginning to demand openly and loudly that the game nuisance shall be abated. This is the way, and the only way, in which the industrious middle classes who are willing to employ their time and their capital in husbandry will think of dealing with the game question. Then, see how the morality of the labouring people of the rural districts is affected by an abundance of game. How naturally and necessarily poaching leads to brutal violence, to petty thefts, and the long series of crimes of which such offences form the commencement. The existence of game at all, in the present state of English society and the actual condition of English farming is an anomaly.

Wild animals, which by law are no man's property, are bred and kept in enormous abundance in the midst of a population on the very brink of destitution, whose opportunities of earning a living are in fact greatly diminished by the very maintenance of the game. They command, when captured, a ready sale, at high prices; they are easily caught, and the catching them affords to the poor man some of the excitement of sport, as well as the hope of profit—passions of no slight efficacy in the minds of all Englishmen—while no vigilance on the part of the preservers of these creatures can effectually protect them.

Then poaching is looked upon by all but the sporting gentry as a very venial offence. We all remember that Sir Walter Scott first became acquainted with his faithful servant, Tom Purdy, from having had to sit in judgment upon him as a poacher; and we believe few think much ill of a country labourer because he is a bit of a poacher. Yet poaching is the mother of all rural crimes. It establishes the habit of disregarding the law, and creates a fellow-feeling between the poacher and the thief. It leads to late hours and nocturnal adventures; and, sooner or later, to violent contests, and perhaps murderous conflicts, with gamekeepers.

We cannot offer any illustrations more forcible than the above paragraphs. Then, on whom falls the blame of these things? Does any one hesitate to affix it on the landlords, who would retain the sports natural to uncivilized ages and half-peopled countries in the midst of a dense population, and in a community where all except the highest and lowest classes have substituted industry and rational enjoyment for the semi-savage pleasures of the chase?

As a pendant to these remarks, we reprint the following from a local paper :—

"Sir F. Goodricke, at Clermont Lodge, Norfolk, last week entertained the Earl of Cardigan, Lord Macdonald, Lord Maidstone, the Hon. Captain Spencer, Mr. Payne, and Mr. Hungerford. The party, consisting of seven guns, killed, Nov. 8—252 pheasants, 438 hares, 107 rabbits, 13 partridges, 2 woodcocks; total, 812. Nov. 9—331 pheasants, 305 hares, 162 rabbits, 3 partridges, 3 woodcocks; total, 804. Nov. 10—235 pheasants, 441 hares, 110 rabbits, 4 partridges, 2 woodcocks; total, 792. Total—818 pheasants, 1184 hares, 379 rabbits, 20 partridges, 7 woodcocks. Grand total—2408 in three days."

What an amount of temptation, crime, waste, and ill-blood do these 2408 head of game, preserved for the momentary gratification of seven gentlemen, represent!

A CHAPTER ON LEASES.

The attention of the agricultural community has been thoroughly aroused on the subject of leases, and with one accord all agriculturists of every class whose opinions are entitled to respect declare that a lease is an indispensable preliminary to good farming. We have often suggested that a more steady rate of prices than *can* exist for any series of years, while the trade in corn is placed under *any* restriction, is also an essential preliminary to the general readoption of leases; and that condition is, in fact, implied by every one of the numerous landlords, land-agents, and farmers who have joined in the present "agitation"—for such it really is—for leases. This is the grand question in the minds of tenant-farmers at this moment, and every agricultural publication teems with discussion and correspondence upon the subject. We last week noticed some observations which had been made on leases by an Essex land-agent, in the *Mark-lane Express;* and in the same journal of the present week we find a letter from Mr. Robert B. Harvey of Harleston, in Suffolk, which treats the question most admirably. Mr. Harvey shows, what we have often endeavoured to show, that not merely is a lease of the first necessity to the farmer, but that another most important inquiry arises, viz., What is a lease? What do you right honourable Prime Ministers and Secretaries of State mean when you talk of leases? The solution of this inquiry is no less important to the farmer than your readiness to grant a lease at all; for if by a lease you mean that bundle of verbiage and absurdity which on most estates passes by that name, we tell you, and every intelligent agriculturist tells you, that such a lease is worse than useless. No, a lease to be effectual, must be a "reasonable" one; and though we know that such a lease must run counter to the prejudices you have hitherto cherished, you must grant them if you mean to receive rent. Mr. Harvey says, with a justifiable feeling of pride, that the present "agitation" for leases originated in a discussion on the "covenants of leases" in the Harleston Farmers' Club; but we know that it is just one of those subjects which must have been speedily discussed wherever and whenever any body of intelligent men might have assembled together. This, however, in no way diminishes the value of the services of the Harleston Farmers' Club, or the merits of Mr. Harvey's letter. He says—

"The question of leases is just now the most conspicuous, as it is one of the most important; and as, after the high authorities which have lately pronounced in their favour, we may soon expect to see them become the *rule* instead of the *exception*, it will be wise to remember that the virtue is not *solely in the lease (meaning, according to its general acceptation, a tenancy for a term of years,) but in the conditions of it.*"

The absurd restrictions usually contained in leases form one amongst the several causes which have led to their disuse in England. The regulations thereby intended to be imposed on tenants are only fitted to the condition of agriculture previously to the great rise in prices which commenced about 1792, if they were not even behind the agricultural knowledge of that day—but are entirely unsuited to our present knowledge of husbandry. Mr. Harvey then refers to the late speeches of Sir Robert Peel and Lord Stanley, saying—

"I have not observed in the "authorities" to which I alluded, viz., Lord Stanley and Sir Robert Peel, any mention of the *covenants* in leases, but *simply an acknowledgment that security for a term of years is necessary to induce tenants to invest their capital freely in improvements;* and it is therefore probable that in the single application which Sir Robert has acceded to, and in the numerous cases which in other districts may be expected to follow the advice given from such high quarters, either the 'custom of the country' will be taken as the groundwork of a new agreement, *or the conditions will be copied from leases existing elsewhere:* and it is equally probable that tenants who have been farming on yearly hirings and *who have been looking upon a lease as the* ne plus ultra *of their wishes, may, when those wishes are unexpectedly granted, be not very scrupulous as to the covenants inserted.*"

It is true that tenants, even those who are sufficiently enterprising and intelligent to desire leases, have not hitherto been careful enough in weighing the effect of covenants; but they are becoming alive to the necessity of so doing. They have been constantly told, that certain covenants, obviously objectionable, are never intended to be acted upon, that they will not be enforced, and many farmers have been foolish enough to be induced by such representations to waive their objections. Mr. Harvey shows how farmers may guard themselves against such frauds—for no milder term can be used—on the part of their landlords. He says—

"I believe that the Harleston Farmers' Club may, without arrogance, assume to itself the merit of having originated the present 'agitation' in favour of leases, by putting the question prominently before the agricultural public; and the minutes of the club will show that the importance of the subject was forced upon it, not so much by the security which a term of years gives, as *by the necessity of abrogating some of the conditions in existing leases, which improved methods of cultivation had rendered useless or even mischievous by enforcing unnecessary tillage.* If the resolutions which the Harleston Club arrived at, viz., *that leases are indispensable*—that corn rents are highly desirable—*and that great alterations are required in existing covenants*—if such a decision was founded on correct data, it follows that in the change from yearly hirings to leases which may now be anticipated, *a new form of agreement should be adopted,* in which much of the useless and expensive verbiage now encumbering leases may be advantageously omitted, *and a more liberal system of covenants be substituted,* guarding on the one hand against deterioration of the property by a bad tenant, and on the other *giving free scope to the skill and industry of the persevering occupier.*

This is advice offered by farmers to farmers; and how are they to act upon it? Hear what Mr. Harvey says :—

"*This is the time to push the question;* the tenants have been long seeking leases, *the landlords are now disposed to grant them;* and although *the advantages will be mutual,* yet as the *details of the agreement are of more importance to the occupiers, it becomes their duty to consult on what covenants are best for both parties, and to lay their views before the owners of land with proper arguments in support of them.* In furtherance of such an object I would suggest, *that the farmers' clubs throughout the kingdom should immediately discuss the subject,* and I am persuaded that in all but one opinion will be formed, viz., *that directions to farm given half a century, or perhaps a century ago, cannot be advantageously followed in the present day—or, if they can, of what use have all our associations and our Royal Society been?*"

This practically exhausts the subject: it is in itself a chapter on leases. One of the details to which farmers will direct their attention, is the indiscriminate prohibition to break up pasture land, which English leases invariably contain. Now, this is a monstrous absurdity. On this subject Mr. Baker of Essex, in a second letter on leases, says—

"Another drawback upon agriculture is the extensive districts of grass land that exist in some counties. If a fair proportion of them were brought into tillage, abundance of corn might be produced; *and upon the improved system of cultivation now carried out in producing artificial grasses and root crops, nearly as much stock might be fattened.* At a period like this, when labour is so abundant, it requires the especial attention of the landed interest *to facilitate means of employment for the labouring classes.* Besides all this, estates would be improved in rental value by having a fair proportion of arable land, in preference to whole occupations of grass land together."

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF LAND ABOUT AYLESBURY.—The proprietor of an estate in this parish some few years ago offered to sell the whole for £7000, and could not find a customer at that price. He has lately divided the estate into lots and offered them for sale, when the greater part of them were disposed of. The realized prices amount, together with the sums offered for the small portions remaining unsold, to the sum of £10,000. One of the fields, about a mile from this town, fetched £195 per acre! *Who after this will say that the agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League is injurious to the landed interest?* With a moral certainty that Free Trade must at length be the established rule of this country, from which even agricultural produce will be no exception, land—even arable land—(for most of this was arable) is rising rapidly in value. The farmers so often yell before they are hurt, that it will take a great deal to make the country again sympathize with the cry of "Agricultural Distress." In this instance, one of the lots, which consisted of 75 acres of arable land of fair average quality, was bought by private contract, by a *farmer's friend,* at the sum of £2800, but by some inexplicable means the signed contract was cancelled and rendered void, and within a week the same fields were sold at a price amounting to £600 more. These facts prove that the proprietors of land, at least, have no real apprehensions as to the probable result of Corn-Law repeal, whatever they may profess to feel.—*Aylesbury News.*

We can add little to the above paragraph, which speaks for itself. As to land falling in value when the trade in corn shall become free, the idea is too absurd to be seriously mentioned anywhere, except in the Houses of Parliament and the columns of the monopolist newspapers. What the landlord monopolists dread—at least those who are solvent—is the loss of semi-feudal and political power; and those who are heavily mortgaged fear, that though their land, *if sold, may really be rising in value,* yet they

know that, in order to secure to themselves as owners any share of the increasing value, they must deal with property like men of business. But this requires money, and there is the rub; for they want to spend all they can get beyond the interest of their mortgages, not to lay it out in improvements. Such outlays, be they ever so profitable, are postponed advantages; and these the encumbered landowners can't understand: they therefore seek to get a large immediate rental from half-cultivated lands. *Alieni appetens sui profusus* has been in all ages the character of the bankrupt landowner. The monopolist-landlord having spent his capital in folly, or in seeking undue political influence, tries to bolster up his income by taxing the public.

REVIEW.

The English Universities. From the German of V. A. Huber. Edited by Francis W. Newman, late Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. London: William Pickering, 177, Piccadilly. Manchester: Sims and Dinham.

These volumes have been translated, illustrated, and published at the expense of Mr. James Heywood of Manchester, who has been long and honourably distinguished for his zeal and exertions in the cause of University reform. Huber's original work is so dry and tedious, and in many parts so uncandid, that a literal translation of it would not have suited the English public; fortunately Mr. Heywood was enabled to avail himself of the assistance of Professor Newman, who has greatly condensed the work, and considerably improved both its style and vigour. Huber's primary object seems to have been to recommend the corporate character of the English Universities as a model for the public institutions of Prussia; he bestows extravagant eulogies on Oxford, from which his editor has found it necessary to make large deductions; and he assigns results to English education which cannot be received without abatement. The author, it appears, is not satisfied with his editor; but in sooth the editor has more reason to complain of his author, for seldom has any one engaged in a more laborious and repulsive task than that of rendering Huber's lucubrations endurable.

It is an unfortunate fact that the three great universities of Great Britain are at this moment opposed to the principles of Free Trade, at least in their corporate capacity, although they support a Ministry, one of whose leading members declared that these were "the principles of common sense." It is therefore a problem of some interest to discover how it happens that the three great incorporations of English learning have ceased to be incorporations of English intelligence, and that no man in his senses, when cases of doubt arise, looks for guidance of opinion to Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin. And connected with this is a second and more interesting question—Are there any means by which the universities could be rendered once more efficient agents of public instruction, and suitable guides to public life?

On the first glance of a foreigner at the British universities, he will probably be struck at the establishment of the principle of religious exclusion in the three institutions, and amused to find the variation of its proportion in each. Oxford will not admit a Dissenter within its walls; Cambridge will permit him to receive his education, but will grant him no degree; Dublin educates him, and allows him to graduate, but refuses him admittance to corporate office. Precisely similar is their proportion of adherence to the old monkish routine of study: the course at Oxford has received little material improvement since the Reformation; Cambridge has taken an active part in the modern development of the mathematical and physical sciences; while Dublin has taken a further step in advance, by giving university honours for proficiency in moral science and the attainment of the modern languages.

These differences are not discoverable without minute examination. In all the universities we find lists of professorships in all branches of science and literature; but the calendars do not inform us that many of these professorships are snug sinecures, and that the attendance on the lectures of others being left to taste or caprice, is very generally neglected. The audience of a professor of political economy does not, in some cases, go beyond "Dearly beloved Roger;" the professor of modern history has, occasionally, been years without performing any of his functions; and the appointed teacher of moral philosophy, when he comes before the world as an author, is too often found to be himself sadly in need of instruction on the subject. In Sewell's "Christian Morals," it would be difficult to discover a single particle of genuine Christianity or true morality. It is necessary to tell the uninitiated, that the list of professorships in the universities is very far from being an indication of the course of studies pursued in them, or even of the range of subjects opened to juvenile enterprise; the list indeed is, for all practical purposes, a fraud and a delusion, and moreover it is intended to be so.

Whether we look within or without the walls of Parliament—to the learned professions or to the literary press—to the journals of abstract science or to the records of mechanical invention—we have equally abundant proof that the men who are the leaders in their respective departments owe little or nothing to university education. Even in that branch for which these bodies were more especially instituted, theology, we find that the object desired has not been attained. Oxford theology has become a mockery and by-word with nine-tenths of the nation, and Cambridge theology has no cognizable existence. Law is not studied in any of the universities; and, though Dublin has a school of medicine which deservedly enjoys a very high reputation, the medical teaching at Oxford and Cambridge is thoroughly contemptible.

Even of the classical learning which Oxford makes its boast, we can find no available evidence. The best editions of the classics are confessedly those imported from Germany; and, with the exception of the late Dr. Arnold, we have not a single writer on Greek and Roman antiquities who can for a moment be compared with Niebuhr, Heeren Wachsnuth, or Muller. Nor is Cambridge much better in the field of scientific publication. With the exception of Whewell, of whom it has been wittily said that "science is his strength, and omniscience his weakness," there are no names of Cambridge known abroad for physics and mathematics. In fact, so far as the advancement of classical and scientific studies is concerned, the halls of Oxford and Cambridge might as well have been tenanted by owls and bats as by learned professors and grave doctors of divinity.

The consequences of such a state of things are lamentably exhibited in the Legislature. With very few exceptions, the young offshoots of nobility intrusted with the power of making laws for a mighty empire, are unfit to be magistrates for Gatton or Old Sarum. They find that what little they have learned at public schools and in the university is useless in active life; they lay it aside as soon as they can, and have recourse to the secondary system of education secretly formed by themselves, which holds its schools in the servants' hall, and graduates in the kennel or the stable. Had Oxford and Cambridge been intended as corporate institutions for the prevention of useful knowledge, they could not more completely fulfil the functions of inutility than they do at present.

We write in no spirit of enmity to the universities. Their opposition to the cause of justice, humanity, and common sense, we know to be the result of sheer ignorance—"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!" But we cannot witness without pain the suicidal course pursued by the Church and the aristocracy, in preventing the progress of improvement in the institutions designed for the education of their order; and we cannot patiently see public funds devoted to maintaining the pedantic follies, the exploded theories, and the blind bigotry of the middle ages.

We doubt if the volumes before us will have much influence in accelerating the progress of university reform. The heads of houses will lay the flattering unction of Huber to their souls, they will be deaf to the whispered admonitions of Newman, and blind to the hints in the clever lithographs added to these volumes. But though the universities stand still, the world will not: knowledge is pervading the masses, and, ere long, intelligence rising from beneath will protest against the supremacy of stupidity above. The speed with which all the fallacies of the Corn Laws were scattered to the winds, almost at the moment that they were promulgated by their supporters, ought to be taken as a warning that the trappings and titles of university honours impose upon no one but their possessors.

The Poetical Works of Thomas Moore, complete in one volume.

The publication of this very cheap and beautiful volume has afforded us a welcome opportunity of bearing testimony to the services which the most delightful of modern poets has rendered to the cause of Free Trade and of general humanity. It is painful to reflect on the apathy which permitted the Corn Laws to acquire permanency. Had the same vigour been used to resist their imposition that is now manifested to obtain their repeal, the commerce and industry of the country would have escaped twenty years of pressure and suffering, the influence of which will be felt to the remotest generations. The objects of the poet's satire have not been improved by age. Like Theophilus Cibber, the monopolists "as they grow older grow never the better," and the humorous verses exposing the iniquity of their system, and the absurdity of the hypocritical excuses which they plead in its defence, are as applicable at the present hour as they were twenty years ago. Thus the "Expostulation addressed to Lord King" describes the feelings of the bread-taxers in the House of Lords with what we may venture to call *stereotype* fidelity:—

"How *can* you, my lord, thus delight to torment all
The peers of the realm about cheapening their corn,*
When you know, if one hasn't a very high rental,
'Tis hardly worth while being very high born?

"Why bore them so rudely, each night of your life,
On a question, my lord, there's so much to abhor in?
A question—like asking one, 'How is your wife?'
At once so confounded *domestic* and *foreign*.

"As to weavers, no matter how poorly they feast;
But peers, and such animals, fed up for show,
(Like the well-physick'd elephant, lately deceas'd,)
Take a wonderful quantum of cramming, you know."

Substituting the Duke of Richmond for the Duke of Athol, the following inference from ducal eloquence still holds good:—

"It follows from hence—and the Duke's very words
Should be publish'd wherever poor rogues of this craft are—
That weavers, *once* rescued from starving by Lords,
Are bound to be starved by said lords ever after.

"When Rome was uproarious, her knowing patricians
Made 'Bread and the Circus' a cure for each *row*;
But not so the plan of *our* noble physicians,
'No Bread and the Tread-mill's' the regimen now."

Sir John Tyrell has succeeded Sir Thomas Lethbridge as the most devoted adherent of the British Ceres, and he may similarly refer to his speech in Kent to fix the order of sanity to which he belongs:—

"For therein I've prov'd, to my own satisfaction,
And that of all 'Squires I've the honour of meeting,
That 'tis the most senseless and foul-mouth'd detraction
To say that poor people are fond of cheap eating.

"On the contrary, such the '*chaste* notions'* of food
That dwell in each pale manufacturer's heart,
They would scorn any law, be it ever so good,
That would make thee, dear Goddess, less *dear* than thou art!

"And, oh! for Monopoly what a blest day,
When the Land and the Silk† shall, in fond combination
(Like *Sulky* and *Silky*, that pair in the play,‡)
Cry out, with one voice, for High Rents and Starvation!

"Long life to the Minister!—no matter who,
Or how dull he may be, if, with dignified spirit, he
Keeps the ports shut—and the people's mouths too,—
We shall all have a long run of Freddy's prosperity."

"Freddy" has been changed into Earl of Ripon, but the nature of his financial prosperity is unaltered—it remains as great a delusion as ever. Here is an account of it as accurate in 1843 as it was in 1826:—

"What, *still* more prosperity!—mercy upon us,
'This boy'll be the death of me'—oft as, already,
Such smooth Budgeteers have genteelly undone us,
For *Ruin made easy* there's no one like Freddy."

The dialogue between Cotton and Corn meets our ears every day in the streets:—

"Said Cotton to Corn, t'other day,
As they met and exchang'd a salute—
(Squire Corn in his carriage so gay,
Poor Cotton, half-famish'd, on foot):

"'Great Squire, if it isn't uncivil
To hint at starvation before you,
Look down on a poor hungry devil,
And give him some bread, I implore you!'

"Quoth Corn then, in answer to Cotton,
Perceiving he meant to make *free*—
'Low fellow, you've surely forgotten
The distance between you and me!

"'To expect that we, Peers of high birth,
Should waste our illustrious acres,
For no other purpose on earth
Than to fatten curst calico-makers!—

"'That Bishops to bobbins should bend—
Should stoop from their bench's sublimity,
Great dealers in *lawn*, to befriend
Such contemptible dealers in dimity!

"'No—vile manufacture! ne'er harbour
A hope to be fed at our boards;—
Base offspring of Arkwright the barber,
What claim canst *thou* have upon Lords?

"'No—thanks to the taxes and debt,
And the triumph of paper o'er guineas,
Our race of Lord Jemmys, as yet,
May defy your whole rabble of *Jennys*!'

"So saying—whip, crack, and away
Went Corn in his chaise through the throng,
So headlong, I heard them all say,
'Squire Corn would be *down* before long.'"

It is singular to find that the troublesome questions of Corn and Catholics still run in couples, and still interfere with the peace, slumber, and digestion of noble legislators:—

"What! *still* those two infernal questions,
That with our meals, our slumbers mix—
That spoil our tempers and digestions—
Eternal Corn and Catholics!

"Gods! were there ever two such bores?
Nothing else talk'd of night or morn—
Nothing *in* doors, or *out* of doors,
But endless Catholics and Corn!

"Never was such a brace of pests—
While Ministers, still worse than either,
Skill'd but in feathering their nests,
Plague us with both, and settle neither.

"So addled in my cranium meet
Popery and Corn, that oft I doubt,
Whether, this year, 'twas bonded Wheat,
Or bonded Papists, they let out.

"*Here*, landlords, *here*, polemics nail you,
Arm'd with all rubbish they can rake up;
Prices and *Texts*, at once assail you—
From Daniel *these*, and *those* from Jacob.§

* See the proceedings of the Lords, Wednesday, March 1, 1826, when Lord King was severely reproved by several of the noble peers, for making so many speeches against the Corn Laws.

* A phrase in one of Sir T—m—s's last speeches.
† Great efforts were, at that time, making for the exclusion of foreign silk.
‡ "Road to Ruin."
§ Author of the late Report on Foreign Corn.

"And when you sleep, with head still torn
Between the two, their shapes you mix,
Till sometimes Catholics seem Corn—
Then Corn again seems Catholics.

"Now, Dantzic wheat before you floats—
Now, Jesuits from California—
Now Ceres, link'd with Titus *Oats*,
Comes dancing through the 'Porta *Cornea*.'*

"Oft, too, the Corn grows animate,
And a whole crop of heads appears,
Like Papists, *bearding* Church and State—
Themselves, together *by the ears!*

"In short, these torments never cease;
And oft I wish myself transferr'd off
To some far, lonely land of peace,
Where Corn or Papists ne'er were heard of.

"Yes, waft me, Parry, to the Pole;
For—if my fate is to be chosen
'Twixt bores and icebergs—on my soul,
I'd rather, of the two, be frozen!"

We shall return again to the works of this exquisite poet, who has had the rare fortune of entering in his lifetime on the heritage of his immortality. To his spirited publishers, who have placed this beautifully-printed volume within the reach of purchasers of moderate means, our meed of praise is justly due, and we sincerely hope that they will be rewarded by such a sale as the unrivalled deserts of the author and the typographical execution of the work amply merit.

FREE TRADE IS COMING.—SAUVE QUI PEUT.—When the police have succeeded in breaking into gambling-house, it becomes the duty of the proprietor to warn the guests of the impending danger, and, if he has time, to raise the shout, "Gentlemen, secure your stakes." In just such a dilemma are the squires at present; for Messrs. Cobden and Bright, at the head of the moral police of the country, having at last broken into the "hell" of monopoly, we hear everywhere the most frantic exhortations to drain—manure—improve, and secure leases, for Free Trade is thundering at the door with sledge-hammer arguments, such that no mortal monopolist can withstand.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

COLLEGE EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.—The following letter, addressed by the Rev. Sydney Smith to the editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, is a cutting satire on the education which the aristocracy receive at the great seats of learning in this country:—"Your table of *errata*, published the 4th, for my letter of the 3rd, is a good indication of the modes of English education. I have twice endeavoured to write the word *shipping—shipping spirit.*' Your printer first printed it 'stripling,' and then altered it into *stripping*. The fault is entirely mine. I was 15 years at school and college—I know something about the Romans and the Athenians, and have read a good deal about the præterperfect tense—but I cannot do a sum in simple addition, or write a handwriting which anybody can read."

UTILITY OF GEESE AND ASSES TO THE FARMER.—It has been long remarked, that cattle of all kinds are never unhealthy where geese are kept in any quantity; and the reason assigned is simply this, that geese consume with complete impunity certain noxious weeds and grasses which taint more or less, according to their abundance, the finest paddocks depastured by horses, bullocks, and sheep. Most farmers are aware of this; and in many places where the beeves appear sickly, change is tried, and the soil which the cacklers tread is converted for the time being into a sort of infirmary. The pasturing of two or three asses with sickly cattle has also been found productive of the best effects, from a similar reason.—*Farmers' Journal.*

THE WESLEYANS AND THE KENDAL ELECTION.—In our last number we announced, that in the Kendal election "the Wesleyans had nobly done their duty." We understood the expression to mean, that the majority of them had voted for Mr. Warburton. Our conjecture is more than verified by the detailed account furnished by our obliging correspondent. At the Durham election, 23 Wesleyans voted; 21 for Mr. Bright, and two only for Mr. Purvis. At Kendal the number of Wesleyan voters is 15; of whom 14 voted, the fifteenth being prevented by severe affliction. The whole 14 voted for Mr. Warburton, who thus had *the unanimous support of the Wesleyans.* These are noble examples for the Wesleyans of Salisbury, who, by copying them, will put an end to the delusive notion that the Wesleyans are Tories.—*Wesleyan Chronicle.*

A COMPARISON.—If Alexander and Archimedes, evoked from their long sleep, were to contemplate with minds calmed by removal from contemporaneous interests the state of mankind in the present year, with what different feelings would they regard the influence of their respective lives upon the existing human world of 1843! The Macedonian would find the empire, which it was the labour of his life to aggrandise, frittered into particles, modelled, remodelled, subjected to various dynasties. * * In parts of the world which his living grasp had not seized, he would see little to remind him of his past existence. Would not mortification darken the brow of the resuscitated conqueror on discovering that, when his name was mentioned in historic annals, it was less as a polar star to guide than as a beacon to be avoided? What would the Syracusan see in the present epoch to remind him of himself? Would he see the man of 212 B.C. at all connected with the men of 1843 A.D.? Yes. In Prussia, Austria, France, England, America, in every city of every civilized nation, he would find the lever, the pulley, the mirror, the specific gravimeter, the geometric demonstration; he would trace the influence of his mind in the power-loom, the steam-engine, in the building of the Royal Exchange, in the Great Britain steam-ship; he would find an application of his well-known invention the subject of a patent, an important auxiliary to navigation. Alexander *was* a hero; Archimedes *is* one.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

* The Horn Gate, through which the ancients supposed all true dreams (such as those of the Popish Plot, &c.) to pass.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Nov. 18	Mon. Nov. 20	Tues. Nov. 21	Wed. Nov. 22	Thurs. Nov. 23	Fri. Nov. 24
Bank Stock	—	180½	—	180¾	180¾	180¾
3 per Cent. Con.	96½	96½	96	95½	96½	95¾
New 3½ per Cent.	103½	103½	—	103	103½	103
Long Annuities	—	12⅞	12½	12 13-16	12⅞	12 9-16
S. Sea Ann.	—	9½	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	76 4	74	—	74 2	70 2	70
India Stock	271½	271	270½	270½	—	—
Exchequer Bills	60 61	58 61	57 60	56 60	54 58	56
Consols for Acc.	96½	96½	96	96½	96½	96
Brazilian	—	75	—	75	75	—
Mexican df.	—	9⅝	—	9⅝	9½	—
Portuguese, conv.	—	44	43¾	43¾	—	—
Spanish 3 per Ct.	31¾	32½	32	32	32½	31¾
Chilian 6 p. Ct. df.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	116½	—	—
Dutch 5 per Cent.	100	100	—	100	—	100
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	—	54½	54½	54⅝	—	54½
Columb. 6 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Austrian, 5 p.Cent.	—	—	—	112	—	—
Danish	—	—	—	-	—	—
Peruvian	—	23	—	23	23	—
Belgian	—	—	—	102¾	103½	—
French 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Nov. 20.—The supply of English Wheat this morning was very moderate; the quality of much of it was inferior, and the condition affected by the recent wet weather. The best dry samples were taken off readily at an advance of 1s. from this day week; there was a slow sale for other descriptions, and no improvement in prices. The demand for free Foreign Wheat was limited at last week's rates. There was a large supply of Barley, and all descriptions were 1s. lower. White boiling Peas were 1s. cheaper. No alteration in Beans, or Maple and Grey Peas. The supply of Oats last week was short, but several Irish vessels arrived this morning in time for market. The sales made were chiefly to country buyers at last week's rates.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 13th to the 18th of Nov. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	5203	4333	901	1444	1420
Scotch	110	2243	3642	100	—
Irish	—	—	2764	—	—
Foreign	6326	280	2160	400	1370

Flour, 9089 sacks. Malt, 6599 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed	21s — 23s
——, Distilling	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato	23s — 26s
——, Grinding	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Nov. 24.—There is very little Wheat or Barley fresh up since Monday; the supply of Irish Oats amounts to 18,000 quarters. Dry samples of English Wheat find a ready sale at Monday's prices: there has been a fair retail trade in free Foreign at former rates. There is no alteration in the value of Barley, Beans, and Peas. The Oat trade is slow at Monday's prices. The duty on Wheat fell to 19s., and on Barley to 7s., yesterday.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 18th to the 24th of November, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	1930	—	—
Barley	1550	600	—
Oats	3120	18140	—

Flour 1460 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 18, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	107,095	51 7	94,795	32 4	39,544	18 11	8491	32 4
Aggregate Averages	..	51 1		31 3		18 2		31 4
Duty	..	19 0		7 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. and R. DAVIES, Chiswell-street, drapers.

BANKRUPTS.

J. M. WINTLE, Drury-lane, silversmith. [Archer, Harper-street, Red Lion-square.

H. W. DIAMOND, Frith-street, Westminster, surgeon. [Protheroe, Furnival's-inn.

R. BLUNDEN, Alton, Southamptonshire, plumber. [Johnson and Co., Temple; Cole and Co., Basingstoke.

J. BALL, St. George's-place, Hyde Park-corner, tailor. [Haddan, Lime-street-square.

G. Z. WHITE, Southampton, stone mason. Gem and Co., Lincoln's inn-fields.

J. D. HINXMAN, Harley-street, Cavendish-square, wine-merchant. [Watts, Bedford-row.

C. D. LEEDER, Billingford, Norfolk, cattle dealer. [Clarke and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields; Taylor, Norwich.

E. P. BEST, Crutched-friars, City, wine merchant. [Peachey, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street.

A. A. NEWMAN, High-street, Whitechapel, saddler. Weir and Smith, Coopers'-hall.

S. JONES, Cheapside, City, jeweller. [Randell, Birchin-lane.

J. COULSON and H. PHIPPS, Clement's-lane, City, shipping ironmongers. [Adcock, Copthall-buildings, City.

H. H. FISHER, Bury-street, St. James's, tailor. [Cook and Sanders, New Inn, Strand.

J. W. BAKE, Bristol, currier. [Smith, Bristol; Clarke and Co., Lincoln's-inn, London.

H. HARRIS, Lanarvon, Monmouthshire, shoemaker. [Harris.

J. MAY, Pickwick, Wiltshire, victualler. [Goldney and Fellowes, Chippenham.

T. S. SHARLAND, Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, linendraper. [Miller, Frome, Somerset.

T. KIMBER, North Cerney, Gloucestershire, farmer. [Sewell and Newmarch, Cirencester.

C. F. DEWSON, Birmingham, victualler. [Bartlett, Birmingham.

M. RAPHAEL and A. NATHAN, Kingston-upon-Hull, silversmiths. [Peacock and Wilkin, Bartholomew-close, London; Bond, Leeds.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 14. W. Miller, Saint Martin's-lane, wine merchant—Dec. 13. H. Charlton, Regent-street, milliner—Dec. 12. J. Gilligan, Ham, Surrey, baker—Dec. 12. J. Dauncy, Coaley-mills, Gloucestershire, woollen manufacturer—Dec. 19. R. L. Aarons, St. James's-place, Aldgate, oil merchant—Dec. 19. M. Potter, New Bond-street, haberdasher—Dec. 12. J. N. George, Upper Berkeley-street, bookseller—Nov. 13. C. A. Rowe, Leicester, draper—Dec. 18. J. Hedderley, Nottingham, druggist—Dec. 20. H. W. Blackburn, Bradford, Yorkshire, woolstaper—Dec. 20. R. Smith, Sheffield, innkeeper—Dec. 20. J. Ridsdale, Headingley, Yorkshire, stuff merchant—Dec. 20. T. Sanderson, Leeds, woollen draper—Dec. 15. S. Waite, Farnley, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—Dec. 16. W. Walker and J. Gray, Leeds, woolstaplers—Dec. 14. T. Caldicott, Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer—Dec. 13. R. Hodgson, Sunderland, grocer—Dec. 14. H. Bullen, Liverpool, brewer.

CERTIFICATES.

Dec. 12. J. Walter and R. Gray, Bishops Waltham, Southampton, corn dealers—Dec. 12. H. H. Barker and J. Bean, Argyll-street, tailors—Dec. 15. C. Beck, jun., Leadenhall-street, ship and insurance broker—Dec. 13. J. L. Woodruff, Great Missenden, Bucks, innkeeper—Dec. 12. R. Hodgson, Sunderland, tea dealer—Dec. 22. R. Marsden, Brynmawr, Breconshire, linen draper—Dec. 18. R. J. Cambridge, Cheltenham, wine merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. LAW, Kilmarnock, grain merchant—J. MILNE, Glasgow, house painter—J. H. BLAIN, Dundee, banker—BAILLIE and BLACK, Brechin, manufacturers—J. FORREST, Hyndford, farmer.

FRIDAY, Nov. 24.

BANKRUPTS.

R. LOCKE and A. D. MILLS, Lawrance Pountney-hill, needle manufacturers. [Fourdrinier, Lawrance Pountney-hill.

W. ROLFE, Therfield, farmer. [Brown and Co., Mincing-lane.

C. LEAF, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman. [Jones, Size-lane, Bucklersbury.

G. BUTCHER, Holborn-hill, china dealer. [Weymouth and Green, Cateaton-street.

J. SHARP, Marab-place, Old Kent-road, linendraper. [Jones, Size-lane, Bucklersbury.

C. CHAPMAN, Croydon, stationer. [Elderton and Hoare, Lothbury.

J. HOLMES, Broad-street, City, merchant. [Purrier and Wright, New Broad-street, City.

T. DIGBY, Lower Clapton, Middlesex, corn dealer. [Sudlow, Sons, and Co., Chancery-lane.

J. BROWN, Tydee, Monmouthshire, iron founder. [Protheroe and Togwood, Newport, Monmouthshire; Hell, New Boswell-court, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

RETURN OF BANK-NOTE CIRCULATION FROM LAST NIGHT'S *Gazette.*—Return of the average circulation of Bank-notes throughout the United Kingdom, and the average amount of Bullion in the Bank of England, during the four weeks ending Nov. 11, 1843.

ENGLAND.	
Bank of England	£19,544,000
Private Banks	4,904,574
Joint Stock Banks	8,315,318
SCOTLAND.	
Chartered and Private Joint Stock Banks	2,943,030
IRELAND.	
Bank of Ireland	3,511,475
Private and Joint Stock Banks	2,404,045
Total	£36,634,442
Bullion in the Bank of England	£12,025,000

HENRY L. WICKHAM.

Stamps and Taxes, Nov. 21, 1843.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Nov. 21, 1843, is 34s. 04d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

GOWLAND'S LOTION.—This elegant preparation, an original formula of the late Dr. Gowland, for all Impurities of the Skin, continues to maintain a repute commensurate with its specific properties of speedily eradicating every species of Eruptive Malady, Discoloration, &c., and of preserving and enhancing the beauty of the Complexion by a congenial action upon the skin as perfectly innocent as it is agreeable and efficacious. "Robert Shaw, London," is in white letters on the government stamp, without which it is not genuine.

Prices 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d., quarts 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Vendors.

FACTS which concern the whole Human Race.—First. Disease, in all its varied forms is but a chain of many links—thus establishing the principle of "An Unity of Disease."

Second. The form it assumes is governed by the peculiarities of the patient's constitution.

Third. A Medicine, to be really useful, should be one calculated to render to Nature just that assistance she requires in her efforts to expel disease.

Fourth. A Medicine suited to this purpose, must be as digestible as our common food, that the whole system may become impregnated therewith.

Fifth. To be digestible it must be entirely free in its composition from all minerals.

Sixth. It is notorious that nearly the whole of the medicines generally in use are either wholly or in part composed of mercury, in some shape or other, however much disguised.

The foregoing facts are important, and happily a medicine has been discovered suited to all the purposes therein laid down. Dr. HAMILTON'S VITAL PILLS are composed of the gums and herbs of the field, to the utter and entire exclusion of any mineral whatever, and possess the peculiar property of establishing in the patient's mind, by every day's use, that they are doing the very best they can for their health; and thus it is they are being recommended by cured patients into every corner of the empire. Let those who have tried, but every thing in vain, make trial of these, and they will be amply rewarded.

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LEAGUE MEETING.—THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—The MONTHLY MEETING of the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be held on THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, the 30th inst.

The meeting will be addressed by several members of Parliament and other gentlemen. The Chair will be taken precisely at Seven o'clock.

Cards of admission to the stage and boxes may be had on application after Monday next, at the Central Offices of the League, No. 67, Fleet-street.

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London, November 22, 1843.

My Dear Sir, I think the Pictorial Almanac excellent. The designs are clever and appropriate; and, as I suspect, more instructive to the many than all our oratory can be. Yours truly,

Mr. J. Livesey. Also, just published, C. P. Villiers.

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	1st Five Years.			2nd Five Years.			3rd Five Years.			4th Five Years.			Remainder of life.		
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20	1	1	4	1	5	10	1	10	11	1	16	9	2	3	8
30	1	5	4	1	12	2	1	19	1	2	7	4	2	17	6
40	1	16	1	2	4	4	2	14	6	3	7	3	4	3	4
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"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
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A Single Tooth	£0 10 0
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Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 63, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

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Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	26s. 0d.
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London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton, Crane-court, Fleet-street) by A. W. Paulton, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and 6, [illegible] street; and published by him at The League Office, 67, Fleet-street, [illegible] Saturday, November 25, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 10.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1843. [3*d*.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their addresses as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, 67, *Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

ANOTHER "GREAT FACT."

The meeting held on Tuesday last at Rochdale, consisting of about 800 persons closely wedged in a small theatre, is no more to be compared with many Anti-Corn-Law meetings which have been held elsewhere, than the 25,000 inhabitants of Rochdale are to be compared, numerically, with the hundreds of thousands of Manchester and Liverpool, or with the two millions of metropolitan population. Nevertheless, that meeting has made the "great fact" of the League, already recognised, a greater fact; and is in itself of no inconsiderable importance. There are better standards of real greatness in the world than size and number. And if, in that truer mode of estimation, a place be found for public spirit, generous earnestness, efficient promptness, a noble example, courage where timidity is characteristic, and co-operation where disunion is but too common—then may we safely chronicle the late meeting at Rochdale as another great fact, well worthy of regard and commemoration.

For a detailed account of the proceedings, the reader is referred to our columns. But he can scarcely derive from a mere report the whole of the truth which we would convey to his mind. Whoever he is, we could have wished him present; especially if he be one whom prejudice has taught to consider the League as a sordid and selfish class movement; or one who lacks faith in human nature when its sympathies and energies are fairly roused in a good cause; or one who is content to utter a cold approval while others bear the heat and burden of the day, and out of his wealth bestows the value of a beggar's alms for the demonstration of his abstract principle and the satisfaction of his tolerant conscience. Whoever answers to any of these descriptions, should certainly have been at the Rochdale meeting; it might have opened his eyes and touched his heart; it would have tended to make a "fact" of *him*—a reality, and not a social sham; a true man, in unison with his fellow-creatures, as he would have seen them in unison with the undying principles of justice and humanity.

This meeting is the second of a series in aid of the League by contributions towards its proposed fund of £100,000. Manchester led the way—the world well knows how; and several large towns are preparing speedily to follow. Some of the leading manufacturers at Rochdale had assisted at the Manchester meeting, and their united contributions amount to £1150 out of the £12,600 then subscribed. We may fairly carry this to the credit of the town; and considering its population, and the proportions in which, according to numbers and wealth, the sum required might equitably be raised, what ground of complaint could there have been, if Rochdale had done no more? But, to judge by the spirit evinced, Rochdale itself would have been the least satisfied at letting the matter rest there. Within an hour and a half, at the conclusion of the meeting, no less than £1560 was contributed; and it is confidently expected that this will be augmented from the town and neighbourhood to the round sum of £3000. Nor is this liberality the result of novelty. £2200 was subscribed last year to the £50,000 fund. It is zeal, rising to the occasion. It is confidence, investing with larger powers those who have so faithfully and ably discharged the functions of their former stewardship. It is deep-rooted conviction of the mischiefs of monopoly, gathering strength with time, and determined on the accomplishment of its object. What reasonable hope can any class cherish that such a spirit as this is capable of being wearied out, resisted, or cajoled?

The galleries were crowded with workpeople from the factories. It was manifest from their demeanour that they well understood the question, its bearing upon their own interests, and the identity of their interests with those of their employers. Their acclamations urged on the subscriptions, nor were their own contributions wanting. By their reception of a proposal for a collection on the spot, it was evident that more might have been obtained from them, had not the managers of the meeting considerately restrained its zeal. Every symptom betokened a frank and cordial understanding between the men and their employers. Their shouts said, "Down with the dust!" Boys and girls were amongst them, who are receiving higher wages than the father of a family can obtain, if his condition be that of a "protected" agricultural labourer. In fact, they regard the wretched and brutalized victims which monopoly has made of the farm-labourers, much in the same way as philanthropists used to look at the negro slaves. The feast on half-burned fowls in their feathers (the fact is authenticated) while incendiary flames are undisturbedly consuming the produce of a farm, gave them a thrill of horror. One of the most savage yells we ever heard was from the (then) Opposition party in the House of Commons, in 1839, when Mr. Warburton said that the Corn Laws would be repealed as soon as the middle and the working classes acted together. At Rochdale that time is come. It is fast coming everywhere.

A large proportion of the meeting consisted of females. They regarded the proceedings with lively interest. Many recorded their names on the subscription list; and children, too, are there, pledged, on a purer altar than the young Carthaginian, to a holier warfare. The presence of women at League meetings is not a novelty; but their active participation in the conflict, now beginning to develop itself, is matter for satisfaction and encouragement. It shows the character of the contest. The movement is not one of faction, but of philanthropy. It belongs to the fireside, as well as to the crowded arena; its impulse is not in noise and bustle, but in moral taste and generous feeling; and it has nothing in common with uproar, violence, and brutality, except in so far as monopoly may hire such aid in the desperate hope of warding off its death-blow. In this respect, no less than in many others, we hope that many meetings will take pattern from that at Rochdale. The abolition of taxation upon food is one of those works of Christian charity in which the heart of woman delights; and her assistance may be most effectual. Never has it ministered to the relief of darker wretchedness, or to the application of a surer remedy.

The prevailing tone of the meeting was far removed from anything like a class conflict, or the aim at a party victory. The agitation has become a moral crusade; for the recovery, we hope, of something more than a sepulchre. We fight for life; the endurable, the intellectual, and, we may add, the physical life of thousands. For monopoly slays its tens of thousands, while it impoverishes, degrades, and démoralizes its millions. The guilt of murder is on its head; murder of soul and body. Everywhere, then, let the people arise, men, women, and children, to stay the plague. By a nobler process than alchemy ever coveted, let them transmute their gold into human good. The country will naturally look first to our large manufacturing towns. It is their mission to sustain the spirit which has been excited. A glorious field is before them, and the word is, Onwards, onwards! It is not merely in the gift, but in the giving, that the presages of success will be recognised. There should be no pause or relaxation. Apparently, there will be none; nor do we despair that, before the enthusiasm of the manufacturing districts begins to flag, it will extend into the agricultural also, and the united voice of an industrious people claim the rights of industry in a tone that cannot be resisted. Happy are they who bear any part, however humble, in bringing on that "consummation devoutly to be wished."

The following declaration, made by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh on his entering upon office, is highly creditable to his good sense and consistency:—

"While occupying the situation to which you have now raised me, I feel myself bound to hold the scales even among all parties, and may thus find it necessary to put some constraint upon my own inclinations; but while I do so, I am not to be expected to give up my own opinions, or to refuse to promote objects which I consider of great public benefit, because a party may be opposed to them. *Were I asked, for example, to preside at a meeting in favour of Free Trade, I would not refuse, although there might be a difference of opinion among the citizens on the subject.*"

No greater mistake can be made than to represent as "a party question" whatever a party chooses to oppose. Were such a principle admitted, every exertion to benefit humanity would be included in the category. When magistrates profess impartiality, and, in the name of that profession, withhold their exertions from a cause of recognised utility, they in fact sacrifice themselves and their principles to the party which is interested in the maintenance of the wrong. Free Trade belongs to no sect or party; it is a question of general utility; and to abstain from its promotion, under the pretence of its being a party question, is to give undue weight to the artifice of monopolists, and, in fact, to be guilty of the very partiality which it is the object of such professors of equal right to avoid.

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

The League held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday evening, at Covent-garden Theatre. As early as five o'clock crowds of people thronged every entrance, and very shortly after the opening of the doors the vast building was crowded in every part, and a sufficient number of persons came too late for admission to have filled an arena half as large again. There is as little appearance of reaction here in London, as there is in Manchester and the other great manufacturing towns.

The stage was also crowded to within a few feet of the front. Among the more distinguished personages there present, we observed George Wilson, Esq., chairman; Honourable Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P.; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; William Collins, Esq., Richmond; J. Poulter, Esq.; —— Dewar, Esq.; —— Adkins, Esq.; J. Grieve, Esq.; Joseph Ivimy, Esq.; James Parker, Esq.; W, T. Hall, Esq.; John Watson, Esq.; R. B. Lopez, Esq.; R. R. R. Moore, Esq.; C. Spires, Esq.; R. Alger, Esq.; H. Smith, Esq.; G. H. Oelricks, Esq.; J. S. Stock, Esq.; A. K. Watson, Esq.; S. Harrison, Esq.; A. T. Squary, Esq.; E. Osman, Esq.; Alfred Price, Esq.; Dr. Simpson; William Geesin, Esq.; Dr. Hodgson; Professor Key; Joseph Phelps, Esq.; William Clark, Esq., Coventry; F. Scheer, Esq.; J. Lambert, Esq., Salisbury; Alfred Pattison, Esq.; P. H. Le Breton, Esq.; James Wilson, Esq.; W. J. Fox, Esq.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq.; Dr. Cooke Taylor; William Gordon Thomson, Esq., Sunbury; Martin Thackeray, Esq.; Captain Digby Carpenter, Sunbury; Julius Bordler, Esq.; George Ridout, Esq.; Dr. Holland; John Hunter, Esq.; John Gardner, Esq.; Charles Manby Browne, Esq.; Thomas Bickers, Esq.; G. W. Edwards, Esq.; Francis Jackson Kent, Esq.; Henry Lloyd Morgan, Esq.; Stephen Leach, Esq.; Luke Embleton, Esq.; —— Marshall, Esq.; Francis Place, Esq.; J. Pattison, Esq.; W. Fawcett, Esq., Salisbury; W. Crowley, Esq.; —— Heron, Esq.; J. Spier, Esq.; W. Edwards, Esq.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., the Chairman of the League, on presenting himself at the table, was received with acclamation. He said:—Ladies and gentlemen, we are assembled to confer on the somewhat varied character of the proceedings connected with this movement, which have taken place since we last met together within these walls, as well as, I trust, to have our minds invigorated and refreshed by the evidence which will be presented of our progress, and the addresses which will be delivered by gentlemen well known to you. (Hear, hear.) If there is any one present who feels disposed to be wearied of welldoing in this good cause, I would beg to direct his attention to the almost superhuman exertions recently made by the honourable members for Stockport and Durham. (Loud cheering.) Let any such person look at the exertions of those two gentlemen during the last month, and profit by their example. (Great cheering.) Two months ago, the general plan of our proposed proceedings, including the amount of the subscription which we considered it necessary to call for, in promotion of the great objects of the League, during this and the next year, was stated in this place. Since that time, we have received many handsome individual contributions, from some of the first men of the age, yet no definite arrangement, up to a recent date, had been made for the purpose of collecting subscriptions with that degree of spirit which is essential to our object. About a fortnight ago, however, seventy of the leading firms in Manchester signed a circular, convening a meeting in promotion of the purpose of the League. That meeting assembled; it was a crowded one, held in the middle of the day, in the Town-hall of Manchester; there was nothing ambiguous about it, no secret, or circumlocution, but the men of business there met together; proceeded to their work in a straightforward, business-like way, and the result was this—that in the shortest possible time six men subscribed £500 each to the Great League Fund; two, £400 each; seven, £300 each; fourteen, £200 each; and upwards of twenty, £100 each—(immense applause); so that in less than one hour and a half upwards of £11,000 was raised at that one meeting towards the desired sum. (Renewed and long-continued cheering.) The subscription is still going on, and by the night before last it had reached the amount of

£17,400 in Manchester and its neighbourhood alone. (Immense applause.) Now, let me remind you, that for five years past the men of Manchester have practically shown a very deep interest in the progress of this great question; and assuredly, if there be any one class of her Majesty's subjects who might reasonably claim exemption, on the occasion of this new subscription, from further contributions, the men of Manchester might have done so (hear, hear); but no; having been among the first contributors hitherto, and feeling, perhaps, above all other classes, the urgent necessity for the repeal of the Corn Laws, they have now once more pledged themselves, and will again and again, if it be found requisite, never to cease their exertions, never to withhold their contributions, while these odious laws continue to disgrace the statute book. (Great cheering.) Since the Manchester meeting, of which I have thus spoken, our good friends at Rochdale—the town, let me remind you, which gave birth to our powerful coadjutor, the honourable member for Durham (applause)—our good friends at Rochdale have imitated the noble example of the Manchester people, and have had their meeting. (Hear, hear.) On Tuesday evening last they held a tea party, which was addressed by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. W. J. Fox, and others, and in two hours and a half the sum of £1650 was subscribed in the room, in addition to £1150 which had previously been added to the League fund by the people of Rochdale; and this, remember, was done by a population of not more than 25,000. (Loud cheers.) Within the last three weeks, two elections have taken place, as you all know. At Kendal they have returned to Parliament a Free Trader, Mr. Warburton—(applause)—by a majority of 64 on a gross poll of 300. (Hear, hear.) They have effectually put down all future attempts of the monopolists for the Kendal seat; and, at the next general election, we may fairly take it for granted that the men of Kendal, besides returning a Free Trader of their own, will be able to lend us their aid towards extinguishing monopoly in other places. (Hear, hear). We have had another election at Salisbury, with a somewhat different result. (Groans.) Upon a gross poll of about 600, Mr. Bouverie, the Free-Trade candidate, has been defeated by a majority of 47. I regret deeply, as all our friends must, who have had an opportunity of hearing Mr. Bouverie, the vacancy in the ranks of the Free Traders in the House of Commons occasioned, for a shorter or longer time, by the result of this election. But the monopolists crow somewhat too loudly about the victory which they claim to have achieved in Salisbury. (Hear, hear.) Passing altogether over the means by which their present triumph has been effected (groans), and allowing them to make the most of their victory, it amounts simply to this: that they have managed to replace one Tory and Anti-Free Trader by another, in a city which, had they been allowed to choose, they would have selected as the very spot in England wherein to contend against a League candidate—a city the most removed from manufacturing interests, feelings, and influence, the most independent of trade, the most apt, from the influences under which it has been hitherto compelled to act, to return such a candidate as Mr. Campbell. (Hear, hear.) Yet, with all this, and although the monopolists sent down professed bribers and hired prize-fighters at once to corrupt and intimidate—(shame, shame)—yet Mr. Bouverie polled on this occasion a much larger number than he did a few months ago. (Cheers.) But the monopolists of Salisbury know well enough, with all their crowing, that they have not for one day delayed the final settlement of this question by the accidental victory of this election of theirs. (Cheers.) The intelligent electors of Salisbury know full well, that as soon as the voice of the country has once declared its will that the Corn Laws shall exist no longer—and that voice is bursting forth—the next general election will send two members from the city of Salisbury to support Mr. Villiers in giving the final blow to the greatest and most mischievous monopoly that was ever permitted to exist. (Loud cheers.) You will be addressed this evening by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Colonel Thompson, and by the chairman of Mr. Bouverie's committee. (Cheers.) I will first, however, request you to hear the secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which will then be submitted for your consideration.

Mr. Sayl having accordingly read the minutes of the last meeting, the confirmation of which was moved by the Hon. Charles P. Villiers, M.P., and seconded by W. A. Wilkinson, Esq., and adopted unanimously.

Mr. Cobden then came forward, and was received with enthusiastic and long-continued applause. He said: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am disposed to ask myself, every time I enter this theatre, how many more such assemblages as this will the Corn Law, or any other bad law, resist ere it gives way before such demonstrations? (Cheers.) I feel that your attendance here in such numbers, and so often, is so clear a proof that the enormity of the system which we are congregated to subvert is so well understood and appreciated by you all, that I really find it difficult to touch upon the subject without harping upon the old string, at the risk of becoming tiresome to you. (No, no.) It does so happen, however, that from month to month new circumstances arise; there are new phases in the aspect of our agitation, which call for a word or two of comment, and serve to season, at least, with a show of novelty, that which otherwise would be considered an exceedingly dull and stale topic. We have arrived at a time when the changes which mark the steps, or rather the strides, of our progress become rapid, when we see the signs of advancement, not by the month, but by the week. (Cheers.) Since I last had the pleasure of meeting you, many circumstances have occurred to show the increased power which the Anti-Corn-Law League has obtained in public opinion; not the least important of these was the glorious victory which you, the inhabitants of the metropolis, achieved over the monopolists in their own stronghold. (Loud cheers.) In that—what shall I call it—that nest of Brummagem aristocrats, the sugar and coffee monopolists. (Laughter.) I have been charged with harshness in speaking of the aristocracy of your city as "the aristocracy of the sugar hogshead." I must confess that I do feel less toleration towards the men of sugar and coffee, who are the sworn allies of the men of acres, than I do of the landowners of this country, who have at all events the excuse of being bred and brought up in prejudices which men of business on 'Change, or in their counting-houses, have no sort of plea or excuse for. I am glad that in the metropolis you gave them a drubbing to their hearts' content; and you have had the blessing of millions throughout the length and breadth of this land for having done your duty on that occasion. Now, the result of that election opened up a new feature in the character of our opponents. I observed that, immediately after the election was over, the monopolist papers raised a cry for the prosecution of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Loud laughter.) Not a word was said about that till they had tried their strength in the electoral field of combat, and found themselves too weak to meet the Free-Traders; and then, like the blubbering schoolboy after he has been well thrashed, they set up a whimper and a whine, and roared out, "I'll call my big brother to give you a thrashing." (Loud laughter and cheers.) Now, what is the indictment against the Anti-Corn-Law League for which it is to be brought into a criminal court? It is, that we have sent some half-score of strangers from Lancashire, and other parts, to canvass the electors in London, Salisbury, and Kendal, in favour of the Free-Trade candidates. All at once it is discovered to be a terrible offence that strangers should interfere with elections. (Laughter). We never heard that so long as the interference was confined to the members of the Carlton Club. (Hear.) We never heard that cry raised when peers of the realm, who are legally disqualified from meddling with elections, subscribed their £50,000 to the Carlton purse, in order that they might bribe the electors of this country. We never heard that cry when a man of notorious reputation was taken down to Salisbury to do the work of bribery there; we did not hear it there when three of your notorious pugilists were packed off to assist in carrying away the electors from the poll in Salisbury. All these things excited no indignation, called for no interference of the law; it was only when the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League commenced a canvass of the electors, not to bribe them, but to pursuade them; it was then that the monopolists, afraid that our arguments were of a more sterling character than their gold—it was then that they called for the law. I had an opportunity at Salisbury of seeing something of the way in which elections are carried on. (Some disturbance was here created by a person in the meeting. A Voice: "That is a man sent on purpose to make a noise.") If so, we will try and convert him; keep him there. (Loud cheers.) I was saying that I had an opportunity at Salisbury of observing the way in which elections are conducted in a cathedral city in the south, and it being my first experience in that way, I was, I confess, a little struck and somewhat startled at what I saw there. We call an election an opportunity of giving expression to the opinion of the electors; but I found that that election, so far as the conduct of our opponents went, might be more properly called "an opportunity for the exercise of the suppression of real public opinion." I have no hesitation in saying, and I shall be borne out by the most experienced men in Salisbury, that had the electors there had an opportunity of giving expression to their real sentiments, we should have carried that election by three to two, at least. (Cheers.) Why, in looking over the list of voters, I found that the experienced canvassers on the Free-Trade side there did not ask themselves so much what the opinions of the electors were, but who were their customers; who were their rich neighbours, whom they owed money to—whom they banked with—whether the neighbouring squire or neighbouring lord came in and dealt at his shop? And, instead of going to canvass a great many of them, I found the question asked was, "Whether Mr. So-and-so, of the monopolist party, had been to put the screw upon such-and-such an elector?" Now, that is the state of things in the cathedral city of Salisbury. I do not come here to say what the remedy for that may be. I know that the Anti-Corn-Law League has no remedy that will put down intimidation or exclusive dealing. I am quite well aware that there is a remedy against that kind of intimidation; it is not my business here to speak of that; but of this I am quite sure, that after we have had the opportunity of making public, as we will do, what we see in such places, the electors will find a protection against such an abuse of their rights and privileges. (Loud cheers.) But there is one species of influence which we are pledged to put down, and that is the influence of bribery and corruption. Now, it has been said that the League ought to have prosecuted some one in London; that we ought to have prosecuted some one in Salisbury; and we have had many friends who have written to say, that they would willingly subscribe £50 or £100 for the first conviction for bribery; and some have thought that the Council of the League are not in earnest, because they have not prosecuted any one for bribery. Now, so confident are we that the step we are taking to put down bribery is one which of all others gives us the strongest hold upon that class whose support we are most anxious to have in this great undertaking—I mean those distinguished for their moral and religious character—that there is nothing that we should aim at to serve the objects of the League with more avidity than to find a case of bribery which we could prosecute at any cost or expense, successfully. But there are difficulties to overcome: the briber and the bribee take especial care that they do not have witnesses if they can help it; and it is the difficulty of finding such witnesses as would induce a jury to convict that has prevented us hitherto from prosecuting any one to conviction. But our reward of £100 is offered now in London and Salisbury, and we do not despair of finding cases in both those places. We may find a case for the House of Commons when we cannot find one for a jury. And if either should offer at Salisbury—and I am not disposed to say that Salisbury may not turn out a Durham yet—(loud cheers)—why, you may depend upon it that we shall prosecute it with every possible diligence, and to the utmost possible extent. (Cheers.) Well, such is the position in which the League now stands. I believe it is called "*a great fact!*" (Cheers and laughter.) Now, gentlemen, I tell you frankly, that our business is at an end so far as this sliding scale goes. I do not think it has a leg to stand upon either in London or the country. The sliding scale is doomed. (Cheers.) I do not think we need waste a word more about it; all arguments upon that subject now would be waste of time. But we have another question which is not quite disposed of, but which I think we are the people to settle, and that is, the subject of a fixed duty. (Hear.) The sliding scale has been rather a tough business to get over: five years we have been at it, and now it is given up, and we are to have a fixed duty, it seems. (Loud cries of "No, no.") Now, what is the object of this fixed duty? We are told it is wanted by the great merchants. Yes; but it is said at the same time—and I thank them for the admission—that we have no great merchants among the Leaguers. (Hear.) We are not ourselves great merchants, and we have something better and higher in view than the mere accommodation of that class of men. We do not meet here, night after night, in such assemblages as this, to jot down 10s., 9s., or 8s., just as it may suit the objects of some particular merchants trading to the Baltic, the Black Sea, or America; no, we come here to discuss the question, whether or not any tax whatever upon the bread of the people is justifiable? (Loud cheers.) Now, that question has first to be answered by anybody who asserts that a fixed duty is the thing which is wanting; that is the very thing which requires to be demonstrated. Now, we ask you why there should be a fixed duty on corn? I tell the most powerful organ of the press in London, and everybody who comes to meet us upon this question,—that it will not do now to talk oracularly; to cast in our faces that we have other objects in view; to heap aspersions upon our character and vilify our whole body. Why, we have gone through all that before. (Loud cheers.) We had all that to go through five years ago, from the men who met us upon the sliding scale, when they called us all sorts of names—"tyrants" and "levellers," and imputed to us all sorts of foul motives. We tell those who support a fixed duty that they must adduce some better arguments than any they have yet advanced; mere abuse will not do now any more than it did then. But where are the grounds for a fixed duty on corn? Is it for the benefit of the people who eat the corn? Is it for the advantage of the merchant who pays the duty? No. Is it for the good of the farmer? Why, he knows that he shall have to pay a rent in proportion to the additional price of the corn. Is it for the weal of the farm-labourer? Why, as my friend, Colonel Thompson, always replies to this question—"Look at his calves." (Cheers and laughter.) Whose benefit then is this fixed duty for? Is it for the landlord, particularly or exclusively? If so, then, we ask what right has he to tax the people's bread? (Cheers.) Upon what ground does he claim this exclusive indulgence? Is it upon the ground of peculiar burthens? Why, that is the very thing we offered him an opportunity of proving in the House of Commons, and he ran away and refused to do so. The landlords' exclusive burthens! Why, every body knows that in this country they have had exclusive political power in order to use it for their own exclusive particular benefit. (Cheers and laughter.) A friend of mine, an old Quaker, with whom I was once talking upon this subject, said, "If you could send a copy of our statutes up to the moon, without one word of note or comment, the inhabitants of that luminary,—'*lunatics*' as we call them (laughter)—would send them back with this observation, 'Those laws were passed by landowners.'" (Hear.) Talk of landlords having burthened themselves exclusively! We have read somewhere in romances of a certain personage who undertook to whip himself; but it is said, even in fiction, that he laid it on very lightly. ("Hear," and laughter.) The landowners burthen themselves! Compare them with any landowners in the world—with the proprietors of the soil in any country of Europe. Why, upon the Continent, one half or one-third of all the state taxes are paid by the land directly; not more than one twenty-fifth part of the revenue of England is raised from the same source. (Hear.) There is no country in the world where so large a proportion of the taxation is borne by labour and capital—I mean productive capital—as in England. If, then, the landlords have no pretence to a tax upon corn to cover their exclusive burthens, why will you enact such an impost? Why, we are told—but it is rather late—that it is for the purpose of revenue. A tax upon bread for revenue! why that is a thing never thought of in this or any other country before. Even in the dark and despotic ages they never for a moment entertained the idea of raising a tax upon food. They imposed duties upon all kinds of things, but never upon the poor man's loaf. (Cheers.) Go to the most despotic countries—Turkey and Barbary—they never, despotic though they are, thought of taxing the people's bread. Their object was especially to cause food to be cheap. They admitted corn into their ports free of duty, as is now done in China. And shall it be reserved for our beautiful constitution in Church and State to invent such a system as that? (Loud and prolonged cheering.) But when people tell you they want a tax upon corn for the sake of revenue, I tell you how to put their honesty to the test. If they really are desirous of raising a revenue upon corn, let them lay on the tax upon the flour as it is ground at the mill. (Hear.) Now, mind, that it is not *my tax;* I would oppose that, as I seek to abolish the other. But if they are honest in insisting to tax corn for revenue, and not to go into the pockets of landlords, they ought to lay on their tax by excise at the mill upon all corn ground, and let in the foreign corn free. The people will then eat the corn as cheaply, and the entire taxation upon all grain would go to the Queen's exchequer; you would then raise five or six times the revenue which you could by laying on the tax as it came into the country, and people would pay only just the same for their corn. (Cheers.) Well, now, these advocates of a fixed duty on corn profess to be the advocates of the mercantile interest. Let us see how a fixed duty on corn would benefit them. Merchants who bring corn from abroad have a heavy carriage to pay for it; if you put on a duty in addition to that carriage, you limit the range of territory from which you can bring that corn; and if you go to the interior of countries for corn, the more carriage you have to pay before you can bring the corn to the navigation, and the carriage itself, is a sufficient barrier to the corn being brought. But if, in addition to that, you put on a duty, you still more narrow the range to which you can extend the purchase, and you limit the market to which you can send your manufactures from this country. If the mercantile community knew their own interest they would never advocate a fixed duty on corn; but if they choose to surrender their interests because they prefer toadying the landed aristocracy, why then we do not come here to help them in any such base purpose. (Loud cheers.) Now, I spoke of the agricultural labourer, and I asked whether you thought he was in a condition to pay a tax upon his bread? I observed that our opponents defend this Corn Law on the ground that it is for the benefit of the agriculturist. Why, I have told them over and over again in the House of Commons, that a landowner is not an agriculturist any more than a shipowner is a sailor. (Cheers and laughter.) It is the farm-labourer who is the real agriculturist, and I want to set

you what benefit he has derived from the Corn Law? I was lately down in Wiltshire; while at Salisbury I was visited by a gentleman from Dorsetshire, who described to me the condition of the peasantry in that purely agricultural county. He told me that within 15 miles of his own residence he would undertake at any moment to find 150 able-bodied labourers, heads of families, who would be glad to work for him for 5s. a week. (Loud cries of "Shame, shame.") I met another gentleman from Dorsetshire, who related to me an anecdote of a man who, last winter, had been imprisoned for poaching. He saw that man only a few weeks ago, and asked him what he was doing? He said he had no employment. He asked him how he was going to live during the winter? "Why," he said, "I shall be like to go poaching, and get a few rabbits and hares." "Well, but," the gentleman said, "you will be caught and imprisoned again." The man replied, "Well, what if I am? I weighed myself the last time I was in prison, and I came out 9lbs. heavier than when I went in, and I never lived so well before." (Cheers and laughter.) Gentlemen, this is not a laughing matter. This person told me, that a party talking over the condition of the labourers in the town of Dorchester, which is represented by Sir James Graham (loud groans and hisses)—that party of gentlemen, talking over the condition of the peasantry, determined to send out into the neighbouring district, at dinner-time, and see what the peasantry were dining upon; and out of ten families they found seven of them eating potatoes, small potatoes, the gleanings of the potatoe fields that they had dug up after the potatoes had been raised. By these means they might get a gallon or a peck of potatoes of the size of walnuts, and then, without meat, bread, or anything else, this was the diet of your

"Bold peasantry, their country's pride,"

in Dorchester. Now Dorset is represented by Lord Ashley. That nobleman has devoted much of his time and attention to the condition of the manufacturing districts; I have never doubted his honesty, but this I say, that if he does not next session bring the case of the Dorsetshire peasantry and their families before Parliament, expose their condition, and suggest a remedy for their distress, then, I say, Lord Ashley will not have done justice to his constituency in going to Stockport or Manchester to find objects for his benevolence, and leaving the distressed peasantry to perish at home. (Cheers.) Now, I say, the condition of the peasantry is not a laughing matter. What is the outward and visible sign now glaring through the country of the deep distress and unmitigated degradation of the peasantry and farm-labourers. Look at your incendiary fires; we do not speak of them—the newspapers are shy in noticing them; the fire-offices have sent word through the country to discourage the reports of them. Is this wise? Would you have the people of Naples, when there was an incipient irruption of a volcano, shut their eyes and not mention the fact to their neighbours. These incendiary fires are proofs of the deep degradation and savageism of the population of the agricultural districts. It is necessary that they should be mentioned; they ought to be spoken of trumpet-tongued through the land, in order that a remedy may be found for the deep-seated evils that are pervading those districts. I saw in last Saturday's *Globe* newspaper, no less than ten incendiary fires recorded, in one column, following each other. I saw in another paper, the other day, an account of one of these fires, which marked in so deep and terrible a degree the almost demoniacal passions of the peasantry of that district, that I cannot help just calling your attention to it. The following is the statement:—"It has not been our lot to record such a destructive fire amongst agricultural produce in this country as took place last Monday at Stotfold, by which the following property, belonging to Mr. Bryant Gibbens, has been entirely destroyed. The whole of the farm buildings, excepting the house, were consumed, together with seven ricks of beans, three ricks of peas, one rick of peas and beans mixed, two ricks of wheat, three ricks of barley, and one of wheat straw; one barn and a room adjoining, containing forty quarters of barley in the straw and nineteen quarters in sack, the whole produce of fifty-eight acres of land; one large barn, of four bays, full of wheat; a quantity of potatoes. The offices consumed consist of stables, cow-house, barns, granary, brewhouse, chaffhouse, chaisehouse, and seven pigstyes. Fourteen sets of harness and a quantity of poultry were also consumed. Great credit is due to the inhabitants of Baldock, Radwell, and Shefford, for their engines and their praiseworthy exertions. It is impossible to calculate what might have been the result had they not acted in the manner they did, as the Stotfold people stood ignorantly looking on, *indifferent, and abusing any one that spoke to them, and enjoying their cannibal-like meal on the poultry roasted in their feathers, and the potatoes they were scrambling for in the ashes.* (Great sensation.) The fire continued burning with frightful fury for seven or eight hours. The total loss is estimated at about £4000. The whole stock was insured. There is no clue to the incendiaries." (Hear.) Now, has anybody ever realized in their own minds all that is told to us in these incendiary fires? How much of misery, how much of despair, how much of ignorance, how much of vice and irreligion, must be in the breasts of the population of those districts where you find instruments for firing the property of their neighbours. Now, let it be borne in mind that these agricultural labourers are the parties for whose especial benefit the Corn Law was said to be enacted, these are the people we are told in Parliament who are interested in keeping up the monopoly which is to tax the weaver's loaf! And when we hear of distress through the land, how studiously do the monopolists conceal from us in Parliament the state of their own districts, and how gladly do they endeavour to accumulate odium and discredit upon the manufacturing districts. (Hear, hear.) Now, I have no hesitation in saying that such scenes as are here described could not possibly take place among the intelligent, active-minded, manufacturing population. If any persons were to set fire to my property, I will tell you what would be the only danger,—that my work-people would throw them into the flames if they found them. (Cheers.) The first time I had the honour of speaking in a London theatre, at Drury-lane, I told the inhabitants of this metropolis that they had been systematically and grossly practised upon by the monopolists and their writers, not merely the newspapers but the novelists—the Trollopes and others—who have purposely and systematically maligned the manufacturing population, and particularly that in Lancashire, because they wished to discredit that population, and to blunt the instrument which they saw was likely to pare away some of their darling corn monopoly. (Loud cheers.) Now, you are aware that at the present moment there is a turn-out for wages in Ashton. It has been mentioned in the papers. Before I left home yesterday I requested a gentleman of that neighbourhood, Mr. Whittaker, to collect for me the exact particulars of the wages paid by the firms whose hands are turned out. I hold in my hand the average earnings of the operative weavers in the employment of the under-mentioned thirteen firms for the month ending the 25th of November, 1843. Here are the names of the firms, the number of the people they employ, and the amount they pay weekly for wages, and the average earnings of each weaver. I find that these weavers, two-thirds of whom are *young women from fifteen to thirty years of age*, amounting in number to 4120, receive on an average 10s. 5d. *per week, clear of all deductions.* (Hear.) I will give a copy of this to each of the gentlemen of the press; for at the present moment it is an interesting document. I perceive that one of the firms, Abel Buckley and Sons, employs 200 persons, all females, from fifteen to thirty years of age, and their *average weekly wages for the month were* 12s. 1d. ("Hear," and cheers.)

"AVERAGE EARNINGS OF THE OPERATIVE WEAVERS IN THE EMPLOY OF THE UNDERMENTIONED FIRMS, FOR THE MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 1843.

	Weavers.	£	Each per Week. s.	d.
Thomas Mellor and Sons ..	327 ..	165 ..	10	1½
Abel Buckley and Sons	200 ..	121 ..	12	1
(all Females, aged from 15 to 30 years.)				
A. and J. S. Buckley	400 ..	235 ..	11	9
John Whittaker and Sons ..	600 ..	320 ..	10	8
Robert Lees and Sons	700 ..	351 ..	10	0
Hyde, Sons, and Sowerby ..	440 ..	227 ..	11	3
J. and J. Kenworthy	312 ..	152 ..	9	9
J. B. Reyner and Brothers ..	390 ..	175 ..	9	0
Nathaniel Buckley and Sons	300 ..	180 ..	10	11½
Samuel Higginbotham	270 ..	134 ..	9	10
Samuel Robinson	87 ..	43 ..	9	10½
Binns, Dean, and Co.	55 ..	27 ..	9	10½
James Knott and Son.....	39 ..	21 ..	10	9
	4120	2151	10	5

Mr. Whittaker, the gentleman who collected these facts for me, has given the following brief particulars of his own establishment. He says:—"We have in our employ 1203 factory operatives, viz.: 45 children under 13 years of age, and working eight hours per day, at an average wages of 3s. per week. 1158 persons above 13 years of age, and working 12 hours per day, at an average wages of 11s. 4d. per week, for each person. Included in the above are 20 families, consisting of 56 persons, living in 20 cottages belonging to the firm, whose united earnings for one week amount to £41 9s. 9d., or 41s. 5¾d. per family, or 14s 9¾d. per head; after having deducted house-rent, water-rent, and all rates and taxes.

"Hurst-mills." "JOHN WHITTAKER and SONS.

(Cheers.) This gentleman gives me another little item in his own establishment, which is very interesting. He speaks of a family who were brought to their establishment from Suffolk, in 1835, because there was no work for them to do in that county, and they would have burdened the parish had they remained there. (Hear.) You have heard a good deal stated in some quarters about the kidnapping of men and women, and carrying them off into the manufacturing districts. (Laughter.) This is one of those cases:—"James Clouting, aged 69 years, formerly of Theburton, near Saxmundham, Suffolk, follows no employment, being too old to work; Sarah Clouting, his wife, aged 62 years, employed in household duties. The above have five daughters, employed as follows:—Elizabeth, aged 26 years, maid servant, living with the mill-owner, at a salary of £10 10s. a year. Eliza, aged 24 years, employed in the mill as a weaver; average earnings per week, 9s. 6¼. Sarah, 24 years, weaver; 9s. 9½d. a week. Hannah, 20 years, ditto; 10s. 0¾d. a week. Lydia, 16 years, learning weaving; 5s. a week. The aggregate of the foregoing, 34s. 4½d.; deduct house-rent, water-rent, and taxes, 3s. 7½d.: nett weekly income, 30s. 9d." (Loud cries of "Hear," and cheers.) The present state of the population in this manufacturing district affords a striking contrast to their sufferings two or three years ago, during the scarcity and high price of food, caused by the operation of the Corn Law. (Hear.) Now, I am very desirous that you should understand these facts: I will tell you my reason for so doing by-and-by. I can assure you I have no such animus for tall chimneys as would induce me to deceive you upon the subject. I have not myself been long in Manchester among its tall chimneys (hear); but there is nothing in my experience which has more astonished me than the culpable credulity and ignorance that prevails in the metropolis and the south with reference to the state of the manufacturing industry in the north of England. (Cheers.) You have been told that these women are employed in factories in the room of men, and therefore the latter have no employment. (Hear.) I have heard ridiculous statements of this description respecting their staying at home darning stockings or washing. (Laughter.) Now I was anxious to meet that point; and I asked the same gentleman, "What wages do you give your carters and fencers, and the men who keep your cows"—for they generally at these large establishments hold considerable quantities of land? I found that 15s. a week was the lowest rate of wages for a farm-labourer of the description I have mentioned. "Well," said I, "what do you give your carters?" "From 16s. to 20s. a week," was the reply; that is, for the men who merely drive the carts to Manchester. (Cheers.) Well, I sent out to learn what they gave the policemen in Ashton, because that is a fair test of the value of unskilled labour. (Laughter.) I found that the policemen got from 18s. to 21s. per week wages. (Hear, hear.) I then inquired, "Have you any able-bodied men on the parish?" and I found that, with a population of 46,000 in the parish of Ashton, there were not 100 able-bodied men receiving parochial relief. ("Hear, hear," and loud continued cheering.) Now understand, moreover, that the hours of working are twelve hours a day for the first five days of the week, and nine hours on the Saturday; that is for adults, or all above thirteen years of age; eight hours being the regular time for the younger people. (Hear.) Do not let me be misunderstood in what I am saying. I do not bring forward this case with a view of enlisting your sympathies for the masters, but because it has the strongest possible reference to the question I wish now to dwell upon, namely, *that wages in the manufacturing districts are very different to what they have been represented.* ("Hear," and cheers.) It shows you that not only can young women earn on an average 10s. 5d. per week in those localities, but that they are actually now in a condition to strike for higher wages. (Great cheering.) I do not intend to say, for a moment, that these persons are receiving more than they deserve, or that they ought not to strike for an advance in the amount paid for their labour; on the contrary, I contend that they have a right to get the highest wages they can. (Loud cheers.) Your monopolist newspapers raise a mighty clamour about any strike for wages in Ashton, Staleybridge, Manchester, or other manufacturing towns, simply because there appears to be 3000 or 4000 people desirous of getting an advance of wages. If the footman or butler of one of these monopolists comes and says to him, "I must have a guinea more wages or else I must leave your service," that is not made a political question, nor a clamour made about it in the papers. (Cheers.) But your *Morning Post*, for example, for the last three days, has had articles sent up from Ashton, denouncing the masters as tyrants because they do not give higher wages to their "poor miserable workpeople," whom they describe as starved and wretched creatures, whose very bones the masters are grinding to powder. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, why does the *Post* give these accounts to its aristocratic readers? Because they believe they shall by so doing discredit the manufacturers and delude you in the metropolis, and thus help the landowners to maintain a system which they think will depress the manufacturing population, and, as they pretend, confer such boundless blessings upon the agricultural labourers. (Cheers.) Now, is there not some danger in preaching these doctrines? (Hear, hear.) The *Morning Post* requires no answer from me. I might safely leave it to *Punch*, who is his best opponent. (Lond cheers and laughter.) But the *Morning Post* publishes the sentiments of the aristocratic members who vote in the Houses of Commons and Lords, and who haunt your fashionable saloons in the metropolis. (Cheers.) It is on that account that I charge them to beware how they preach the doctrines which they are now doing. The *Morning Post*—the socialist, anarchial *Morning Post*—is preaching doctrines, which, if they are read by these miserable agricultural labourers—many of whom cannot read, in this case fortunately for their masters—are calculated to rouse them into acts of hostility and vengeance; if it is true, as that paper says, that it is the masters who are responsible for the condition of their labourers; that the masters have the power to give what wages they think proper: if that be true, then what excuse shall we have for the patrons of the *Morning Post*, who, in Dorsetshire and Wiltshire, and other places, are giving their labourers such low wages? (Loud cheers.) The *Morning Post*, and those who write in the same strain, might be justly chargeable for these incendiary fires. (Renewed cheers.) If the working people of Lancashire were not more intelligent than the writers of the *Morning Post* and the aristocracy that support it, why, the manufactories and mills might have been blazing last August. (Tremendous cheering.) They were incited sufficiently by these organs of the aristocracy; but I warn them, I caution them how they who live in glass houses throw stones. I have preached different doctrines when I have been among their serfs, and have everywhere tried, if I could, to let in a ray of politico-economical science into their minds, and to show them that it is not by the will of the farmer, who is oppressed like themselves, that their wages are so low; that it is by change of circumstances, by giving a trade to Dorsetshire where they have none, the trade of their seaports having been ruined by their monopolies; that it is by restoring manufactures again to Wiltshire, where they are now almost ruined, by giving manufactures to Trowbridge and Westbury, and other places in that locality, which these monopolists have nearly destroyed; that they would improve the condition of the agricultural labourers, give them employment, and preserve the district from the dangers of a Jacquerie worse than ever happened in France. (Enthusiastic cheering.) Now, I think I have shown you, that we, in the manufacturing districts, have not more cause to cry out for the repeal of the Corn Laws than the labourer in the agricultural districts. These men, whose names I have read, the men who are paying these wages, twelve out of thirteen of them, are members of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and many of them subscribed £200 to £300 to our great League Fund. Why have they done so? Not to reduce wages. There can be no greater calamity to men living amongst a large population of operatives, than to be obliged to reduce wages, from the depressed state of the market. They want enlarged markets to meet the demands of the increasing population; they want those markets not to reduce wages, but that they may give to their workpeople a guarantee that their state shall not be reduced so low as the degraded condition of the peasantry of Dorsetshire. Now, have you nothing to complain of in London? I have lately seen accounts of the severe distress in the metropolis. What is the remedy proposed? Houses of refuge for the destitute. (Laughter.) Heaven forbid that I should say a word to check the stream of charity at a season like this; if your metropolis contains objects of charity, in Heaven's name let them find it here. But I want to ask your intelligent, influential citizens of the metropolis, have you no other remedy beyond charity? Is that a national remedy—is that a remedy that the great organs of public opinion, your champions of the press, should put forth in magniloquent language from day to day? Why, what is to become of those who are not yet in the streets—not yet quite houseless? Have you nothing for them? The hundreds and thousands of heads of families who in this country are now toiling and starving like that poor widow Biddle, whose case was mentioned the other day, who was toiling for sixteen hours a day for three halfpence a shirt, in order to keep her children from these houses for the destitute. (Shame.) What is to be done for them? I have seen no remedy proposed for them; none in Parliament, none by the press. I ask those who oppose the Anti-Corn-Law League, who talk of charity to the paupers and houseless, what remedy they have for the working population who are not yet quite paupers, or quite houseless? Ours is that remedy! (Loud cheers.) We say, instead of contenting ourselves with offering them clean straw, a shelter, and a slice of bread at night and in the morning, and then dismissing them—repeal the Corn Laws, which will give them employment and food enough,

and so enable them to live as they ought to do, keeping their families in comfort, and not wanting houses of refuge. (Loud cheers.) Oh, there is nothing that I so much despise as cant; there is no description of cant I so heartily despise as that of the men who maintain a system which dooms your hard-working population to pauperism, which meets them at the parish pay table with tears—crocodile tears—and mourns over victims they themselves have made (tremendous cheers), who take credit to themselves for charity, and then denounce it as cant, because we would save these hard-working, independent men from the degradation of coming to them for charity! Our remedy is the repeal of the Corn Law. (Renewed cheering.) What is the remedy which the monopolists propose for these houseless individuals? A piece of bread. Ours is bread—not given by the stinting hand of charity—but by the hand of justice, which allows to every man a sufficiency of bread in exchange for his honest industry. (Cheers.) But if that be our object—if those are the people, the Dorsetshire peasantry, the widow Biddle—the houseless that are sleeping in your parks and crowding your streets, driven from the country to the metropolis, as the blood flows the last to the heart, because vitality and strength remain there the latest—I say *these* are the objects we want to serve. Are *those* the objects from whom the proud aristocracy of this country will consent to extort a fixed duty upon corn? I say, those are the people we want to benefit, and such are the objects we seek to attain. (Hear.) I care not who calls it cant: we will abide by the term. If they will have it so, this is our *cant*—the total repeal of the Corn Laws. (Most enthusiastic cheering.) I want no more bread for myself. I am not very fat, you will say. (Laughter.) I have quite as much food as I want. I shall eat no more bread, whatever corn comes into the country; it must all be eaten by people who have not enough at present. (Hear.) Those are the people I have worked for, and those are the persons for whom I will continue to work (cheers); for they who would try to shift our ground from that whereon we stand—the ground of inherent right and justice—to meddle with a fixed duty of 5s., 6s., or 7s., to suit the books of exporting merchants: they would do wisely, indeed, if they could induce us to play the monopolist game in that manner. (Cheers.) It is a difficult task to overturn a bad aristocratic law. (Hear.) It requires a strong power; an immense leverage; give me that leverage in the moral and religious sympathies of the people of this country, and we shall surely effect our object. We have that hold, and we will never leave go of it until we have utterly abolished these laws. (The whole assembly here rose, and remained standing for some time cheering, and waving hats and handkerchiefs.) We are told, forsooth, that the rich merchants will abandon us. (Laughter.) Why, they tell us, at the same time, the rich merchants have never joined us; it is therefore very clear that we can do without them. (Hear.) Ten or a dozen men began this work some five years ago—not your rich men of Manchester; we do not present ourselves before you in that character. I have given you the names of rich men who are at our backs; but I say it was only ten men or so who commenced the movement of the League five years ago. What are we now? (Cheers.) Why have we attained to our present position? Was it from any strength or inherent power in ourselves? No; I will concede all our enemies say to disparage us; we are not men of eminence, we are mediocre men, low-bred men, uneducated men, if they please, or whatever they choose to call us. Why, then, is it that ten such men have brought the Anti-Corn-Law League agitation to what it now is? (Loud cheers.) Was it because we advocated a fixed duty? No; if we had done so we should have been a rope of sand, and fallen into ten or a dozen pieces in less than six months. It was because we took up the great principle of justice—that *there should be no tax on corn, no commercial monopoly in favour of any class*—it is because we took up that ground that we are now what we are. And do you think that the detaching of a few selfish men, if there be any such—men who have given their money after I have warned them two months ago not to give it—I say, do you think that if they now desert us, that that will break up the League? (Laughter, and cries of "No, no.") Oh, no! for every such man who deserts us, we shall have ten volunteering their services. No; we were ten men then, but we are now 10,000, and ten times 10,000 (renewed cheering), spread throughout the length and breadth of the land, not to advocate a fixed duty for the convenience of merchants, but an association of men imbued with a sense of the injustice of this law; who will subscribe their funds, if necessary, to the day of their death, in the same spirit as they would give part of their substance to a missionary society. These are the men who are engaged with us in this holy cause; fighting a moral battle, beneath a banner inscribed "Free Trade," "No Monopoly," "No Surrender." With this motto, with your good help, and the sympathy of the wise, just, and true, throughout the land, and trusting to the electoral body of this country, we will go on, and still onwards, to a certain, and not very distant triumph. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst the most tremendous cheering, which continued for some time after he sat down.)

Mr. Lambert of Salisbury, the chairman of Mr. Bouverie's committee, was then introduced to the meeting by Mr. Cobden, and proceeded to say that on behalf of the Free-Traders of Salisbury he came here to claim brotherhood with them; and knowing as he did what were the principles and feelings of all true Leaguers, he was sure that because the Free-Traders of Salisbury had lately been temporarily defeated, those of the metropolis would not refuse to receive them into their fellowship. He came to show gratitude for the sympathy which the Free-Traders of Salisbury had received, and for the great exertions made by the principal members of the League in support of their cause. He came to show that the seeds of Free Trade were sown in Salisbury, and were already producing much fruit; and if he were asked for the credentials of his mission, he held them in his hand in the form of documents containing the names of 1008 inhabitants of Salisbury, enrolled as members of the League within the last three days (loud cheers); not by compulsion, not by threats, or intimidation, but on their own free and voluntary accord; and if he were asked why he did not bring more than 1008 names to the meeting to-night, he would state as one reason that the cards of membership furnished by the League were exhausted; and as another, that many were prevented from joining the League by threats and intimidation held out to them. It mattered little to the League whether the names of these persons appeared on their rolls or not. All they wanted was, that their hearts should be with them; and those who had used threats could not have used more sure means of promoting that result than the course they had so taken. The Free-Traders of Salisbury were by no means dispirited at the result of the recent contest. They had as much confidence as those he addressed in the truth of their cause, and they were much cheered by the light of truth which had been thrown upon that cause; and, with the sympathies and support of their friends in the metropolis, they would not relax, but would increase their efforts until they had achieved that which was the common object of the Free-Trade party throughout the whole country. Their opponents had yesterday asserted that the roll of names to which he had referred was a list of persons who had leagued themselves together for the purpose of practising exclusive dealing; and if any of those present had been there and heard them, they would have been highly edified at the sanctimonious countenances with which the monopolists spoke of the horrors of exclusive dealing. Was not exclusive dealing part of the system of monopoly? Was not monopoly itself exclusive dealing? If he understood anything of it, it certainly was. While his party repudiated such a principle, at the same time, if their opponents resorted to such objects, every man of them was determined to stand by his friends. The Free Traders of Salisbury were not discouraged. There was a hackneyed story of Galileo, which he could not refrain from repeating. Galileo, for maintaining the theory that the earth moved, was imprisoned; but his imprisonment had no effect upon his constancy. He affirmed that the earth moved still. So it was with Free Trade. Notwithstanding the defeat at Salisbury, Free Trade moved still, and had gained great ground at Salisbury. No doubt he should be expected to give some statement, showing how it was that the cause had gained strength at Salisbury, yet they had been defeated. In the election in 1841, which was upon a double vacancy, there were three candidates—two Conservatives and one Whig. The designation of Free Trader was scarcely known then in Salisbury. The Whigs polled 293 votes, of which there were 165 plumpers, leaving split votes 128. Of those split votes who voted for the Whigs, 33 have ever since voted for Tories, and 22 had never since voted at all; and these two numbers together made 55, which, deducted from the total of 293, reduced the number of Liberals at Salisbury at that time to 238. In the late contest Mr. Bouverie polled 270, from which, if you deduct the 238 Liberals in 1841, it left a clear gain of 32 votes over the election of 1841. But he might be asked how the election had been lost, and he would explain it. A person experienced in election matters at Salisbury, had carefully gone through the poll-book, and was of opinion that among those who voted for Mr. Campbell, 43 were along with the opposite party in principle. There was no intimidation then practised, he presumed, with reference to these 43. There was no corrupt influence of any kind whatever. If we were to believe the monopolists, it was impossible for them ever to resort to such practices; but the fact stared us in the face, that of those who voted for Mr. Campbell, upwards of 40 voted against the honest convictions of their own minds. Let these forty, then, be taken from Mr. Campbell and added to his opponent's poll, and what was their situation? In cathedral towns it was frequently a question between the church and dissent; but in this case 165 out of the 270 who voted for Mr. Bouverie were members of the established church—a very much larger number than half. With regard to the dissenting denominations, he should only refer to the Wesleyan Methodists; and he was happy to allude to them in terms of thankfulness and admiration, for of forty-five Wesleyans in Salisbury, forty were in favour of Free Trade, four were neutral, and only one was found with the monopolist. Of the clergymen in Salisbury who voted, ten supported the monopolist, and two voted for Free Trade, and those two, although not high as dignitaries of the church, were most highly esteemed for their pure benevolence; and of the remaining number five remained neutral. The *Standard* newspaper, with a view to throw odium upon that respectable class the Jews, had said that no doubt the Jews in Salisbury would be with the Free Traders. Now it so happened that in Salisbury there was only one person of that denomination, and he voted for the monopolist. Whether he voted according to his principles or not—whether he was forced against his inclination or not—whether he gave his vote or not—those who were curious in such matters might go to Salisbury and inquire. The *Times* newspaper attributes the defeat of the League not to intimidation or the unjust influence of individuals; but to the impression that those who voted against Mr. Bouverie, voted against a democratic party. Now they had all heard of such persons as Chartists. There happened to be one elector professing those opinions in Salisbury. One would suppose that, if Mr. Bouverie were a democrat, he could command the suffrage of this Chartist. But it was not so. The Chartist voted for Mr. Campbell. ("Hear, hear," and laughter). It was the opinion of those acquainted with the circumstances of the place, that nothing but intimidation and the superhuman exertions of a few individuals of distinction, could have carried the election in favour of the monopolist candidate. Whether there was bribery or not was a matter which would probably be determined on some other occasion. There were one or two remarkable circumstances which he thought it well to mention. On the morning of the election they held a public meeting by candle light, a little after six. All the electors on the side of Free Trade went up to the hustings at seven o'clock, and by eleven o'clock every man of them had recorded his vote. (Cheers.) The friends of Free Trade had nothing to rely on but the truth and justice of their cause. Mr. Bouverie, to his great honour, was as much opposed as any man could be to any thing like corruption, intimidation, or undue influence. A proposition having been made to our committee by a person who said he could obtain a vote for us, Mr. Bouverie declared that if he could win the election by one farthing's expenditure, he should choose to lose it. (Hear, hear, hear.) If they asked him what were the hopes of the people of Salisbury as to another contest, he should say that they had, first, great hopes in the purity of their cause; next, that the seed sown by the League would yield good fruit; and, lastly, that by kindness, and the absence of all harsh rebukings, their opponents would be found to listen to their remonstrance, and at no very distant period join n the support of the cause which the Free Traders had at heart. If—as was not impossible—an election should take place in March or April, the example set by the second election of Durham might be followed by Salisbury. (Cheers.) Salisbury was situated in the midst of an agricultural district. Well, one would naturally conclude that, if protection to agriculture could have been of advantage anywhere, it would have been in Salisbury. Well, what was the condition of the people there? Why, Mr. Campbell himself stated there were 200 houses shut up there, and there would probably be many more before long. The agricultural population was just as ill off. Mr. Bright and he had paid a visit to Stonehenge, and having met a shepherd, asked him what his wages were? He replied, 8s. a week. They asked him, had he any family? He replied, one child, and he thanked God he had no more. So that the blessings of protection taught this poor man to give God thanks for having failed to fulfil his decree—"Go forth and multiply." He should go back to Salisbury, and tell them what he witnessed that night, and he was sure, if anything could stimulate them in the course they had chosen, it would be the approval of such a meeting. (Cheers.)

Colonel P. Thompson said that, as this was the first time that he had had the honour to appear before that numerous audience, he would begin by congratulating the meeting, and those upon the stage, on the improved circumstances on which they found their cause. He recollected that there were at one time great doubts whether authority would not interfere to prevent them from addressing them as they did. (Hear, hear.) It was reported that nothing but dramatic entertainments would be tolerated there. He began to think of the preparations necessary for an entertainment. He felt quite certain, from his affection to the cause, that the member for Stockport would not scruple to descend as *Urania* to soft music (great cheers), and that the members for Durham and Wolverhampton would not scruple to appear in a *pas de deux* (renewed cheering), if a grand principle had been at stake. He, for his part, would have come forward either as *Blue Beard* or as *Timour the Tartar*, according as the riding-master of the establishment had reported the pied charger or the little elephant fit for duty first. (Laughter.) These dangers had happily gone by. They appeared before them in their simple characters, nought making either them or the meeting afraid. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Another great phenomenon had also been witnessed. The huge three-decker, which was moored in the current of public opinion, and showed which way the tide was running by always turning its head in the proper direction, had, it appeared, swung round of late. (Laughter and cheers.) All idea of defending the old position appeared to be abandoned, and the question now was, whether they should give up all, or defend half of it. A fixed duty, it seemed, was to be proposed, and by that vast temptation they were all to be taken in, and induced to submit for ever to a fixed injustice. (Cheers.) Let him not be supposed to trench on the provinces of those who had preceded him. He would add nothing to what had been already said, except in the shape of numbers. They had been asked why a fixed duty on corn at the mill might not suffice for their aristocracy, instead of a fixed duty on foreign corn, if revenue were the object. Now, did they know what sum would be necessary to be levied on corn at the mill, in order to produce the same revenue as would be produced by a fixed duty on foreign corn—say at 8s. Why, a duty of sevenpence at the mill would produce precisely the same effect in the way of revenue. These conscientious men could not stand a duty of sevenpence at the mill. Oh, no; to raise the price of corn sevenpence a quarter for the sake of revenue, would be an enormity which nothing could make tolerable; but they would raise it to 8s.; and what was the difference? This, truly, that they were enabled by it to pay the settlements which they made upon their daughters. (Hear, hear.) That was the salve which would make all smooth. The difference was, that in the one case the price of all the corn in the country would be raised by 8s. quarter, and in the other case by 7d. Democrats, did men call them! he wished that aristocrats would show more symptoms of conducting themselves like honest men, than they did when they attempted to palm upon gentlemen and honest citizens so great an outrage on common sense as that which he had mentioned. Why, the very semptresses in this metropolis were turning out to make declaration of their sufferings. It was asked why it was that those who wore fine linen did not subscribe to keep them? (Hear.) Let those keep them that robbed them. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He wished that all the sempstresses in the metropolis would make an appointment with him. (Roars of laughter.) He would face them, and in one little half-hour would point out to them how it was that they worked their fingers to the bones that the daughters of their betters might roll in wealthy settlements, and that a thousand sempstresses might club to pay for the jewel that glittered on the head of the relative of the landed proprietor. (Hear, hear.) The time was past when smooth words would avail. They had irritated them all, wronged them all. (Hear.) He should say nothing unreasonable if he were to declare that half of the patrimony to which he had succeeded had been torn from him or made worthless by these laws. It did not stop with sempstresses, they might depend upon it. There was not one there, semptress or not, who had not paid, and would not pay their quota to this enormity. (Hear, hear.) He would like to know how many mothers and sisters there were there, who inwardly wailed for the absence of those, some of whom they would see again, and some of whom they would not see again, who were gone to distant lands to gather that subsistence which honest enterprise was not permitted to accumulate here? (Cries of "Shame, shame.") Why did they weep, but, to use the expressive metaphor of a poor and honest man in the manufacturing districts, that the lambs were sent abroad to the grass, because the laws did not allow the grass to be brought to the lambs. (Hear, hear.) It was so with all of them. They were not allowed to live here. If they got anything they must pick it up by going abroad to foreign countries, to India, to the colonies—they must leave numbers behind, in the attempt to obtain that moderate ease and comfort which would have been within the reach of every citizen, if the laws had been made by honest men instead of dishonest, nay, if there had been any moderation in the dishonesty by which those laws had plundered them. (Hear, hear.) The danger which now hung over them had been announced. It was the danger of a half measure. (Hear, hear.) How were

they to parry that? It rested with their leaders in Parliament—with those who had the opportunity of acting for them. It would not be long before they heard a cry which they must retort. Let him tell them a piece of military history. When the Turkish soldiers pillaged a country, they called for the shepherd, and ordered him to make a roast for them out of his flock; and when he had done so, they sent for him again, and asked him what he meant to pay them for having honoured him by eating it. (Great laughter.) It would not be long before a question of the same nature was put to them. They would be asked how much they meant to give as compensation for being robbed these eight-and-twenty years. On the first suspicion of the forthcoming of such a claim, let some one, or some dozen, of honest men in Parliament, be prepared to urge their claim for a compensation of their own. Passing over this, they had demanded immediate and total repeal, and let the best come to the best, there would be an effort to get rid of the people's claim. (Cheers.) But he would advise them to take care that they gave nothing for nothing; to tell the monopolists, that if they objected to immediate repeal, they must pay for the delay at a fair price. (Cheers.) Why should not there be turn and turn about? And if the monopolists had had twenty years of prohibition, why should not the people have their twenty years of premium upon importation? (Cheers.) Or, at all events, why should not the people get it in the shepe of a tax upon the landlord's land, when the latter had so long enjoyed a tax upon the people's food? (Great cheering.) Why not screw them up until in this manner they had made some compensation, instead of leaving it to posterity to say that you had the power of releasing yourselves of your burdens, if you only had the courage. (Cheers.) But the citizens of London, who had ever been the foremost in this country to stand up for their civil rights—who had ever distinguished themselves by their honest industry and successful commerce, would not play the game of those who hated their skill, oppressed their industry, and impeded their commerce. (Cheers.) He withdrew from the meeting with a lively hope that he might be fortunate enough to have uttered some words which would be assistant in their cause. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bright, upon rising, was received with the most enthusiastic cheering, which having subsided, the hon. member addressed the meeting as follows:—I would most gladly have been excused from addressing this meeting to-night, for I feel myself labouring under rather a severe cold. I trust that any deficiency in the manner in which I may treat this most important question may, therefore, have due allowance. (Hear.) These monthly meetings of the League are to me gatherings of peculiar interest, and afford me very great pleasure; for here we assemble periodically to report progress, and to consider how our great cause is getting on. Here, also, we meet with cordial greetings and cheerful smiling countenances; we are conscious that we obtain, to some extent, the meed of your approbation, and receive afresh from the assembled thousands of this metropolis a commission again to go forth from one end of the land to the other for the purpose of propounding to all classes of our countrymen those great and sacred principles which the League was organised to establish. (Cheers.) After every such gathering as this we feel an increased stimulus to make greater and still greater exertions in this most important and sacred cause. Since I last had the pleasure of standing upon this stage much has been done; but there is yet much more which must speedily be done. (Hear, hear.) Six weeks ago we were assembled here, and this building was filled to overflowing, the great bulk of the persons then present being electors of the city of London. I had the privilege of taking some part in that great contest (hear), but did not remain here to participate in the triumph. I was then at the most northerly point of England, where there were hundreds and thousands anticipating the result of that election. (Hear.) We passed on from that county into Scotland, and visited some of the farmers of Haddingtonshire. You have heard to-night statements relative to the condition of the agricultural population of Dorsetshire. I will now give you a few particulars as to the state in which we found the same class in Haddingtonshire. In proportion as we approached the borders we perceived clearly indications that we were in another country. (Hear.) We found the land well cultivated; the fields were large and regular in shape; the fences took up no more room than was necessary; and the ditches were filled up, or covered in. The land in every direction was cultivated like a garden; there were no foul weeds upon it. We saw few signs of poverty among the people, or negligence in the cultivation of the soil. (Hear.) Upon our arrival we stopped at the house of one of these Haddingtonshire farmers. We found him, and his labourers around him, in a situation of comfort. We found that the farmers themselves in that district were men who might have associated with any rank of society in this country, and have done no discredit to it. They would at all events have shone out in very advantageous colours in company with the "aboriginal squirearchy" in the southern counties of England. ("Hear," and laughter.) They displayed a great degree of intelligence upon all subjects, fully equal to the best educated manufacturers in the north of England. We found them prosecuting their business with all the industry, intelligence, and scientific application which characterize the industrious manufacturing classes of this country. We discovered that they were perfectly conscious of the great delusion which the landlords have practised upon the tenant-farmers; and they were quite well aware of the cause of the suffering of the agricultural labourers of England at the present time. I went into the cottage of one of their peasants: everything was clean, neat, and comfortable. The beds, furniture, and arrangements, indicated a state of comfort far superior to that which is known amongst the peasantry in the south of England. (Hear.) The labourer's wife, the mistress of that house, was in at the time I called. I asked her some questions. She said, "We came here the week we were married; we have lived here seventeen years, and we are very comfortable." (Hear.) She had four children, two or three of whom were employed about the farm. I inquired whether her children could read. "Yes," she replied, "they all read very well." Such was the condition of the peasantry in Haddingtonshire, and there is no reason why the agricultural labourers in Dorsetshire should not be in the same position. (Loud cheers.) No one would say for a moment that the farther you go north you get a finer soil and superior climate to the south. It is very true that some of the landlords there are not a great deal better than their fellows in Dorsetshire. We find clearly that the evils of which we complain in Dorsetshire are not inseparable from agriculture, and we have cause to hope that the time may come when all that we see now in Haddingtonshire may be exceeded by what we may see in Wiltshire, Hampshire, and Dorsetshire. Well, we came back, and on our way called at Kendal. (Loud cheers.) I believe the public give us credit for not being idle missionaries. (Hear.) Kendal has a small but very intelligent constituency. In Westmorland there is a certain very huge castle, at which a certain very powerful baron resides; the family of this baron monopolize the representation of the county, and had a longing eye for the representation of the town of Kendal also. The baron's steward was sent to Kendal, and great exertion was made; and being the steward of a lord, it was thought very rude indeed that any body should object to do his bidding. And on the day of the poll I saw on a bridge near the polling-booth fifty or sixty men evidently from the country, each, or nearly every one of whom had a large heavy stick in his hand. A friend of ours, living in the neighbourhood of Kendal, saw a man on the bridge with whom he was acquainted; he called him to him, and asked him what those men were there for? "Oh," he replied, "I be one of them." "You one of them!" my friend said, "but what are you doing here?" "Why, Mr. So-and-so, the steward came, and he said we were to come here." "But what were you to do?" "We were to stop on the bridge," he said. "But what were you to do on the bridge?" "Well," he said, "I guess we shall have to do just what we are ordered to do." (Loud laughter.) Now, it is very wrong, indeed, for the Council of the League to go to Kendal and Salisbury or any other place, and tell the electors what they should do; but it is perfectly right for the Lord of Lowther Castle, or for any other landowner in Westmorland, to send a number of men there armed with sticks, to do just what the steward shall order them to do at the precise time that their services are wanted. The League is an association to put down all interference by bribery or otherwise with the just rights of the people of this country. (Loud cheers.) I will say nothing about Salisbury, you have heard enough of that already; but still you will hereafter hear something more. (Hear.) There was a meeting held at Manchester, which I had the happiness of attending, and I only wish every monopolist in this country could have been at that meeting. The men did not come there to make speeches. I confess I hardly ever before felt my language fall so coldly upon an audience. The year before, we stimulated them more even than we expected; but on this occasion they seemed to care but little for the speeches: in fact, they had all come there fully prepared to do what they could, and they did it without any reservation. (Hear.) You know the effect of that meeting upon the country; you are sensible that there has been no blow struck at monopoly since the Anti-Corn-Law League commenced its operations which has been more powerful than the money subscribed at that meeting. The monopolists know as well as we what it is that their monopoly hangs upon. It is, as a wily Scotchman remarked five years ago, simply "a matter of money." Have as much money as you can employ—as much as will let all the people of this country know what the Corn Law is—and then the Corn Law inevitably must be destroyed. (Great cheers.) The night before last there was a meeting at Rochdale, and although the proceedings upon that occasion have already been touched upon, as I have the honour to be a member of the population of that town, I have a right to advert for one moment to the circumstances attending that meeting. (Cheers.) This paper contains a list of subscriptions which were given at that meeting. I have been requested to mention, and do with much pleasure, one or two cases. When the subscriptions had proceeded for a considerable time, some one remembered that last year a few ladies had given subscriptions. Mrs. W. B. Lumb, the lady of a very respectable surgeon, sent in a card with a subscription of £10. I might read you here a long list of ladies who sent in subscriptions of considerable amounts; and one lady sent in for her little girl, and she had only one, whom, of course, she prized very greatly. She was anxious that this little girl should have it in her power to say that she had given some help to the Anti-Corn-Law League. The subscription appeared nearly finished, and there arose a discussion behind the chair, and by-and-by half-a-dozen tickets were sent up with the names of various ladies, the wives of men whose subscriptions had been already recorded, handing in subscriptions of ten guineas each, and some of the ladies sent in subscriptions for every one of their children. (Loud cheers.) Now, this may be a very little matter. I grant it is; but it augurs very great results. You may rely upon it that English women, who came and attended those meetings, and gave subscriptions for themselves and in the names of their children, are not to be bargained off this great object by any consideration that it may accommodate the transactions of great merchants. (Loud cheers.) It has now become quite a household question. (Cheers.) It is a subject for consideration and discussion at nearly every fireside in that town. And I only pity the party—for there is a small but gradually-extinguishing party there who still do not see it their duty, or their interest, to come forward and help in this great object. Now, after that meeting we are here; from hence we are going to Liverpool and Leeds, and many other towns, at which places large meetings are to be held, and where, doubtless, considerable subscriptions will be raised; and it is also determined that a deputation of the League shall spend a fortnight in Scotland, in the month of January. (Cheers.) All this argues great earnestness on the part of the League, and great success; and the success which we have had hitherto foretels the most complete success which awaits our exertions. It has been discovered within the last ten days, that the League is a "great fact." (Laughter and cheers.) It is most condescending of any party to announce to us that we are alive. But if a powerful organ of the press comes forward even at the eleventh hour, in some degree, or to some extent, to assist a cause like this, it would be better if that powerful organ had united, with its acknowledged ability and influence, somewhat of the generosity which so much becomes the possession of power. The mastiff, the most powerful of the canine species, is a generous animal; amongst the wild animals of the forest, the monarch of the forest, the lion, in whose roar there is terror, possesses a generous disposition. Is it not possible for a leading journal in this country, stepping forward to help on a cause like this, is it not possible that this aid should be rendered without attempting to sneer down and slander the men by whom this movement is carried on? (Loud cheers.) It may be that we have other objects in view than the repeal of the Corn Laws; but if we have, they have been very acute to discover them, for we have never unfolded them to the public. It is said that we have deep designs against the Established Church. (Cries of "Oh," and laughter.) It may be so; but no publication of the League has ever given any indication of it. It may be, that the aristocracy, in their halls and palaces, are trembling for other things than the Corn Laws. (Hear.) But if it be so, still the Anti-Corn-Law League has no object but that which it has set forth to the public. It is said, and it may be, that the Crown itself is threatened by the tumultuous assemblages of the thousands within the walls of Covent-garden Theatre; but if the safety of the Crown be in doing justice to the people—if the Crown will last longer when based on the affections of the people than when based upon the oppressions of the aristocracy—then I say that the Anti-Corn-Law League, of all societies that ever existed in this or any other country, is that society which is best tending to secure and prolong the existence of the monarchy. (Loud and prolonged cheering,) What a contemptible figure those men make who assert, as the *Morning Herald* asserts, that other things are in danger if the Corn Law be destroyed. Do you believe that any institution, which is really valuable can receive any assistance from contact with a monster nuisance and injustice like this? (Hear, hear.) It would be just as reasonable to say that, if you took a healthy man from a locality in which there existed a most dangerous infection, that you would be doing that which was most likely to shorten his existence. (Hear.) The *Morning Post* has already been spoken of. (Loud groans and hisses.) I never like to say much against that journal; in fact, when a man is in desperate circumstances he is cruel indeed who would add another pang to the sufferings which he already endures. ("Hear," and laughter.) And whoever looks at the signs of the times will see that the occupation of the *Morning Post* will before long be gone. For months past, column after column of pro-Corn-Law *writing*, not *argument*, has been offered to its readers. I know not how they have got through them; I have waded through as many as most people, for the amusement which they have afforded me. (Laughter.) But there is one article in the yesterday's paper which has one or two passages, the amusement contained in which I will not confine entirely to myself. I do not know, however, that I am right in using the term "amusement," for we ought to have a sterner feeling towards the men who would promulgate calumnies like this. The writer speaks about the cry, that the merchants want a fixed duty:—

"The merchants want to '*extort* a boon,' and now, say they, now is the time to strike, when those from whom it is to be extorted show that they are weak. This is generally the chivalrous mode in which the mercantile interest proceeds—

"'For honour sinks where commerce long prevails.'"

Again—

"But fallen though the landed interest be, and by its own fault, too, we trust it is not *so* fallen, that these boldly-expressed menaces and confident anticipations will strike terror when they ought to inspire a sense of indignation, and a determination to resist."...."Surely there may be others now who will disdain to fall before a comparatively inglorious adversary. Surely there are noble and honourable friends of the agriculture of England, who will 'stand by their order,' and not admit that the mercantile interest is to be all in all in the political government of England."

Again—

"The agriculturists might still have the superior power if they thought fit to assert it." [Yes, truly, they are very forbearing always.] "And if they no not think fit, their disgrace is inevitable, and will place them in a position of unutterable contempt, until at length Englishmen will become no better than the Dutch, dependent upon traffic for their national existence, and prone to the meannesses which ever attend the career of a merely mercantile community."

(Tremendous groans and hisses, which lasted for a considerable time.) Mr. Bright resumed. There, you see, is the cloven foot. That is what they think of you and me. (Cries of "Shame.") We, the Anti-Corn-Law League, are associated to ask you, the trading and commercial classes of this country, whether you are not strong enough in numbers, in wealth, in intelligence, in virtue, in public spirit, to arise and put down for ever the foul spirit that dares to dictate language like that? (Loud cheering, and cries of "We will.") Some time ago, the *Post* recommended a plan by which the farmers could always keep prices very high, and that is by not growing more corn than would supply what that journal pleases to call "the effective consumption of the country." Now, the supply for "the effective consumption" is that sort of supply which myself and others could afford to buy who have a tolerable share of the comforts of life; that is to say, when prices would range from 60s. to 80s. a quarter. It is no consequence, you know, in the estimation of these persons, whether poor people get enough or not. (Hear.) No one cares about them, or what may be the the extent of their sufferings. Oh, it is a hard-hearted and barbarous principle promulgated by these journals! The *Morning Post* has since endeavoured to explain away what it had said. It has written leading articles in opposition to and in explanation of that which had previously appeared in its columns. (Hear.) But the *Morning Post* is not the only journal of this description. There is another paper to be pitied for its baseness, and to be detested for its extreme profligacy; there is a paper which said, and its editor shall hear of it many a time after this if I am spared, that "England would be as great and prosperous as she now is, and all useful Englishmen as happy as they now are, if all the manufacturing towns and districts of the empire were involved in one common ruin." (Loud groans, hisses, and cries of "Shame," which lasted for a considerable period.) The name of that paper is the *Standard*. (Renewed disapprobation.) [Some confusion here occurred from a gentleman in one of the stage boxes being mistaken for the editor of the *Standard*.] This gentleman is expressing his disapprobation of the language of the *Standard*. The *Standard* newspaper, in reply to what has been asserted about the merchants desiring to have a fixed duty, says, "Where are the great merchants connected with the League; is it the Barings of London, or the Gladstones of Liverpool, or the Miles' of Bristol, who are connected with the League?" No; I should be very sorry if they were; I need say nothing of the Barings: that matter you have

settled. (Loud laughter). But the Gladstones have been monopolists, I will not say for generations, but, certainly, for something like half a century. Were they not large slave-holders? Did they not receive money for their fellow-creatures? Did they not hold on to slavery until that portion of the British people who are now about to put down the Corn Law, declared that slavery should no longer continue? (Loud cheers.) Are they not now large producers of sugar in the East Indies, and do they not profit, therefore, by the monopoly in sugar? And is a man like this, of a family enriching themselves by monopoly, a fit man to have the post of President of the Board of Trade and a seat in the Cabinet? (No, no.) And then as to the said Miles of Bristol; it was said, at a meeting there, that it would take a great number of such *Miles* to make a *League*. (Laughter.) I called on Mr. Miles, who is the member for Bristol, a year and a half ago, and he received me with an exceedingly cold cordiality; and after I had explained to him the state of things in the manufacturing districts of the north, and told him what must come unless some remedy was applied, he said very coolly, "Well, I will tell you what to do; go back again to Lancashire, and stop half your mills, if you want to improve the condition of the people." (Loud cries of "Shame.") I should not wish to have a man like that connected with the League, I can assure the *Standard*. Within the last week, this newspaper, in speaking of the League, has said that it is an association which abets assassination. (Cries of "Shame.") Now, I had thought that cry was over, from the ill success which had met the experiment when tried by the *Standard's* master on the floor of the House of Commons (cheers); but it seems it is not. Now, look at that man who charges us with abetting assassination. We come here on this platform members of the Council of the League, with its chairman and some of those who take the most active part in all it does, and who therefore may be considered to be probably as influential as any men in the direction of the Councils of the League; we seek no shelter, we do not hide ourselves up in a fourth story, and stab in the dark. (Loud cheers.) We are here before all the world; there are five thousand of you looking on me at this moment; and through the exertions of those gentlemen below, the report of to-night's proceedings will be conveyed to-morrow to the utmost parts of the island. (Loud cheers.) If the man who writes the *Standard's* articles wants to find me, here I am. (Loud cheers.) But he must be a base wretch indeed who skulks beneath the shelter of a public journal, and thus charges an honourable, a powerful, and well-known association with objects so bad as that. (The audience here rose *en masse*, and remained standing a considerable time, cheering and waving their hats.) I know not who this man is. (Several voices—"His name is Gifford.") I am happy that I do not know him. I know not his parentage; but if I were to point out the source from whence he sprung, I would say that his father was known by the name—in a disturbed period of Irish history something like that which is now passing before us—of the "Government Torturer." (Hear, hear, hear.) I would say that he was connected with a journal of the most infamous description. I would say, in the words of one who has written strongly upon this question, that the man who thus sells himself to slander us,

"For a groat a year,
Would sell his soul, and sell it dear." —(Cheers.)

And yet that paper is the organ of the Government which now seeks to direct the destinies of this empire. There is no other paper that can pretend to be the organ of the present Administration but the *Standard*. And a nice organ it is. (Loud laughter.) I think its editor overdoes his bargain. I have no doubt Sir Robert Peel would not like to be answerable for all the things that the *Standard* avers upon the characters of the men of the Anti-Corn-Law League. But I think that, if that be his organ, he ought to do one of three things—either to take care that such slanders shall not be written in it, or dismiss it from the service of his Government, or take upon himself the personal responsibility. (Loud cheers.) Then, I would ask, why is all this anger and all this calumny? Why are we thus, day after day, week after week, and month after month, made the objects of the brutal attacks of such a brutal pen as that? What is the League, that they are so much afraid of it? A body of, I cannot tell how many men, nor how many millions of men by this time, associated together for a very plain, simple, and just object, admitted to be just by the very men who pay the *Standard* for its writing. Who are the subscribers to the League? Did the men who met at Manchester the other day deserve such attacks as these? (Cries of "No, no.") Are they not the men who have made England's manufactures and commerce what they are? They are not dronish and idle, not extravagant, not oppressive, but an honourable, working aristocracy in this country. (Cheers.) Who are they that work the machinery of the League? They are men who have characters as good and as stainless as those of any member of the present Administration, at least. (Cheers.) They have homes, they have families, they have all the endearments of domestic life to keep them away from a course of agitation like this; they give their money, their time, their labour, ay, their health for the prosecution of this great question. (Loud cheers.) And what is the machinery by which it is worked? It is of the most unobjectionable character. Is there any attempt at violence or at deceiving the people? (No, no.) Are not the facts that we lay before the people such as any man can test, for all men have the same chance of discovering these facts as we have? Are not the arguments that are used such as may fairly be used? Have we not been into nearly all the counties of England, and stood there upon platforms and addressed thousands of persons, often not one of whose faces had we ever seen before? And have we not defended our position upon this question against all that might come against it? And do we not appeal constantly to the intelligence of the people and their virtue, to their heads and to their hearts, to their moral sympathy, to their benevolent and religious feelings? And have we not succeeded by these means in bringing round this cause a more powerful, a more numerous, and a more noble phalanx than ever ranged under the banner of any conqueror whose deeds are recorded in the pages of history? (Tremendous cheering.) Are there no grounds in this country for our conduct—is there no justification in the position of this empire for the line of policy we are pursuing? Is there not a substratum of poverty in this country—destitution such as perhaps is not to be found in any other Christian or civilized country? Is there not now, and has there not been for years, a mass of poverty which no private charity could penetrate or materially alleviate, and have we not had periods of poverty such as that through which we are just now passing—periods when poverty has been so great, and the suffering of the people so severe, that all the barriers of morality, religion, and good feeling, have been well-nigh broken down—when society has been stirred from its very depths, and when the very highest in the realm have feared lest it might come to evil? (Loud cheers.) In Salisbury and in the neighbourhood, when we saw a very large house we were told it was the union workhouse, and we were informed that it was no very luxurious fare that men had in those buildings; and some men denounced them as the receptacles of victims who were doomed to great hardships. (Hear.) But there is something worse in existence than the union workhouse, or its inmates would not have been found there. It was a fearful alternative which was presented before them. There was starvation on the one hand, and the union house, with all its possible miseries, on the other. They fled, as nature dictated to them, from the one, and consented to take refuge in the other. (Cheers.) Then there were large gaols pointed out to us; for crime of late years has been fearfully on the increase. Poverty and crime generally go hand in hand. A great deal has been said lately about a special gaol delivery, the reason assigned being that the gaols are now so much crowded. We have seen during the last five years a state of things having a tendency to the general wreck of all that is desirable, good, and excellent—all that is advancing to our species in the country. (Hear.) And then the class for whose especial benefit this hideous system was ostensibly created, and for whom it is now hypocritically said to be maintained, is at this moment the most suffering class of people in the country. (Hear.) I cannot but pity the landlords themselves. If I knew nothing of the Corn Law, I should commiserate them when their names are paraded in the public papers as giving back 10, 15, 20, or 25 per cent. upon their rental. I should have concluded that these rents were honestly and honourably obtained; that they had made fair bargains with their tenants, and were entitled to the fulfilment of them; that some calamity had overtaken them, by which their incomes were curtailed, probably their families condemned to embarrassment, and that the farmers themselves, if they have their rents remitted, must of necessity be in a very difficult position. (Hear.) The man who gives his landlord only £80 rent when he had bargained to give him £100, must return home with anything but the feelings which an honest individual would like to cherish. You have already heard of the condition of the labourers. I read the account in the *Morning Herald* of the fire where the unfortunate men in the parish, or village, stood with folded arms watching the destruction of the property of their employers—food of every kind and agricultural produce of all descriptions being consumed—everything destroyed, and yet they did not stir a hand to save it! There is nothing like this with us in the manufacturing districts, and it bodes ill to the squires and landlord aristocracy of England when such things can take place in this country. (Hear, hear, hear.) Did those men ever taste fowl before, think you? (Cries of "No.") No, I dare say not. If they had they would not, as the paper says, have torn those half-roasted fowls limb from limb, and devoured them even before they were freed from their feathers. (Hear.) There must have been something very terrible in the background. The week before our meeting at Oxford there was a fire at Abingdon, where the labourers stood and looked on just in the same manner. Why, it is not in human nature to stand by and see the property of a neighbour destroyed without endeavouring to save it. (Hear.) No; it is not human nature; it is *fiend nature*—that suffering which no language can describe, suffering which years of unremitting toil has not been sufficient to ward off. We have no conception of the sufferings of the poorer classes of this country—sufferings which are laughed to scorn in the halls of the landed aristocracy, who live—or fancy they live—upon the Corn Laws. (Tremendous cheering.) We are calumniated even for asking the landowners to save themselves. Justice would save them even now—it may be at the eleventh hour. The very fact of their willingness freely to repeal the Corn Laws would dissipate at once the opinion so prevalent in the country, that they govern for themselves, without any regard for the rights and interests of their countrymen. (Hear.) Instead of that deep-rooted feeling which there now is in every county, that the aristocracy of this country are little better than a *locustry*, preying on the industry of the people—instead of that terrible sentiment so subversive of the order of things in this country—there would exist a feeling of gratitude towards them; seeing that, even though they feared somewhat for their own interest, they had sacrificed all selfish feeling, and given up this accursed measure of the Corn Law, that these terrible sufferings might end. Then a shout of praise would be raised from one end of the country to the other, that these men, ennobled it may be by monarchs, had become an aristocracy of a much higher order—far more exalted and magnanimous than any which has ever yet existed upon the face of the earth. (Cheers.) It is a very black cloud which now hangs over the southern counties of England. I trust it may never break in disaster upon our country. I trust that the appeal we are now making to the electors of the country may be responded to; nay, I believe it will, in such a manner that this grievous evil may be abated before it indeed becomes too late. (Hear.) The clouds, I say, are black which overhang them; but there are, nevertheless, gleams of light. There are some appearances of breaking amongst these clouds. At present, commerce, trade, manufactures are despised and trampled, ay, *spit* upon; but the voice of commerce, trade, and manufactures has, notwithstanding, arisen in this country. I fervently hope that the appeal now making to the electors—nay, I believe it will—will be responded to, and that the trade and manufactures of the country, now despised and trampled upon, will be revived by our exertions. To the better portion of the landlords, and to the farmers, the public voice is now speaking through the Anti-Corn-Law League, and I trust that we shall yet be permited, without violence, and without the calamities which some would foretel, to work out their deliverance from the hands of the aristocracy themselves. (Cheers.) We are, however, asked, and by those too who have been kicking us all this while, to compromise the question for a fixed duty—that is the recommendation of an important organ of public opinion. How contemptible would the League be if they were to say, Give us a fixed duty, and we will go back, and fatten upon that. (A laugh.) If we should agree to this, I confess I should feel very much inclined to transport myself to the Antipodes. I should not dare to look any man in the face to whom I have spoken on this subject. I should stand abashed for ever for having proved a traitor to such a noble cause. (Cheers.) Is it possible that we have been at this work for five years, and have seen nearly all the population of this country, and have shaken hands, as it were, with thousands of them in almost every county—is it possible that we have done all this to so little purpose, that we should be willing to have this question settled at that half-way house of a fixed duty, when by a little more exertion we shall get triumphantly to the end of our journey? We know what we can do; we know what we are made of. We have gone through the rough and smooth for some years past, and we can look back and see the enormous distance we have travelled; we know what the people of this country, the middle and working classes of our countrymen will do; we know what our appeal to them did for the artisan freemen of the city of Durham; we know what it did for the enormous constituency of the city of London; we know what it did for the limited, but very intelligent constituency of Kendal; we know what it has done for the city of Salisbury; we know there, that though the flag of monopoly is still flying, yet it is very much tattered, and probably can never be hoisted again. (Loud cheers.) We sought not the office we now hold; we had no wish to leave our homes, our occupations, and the pleasures which belong to them, or our ordinary business, to come thus prominently before the public. We have no wish to see ourselves sometimes lauded beyond our deserts, and at other times most foully slandered. But here we are, borne along upon the wave of public opinion, which is every hour rising higher and higher; and can we now retreat? (Loud cheers, and cries of "No, no.") We should be unworthy the name of independent, honest men, were we to do so. If there were none to supply our places—though I have no doubt there would be—would it not be a depth of injury to the great cause in which we are engaged? The feeling of personal obligation to this cause—our own solemn convictions that it is a just and holy cause—the very writhing of the enemies of the human race, the abettors of monopoly, from the terrible apprehensions under which they are now labouring—the suffering millions of our fellow-countrymen in all parts of the earth—for there is no part of the world in which monopoly has not committed some ravages—all these call upon us in terms more strongly than we can at all refuse to obey, that we should, whatever we have done hitherto, work still harder henceforward. (Loud cheers.) But, my countrymen, it depends on you, and such as you—the middle classes, the electoral body, the working people—every man who lives by his industry honourably and honestly—whether this great question shall be satisfactorily settled. We ourselves are but a few individuals, small in number, small in strength. We ourselves are nothing with which to combat a foe so powerful, compact, and resolute as that which is opposed to us; but if you, men and women of England—the thousands, ay, and millions of you—in your hearts will shake hands with each other and with us (tremendous cheers, and cries of "We will, we will"), now, and for ever let us make a solemn and everlasting covenant that so long as we live and can work, can think, write, and speak, so long will we be the enemies of monopoly, so long this accursed system shall have no rest. (The honourable gentleman sat down amidst the most enthusiastic cheering, with which he had been frequently interrupted during the delivery of the above eloquent address.

The CHAIRMAN said he must now close what all present would probably consider to have been not the least interesting of the series of meetings. Mr. Bright had informed them that arrangements had been made for holding, during the next month, meetings in the principal towns of Yorkshire and Lancashire, for the purpose of promoting subscriptions to the great League fund. When they met again, this day month, he hoped they would have the pleasure of seeing that their labours for that object had not been unrewarded. Till then he hoped the blessing of Heaven would rest on all present. (Loud applause.)

The meeting then separated.

EXTRAORDINARY FREE-TRADE MEETING AT SALISBURY—NIGHT AFTER THE ELECTION.

On Friday the 24th Nov., a meeting of the electors of Salisbury was held in the Salt-lane School-room. Tickets of admission were sent to those electors who had recorded their votes for Mr. Bouverie, and, although no other announcement was made of the meeting, the gates were besieged and the street crowded for an hour before the time fixed for opening the doors. The room and galleries were in a few minutes completely packed: upwards of a thousand persons gained admission, including many of the most respected and influential inhabitants. During the entire evening the doors were beset by crowds outside, and many hundreds went away, being unable to get within hearing distance. It is impossible to describe the animation and enthusiasm of the audience. The immediate object of the meeting was, in accordance with a promise made by Mr. Cobden, to nominate a provisional committee, and to enrol members of the League, for the purpose of protecting from injury and oppression those electors who had, in spite of intimidation and threats to withdraw custom, conscientiously recorded their votes in favour of Free Trade. The following resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried amidst such enthusiastic cheering as placed beyond doubt the determination of the numbers present to stand by the honest electors, *and to put down for ever the domination of the monopolist party.*

"That the Free-Traders of the city of Salisbury and the neighbourhood do enrol themselves members of the National Anti-Corn-Law League."

"That, in the present state of the representation of this city, it is expedient that the attention of the League be directed to the attempts which are being made by the monopolists of Salisbury and the vicinity, to deter the Free-Trade electors, by threats and intimidation, from the free exercise of the elective franchise. The members of the League do hereby pledge themselves to give their united support and protection to every elector who may be threatened with injury, in consequence of

giving a conscientious vote at this or any other election; and the members of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League here present pledge themselves, on behalf of that body, to co-operate with the Free-Traders of Salisbury in carrying out this special object."

The chair was taken by J. LAMBERT, Esq., who, in the course of an able speech on the progress of Free-Trade opinions in Salisbury, returned thanks to the League for their exertions in the contest, and called upon all present to enrol themselves members of that body, and to pledge themselves to canvass every one they knew for the same purpose. The call was responded to from every part of the meeting by shouts of "*We will, we will.*" There was no appearance of disappointment that Mr. Bouverie was not returned, but a universal expression of satisfaction that he had found so many zealous supporters, and a strong confidence that the importance of Free Trade had laid such hold upon the borough as was certain in future to secure it from being represented by monopolists.

Mr. CORDEN urged the necessity of constant vigilance and activity; the Leaguers in Salisbury, as the Leaguers everywhere else, must work; they must keep up a perpetual instruction and canvass of those who voted against them, or who did not vote. The borough was to be won by the resolute exertions of its honest men. He strongly recommended the making of similar exertions in Winchester, Devizes, Wilton, Andover, and all the neighbouring boroughs, and promised that they would contest the southern division of the county if opportunity should offer. The great cause of Free Trade was not defeated: it had made progress in Salisbury; it rested on a strong foundation there; it had 270 honest electors to ensure its progress; it had many hundred non-electors to encourage and support those who had supported them; it had friends in every part of the earth, and wherever there was a heart with human sympathies, there it found a response.

Mr. BRIGHT was sure the meeting would agree with him, that it was far better to belong to the 270 who had recorded their votes in favour of justice and freedom to industry, than to be one of the 317 who had used their votes to uphold every description of monopoly; they might, however, rely upon it that many of the 317 were sorry even for the *present* success of their own candidate, and many others would, ere long, repent of the support they had given him.

Mr. MOORE then addressed the meeting. He denounced the meanness of those men who, for some paltry present advantage, had voted against their conscientious convictions; he called upon all to take note of how such dishonesty prospered, and was sure the men who, spite of all opposition, had voted right would be ready to come forward at another contest, with proofs that honesty was, in elections as in every thing else, the best policy.

Mr. FAWCETT then came forward, and moved the most grateful thanks of the meeting to Mr. Cobden and his associates, and trusted that, wherever they went, God would bless them in carrying out their great principles.

The motion was carried by acclamation, with a degree of enthusiasm which shook the whole building, followed by prolonged clapping of hands.

Mr. CORDEN briefly returned thanks for himself and colleagues.

The CHAIRMAN proposed three hearty cheers for Free Trade.

Mr. MOORE then severally moved votes of thanks to the ladies who had conducted the tea meetings, and who had exerted themselves during the contest; and also to the trustees of the Salt-lane School-rooms, for the accommodation afforded them; both of which motions were carried by acclamation.

Mr. CORDEN moved, and Mr. BRIGHT seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, who briefly returned thanks; and the meeting, which was considered by all present as the most enthusiastic ever held in Salisbury in support of any cause, then quietly separated.

A large and influential provisional committee was appointed to carry out the objects of the resolutions.

THE SPORTS OF THE ARISTOCRACY.

If one would know whether a law is good or bad, the natural way is to inquire into the condition of those in whose favour is said to have been enacted. It will be our constant object to subject the Corn Law to this test, and for that purpose the incidents of any district exclusively agricultural will be found to have some bearing more or less remote upon the Corn-Law question. But the mere pecuniary view of the Corn Law will only disclose half its evils. As a matter of business the Corn Law is a wrong to the public, and a great hindrance to those it affects to "protect;" but it is besides one of the strongest marks of landlord domination which is the curse of the rural districts. And the game-laws may be regarded as a branch of the same question. The sports of the aristocracy—and sporting is the only object nine-tenths of them seriously pursue—form a fertile source of degradation and crime to the rural population, and lead to nearly all the quarrels which occur amongst the aristocrats themselves. These men are the sole judges before whom the offending parties are brought, and "*well-preserved*" neighbourhoods furnish endless illustrations of the mode in which justice is administered towards poachers by magistrates who are judges in their own cause. Take the following specimen from Oxfordshire:—

"BICESTER PETTY SESSION.—Friday, Nov. 17.

"Present—Captain Style, R.N., John Lechmere, Esq., Revs. A. H. Matthews and R. Pretyman.

"*James* and *Daniel Paxton* and *John Heyford* charged, by Mr. John Painter, on the evidence of William Golding, *a keeper* of Mixbury, with having, on the 4th instant, at the above place, been digging rabbits out of their holes. *They were all agricultural labourers in the prime of life.* It appeared they had a dog with them, and that they were digging with their sticks in a field called the Castle, in the above parish. *It did not appear that any rabbits were killed, or, in fact, seen, but the keeper said there were rabbits in the place.* In their defence they stated that they had nothing else to do, *being out of work at the time.* Convicted together in costs of 19s. 6d., constable 3s., fine 1s. 6d., *total £1 4s., and in default fourteen days' imprisonment to hard labour.* They were taken out of the room in custody. *They subsequently raised the money.*"

Here were these men—who, from sheer distress and want of employment, tried to save themselves from the union workhouse by killing rabbits, and to which, perhap, they were more than half encouraged by the occupier of the farm—compelled to raise TWENTY-FOUR SHILLINGS, or undergo the degradation of a felon's gaol. How could they do this but by incurring a debt, to be, perhaps, wiped out by the produce of more successful adventures in poaching, or, perchance, of a robbery? Turn to the records of trading misfortune, and see to what deeds debt will drive men of education and intelligence infinitely beyond that of the agricultural labourer, and then let us ask, what may be its effect upon men who have been thus driven into debt by efforts to escape starvation? We have never been surprised at the extent of petty crime which exists in agricultural districts, knowing as we do the perils and difficulties by which the peasantry are beset; but, on the contrary, we have often wondered that it had not been to greater. Let the reader mark the following case, which occurred at the same petty sessions as the above:—

"*Joseph French* of Fewcott, in the parish of Stoke Lyne, was charged, on the information of George Woods, jun., with having, on Sunday, the 12th instant, *been in pursuit of game, not having a certificate, whereby he had forfeited the sum of £20.* From the evidence of Wm. Cooling it appeared that, on the afternoon in question, French and his son were out, as if in pursuit of game, the father had a gun and the son a stick; partridges were found, which French aimed at, but did not fire; he continued in pursuit a time, when this witness went up to him and took his gun from him. *It appeared he was a determined poacher, had been several times convicted, and had altogether been in gaol about seven years for that description of offence.* The constable, who had served the summons on him, said he was a married man with a family, and that *all French's furniture was not worth five shillings. The constable said he had been over his dwelling, and 'he laid on a something which was called a bed.' French did not appear to the summons.* The chairman *(the Rev. A. H. Matthews) and Mr. Lechmere* DECIDED ON CONVICTING FRENCH IN THE FULL PENALTY. On the convictions being put towards the Rev. R. Pretyman for him to sign, he declined to do so, observing—'Had this case been laid under the Trespass Act, I would have signed it. According to my humble views, I endeavour to carry out the intention of the Legislature to the best of my ability. I shall not sign it. In my opinion this act was intended to protect the finances of the country, *and not to punish this description of persons.*' Capt. Style (to Mr. Pretyman)—'I view the act much in the same light as yourself, *but this is an extreme case.*' Mr. Pretyman—'If you see the case as I do, I humbly submit you cannot act otherwise than as I do.' *Mr. Lechmere was of opinion that the act was intended for all, rich and poor.* Mr. Pretyman said he certainly should not act in the case. He never had, he believed, administered that act of Parliament, nor would he. *French was convicted in a fine of £19 3s. 6d.; constable,* 3s.; *costs,* 13s. 6d.; *total, £20. A distress warrant was issued against the man, 'whose furniture and effects were not worth five shillings,' for the amount.*"

Who, after reading this, will venture to impugn the motives of those who warn the aristocracy of this country against a possible outbreak of popular indignation? Here was a law intended to prevent persons, in a position of life to partake of field sports, from enjoying them without first paying an assessed duty of £4 for a game license, twisted into the means of hunting from the neighbourhood a labouring man because he is known to be a poacher. Even all the magistrates would not be parties to such an enormity. As Mr. Pretyman said, the offence was trespass, and even under the game laws it was no more.

The people of the rural districts are too much accustomed to these deeds to look at them with all the horror they merit, and to others they are unknown. Now, the grand object of all this mischief is game; vermin, as every farmer calls them, of the most noxious character. See the following account of one day's sport:—

"On Wednesday and Thursday last, the following shooting party were entertained by Sir W. R. Clayton, Bart., at Harleyford:—Lord Rossmore, Lord Drumlanrig, Lord A. Paget, Sir E. G. C. East, Bart., Sir G. Warrender, General Sir J. Macdonald, Colonel Chaloner, Colonel Hall, Colonel Bouchere, Captain Nailer, Captain Stevens, Captain Mountjoy Martin, Captain Vansittart, Captain Bulkley, Messrs. T. S. Duncombe, M.P., — Warrender, T. R. Barker, H. Clayton, &c. About 700 rabbits were killed, and a considerable number of pheasants."—*Aylesbury News.*

How many agricultural labourers have been sentenced to weeks and months of hard labour to protect the game for this one day's slaughter? How many have been driven from their homes by £20 penalties? How many been made "determined poachers" or confirmed thieves? Read some of the consequences:—

"On Friday night last a fire broke out at Billington, near Leighton Buzzard, in a large barn full of corn, belonging to Mr. George Garrett, which is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. The whole was consumed."—*Aylesbury News.*

"ROBBERIES.—On Wednesday night the henhouse of W. J. Atkinson, Esq., was broken open and all the fowls stolen.—On Friday night the henhouse of Messrs. Wethered was broken open and thirteen fowls stolen.—A few nights since the fowl-house of Mr. Harman of Hurley Mill was broken open and a quantity of turkeys stolen."—*Aylesbury News.*

In the next paragraph, which is the report of another case at the same Bicester petty sessions, at which the above cases occurred, we have a symptom of the feud between the game-preserving and the fox-hunting squire:—

"ALL ABOUT HUNTING.—John Smith, a gamekeeper to J. H. S. Harrison, Esq., of Shelswell, applied *for summonses against nine parties,* charged with being in pursuit of *a rabbit.* The summonses were issued. From the old man's tale, it appeared that the parties were *full chase after the rabbit with one dog.* During this application, the following very interesting (to fox-hunters) conversation took place:—Mr. Pretyman (to Smith)—'A great deal of poaching on your preserves, is there not? *There has not been a fox found in your covers for five years, I believe.* The poachers have them, don't they, eh?' This set the keeper a going with considerable warmth. 'How,' says he, 'are we to have foxes? *Our preserves are only two fields from the Duke of Buckingham's, and there are traps in all directions on the Duke's preserves.*' Mr. Lechmere remarked, *that the Duke of Buckingham did not profess to keep foxes.*"

Nothing is more remarkable than the difference in the tone of mind between landlords who are fox-hunters and those who are game-preservers. The former are commonly generous and kindly towards their poorer neighbours, and conciliatory to the farmers; while the latter are universally harsh, exclusive, and grasping. The cause of this difference lies on the surface, inasmuch as the fox-hunter depends for his pleasure upon the co-operation or sufferance of all the inhabitants of a wide district, to whom he also affords amusement; while the game-preserver is essentially selfish, both in providing for and enjoying his sport. Nor are these differences without their influence upon public conduct; for amongst the aristocracy, the high-minded Free Traders—Lords Ducie, Spencer, Kinnaird, and Fitzwilliam, for instance—are fox-hunters; while the most violent monopolists—as the Dukes of Buckingham and Newcastle, and others of that stamp—are rigid game-preservers.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LABOUR.—An engineer, a friend of mine, went over the other day to Sweden, to plan a railway, and tell them the expense. When he got over they said—"You must not calculate the English expenses; for provisions are cheap here, and wages are low." "Well," said the engineer, "let me see your scale of cutting and carrying; and let me know what you pay a man, and what he does for the sum you pay him." He calculated; and, although the wages were apparently only one-half the amount that would have been paid in England, he said, if he had been going to contract he would have preferred taking over English navigators, though he had to pay them double the wages. Your foreign straight-backed "navy" is an odd spectacle, poking with a shovel with a handle as long as a pitchfork. (Great laughter.) He never stoops to his work. He stands bolt upright, sticks in his shovel, turns it over with his feet, and removes about a decent spoonful at a time. (Shouts of laughter.) The Englishman, with his short-handled spade and crosstop, gives some muscle and bone to the work, and fairly earns his higher wages. The English labourer is a man that will work; and if an agricultural labourer were taken over to teach the Russians, he would be able to do, in mowing, hedging, ditching, thrashing, and stacking—he would be able to do fifty things that the Russian or the Pole never dreamed of, and on witnessing which they would do nothing but hold up their hands in astonishment. Your agricultural labourer is as superior to the labourer abroad as your mechanic is to the foreign artisan. What is the reason, then, that you cannot compete with foreigners? Where is the difficulty? Have you tried? No! but the manufacturers have; and I'll tell you with what success.—*Speech of Mr. Cobden at Alnwick.*

PENCILLING OF FEARGUS O'CONNOR BY MR. LOVETT.—On the 7th ultimo, Messrs. A. H. Donaldson, and J. Mason of Birmingham, wrote to Mr. W. Lovett, requesting him to fill the office of general secretary to the "National Chartist Association, or Mutual Benefit Society." Mr. Lovett has since published his reasons for refusing to be nominated, from which we make the following extract:—"Whatever may be the merits of the plan you are met to discuss, I cannot overlook O'Connor's connexion with it, which enables me at once to form my opinion as to any good likely to be effected by it, and which at once determines my course of action. You may or may not be aware that I regard Feargus O'Connor as the chief marplot of our movement in favour of the charter; a man who, by his personal conduct, joined to his malignant influence in the *Northern Star*, has been the blight of democracy from the moment he opened his mouth as its *professed* advocate. Previous to his notorious career, there was something pure and intellectual in our agitation. There was a reciprocity of generous sentiment, a tolerant spirit of investigation, an ardent aspiration for all that can improve and dignify humanity, which awakened the hopes of all good men, and which even our enemies respected. He came among us to blight those feelings, to wither those hopes. Not possessing a nature to appreciate intellectual exertions, he began his career by ridiculing our "moral force humbuggery," as he was pleased to designate our efforts to create and extend an enlightened and moral public opinion in favour of Chartist principles. By his great professions, by trickery and deceit, he got the aid of the working classes to establish an organ to promulgate their principles, which he soon converted into an instrument for destroying everything intellectual and moral in our movement. Wherever good was to be undone, principles to be uprooted, and honest men's reputation to be undermined by calumny, there he posted, like the spirit of malignancy; and the *Star*, a mere reflex of the nature of its master, only sought to outvie him in his attacks upon everything good in democracy, or to place Toryism once more in the ascendant. By his constant appeals to the selfishness, vanity, and mere animal propensities of man, he succeeded in calling up a spirit of hate, intolerance, and brute feeling, previously unknown among reformers, and which, had it been as powerful as it was vindictive, would have destroyed every vestige and hope of liberty. The men who in time of persecution and danger had stood courage-proof, were among the first victims selected by this physical-force blusterer and his brawling satellites; no means, however despicable, no lie, however hollow, were neglected to destroy all those who dared to think, or who refused to bow to the golden calf, who had deified himself as the only object worthy of Chartist worship. The credulous were therefore fed from week to week with forged and slanderous romances against individual character and reputation; the envious were gratified in the work of persecution; and the unthinking captivated with the man who, according to his own professions, had lost class, station, and fortune in their cause; and they therefore in many joined in the warwhoop of the *Northern Star*, till they had driven thousands into exile, and had consigned many noble-hearted victims to an untimely grave. Did any man, or body of men, venture to assert that they had equal rights with others, to proclaim their views, or to agitate for their principles, their motives were at once impugned by the great 'I am' of Chartism; they were crucified in the columns of the *Star*, and the fawning pack of intolerants, who from gain or fear were its zealous retainers, were hounded on to hunt and clamour down those presumptuous sticklers for individual right and freedom of action. The conduct and character of this man, which I have thus briefly referred to, have prostrated all hopes of success of any plan which he may be connected with; and I fear my Chartist brethren will never redeem their cause from the odium which he and his satellites have cast upon it, till they relinquish his pernicious councils. With no other feelings towards you but those of personal respect, I must nevertheless decline your offer for nominating me for your secretary."

REVIEW.

Chronicles of England, France, Spain, and the adjoining Countries. By Sir John Froissart. Translated by T. Johnes, Esq. London: W. Smith, 113, Fleet-street.

The Chronicles of Enguerraud de Monstrelet. Translated by T. Johnes, Esq. Same publisher.

These volumes, edited with scrupulous care and illustrated with antiquarian accuracy from the illuminations of cotemporary manuscripts, are equally creditable to the skill of the editor and the enterprise of the publisher. In these days of false pretensions to cheap literature—for nothing is really cheap that is not really good, and bad books are dear at any price—it is gratifying to find such mines of historical information, combined with romantic interest, opened to students at very moderate cost: inexhaustible sources of united knowledge and entertainment placed within the reach of persons of moderate fortunes. It is due to the publisher of the works before us to add, that he has conferred this boon upon the public without any ostentatious parade or flourish of trumpets; he has made no pretence to an implied contract with the Government, and he does not plume himself on providing a "Library for the Empire," by simply publishing a cheap issue when the purchasers of the more expensive edition are exhausted,—a measure not one whit more reasonable than a farmer's claiming public gratitude for selling his after-grass at a less price than his first crop of hay. Smith's editions are cheap, because they are excellent; and are creditable, because they involve no breach of faith with those who purchased from him the same works in a more expensive form.

There is no author from whose pages a more accurate knowledge of the middle ages can be obtained than Froissart; he is not only a picturesque narrator of incidents, but he is the embodied representation of the predominant pride, prejudice, and passion of those who ruled the destinies of Christendom in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Sir Walter Scott, speaking in the person of Grahame of Claverhouse, has very accurately delineated his character in the following passage of "Old Mortality."

"Did you ever read Froissart?"

"No," was Morton's answer.

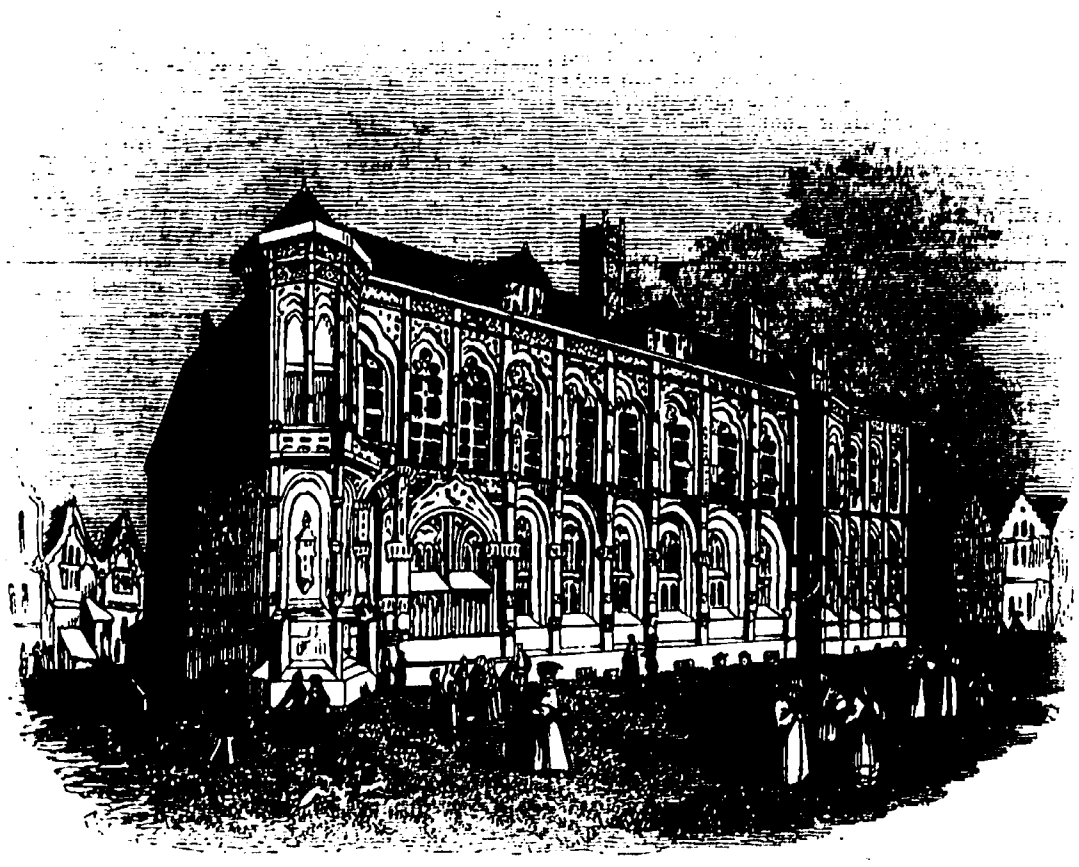
"I have half a mind," said Claverhouse, "to contrive you should have six months' imprisonment, in order to procure you that pleasure. His chapters inspire me with more enthusiasm than even poetry itself. And the noble canon, with what true chivalrous feeling he confines his beautiful expressions of sorrow to the death of the gallant and high-bred knight, of whom it was a pity to see the fall, such was his loyalty to his king, pure faith to his religion, hardihood towards his enemy, and fidelity to his lady-love! Ah, benedicite! how he will mourn over the fall of such a pearl of knighthood, be it on the side he happens to favour, or on the other. But, truly, for sweeping from the face of the earth some few hundreds of villain churls, who are born but to plough it, the high-born and inquisitive historian has marvellous little sympathy—as little, or less, perhaps, than John Grahame of Claverhouse."

Froissart's Memoirs, in fact, bear the same relation to history that "Ivanhoe" does to romance; they contain the most perfect delineation of feudalism and chivalry as they appeared to their admirers and supporters, but at the same time they incidentally enable us to obtain glimpses of the iron oppressions of feudal tyranny, and the hollowness of the pretensions of chivalrous honour. To us Froissart is especially dear for the clear light he throws on the nature of the early struggle between aristocratic extortion and mercantile industry—a struggle which should be carefully studied by all who desire to understand the past phases of European society, to comprehend the nature of the present contest for commercial freedom, or to obtain a safe guide for estimating the future destinies of their country. The illustrations in the present edition—some of which we have been permitted to copy by the kindness of the spirited publisher—add greatly to the inexpressible charms of the picturesque narrative of Froissart; they bring vividly before us the costume of the actors, and the localities of the events; and they thus give a form and reality to the pictures which imagination loves to frame when interested by the recital of stirring incidents.

The value of manufacturing and commercial industry was early known in the Netherlands; the woollen manufacture, so early as the tenth century, had become so prosperous that yearly fairs were instituted in several places, and agreements were made with most of the feudal nobles, whose castles commanded the main roads, to exempt from tolls the merchants who frequented these annual meetings. A feeling of insecurity however prevailed among the industrious classes, and hence their manufactures were, for the most part, established in cities, where walls and towers afforded protection from predatory assaults. But as titled plunderers were often possessed of houses within the cities where their retainers could be easily mustered for sudden attack, the manufacturers generally fortified their houses, and the merchants buttressed their dwellings; the streets also were usually made as narrow as possible, to facilitate mutual defence, and increase the perils of assailants. From these circumstances arose the peculiar style of architecture which marks the cities of the middle ages, and which is still preserved, to a great extent, in the commercial towns of Flanders. Ghent, the scene of the fiercest struggles between the feudal aristocracy and the trading industry of Flanders, may almost be said to tell its history in its architecture, and its tranquil streets cannot even now be traversed without a feeling that every building has reference to ages of tumult and disorder.

VIEW IN GHENT. *Froissart*, I., 42.

The progress of industry was from the beginning found to be dependent on freedom. It may be a question whether the municipal institutions of Italy and Languedoc were not traditionally derived from the privileges of self-government, which were permitted to most of the great cities in the Roman Empire; but in Flanders and in Germany the municipalities were originally voluntary associations for self-defence, which afterwards made a compromise with feudalism, by purchasing charters of incorporation from their superior lords. At first, the object of all municipalities was to secure "free trade;" the *Maison de Ville*, or town-hall, was the common property of all the citizens, and was regarded with the utmost veneration as the great temple of their rights. In the history of the civil wars and factious tumults, which too frequently sullies the annals of commercial cities, we find the town-hall generally respected by both parties, however bitter their animosity might be; while on the contrary, whenever feudality triumphed, it was one of the most common signs of exultation to deface the popular House of Assembly. From the "Chronicle of Cambray," we learn that the archbishops of that see, who were for more than a century engaged in a fierce struggle to prevent the citizens from establishing a municipality, always displayed their ascendency by taking possession of the town-hall, and forbidding the magistrates to assemble the citizens by the sound of a town-bell, to use a corporate seal, or to have a common chest. These emblems of municipal freedom—the common hall, bell, seal, and chest—are always found together in the manifestos of the cities that took up arms to assert their liberties, and in the charters of incorporation which they extorted from their feudal suzerains when victorious.



MAISON DE VILLE, GHENT. *Froissart*, II., 63.

The town-hall will be found a place of great importance in the commercial history of Flanders; possession of it was indispensable to the exercise of civic authority, and it would almost seem as if the Flemings did not believe it possible that municipal institutions could exist without such an edifice. In France these buildings were not deemed of equal importance; but it must be remembered that the French communes never attained the same strength and consistency as the corporate institutions of Flanders; and that a very large proportion of the towns that took up arms against their immediate lords, did so more for the purpose of supporting the royal authority against the subordinate tyrants that oppressed them than for the purpose of establishing the right of self-government. Without entering into the disputed question whether localization or centralization is the better principle of government, it deserves to be borne in mind that the French have always shown a decided preference for the latter; and, as a singular proof of this, we may notice that the place of municipal assembly, which in Flanders was named "the Town-hall," was usually called in France "the Hall of Public Justice."

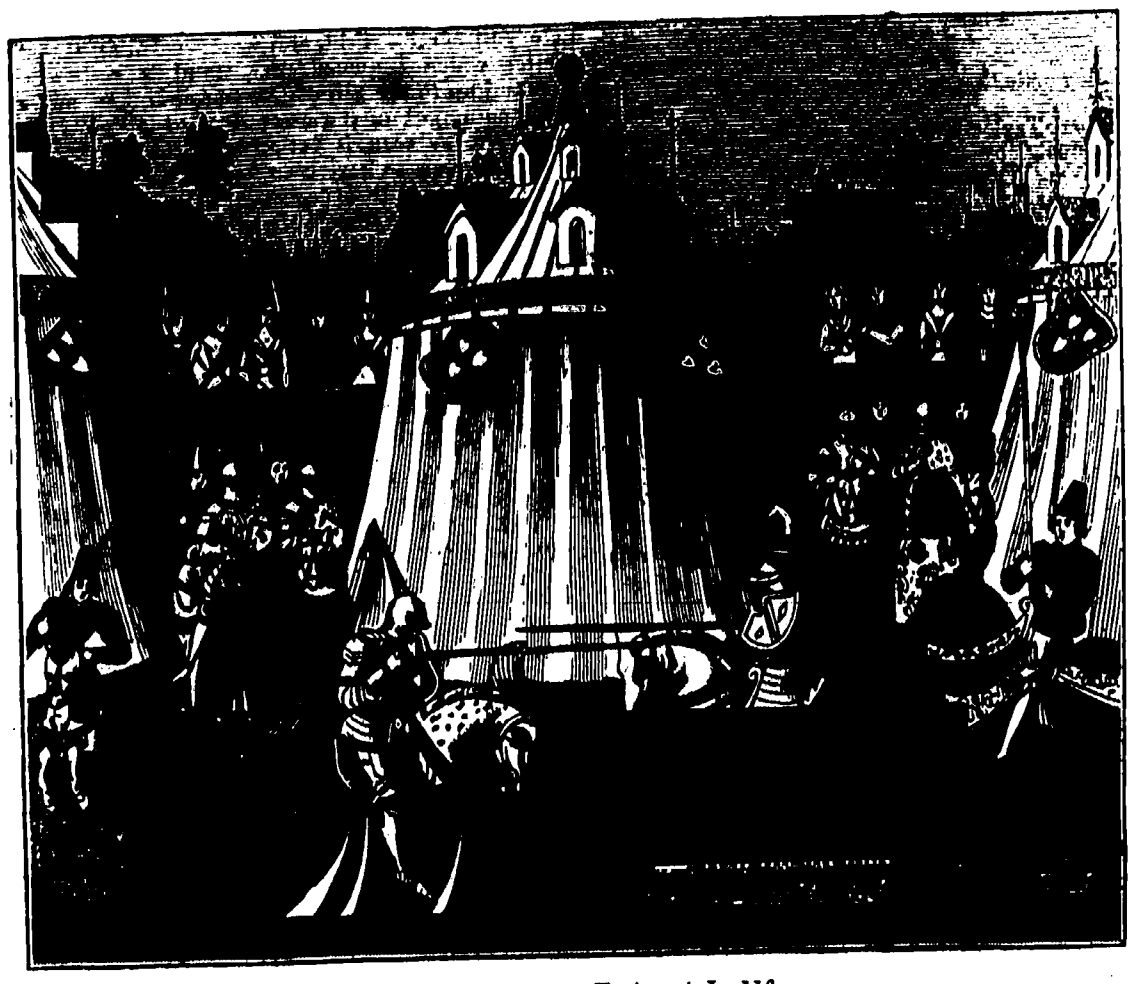
When Flanders entered on its career of commercial prosperity, it was governed by an earl, who was nominally one of the great feudatories of the French crown, but who in reality exercised all the functions of an independent sovereign. No prince exhibited more splendid and costly tournaments than the Earl of Flanders, the expense being borne by the wealthy merchants, who lavished immense sums on the maintenance of these gorgeous spectacles. Oudegherst is of opinion that the mercantile and trading classes were at first admitted to these entertainments on terms of equality; and that the restrictions subsequently introduced were among the earliest indications of the jealousy which severed the landed from the mercantile aristocracy. It is singular to find that a desire of being admitted to share in aristocratic sports and fashionable entertainments has been always the besetting sin of the wealthier portion of the mercantile classes; men who would have spurned p

cuniary bribes of any amount, have been unable to resist the trappings and gewgaws which fashion has devised to impose upon folly. In vain has experience taught them, that—

"Vain is the plumage o'er the brainless head;
Vain on the faithless heart the riband spread."

Even in our own days, we fear that the race-course, the ball-room, admission to a subscription hunt, or permission to sport in a lordly preserve, would shake the faith of many, and lead them to desert their own independence and that of their order.

Towards the beginning of the thirteenth century,



A TOURNAMENT. *Froissart*, I., 116.

Flanders was so enriched by commerce, that when John King of England and his allies were planning the conquest and partition of France, it was agreed that the title of King of France should be given to the Earl of Flanders, because he had contributed the greatest proportion of men, and had supported the whole army with his gold. This prosperity lasted during three centuries. Though history is silent as to its growth, it records very minutely all the circumstances of its decline and fall; and these we propose to examine in successive articles, designing the present to serve only as an introduction to the subject.

THE GREAT LEAGUE FUND—MEETING AT ROCHDALE TO SUBSCRIBE MONEY.

The meeting at Rochdale, on Tuesday evening, in aid of the Great League Fund of £100,000, was another triumph over monopoly. It was a re-enactment, on a smaller scale, of the Manchester meeting. The spirit, the enthusiasm were there; the only difference was in the amounts of the sums subscribed. It was a really stirring and vivid picture of enthusiasm; such a spectacle as might fix itself on the memory for life. The meeting had been preceded by a tea-party, for which, though only short notice had been given, there were more applicants for tickets than could be accommodated in any single public room in the town. Under these circumstances the committee determined on dividing the company into two parties—one in the Theatre, the other in the Assembly-rooms; and both places were crowded to overflowing. After tea the tables were removed from the Theatre, and the company being then admitted from the Assembly-room, formed a large and crowded auditory. There was a great number of ladies present. About five-and-twenty minutes past seven o'clock, Mr. Henry Kelsall of Rochdale, on the motion of Mr. James Littlewood, seconded by Mr. John Petrie, was called to the chair, and among the company round and near him we saw Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., W. J. Fox, Esq., Mr. Thomas Bright, Mr. Benjamin Bright, Messrs. Robert and Joseph Schofield, John Howarth, John Petrie, Robert Pagan, Robert Heap, Thomas Howarth, John and Thomas Hoyle, — Sugden, Thos. Booth, Oliver Ormerod, James Leach, Ackroyd (of Spath), George Ashworth, James King, Robert Kelsall, Edmund Grundy (Park Hills), Robert Taylor Heap, Edward Briggs, Jas. Holt, James Tweedale, John Petrie, Charles Walker, Thomas B. Stephens, Benjamin Heap, John Milnes, James Littlewood, and C. Livesey (Bury.)

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that most persons present were so well informed as to the merits of the question and the justice of Free Trade, that they would be ready to give their support to the League, one object of which was to disseminate information in all parts of the country. Men and money were all that was needed for this purpose: the men they had already (applause); and they had only to follow the example of a neighbouring town, and they should have money.

Mr. COBDEN was then called upon by the chairman, and addressed the meeting in a calm but most effective speech, which the over-crowded state of our columns precludes us from reporting.

He was succeeded by Mr. Fox, who was received with enthusiasm, and spoke to the following effect:—Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I feel very strongly the truth and propriety of the observation just made by Mr. Cobden, that we are not assembled here to argue the question of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) The arguments against these laws are scattered all over the country, and are concentrated in every town. These arguments exist in the sufferings of the distressed—in the accumulated wretchedness and pauperism of a large portion of our fellow-countrymen—in the feelings of the humane and benevolent—in the principles of the clear-headed, and in the determination of patriotic men that this monster shall no longer be endured. (Great applause.) How can the question be argued, when there is nothing to answer—(hear, hear)—when one sophism after another has been exposed and exploded—when the whole series of vicious reasoning has been run round and round, and the advocates of monopoly, beaten out of one position, take up another; and so, in their everlasting round, until there is no place of rest for them whatever that has not been previously occupied—that has not been shown to be a position where they can establish no power, and on which they can build up no demonstration? (Applause.) The Corn Laws are not now a fallacy to be disproved, but a nuisance to be abated. (Applause.) It is not a time to argue; it is the time for feeling and exertion. We cannot stop—we should not stop—to discuss the theory of storms if we were in a ship, and in danger of immediately going to the bottom (hear, hear); the worst of all seasons for inquiring into the natural history of serpents would be that of a man finding himself within the folds of a boa constrictor. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) The question is, not now how to debate, but it is how to get rid of this practical falsehood from the land, how to put down this wickedness and abomination. I am not to bring arguments to you; the arguments are best which I find here; I find them in your earnestness, I find them in your sympathy, I find them in your zeal. The arguments against the Corn Laws and the predictions of their termination are not in words but in men and facts. (Cheers.) Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright are arguments against the Corn Laws by which they will be disproved. Manchester and Rochdale are other arguments by which they are backed, completing the demonstration. (Great applause.) In fact, it is reduced to a mere question of arithmetic, which the ladies who devote their attention to the cultivation of young minds in infant-schools will speedily be able to teach them, and may be worked out in their elementary lessons, and the question may be thus stated:—"Mr. Cobden plus Mr. Bright, and the manufacturers of Manchester plus the manufacturers of Rochdale, are equal to the abolition of the Corn Laws." (Great applause.) The best arguments are those which are distinguished by the abbreviations of £ s. d. (Cheers and laughter.) And especially is this the case since that which has generally been the root of all wickedness has, by the zeal of the noble leaders of the League, been made the root of righteousness; and money, so often used for the purposes of popular debasement and degradation—money, so often boasted of as the power that turned the tide of elections, and that commanded the most solemn expression of public opinion in the return of representatives to Parliament, has been made by them the means of multiplying knowledge; of kindling the light of intelligence; of giving principle its power, honesty its weight, and of making the interests and the determination of the country have their representatives, too, in its legislative councils, and dealt with first in the enactments of Parliament. (Cheers.) The whole sum and substance of what is ever said now in defence of the Corn Laws is in the cuckoo repetition of the two words. As the advocates of monopoly are looking to the chance of holding on a little longer, or to the prospect of a speedy compromise, it is either for protection or revenue—protection, a word misapplied in the most extraordinary sense as it is used in connection with this subject. Protection! protection of what? It is a term we are accustomed, in truth and justice and humanity, to apply to the extending of the arm of the strong over the weak; it is that by which we denote the administration of justice when it asserts the rights of the needy and confronts the rapacity of the oppressor; but in the lexicon of monopoly "protection" means the defence, not of the weak, but of the powerful—the protection, not of those who live in cottages, but of those who dwell in mansions or palaces; the protection, not of those who can scarcely obtain food to eat, but of those who revel in every luxury; protection, not for the penniless farm labourer, but for the proprietors of broad acres. (Loud cheers.) As for those who should be the objects of protection, they get, indeed, just such protection as the vulture gives to the lamb. (Cheers.) The lower class of the agricultural community, where have they been protected? Where—when they could not escape from their own districts to those where manufactures would promise them some employment, but must fly to that sad place to which living wretchedness could be led—the union workhouse? (Hear, hear, hear.) They have been protected into rags; they have been protected from wheaten bread and meat down to potatoes; they have been protected from a condition in which they could see their way in life to one in which there is the direst prospect before them; they have been degraded into ignorance both morally and intellectually; they have been degraded into brutality and too often into vice; they have been protected through different stages of suffering, until at last this boasted carefulness for them ended in protecting them to that narrow house where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) And in all this jealousy of the foreigner, this protection from his interference, and of the poor and those who toil, from being fed with the corn which he is ready to exchange for the products of their labour, why have the very authors of the law, sufficient as they must be for their own protection, seeing that they not only have the command of both Houses of the Legislature, but that they have also at their back that mighty church, over which their patronage extends so largely, seeing that the army and the navy, and the legal institutions of the country, are all open to their ambition, and tend in various ways to swell their emoluments—why have they protected themselves if there be any honesty at all in their plea of nationality, and profess to think that every thing, so far at least as regards the poorer classes, should be so perfectly English? Why, on a recent occasion, the dress of one of them was analysed; the beaver hat on his head was French; the leather in his boots was French; the figured satin vest was French, and even the very cambric handkerchief which he carried in his pocket was French (hear, hear), until he was shown to depend upon the foreigner physically from head to foot. (Hear, hear.) Now, we might follow up that view to the general consideration of his habits and modes of living, and of thought. (Hear, hear.) Where, then, is the wealthy landowner of this country really independent of the foreigner? Take him from head to foot: to-day he has a French cook to dress his dinner for him, and a Swiss valet to dress him for his dinner (cheers and laughter); he hands his lady to it, her modest blushes concealed beneath a veil of Brussels lace, French gloves on her hands, and an ostrich plume waving over her head which never grew in an English poultry-yard. (Renewed cheers and laughter.) His wines are from the Rhine or the Rhone; his galleries are rich in paintings from Italy, or in statuary from Greece; his favourite horses are distinguished for their Arabian blood, and his favourite dogs are of St. Bernard's breed. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) His education is from Greece and Rome, and even his religion itself from Palestine (hear, hear); the very fields from which he enjoys his revenue are now manured from guano as un-English (great applause); and at last, if he rises to judicial honours, he carries on his shoulders that honoured ermine which never before was on the back of an English beast (loud cheers and laughter); and, when he is worn out with warning us against the foreigner, as in his cradle he played with a coral from the Oriental ocean, the sculpture that adorns his tomb is beautiful in marble from the quarries of Carara. (Loud applause.) I find no fault with him for realising all the amount of enjoyment and intelligence and refinement which can be gathered from the remotest regions of the earth; I believe that Providence has diversified the productions of different climates and the sections of mankind in order that they might minister to each other in those things, and that the good of all should become the good of each. (Cheers.) What I complain of is this, that being thus foreign, both physically and mentally, moreover being altogether a foreign product himself in the very heart of England, he should have that nicety of feeling as to be afraid lest foreign bread should find its way into the mouth of the honest labourer. ("Hear, hear," and great applause.) From that gross inconsistency, from that hypocrisy, from that gross injury to his fellow-creatures, and his preposterous pretext, I would gladly afford him and his whole class the most complete protection that could be demanded. (Great applause.) But what is really, after all, the object of this protection—this cry, as it is always called, of the "agricultural interest" (not, as has been touchingly described to you in the case of the poor farm-labourer, and they will soon, I trust, by the exertions made to enlighten them, be brought to see this—this cry is not really raised on behalf of the tenant-farmers either. I looked the other day to an analysis of the outgoings and incomings of a farmer, as stated by a clerical secretary to an agricultural society; from which it appeared that on a farm of 300 acres the tenant was represented to have sustained a loss of upwards of £200. (Hear.) Such a loss is a hard thing for a man who toils and brings skill and industry to his work (hear, hear), and on whom others are dependent, and in whose well-being he is deeply interested. But, on looking more closely to the item, I find that the tenant who finds all the skill and capital and industry sustains a loss of upwards of £200; while there is put down among his payments, rent to the amount of 400 guineas, which has been duly paid to his landlord. (Hear, hear, hear.) And then (qualified persons of their own order being witnesses) this is the great object of legislative protection and of the food monopoly! We are teaching no new doctrine in this. Nearly a quarter of a century ago the great poet of this country, knowing well the class to which he belonged, thus described the motives by which they were then actuated in their support of a former corn bill preparatory to that under which the country suffered so long. Byron speaks thus of the landowners of 1821:—

"Their ploughshare was the sword in hireling hands,
Their fields manured by gore of other lands,

Safe in their barns, these Sabine tillers sent
Their brethren out to battle—why? for rent.
Year after year they voted cent. per cent.,
Blood, sweat, and tear-wrung millions—why? for rent.
They roared, they dined, they drank, they swore they meant
To die for England; why then live?—for rent!
The peace has made one general malcontent
Of these high-market patriots—war was rent!
Their love of country, millions all mis-spent.
How reconcile?—By reconciling rent!
And will they not repay the treasures lent?
No; down with every thing, and up with rent!
Their good, ill, health, wealth, joy, or discontent,
Being, end, aim, religion—rent! rent! rent!"

After some further observations, Mr. Fox concluded a stirring address amid the most rapturous applause.

Mr. BRIGHT, M.P., was next called upon, and, in a speech that it would be unjust to curtail, and impossible to give at length, impressively urged upon his fellow-townsmen every consideration that should animate them to renewed sacrifice and exertion in the cause of Free Trade, and sat down amidst the most enthusiastic cheers.

After a few minutes Mr. BRIGHT rose again to say that Mr. Sharman Crawford, M.P. for Rochdale, had been compelled to absent himself through illness in his family, and for the same reason Mr. Brooks was also absent.

The subscriptions now commenced (about half-past nine o'clock).

The CHAIRMAN observing—We are beginning very well, Messrs. James King and Sons give £200. (Cheers.)

Mr. BRIGHT: Our late representative is not here, being from home. He gave £100 last year, and I am commissioned to say that he gives £100 this year. (Applause.) Having spoken for the absent chairman of last year, I have now to add for the chairman of this meeting that he gives a similar subscription of £100 (cheers); and Messrs. Leech, Tweedale, and Co., have given £100. (Great applause.)

The next subscriptions announced were—James Tweedale, £50 (applause); Robert Schofield, £50; James Midgely, £50; Robert Kelsall, £50.

Mr. GEORGE ASHWORTH here rose, and observed that he had been requested by the Chairman to make a speech. If he did do so, it would be what he never attempted before. (Laughter.) However, he had been talking to Mr. Bright, and he was much pleased to hear that, in addition to the agitation for putting down the Corn Laws, they were determined to put down bribery, by which means alone, the Corn Laws were sustained. Now, Mr. Bright was well known to all of them—they had known him from the time he was a lad—did the meeting think he might be relied upon? ("Yes," and loud cheers.) Well, then, he begged to give £50 to the League, and £50 more to be given as soon as the first conviction took place for bribery. (Applause.) He afterwards added: He should give the second £50 with more pleasure than the first. (Applause.)

The next subscriptions declared were—Charles Haigh, £50 (applause); Joseph Fenton, Crimble, £35 (applause); John Howarth, Roach-house, £30 (applause); Pagan, Ogden, and Co., £30 (applause); Robert Heap, £30 (applause); Benjamin Heap and Co., £30; Wm. Holt and Sons, £30.

Mr. BRIGHT said the last five subscriptions were all from persons who gave only £20 last year. (Applause.) As we have been doing some business up at Whitworth, I have been requested to ask if it is not desirable we should have another representative there before we go to another district of the town. ("Hear," and laughter.) Mr. William Barnes, £20—last year he gave £10 (applause); Mr. Joseph Sleath, £20 (applause); Messrs. Oliver and William Ormrod, £20 (applause); Messrs. James Littlewood and Son, £20; Messrs. Wm. Moore and Sons, £20; Mr. Thomas Turner, £25; Mr. John Howarth, £20; Messrs. Briggs and Bright, £25.

Mr. BRIGHT: I would willingly pass over the smaller sums for the present, but there is one here which will give the meeting so much pleasure to hear that I must at once announce it. It is from a lady, Mrs. W. B. Lumb, £10. (Loud applause.)

Mr. COBDEN: I hope that all the subscriptions will not be confined to one party. (Hear, hear.) I should be sorry if all the honour of carrying the repeal were obtained by one party. I had at Manchester the pleasure of handing in a subscription of £100 from a gentleman who was one of the largest subscribers to the Church Building Fund. (Applause.) I do not know if John Roby, Esq., is here, but we have had the pleasure of sitting together on such occasions as the mechanics' tea parties, &c.; and I have scarcely a doubt that before another year is past we shall have the pleasure also of sitting together at an Anti-Corn-Law tea party. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Jas. Hodgkinson, £10; Mr. John Howarth, Smallbridge, £10; Mr. Jos. Sugden, £10; Mr. Jas. Leech, £10; Mr. Wm. Littlewood, £10; Mr. Charles Littlewood, 5 guineas; Mr. Geo. Swindells, shopkeeper, Littleborough, £5. Each of these announcements were received with great applause.

Mr. COBDEN: I understand that one gentleman has left the meeting unable to make up his mind as to the amount he shall give, and it is left to his two sons, who, I am told, have had a good deal of controversy about it: one wishing to give £20, the other £50. (Applause.) Now, as it is impossible in a division with two persons that there can be a majority either way, I put it to the meeting if they cannot relieve them from the difficulty. (Laughter and applause.) Those who are in favour of £50 hold up their hands. [Here a forest of hands were held up, and the motion for £50 was declared to be carried amidst applause and shouts of laughter.] I would beg to suggest that as small sums of a pound or two will be coming in soon that they be made into guineas. Mr. Robins, the celebrated auctioneer, lately selling some estates where guineas had been bid, which he knocked down at 93,000 guineas, refused to take bids in pounds, observing that only guineas were considered "genteel" in London. (Much laughter.)

Mr. W. W. Whitley, £6; Mr. Wm. Hastings, £5 (paid); Mr. Thomas Shaw, £20. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then read the following letters:—

"Presented by Edmund Leech: subscribed by the workpeople of Messrs. Joseph and Benjamin Schofield, of Littleborough, November 28, 1843, £6 8s. 'May it feed the hungry.'"

The following letter was also presented by the workmen of Messrs. Bright and Brothers:—

"TO THE CHAIRMAN.

"We, the workmen of John Bright and Brothers, beg leave to tender our sincere thanks to the members of the League, for their untiring exertions in the great cause of the emancipation of the people's industry. We are convinced that, as long as corn and sugar, and other staple articles of consumption, are prevented entering our ports, our employers will be unable to extend the sale of the produce of our labour; and if destitution and want do no more than threaten ourselves, they must inevitably overtake and consume our children. By an association we formed six weeks ago, in which several of the workshops of the town have joined, we have been enabled to raise a small fund; and, after having expended various amounts in the purchase of anti-monopoly publications, we have now the pleasure of handing over £15 in aid of the League subscription.

"JOSEPH WOOD, Secretary.
"SAMUEL TWEEDALE, Treasurer."

The reading of both documents was received with great applause.

Mr. Robert Taylor Heap, £10; "The fruit of industry and self-denial," by a female, £2; Mr. Robert Glover, £2; Mr. Wm. Wilson, £2 2s.; Mr. W. A. Scott, £2; Mr. E. Hoyle, £2 2s.; Mrs. E. J. Kay, £10; Mrs. William Cross, £3; Mr. John Wood, £4; Mr. James Dyson, £10.—[Mr. Bright invited the lawyers and doctors to contribute; observing that though when the Corn Laws were repealed, there would be *fewer to cure*, there would be a great many more *to pay*.]—Mr. James Gibson, £5 5s.; Mr. Oliver Holt, £1 1s.; Mr. George Williamson, 2s. 2s.; Mr. Christopher Hyland, West-street, £2; Mr. James Leech, Littleborough, £1; Mr. Wm. Law, Littleborough, £1 (both paid); Mr. George Adamson, £5; Mr. J. Lawton, surgeon, £2; Mr. T. B. Stephens (not content, said Mr. Bright, with doing all the work of the Rochdale Association, as secretary, &c.), £2 2s.; Ann Hardisty, a servant, 10s.; "Mr. Charles Littlewood's little girl, £1."

The CHAIRMAN: I beg to announce two sums from two ladies of 10s. each. Though they will not give us their names, they give us bright and encouraging looks. (Applause.) Mr. John T. Turley, £2 2s.; Mr. James Ashworth of Holland-street, £2 10s; Mrs. D. Cheetham, £2; Mr. D. L. Ashworth of Holland-street, Rochdale, £2 10s.; Mr. J. Whitworth, £1; "Free Trader," £1 1s; Mr. James Booth £30; Mr. John Gibson, £1; Mr. Henry Smith, Yorkshire-street, £1; Mr. Richard Whitworth, £5; Rev. Wm. Smith, £1 1s.; Mr. J. Wrigley, Wardleworth Brow, £2 2s.; Mr. John Leech Holland of Tunnicliffe, £10.

Mr. BRIGHT: There's a conspiracy forming behind the chairman. I understand it is about the ladies subscribing £10 each to the fund. (Applause and laughter.)

The subscriptions of the ladies were then announced:—Mrs. Wm. Petrie, £10 10s.; Mrs. John Hoyle, £10 10s.; and four children (Jane, Ann, Mary, and Thomas Hoyle, jun.) each a guinea; Mrs. John Petrie, £10 10s.; Mrs. Charles Haigh, £10 10s.; Mrs. Thomas Booth, £10 10s.; Miss Ann Booth, £1 1s.; The Great Unknown—the Editor of the "Vicar's Lantern" (a local publication), £10 (roars of laughter); Misses Sarah and Rachel King, £5 5s.; Mr. Wm. Holland, Roebuck, £1 1s.; Mrs. Jos. Wood, 10s.; Mr. John Whittaker, Spotland Bridge, £10.; Free Trader, £1.

Mr. BRIGHT here said that the subscriptions given here to-night, with what were given at Manchester, already amounted to £2698 13s.—(loud cheers)—of which the amount given since they had entered the room was £1548. (Renewed cheering.)

Mr. Wm. Smith, Cheetham-street, £1; Messrs. Jones and Crosskill, £4 4s.; Mrs. Gibson, £2 2s.; Miss Ann Gibson, £1; Mrs. John Howard, £5; Miss Emma Gibson, £1; F. Yorkshire, £2.—It was here announced that £1564 had been received since entering the room.

Mr. Fox here briefly addressed the meeting, thanking the company for the liberal spirit displayed, and was followed in a few words from Mr. COBDEN, who alluded to the anxiety manifested for the prosecution of bribery, and said the League were determined to make examples of such parties as could be found guilty. There was a difficulty in getting proper legal evidence against such persons, but still they should catch them without a doubt. He said he had not the least doubt of many voters at the Salisbury election being bribed—he knew the briber, but there was not the legal evidence. There was also great intimidation: the Monopolists even engaged a prize-fighter to come down to the election with his companions.

Another subscription of £5 from a Free Trader was here announced, and Mr. Bright said the total amount raised in the meeting was £1574, making with the £1150 subscribed at Manchester by Rochdale gentlemen, the sum of £2724 from Rochdale. (Loud cheers.) A vote of thanks to the chairman was then given, and after three enthusiastic cheers the meeting separated.

The following additional subscriptions have been received since the meeting on Tuesday:—

	£.	s.	d.
Mr. James Butterworth, Butts ..	15	0	0
Mr. Prockter	15	0	0
Mr. Edm. Leach	10	0	0
Mr. John Mason	10	0	0
Mr. Wm. Heaton	10	0	0
Mr. Wm. Holt, dyer	5	0	0
Mr. Robert Whitworth	5	0	0
Mr. Wm. Cross	5	0	0
Mr. John Mills, woolstapler	5	0	0
Mr. Barker, surgeon	3	0	0
Mr. Thomas Howarth	3	0	0
Mr. John A. Milns	2	2	0
Mr. Thomas Livsey	2	2	0
Mr. Samuel Standring	1	0	0
Miss S. P. Standring	0	5	0
Miss M. P. Standring	0	5	0
Miss E. P. Standring	0	2	6
Mr. Benj. Greenhalgh	1	0	0
Mr. James Taylor	1	1	0
Mr. Joseph Barrow	1	1	0
Mr. Abraham Moore	1	1	0
Mr. J. W. Harris	1	1	0
Mr. D. Simpson, tailor	1	0	0
Mr. Thomas Lomax, Blackwater ..	1	1	0
Mr. Thomas Whipp	1	0	0
	£100	1	6

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

WRITTEN FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION.

CHAPTER VI.

The Kilkenny Petty Sessions of the 18th of November—Singular cases of Litigation in respect of a Trespass; the Landlord against M—— D—— the Tenant—Barley crop, ripe in August, rotting in the field in November—The power of an Irish Landlord, and feebleness of the Law in the hands of a Tenant, exemplified.

Since the last chapter was written the *Kilkenny Journal* has been received, containing a report of the cases at petty sessions on the 18th of November. Out of ten cases which occupied the attention of the court, seven arose out of the disputes between the landlord and his tenants in the disturbed district already described. Five of those cases were at the instance of the landlord against the tenant M—— D——, who had been excluded from his field, and whose corn, as stated in a letter which I quoted, was standing rotting on the ground up to the 8th of October. It does not appear by the report of the cases decided at petty sessions, whether the corn is yet in the field or carried home; but it appears to have been in the field on the 15th of November; on that day M—— D—— proceeded to make a gap in a stone wall, the gates being shut against him, to get into his field. For making this gap three actions were brought against him by the landlord, and two by persons whom the landlord put forward as prosecutors. It seems the first time the gap was attempted was on the 18th of October. The field through which M—— D—— then attempted to pass to his own field was in the occupation of the landlord himself; and the landlord now prosecuted under the Malicious Trespass Act; but the magistrate dismissed the case because it was not *malicious*. His remarks give a better exemplification of what law is in Ireland than any description of mine could do. The case is thus reported. The steward of the landlord called, "deposed that he saw the defendant levelling a wall, the property of the plaintiff; he was making a gap in it."

Cross-examined: "I live with Mr. ——. The defendant said he would not be prevented till the law prevented him, and that he must get a passage, *and that if he got a passage he would build up the gap at his own expense*. There was no other passage to his field than that. There was formerly a passage to the farm through a field of one R——, but D—— was since prevented."

The attorney for the defence then addressed the bench; stated that M—— D—— owed nothing to the landlord, and had a legal right to a road to his farm. He had followed the way which had been formerly used, namely, through another tenant's ground; but at the instance of the landlord this tenant had been compelled to prosecute, and M—— D—— had been fined for trespass by this bench. He then attempted to make this gap and have a passage, as complained of to-day, through a field in the occupation of his landlord, who was bound to give him a passage to that farm, the rent of which M—— D—— would be compelled to pay as soon as it became due. What, therefore, could the poor man do? His corn was roting in the field at that time, the middle of October.

To which the magistrate, in giving his decision, replied, "It was a hard case; but he thought M—— D—— had no right to break Mr. Blank's wall or commit the trespass. It certainly was not malicious; and if Mr. Q—— (the defendant's attorney) insisted on it, the bench must dismiss the summons; but another summons might be brought for common trespass, and the case would have to be heard *de novo*. Why did not M—— D—— bring his action?"

The Attorney: "And so he will."

"The magistrate, after some farther discussion, agreed to dismiss the complaint, Mr. Q—— undertaking to prove, should another summons be brought for common trespass, that M—— D—— had a right to break the gap."

The point, of all others which the English public should look at here, is the question of the magistrate, "Why does not M—— D—— bring his action?" The magistrate is a barrister. He knows well that in this case M—— D—— would succeed in an action against the landlord; that is to say, if the jury should not be entirely a landlord's jury. But the action could not be tried before next March assizes; and the landlord might, as he has done in similar cases already, make an affidavit that he was not ready to go to trial even then. And if this was overruled, and the case proceeded with and decided against him—as it would be, provided always the jury was not one formed of men of his own rank, politics, and religion—he could appeal to a higher court. Meantime, M—— D—— is ruined. He could not plant his potatoes last spring without committing a trespass by walking on another man's land—not the land bearing or preparing for a crop, but the footpath at the bottom of it. He planted his potatoes, however, and was fined for this trespass. But he planted them without manure, for he could not get an entrance at which to carry it in, and the crop was worthless. "Why does not M—— D—— bring his action?" asks the magistrate. No doubt he can bring an action, and ultimately carry it too; but his crop is rendered worthless in the meantime, and the same magistrate fines him for walking on the footpath which leads to it. "Why does not M—— D—— bring his action?" The magistrate who has fined him for going to his land without having first brought his action, which would occupy probably one or two years, asks this question on the 18th of November, knowing that M—— D——'s crop of barley was still rotting on the field, or had been so as late as the 15th, three days before! No doubt the magistrate administers the law as it stands; but it is the law as it stands of which such men as M—— D—— complain. The object of the landlord is to render the payment of rent impossible, and a consequent ejectment certain. This is the policy by which a leaseholder is overcome in Ireland.

But the prosecution did not end by the magistrate dismissing the first summons at the petty sessions. Another prosecution was ready. A man had been sent by the landlord to watch M—— D—— in case he made a gap in the wall; and on the 18th of October, when M—— D—— began to make the gap, this man, who is a mere minion of the landlord—fit for any kind of work—went to prevent him. Wherever M—— D—— attempted to lay the stones, this man put himself in

the way, that the stones might fall on him, and that a case of assault might be got up at the same time as that of malicious trespass. This case, however, did not succeed, M—— D—— having taken care not to hurt him, although he put himself in the way of the stones for the purpose. The summons was dismissed. The following is a portion of the cross-examination of this witness:—

"He was in England last summer twelvemonths. He was there also at the time of the Whitefeet; is not aware that the neighbours ever said he used to be out with his face blackened. Was up in Cork lately; saw Mr. —— (the landlord), who gave him travelling charges to the amount of £1 5s. Had no conversation with him then about M——D——. Had a conversation with the landlord lately about him at the lodge."

The Attorney: "On your solemn oath, did Mr. —— (the landlord,) say he would give you anything in the world if you would transport M—— D——?"

"The witness," says the *Kilkenny Journal*, "was silent amidst the sensation of the court, and the question was again and again repeated, and he was still silent. At length he muttered an evasive answer."

It may be proper here to remark that M—— D—— is a man bearing the very best moral character. He was several years in the police, and saved some money. I saw and read the certificates of character which he held, and they bore out the good report of his moral character. Moreover, in his very appearance he carries respectability of behaviour. He is a tall man, about forty years of age, and has a wife and several young children.

The next prosecutor against him, for making a gap in the wall to get to his field and crop, was a man who alleged that the field over which M—— D—— trespassed was in his occupation, and not in that of the landlord. This man produced a lease, signed the 16th of November, in which he appeared to be the tenant of the field. It was argued that M—— D—— made the gap previous to that lease being completed. It was a gap in the same wall at the same place as that of the 13th of October; that having been, it seems, built up. The court in this case decided against M—— D——, and fined him a shilling, and cautioned him against a repetition of the offence. Two other cases of trespass came on, in which the landlord was plaintiff, and M—— D—— defendant. They were dismissed through an informality in the summonses.

These cases, though they are as innocence itself compared with some others in which the landlord has been engaged, will show how powerless the law is to protect a tenant in Ireland, even where a magistrate inclines to mercy. But perhaps the most remarkable fact of law in connexion with these cases is, that while the wages of a working man in the district is 6d. a day, with many not able to get employment even at that, the expense of doing any work for which the law allows payment is fully as high, in some cases much higher, than similar work costs in London. The expense of building up the gap which M—— D—— made (not being allowed to build it himself) is 10s. It is only a *dry*-stone wall, between three and four feet high. Now, supposing the gap wide enough to admit a cart, any labouring man could rebuild it in three or four hours at the very utmost.

In the matter of seizures the charges are similar. In London, a broker who distrains can only put one man in possession, and charge for him 2s. 6d. a day. In Ireland, a landlord puts what men he chooses in possession, and charges for them from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a day. The landlord now spoken of has, as law papers proved to me when I inspected them, seized on a man's potatoes who was working for 8d. a day, the current wages, and he put two men on as "keepers" for a week, and allowed them (the law allows him to do so) 2s. 4d. a day.

The following extract of a letter from P—— R——, whose case (just ended with his utter ruin and beggary) I spoke of in last chapter, and shall relate at length in the next two or three, will give some information on the high wages allowed by the law, even where men are willing to work for 6d. a day:—

"I got my crop valued by two farmers, and they valued it at £30. He (the landlord) then takes and puts three keepers on it to run up expenses, and canted it (sold it) for £17 10s., and out of that keepers' fees and expenses were £6 10s."

It may also be stated that a landlord in Ireland can call on any one of his servants or labourers to act as auctioneer. If he want to buy a bargain himself, or to ruin the tenant to have him ejected, he can give this domestic auctioneer orders to knock an article down at a price far below its value. The landlord under notice has, in many cases, bought the effects of his tenants himself, through an agent.

Chapter VII.

The bold means by which an Irish landlord breaks a lease: the case of P. R.—Means by which the Irish landlord makes a poor crop of potatoes for a tenant whom he determines to eject—Means by which the landlord ejects a tenant against whom he has no legal claim, the case of B.—The wrecking of houses by the landlord —.—P. R. and his family besieged four days and nights, without water or food, by the landlord—P. R. steals his own potatoes, and is tried for felony.

P —— R—— held three small fields, amounting in all to about eighteen acres. He had a lease of thirty-one years and his own life. He had succeeded his father in the occupancy of the farm, who had also been on the estate for many years. P—— R——'s mother, an aged woman, now bordering on eighty, was born on the farm so long held by her husband and son; and thus there was doubtless a strong attachment to the place on the part of the whole family. Previous to the accession of the present landlord they had been on the best of terms with those to whom they paid their rent; and having the land at a moderate rate, they had never fallen into arrears. They are Catholics; the present landlord is a Protestant. But whether it was that he wished to serve his party by substituting a Protestant tenantry for a Catholic tenantry, Protestant juryman for Catholic juryman; whether it was merely to have the leases broken and the farms re-let at a higher rent; or whether it was to accomplish both objects at once, is not clear, nor is it a matter of great importance; the landlord, and those who support him in all he does, are welcome to excuse themselves on any ground they choose to take as excusable. It is sufficient to say that the ejection of P—— R—— and many more was resolved on.

As he owed no rent, and as no possible reason for getting rid of him as a tenant could be assigned, nor was ever offered until long after proceedings had begun, a bold stroke to make a beginning was absolutely requisite, and it was struck. The lease specified a certain day in May and in November as that on which the half-yearly rent would fall due. These days had been strictly adhered to, and no one knew this better than the landlord. But in 1841 he obtained a warrant of distraint, and seized on P—— R—— on the 26th of March, for rent alleged to be due on the 25th. It might have been a hard enough misfortune to be distrained on the day following that of the rent being due in any case, especially in spring, when the cattle and implements of labour, as also the seed corn and potatoes, the articles distrained, are required for the peculiar duties of that most important season, seed-time. But when such a distraint was made, on such articles so indispensable in their uses even for a day, to say nothing of weeks, and no rent nor debt of any kind owing, the case is peculiarly a hard one on the tenant.

P—— R—— caused a replevin to be entered with the sheriff; that is, he gave security that he would pay the rent, if rent was due, as soon as a trial at quarter-sessions or assizes could be had, that he might in the meantime get the use of the property upon which the distraint lay. He accordingly proved by his lease that he owed nothing—that no rent was due until May. But before that was done May had come, and the rent was due. He paid it punctually, and proceeded against the landlord for damages, or rather for the costs to which he had been exposed. This being opposed, occupied much time, and before it was settled the landlord once more distrained for rent, alleged to be due on the 29th of September. Again P—— R —— replevined, and proved his rent-day to be in November and May, and not in September and March. The case of costs and trespass came to trial in respect of both seizures, and was decided in P—— R——'s favour. Thus a jury and a judge certified by their decision that the tenant was right and the landlord wrong. The damages awarded were very moderate, only £12 and costs; but the tenant looked on the verdict as most important, in respect of it setting, as he thought, the validity of his lease and the period of his rent-days at rest. But that the damages were too moderate as regarded the landlord, was manifest from the fact, that he again distrained in March for rent not due until May.

He now, it being again seed-time, took a more effectual way of crippling the tenant than before. He seized on the farm implements and stock, of which the dunghill was in his eyes the most important. He had it, without a legal sale, carried away to his own farm-yard, even to the very rakings and sweepings of the road and the yard near which it lay. This he did that P—— R—— might have no manure for his potato ground, knowing that crops so planted would not easily afford the rent; and that, when no rent was forthcoming, an ejectment would soon follow. Other things, a plough and a horse and some furniture, were sold, and P—— R—— was once more involved in litigation. These things were bought in with his own money, save the dungheap, which the landlord would not give him a chance of buying in; and thus P—— R —— was obliged to pay his rent before it was due, with all the expenses of a distraint and sale—the most expensively conducted of any distraints and sales under the British crown. He thought to recover damages for all this loss, but he was not able to pay his rent in addition to all this when it became due; and thus, by some hocus pocus of the law, the two cases became so mingled together as to be inextricable.

It would be too tedious to give a detailed account of every lawsuit that now followed; but from that time, the summer of 1842, up to the summer assizes of 1843, the landlord proceeded in the courts for a warrant of ejectment against P—— R—— nine times. On the first eight cases he was defeated, but he succeeded on the ninth. He had thirteen other lawsuits of various kinds with the same defendant, during which he sold his furniture five times and his horse twice. In all, he had twenty auctions of sale previous to midsummer of this year. Part of the furniture was in several of these instances only bought back by the agent, Mr. J—— C——, handing money privately to P—— R—— to pay for it. This is the agent formerly spoken of, who at last gave up his situation out of sheer disgust at the odious work he was called on to perform.

The crop of 1842 was seized on and sold at seven different times. It was much more than sufficient to pay the rent, even though the manure was carried away in the spring by the landlord; but these seven different seizures, with seven different sales, with a number of men receiving, at each of the seven seizures, 2s. 4d. a day as keepers to watch the crop from the day of distraint to the day of sale—these seven seizures on a crop which might have been all seized and sold at one time, with only one set of expenses—resulted, as they were intended to do, in nearly doubling the rent. Moreover, the crop, being distrained on while growing, was cut down by people whom the landlord employed, although the tenant and his family were standing unemployed. And to such workpeople the landlord can give any wages he chooses to be deducted from the tenant, up to 2s. 6d. a day! even though the current wages of the district be 8d. or 10d. a day! even though the tenant, who is thus not allowed to give his own labour to his own farm, may, to avoid starvation, be compelled to work to another employer for the fourth part, to wit, 7½d. a day, of what the law obliges him to pay for workmen on his own farm.

It will give some proof of the exertions made by the tenant to pay his way when I state that, notwithstanding all the extraordinary expenses of the seisures, and of the protracted and complicated litigation, the rent was paid by the autumn of 1842. There was nothing owing by P—— R—— save a sum of £1 and odds, connected with the expenses of a summons which had been decided against him on some technical point of law.

For the recovery of this debt a decree was obtained against P—— R——, and orders were given by the landlord to arrest him and put him in gaol. This P—— R—— endeavoured to avoid by keeping out of the reach of the officers, which he did successfully for the space of a month and some odd days. The reason why he was so averse to go to gaol, and why the landlord was so desirous to have him lodged there, is worth relating at full length, as it is characteristic of certain customs in Ireland altogether unknown on this side of the Channel.

It is a very rare thing to find a landlord in Ireland building a house or farm-offices for a tenant. The tenant builds them himself. Hence it is that so many mean houses exist in that country; and hence, also, the desperate tenacity with which the Irish peasant or farmer holds to his house when an ejectment comes upon him. If his lease has expired, or if he is ejected for the non-fulfilment of some condition of his lease, say the regular payment of his rent, he must leave the house and barn and stable which he built, the doors and gates he erected, without receiving anything for them. To live in a house which we have ourselves built, or which our father or grandfather built at no expense to a landlord, is to live in a house which we are naturally inclined to consider our own, though in law it may not be ours; and therefore an ejectment is the more distressing. It is thus that we see so many houses in every part of Ireland in ruins; that we see in the county of Kilkenny the walls of stone and lime, substantial and undecayed, but roofless and marked with violence, because the landlords, not having built the houses, nor having any fear of being obliged to rebuild them, hesitate not to unroof a house in order to eject a tenant. It is a remarkable fact, exemplified on almost every estate where the clearing away of a tenantry has been practised, that wherever an ejectment takes place the legality of which is doubtful, the landlord, or the agent who acts for him, levels the house and farm buildings with the ground the moment the holder is forced out, lest he should come in again.

This is particularly the case on the estate where the unfortunate P—— R—— held his farm; and P—— R—— had seen that the landlord did not always wait for an ejectment of the tenant before he pulled down the house. In one case, that of a tenant named B——, of whom with many other sufferers I have not yet spoken, the landlord resolved on an ejectment; but B—— owing no rent, he could only proceed as he had done against P —— R——, or by some other process of a like kind. He took a shorter one. It so happened that, though B—— had paid his rent in order to keep the house above his head—a very good house it was, to judge from the size and worth of the substantial walls which, in most parts, were still standing when I was there, he had not paid every man in the county to whom he was indebted. He owed one person, residing at a distance, a sum of money, more, as it soon appeared, than he could pay at once. This man the landlord found out, through some of his agents appointed for such purposes, and purchased from him the debt which B—— owed him. This account being legally conveyed to the landlord, he at once proceeded against his tenant, the debtor, threw him into prison, and as soon as he got him there, went and took the roof off his house, turning out his wife and six young children upon the open highway. There they remained without shelter and without food until some of the people of the adjoining village assisted them. The father was in prison, and could neither resist the spoliation of the house which he himself had built, nor could he do anything, by work or otherwise, for his family's subsistence. In every respect, the proceeding was illegal on the part of the landlord; but, though the lawyers urged B—— to prosecute, and assured him of ultimate success, he was too far gone to listen to them. He was heart-broken. He had no confidence in any redress the law might give: he had seen a rich man set the law at defiance; and the ruin of his roofless house—every piece of timber from which, and every handful of thatch, as also the doors and windows, had been carried away by orders of the landlord, and by the assistance of the constabulary, who are located on the estate at the express request of the landlord, and by sanction of the Government—the ruin of his roofless house, and the utter beggary of himself and family, so overwhelmed B—— that he would trust nothing more to the law. He was heart-broken, and rather than stay among people who had known him happy in mind and comfortable in circumstances, he would leave that part of the country altogether, and be a beggar, now that he was compelled to be one, where he was not known. A less sensitive man than he was might have done differently. There have been cases in Ireland, many of them, and in that county, even in that district of the county, where fathers of families so treated have taken the law of vengeance into their own hands, and have afforded the newspapers and the police *Hue-and-Cry* the materials for publishing to the world paragraphs and advertisements of offered rewards, headed "*Un*provoked assault!" "Barbarous outrage!" "Frightful state of Kilkenny—the fruit of unchecked political agitation!" "Attempted murder of the excellent Protestant landlord, Mr. Blank of Blank!"

Such paragraphs are by no means rare; and many people believe in England that Tipperary and Kilkenny are filled with criminals who take a savage delight in assaulting landlords and land-agents without any provocation. Others, who do not believe that every assault is so entirely "unprovoked," as the newspapers would make appear, have an opinion that the Irish do not allow the oppressor to escape with impunity; but the case of B—— is one of the many of the vast majority of such cases that prove the contrary. We hear of those tenants who, feeling or fancying a grievous wrong, avenge themselves and their starving families; but we never hear of the many—the far greater number—who submit to die in the ditches and highways quietly; or who, like the spirit-stricken B——, wander away with their wretched families, to famish in the Irish towns, or to fill the St. Giles's and Peter-streets, the Cowgates and Wynds, the Saltmarkets and Vennels, of London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

Now, it was the knowledge which P—— R—— had of such cases of house-demolition by order of landlords when a tenant was out of the way—lodged safely in prison—that made him so fearful of the officers, who had a decree on which to arrest him for the non-payment of costs, due to the landlord by one of the many cases then pending, having been decided in the landlord's favour. The amount was not great, but the frequent seizures, with costs of lawsuits and rent, had reduced him to less than his last penny. He had potatoes, a part of the feeble crop grown on the land which in the spring had been defrauded of its manure, and though there were less of them in his possession than what would keep his family over winter, even without feeding a pig, he might have sold some to pay this bill of costs rather than go to gaol, where he could do nothing neither for his family nor his farm. But, though the potatoes were distrained upon, the object of the landlord was not so much the payment of the small debt of costs as the confinement of the tenant in gaol.

For more than a month P—— R—— avoided the officers by crossing walls and ditches and fields whenever he got notice of their approach. He slept in the fields as well, and in the shelter of limekilns and ruined houses—houses ruined as he feared his would be, and as he feared but too truly. The case came at last to a crisis, thus:—

He was seen to enter his house; the bailiffs followed, but found the door fastened, and therefore could not legally enter; but they kept watch outside, to see that he did not escape. They received orders that if he did not surrender, they were to remain there night and day, and prevent the introduction of any article whatsoever into the house, food or water. The potato store being out in the field, and no supply in the house, and the water being also outside the house, it was expected that the family would soon be starved, and that P—— R—— must capitulate. In thus laying siege to the house, the bailiffs might not be acting according to the law of the land, but they were acting according to the law of the landlord, which, on that estate as on many others in Ireland, is of paramount importance compared with the law of the land.

Before the first day of the siege was over there was neither food nor drink in the house; and there were shut up in it the father, mother, and five young children. Next day the children cried for food and for drink, but they got none. Some of the neighbours and relatives of P—— R—— would have supplied them, but they were sternly told, that if they attempted to do so they would not only be prevented, but that the landlord would cause them to regret it. Again and again, through night and through day, did the cry for water come from that famishing family. It was not the case of a shipwrecked crew at sea, with no hand to help, with "water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink!" with no probability of being relieved but by reaching some unknown land in some unknown ocean, or by meeting a ship, blessed, though rare chance, whose mariners would joyfully share their own scanty water for the relief of those perishing with thirst. It was not a case of this kind, where men in their desperation will drink salt water, and go mad by so doing; but, having done so, do not always all die, but sometimes live to tell us of the pangs they endured until our breasts burn with pity and our hair rise on end with horror at what they did. This was not a case like theirs. This was the captivity of a family in their own house; foodless for days, though they had a potato store in the field; waterless and unquenched by any liquid, though they had a well within a minute's walk: and all this by the mandate of a man who lived at the distance of half-a-mile, in the enjoyment of every luxury which wealth could procure and voluptuousness desire. The mother had a sucking infant, and in her attempt to save all her children from starvation by admitting them to the privilege of infancy, she but augmented their distress and her own. She saw her infant famishing, for, when she would have devided her own milk, there was none to divide; she was herself starving, and to her infant she was without nourishment.

It was the third day, and hunger and thirst in the house were so manifest to the bailiffs outside, by the pitiful cries of the children, and the wailings of the mother—who begged for water from their own well, and for potatoes from their own store—that hopes were entertained of a speedy surrender. Reports of the symptoms of extremity were conveyed at intervals to the landlord, who, as he heard of the increasing cries for water and food, gave orders afresh to the bailiffs to persevere, to keep watch and prevent all supplies from getting in, being assured that, as the pangs of hunger and thirst became more poignant, the sooner would the beleagured family capitulate.

Mrs. M—— D——, the wife of the tenant who is shut out of his land, and whose crop of barley is rotting in the field in November, though he owes nothing to the landlord—this woman, who has herself a family of young children, and who is the sister of P—— R——, went many times to the beleagured house to offer relief, but was not permitted to approach it with anything in her hand. She was allowed to approach the window when she carried nothing, that she might hear the sufferings within, and so urge her brother to surrender.

She listened to the sickly wailings of the mother and children, and at last, on the fourth day, heard the horrible fact from the mother that the children in desperation had drank their own urine. At this moment she seized a dish of some sort which lay in the yard, and filling it quickly from a pool of stagnant water in the yard, broke the window with her hand, before she could be prevented by the officers, and gave the unwholesome water to the family, which they drank greedily. Perhaps she would have now done more, but she was compelled by the officers to desist. The landlord was informed of what she had done, and he promised that she would live to repent it. The crop of M—— D—— rotting in the field in November, and his potatoes poor and meagre for the want of manure, because he is not allowed a road to his field, tell whether the landlord forgets his promises.

The sufferings of the family and of himself now worked on the father until he could hold out no longer. He opened the door. He had a pitchfork in his hand, and he showed it to the bailiffs. He bade them keep off—said he would not touch them if they did not touch him—but that the hunger of himself and family had made him desperate—that he had potatoes in his store in the field, and potatoes he would have; and he bade them prevent him at their peril.

They did not offer to prevent him; they waited until they saw him take the potatoes, and then they informed the landlord. On that instant a criminal warrant was sent for from Kilkenny. It arrived; so did also a party of the armed constabulary, who occupy the barrark built by the landlord on the estate, and the door was at once forced open, and P—— R—— was taken and lodged in gaol on a charge of robbery accompanied with threats of violence. He had stolen his own potatoes, they being under distraint, and he was in due course of time tried at Kilkenny for the felony. The jury refused to convict for a crime committed under such circumstances, and he was acquitted.

His case is continued in next chapter.

REUBEN.

AGRICULTURE.

THE LANDLORD AND THE LABOURER.

We lately (in No. 8 of the LEAGUE) traced the rapid depression which the condition of the agricultural labourer underwent during the same period wherein the rent of land and the value of agricultural produce increased beyond all precedent; and we showed that such depression was, in a great degree, caused by the same set of circumstances as gave to our landed gentry their vast accessions of wealth. From 1792 to 1814, the English peasant was reduced from the state of an independent labourer into that of a pauper, by the influence of high prices; and having, during the time of agricultural difficulties, between 1814 and 1832, become, as an unproductive consumer, dangerous to the landlord's rent, he was attempted again to be raised into an independent position by the agency of the New Poor Law. To a certain extent this has succeeded; but the independence on which the peasant—more especially in the ill-cultivated districts—has been replaced, is not that from which he was displaced when rents first began to rise.

It is impossible to afford a fair view of this matter without looking closely and practically into the actual state of the agricultural population in various rural districts; for though we shall find one great cause of evil common to them all, yet its aspect is so modified in different localities, that very few general statements will apply to all. Neither is this a subject for maudlin sympathies or class recrimination. The task of the agricultural workman is usually one of rough but not unhealthy labour, and requires comparatively little skill for its successful performance. Still the value of the work done by individual labourers in husbandry differs as much as that executed by different workmen in any other employment. This difference is invariably caused by the degree in which the labourers apply steadily and continuously to their work; and this again may be traced to the constancy or irregularity with which any of them may have been employed. And Mr. Austin, in his recent report on the condition of women and children employed in agriculture in the western counties, expressly tells us that the condition of the labourer much depends upon the regularity with which he is employed, and, above all, on the constancy with which he works for the same master.

Now, the constancy with which the labourers of any district are employed must depend upon the condition of the farmers for whom they work, and on the steadiness of prices. All farmers employ a considerable number of workpeople at particular seasons, as in haymaking, harvest, and seed time; but only those who manage their farms well retain a large proportion of workmen throughout the year. This arises from various causes; and not so much from the merit or fault of individual farmers as from the terms on which farms are held, the state of their cultivation, the kind of land of which they consist, or the capital the farmer is able to employ. All or any of these circumstances act directly upon the condition of the labourers, as do also great variations in the price of farming produce.

When farmers have founded their expectations of profit upon high prices—which is the case with four-fifths of the tenantry at this hour—and prices fall below the rates on which they have calculated, the first resource is to employ fewer labourers, the next to drive the land by extra corn crops. Both devices are ultimately ruinous to the farmer, but to the labourer they bring instant destruction,—starvation or the workhouse.

Keeping in mind these general suggestions, let us examine some of the statements which have appeared relative to the agricultural labourers in two of the worst cultivated counties in England, viz., Somersetshire and Dorsetshire. Our readers will remember we noticed Mr. R. B. Sheridan's denunciations of the "hard-hearted farmers" of certain parishes in that county, wherein he had met with some instances of grievous degradation amongst the poor; and that we then remarked on the bad grace with which such observations came from a landlord. Mr. Sheridan's speech has led to much correspondence and mutual recrimination in the local papers, which, without displacing the facts mentioned, have brought forth some decisive evidence as to the origin of the evil. It is worthy of note that in Norfolk, or Northumberland, or the Lothians, where farming is conducted with spirit and success, we hear very little of agricultural associations, but especially we find no rewards for "honest agricultural labourers" paraded by lords and squires. In those parts of Lincolnshire where agriculture is making wonderful progress, Dr. Buckland tells us that the labourers are well paid and well fed; and on Lord Ducie's model farm, in Gloucestershire—which is managed with a strict regard to profit—we learn that ploughmen receive wages of £20 a year and their board. But in Somersetshire, where the monopolist member, Mr. Acland, lately said, at the *Dunster Agricultural Association*, "all present must feel, on their return home, that they had been doing good, *by showing to the labourers that they did take an interest* in their welfare;" and in Dorsetshire, (of the low state of whose peasantry we shall presently speak), the most bustling zeal to improve and the loudest desire to reward the labourer in husbandry are ostentatiously put forth. At the meeting to which we have above referred, amongst various prizes awarded for ploughing, long service, sheep-shearing, and shepherding, are the following:—

To the agricultural labourer, *who shall have brought up the greatest number of his own legitimate children (above five) to the age of ten years without parochial assistance*—to David Rawle of Stoke Pero, servant to Mr. Richard Tamlyn, 9 *children*, 1*st prize*..	£3	0	0
To William Bindon of St. Decuman's, servant to Mr. William James, 9 *children*, 2nd prize	2	0	0
To James Hooper of Stoke Pero, 8 *children*, 3rd prize.....	1	10	0

Now, when we learn that the farmer states the weekly wages of the Somersetshire labourer at 9s., and the labourer himself at 7s.—the difference being two shillings' worth of cider per week—we are far from saying that the above three labourers are not fully entitled to their pitiful prizes, for assuredly their task must have been one of no inconsiderable difficulty; but we know that there must be something wrong where such low wages prevail, and where abstinence from parochial aid is deemed worthy of a public prize. So in Dorsetshire wages are at about the same scale; and in both counties the want of space in the cottages for even the commonest decencies of life are no less degrading to the labourer than the positive lowness of his wages. But is it in the power of the farmers to remedy this state of things, as the landlords would have it supposed? Assuredly not. Mr. Johnson Daniell, of the parish denounced by Mr. Sheridan, tells him, in a public letter, that the farmers "spend their days in contending with rents and tithes, with rates and outgoings, with wages and losses; they have to 'make up their money,' not by application to the relieving officer, *but by hard bargains, driven in hard times, by men as hard driven as themselves.*" And he says he alludes to the holders of small farms, *men of small capital, "who share many of the privations, and more than the toils, of the poor."* So the Rev. Samuel Lane says, "the rate of wages is lower than it ought to be, and the cottages are destitute of those comforts which every industrious labourer has a right to expect;" but, he adds, "I made a serious *appeal to the landowners, who alone have power to remedy the evil.*"

Another clergyman goes more directly to the source of the mischief, when he says, "Let the landlords see *whether their rents are such as to admit of tenants giving more adequate wages to their labourers*, and many of these evils may be cured. I am convinced that private speculation would supply the requisite cottages, *were the labourer better able to pay his rent.*" Undoubtedly, if the wages of agricultural servants were higher, cottages would be built in some districts; but in others the land is all so completely in the hands of a few land-

owners, that no site for a cottage could be found but with their sanction; and in the actual state of the peasantry of the west of England, whose condition has become depressed by the very causes which raised rents, it is the imperative duty of the landowners to build a proper number of decent cottages on every farm. This would be no less advantageous to the farmer than to the labourer. Again, the clergyman whose letter we last referred to says, "as long as the farmer has really anything urgent for his labourers to do, he will very rarely be so 'hard-hearted' as to grudge them their reward; but for a considerable period of the year, and *especially in the small grazing farms of the Vale, he is frequently obliged to make employment for the labourer*, or else to pay for his maintenance in the workhouse;" and he concludes with this significant passage:—

"Thus the rate of wages altogether is kept down; and, as a highly respectable farmer lately told me, fewer hands are employed even where they would be most desirable in the summer, because in the winter they do not like to turn them off. Now, might not some advantageous plan be adopted on a multitude of farms; *if the landlords would only personally inspect and arrange the matter—where a small outlay of capital on their part in paying for the labour wasted in these seasons would relieve the tenant from a painful burden, would enable him to give better wages in busy times*—and put an end to the petty warfare of cunning and ill-feeling, which now so often rages; *whilst, beyond all reasonable doubt, it would amply remunerate themselves? Whoever has seen the* RUSHES AND THE SWAMPS *on the slopes of Batcombe and Hillfield, and has the smallest acquaintance with agricultural subjects*, must at once confess that such an expenditure there would be anything but unprofitable: but that, on the contrary, EVERY STROKE OF THE SPADE WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY AN ALMOST IMMEDIATE RETURN."

Now we charge the landowners, and their Corn Laws, with being the direct and only obstacles to these improvements. Why are not the "swamps and rushes" got rid of? Why are not those "strokes of the spade," which would make a return so ample and immediate, given? Solely because the landowners have taken advantage of the competition for farms induced by the Corn Laws to screw up their rents. Nor have we far to go for evidence of the fact. On the other side of the very sheet on which the correspondence from which we have just taken extracts is printed, we find the following notices:—

"'Somerset.—Pen farm.—*To be let by tender*, for a term of *seven* years;' then follows a description of the property, and the advertisement concludes with this notice: '*Each tender must contain the name and address of a respectable person who will join in the covenants of the lease.*'"

What, though the landlord has the power of distraining for his rent, he requires a surety for the performance of the covenants! He thus gets the highest rent which the most reckless or ignorant tenant will offer; and he is rendered, by a collateral security, independent of all care as to the skill or capital of the occupier: that forms no part of the consideration of a Somersetshire landlord. The next advertisement we meet with is—"Dorset.—Valuable farms at Hillfield"—the parish of *rushes and swamps*—"and Minterne Magna, to be let for seven years," concluding with "for particulars, and to treat, apply"—"to an attorney-at-law!" Again, "Crewkerne, Somerset.—*To be let by tender* for seven years," a dairy-farm, with reference to a lawyer.

Then we find three more farms at Drayton, Somerset, "to be let by tender," for a term of seven years, the "*takers to provide sureties*, and to enter into *all the usual covenants*." And lastly, at Yeovil, Mudford, and Ashington, Somerset, are four farms, "*to be let by tender*," as usual, but FROM YEAR TO YEAR!!!

Farms let by tender, with so little reliance on the skill, capital, or character of the tenants, that sureties for the rent and covenants are required, upon short terms of seven years, or *from year to year*, will fully account for the inferior state of agriculture, and the low wages and destitution of the peasantry in Dorsetshire and Somersetshire!! YET THIS IS THE STATE OF THINGS THE CORN LAWS ARE INTENDED TO "PROTECT."

THE REAL ARISTOCRACY.

The following letter from Earl Ducie, addressed to Mr. Cobden, will be read with interest by every agriculturist, and with admiration by every Free-Trader in the kingdom. It is scarcely necessary to say that his lordship is the very first practical agriculturist of the present day:—

"Sherborne, Monday, Nov. 27.

"DEAR MR. COBDEN,—I cannot refrain from writing to you, to express my thanks to you and Mr. Bright for your unwearied, and, I must add, successful endeavours to open the eyes of the farmers to their best interests. I feel certain that every meeting which brings you in contact with the agricultural body must show you more and more clearly that the principles of Free Trade which you advocate are not only necessary for the continued existence of the trade and commerce of the country, but are most intimately connected with the welldoing of the agricultural body, and are necessary for the further development of agriculture as a science.

"What a contrast you must have found between the farmers who received you at Haddington, and those whom you have come in contact with generally at similar meetings in England: where, I may say, they are almost demoralized by an unwholesome dependence upon landlords and their agents; uncertain, from the operation of the Corn Laws, whether the next year's prices may enable them to pay their rent and the interest of their capital; and unable, from the want of any security of tenure, to lay out with prudence any sums on such permanent improvements as would enable them to grow their corn or other produce at a reduced expense, and thus to struggle against the uncertainty of the markets.

"Whilst, on the other hand, those farmers whom you met at Haddington form, what I may call, a flourishing agricultural aristocracy, secured by lease in the enjoyment of the fruits of their invested capital; and having generally, to a great extent, neutralized the effects (on themselves) of the sliding scale, by an opposition sliding scale in the shape of a corn rent.

"They are men who have intelligence enough to see (and independence enough to act upon that view) that their real interest is to have their customers in a flourishing condition, and that the repeal of the Corn Laws would tend to place them in that condition; whilst at the same time it will place their own trade upon a more firm and steady foundation.

"I most heartily wish I could see the great body of English farmers as intelligent and as independent as those of the Lothians; that, however, I despair of seeing till the Corn Laws are repealed, and leases become the basis of all arrangements between landlord and tenant. To confirm my views on this point, I enclose a paper read to the Gloucester Farmers' Club by a most intelligent farmer; and I beg to call your attention to that part which confirms an opinion I have often expressed, that low pirces would cause more grass land to be broken up and brought into cultivation. And believe me, yours very truly,

"DUCIE."

Who, after this letter, will dare to say that the League "hates and envies the aristocracy" because it advocates Free Trade in corn? The conduct of one such nobleman as Earl Ducie will serve to redeem the aristocracy from half the obloquy which a host of monopolists of the Buckingham and Newcastle school can cast upon it. Press of matter has compelled us to defer Mr. Long's excellent paper, to which his Lordship refers, until next week.

WAGES IN LIQUOR.

In the west of England a most pernicious practice prevails of giving to all the labourers employed in husbandry, men, women, and boys, a considerable daily allowance of cider as part of their wages. This was strongly remarked upon by Mr. Austin, in his recent report; and the following passages from an account of what occurred on the same subject in Somersetshire, at the *Dunster Agricultural* Association, have an important bearing on the state of the peasantry there.

The Rev. J. M. King, after stating that he agreed with what had previously fallen from Mr. B. Escott, M.P., that the labourers of the county were not in such a state as could be wished, said, "Although he would not go into the question of wages, this he would say, that *they would do great good* if they would lessen the liquor payment, and increase the cash payment." And he added,

"In other counties the practice of paying liquor in lieu of wages did not exist. In the county of Kent the proportion which the liquor payment bore to the cash payment was generally about one-sixteenth; in Warwick about one-twelfth; and in Cumberland and Westmorland it hardly existed at all. But the great feature was, that in those counties there was no regular liquor payment, in *lieu* of money, but in *addition* to it. He had also in his possession the rate of wages in those counties, *but he would not enter upon that point for the purpose of making comparisons, his object being to preserve good feeling.* He would only say, that in the part of the country where he had come from, the rate of wages was different from what it was here. *He did not, however, wish to go into that question, but was only desirous of inducing them to do away with that bane of the labourers, the cider firkin." ("Hear," and some dissent.)*

This did not suit the temper of the meeting, for by following up the subject the rev. gentleman excited considerable ferment.

"He had told them the proportions of the liquor payment in other counties, that one-sixteenth only was given in drink in proportion to the wages, and that it was not given in *lieu* of wages but in addition to it; whereas in this county *one-fourth part of the labourer's wages was paid in liquor, and only three-fourths in money.* ('Yes,' 'No,' and much confusion, some of the company stating that it was only in harvest time so much was paid in drink, whilst others intimated their assent to the statement of the rev. gentleman.) He had made inquiries, and his statement was borne out by many respectable farmers. Now he only just wished them to consider if they could not do great good by reducing the liquor payment *and increasing the money payment?* (Cheers.) He would say that since he had been in this part of the country he had been grieved to see, on going into the harvest field or the ploughing field, that not only the men but the boys were continually drinking, so that, and especially the youths, their only idea of happiness, or of credit for performing their work, or for steadiness, *was associated with drink—it was all liquor, liquor, liquor." ("Hear," and some dissent.)*

There is very much truth in this. But unfortunately the practice is agreeable to both farmers and labourers: to the former, because it enables them in part to pay their people with the produce of their own farms, and because it stimulates to exertion in times of emergency; and to the latter, from that fondness for fermented liquors which is almost universal amongst them.

The Chairman of the meeting, Mr. P. Bouverie, stated the unsuccessful result of his own efforts in a former year to reduce the quantity of liquor given—or rather paid—to the labourers. He said—

"Some years since, when there was a scarcity of apples, he met some of the farmers for the purpose of talking over the matter of allowing so much drink, and advised them to see if they could not, with advantage to the labourers, reduce the quantity of cider given, and pay them more in money. (Hear, hear.) *But the farmers brewed beer for them instead of cider*, in order to meet the circumstance of the failure in the orchards, and therefore he was sorry to say that he did not succeed in inducing them to alter the system. *Now if a farmer in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater was asked what wages he paid, he would say 9s.; but if the labourer was asked, his answer was, 7s. and cider. He very much disagreed with the system of paying part of the wages in money and the rest in cider."*

The prejudice in favour of a large quantity of liquor for a working man seems to have fast possession of the minds of the Somersetshire farmers; for Mr. N. Pearce said, "he doubted if his men could go through their harvest work without cider or ale." And Mr. George Turner said—

"He employed a great number of labourers, and he would say that those who drank little were just as well off as those who drank much, as to pay; *but he had found that those who drank little or nothing were slovenly, spiritless fellows, and not fit to do their work.* (*Cheers.*) He did not encourage drunkenness, for the men knew, if any of them were drunk, that it would not do for them to see master. (A laugh and cheers.) His labourers wanted nothing from the parish, and they obtained nothing but what they got from their master. He kept his labourers in proper subjection, *but he had no notion of taking away their drink*, and his men should always have something to whet their whistle. (*A laugh and much cheering.*) He alluded to the character of his labourers, and said he had among them one old man between 70 and 80, whom he had known ever since he was a child; that man had always been an honest and faithful labourer, *but he would drink his cider or beer when he could get it, yet he never knew him to be drunk."*

Now, we may readily guess from the tone of Mr. Turner's speech that he is one of those bustling farmers who try to make up in occasional activity for that absence of system which is so common amongst English farmers; and for a "spurt" there is no doubt that considerable exertions are made under the combined influence of excitement and liquor. But an increased quantity of food, an extra quantity of meat for the labourer, and more of systematic arrangement on the part of the farmer, would be far more effectual, and would not foster that love of drink which is the bane of the English peasant. The discussion was closed by Mr. Acland, who said—

"He was delighted to hear a man like Mr. Turner rise up and give vent to his sentiments in a straight-forward and hearty manner, *but he was bound to say that he differed from that gentleman.* He could state that his father, of whose actions it did not perhaps become him to speak, but who was thought to be a tolerably good master, never gave a labourer a pint of cider in his life in lieu of money—that was the point. *They should remember that the question was the part payment of wages in cider, instead of money."*

True, but landlords should remember that cider is a part of the produce for which the farmer pays rent, and that he cannot dispose of it so advantageously in any other way. This Mr. Acland subsequently admitted, when he said,

"He did not mean to say that labourers never ought to have anything to drink, but that the practice of constantly drinking cider or ale *during work was a bad practice, and unnecessary.* Nor did he think that all the blame of the practice should be thrown upon the farmers (cheers); he believed the labourers were themselves to blame; too many of them were very selfish, and *would rather have the drink, than do without it and carry home more money to their wives and families.* It was, however, for the masters, and all others above them, to endeavour to teach them better. (Hear.) He did not say, because his father could give cider or ale to his men, on occasions, and at the same time pay them full wages, *that all farmers could afford to do the same, as they had to pay rents for their orchards.* (Hear, hear.) *Perhaps the landlords were to blame for taking too high rents."* (Cheers.)

Now this really goes more to the root of the subject than is common with landlords, and probably would not have been admitted by an older monopolist. That a certain moderate quantity of cider or beer *may* be usefully given to the agricultural labourer as a part of his accustomed allowances, we do not *absolutely* deny; but if so, it ought to be given him in bulk in his own cask at his own cottage. Then he would have it at the only time such a stimulant is beneficial, namely, after the labour of the day. Not a small part of the benefits which the League is conferring on agriculture will consist of the attention the necessity of preparing for Free Trade has drawn towards the state and customs of agricultural labourers in the ill-farmed districts.

In corroboration of the opinion that the system of beer-giving is injurious to the labourers, we may cite the following passage from an account of Mr. Hayter's improvements on his farm at *Linslade*, Bucks. He says, "The conduct of the labourers has materially changed for the better, and instead of being, as they were, capricious and disorderly, they have now become steady and regular: an effect produced in some degree by the practice of letting as much as possible of the labour by piece-work; partly also by the habit, where piece-work is inapplicable, of working the labourers in bodies, under competent superintendence; but *more than all from the absolute and entire prohibition of any allowance whatever in the shape of beer*, a system," Mr. Hayter remarks, "almost invariably prevalent in the worst cultivated districts of England, and the fruitful mother of pauperism and moral degradation."

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

LATENT WEALTH IN THE LAND.—The following account of a crop of turnips, extracted from the report of the judges who awarded prizes for green crops offered by Lord Stair to his tenants, shows what a fund of undeveloped wealth exists in our poorest soils, and which only requires the abandonment of a false reliance on monopoly to be speedily brought forth:—

"The whole of Mr. M'Caig's turnip crop was manured at the rate of 15 bushels of bones and 2½ cwt. of guano. This crop was the heaviest examined, being on proof found to be about 31¼ tons per acre. It is gown upon the top of Thornhouse-hill, *lately a piece of wet poor land, not yielding above 5s. per acre;* but the land being lately drained by the proprietor, and limed by the enterprising tenant, is now carrying a crop of turnips which, at a reasonable valuation per ton, *would be equal to far above the former purchase price of the land."*

And they say—

"It will be observed, the rate of manuring above mentioned is rather heavier than usual for farmers there. But it will, at the same time, be observed that one of the crops yielded 31¼ tons of Swedish turnips per acre, and which is worth, per acre, about £25; and two of the others which were proved, were above 30 tons, upon land of very inferior quality. It is believed the average turnip crop in the Rhins of Galloway will not be above 20 tons per acre; and the difference of 10 or 11 tons, from good manuring and management, will amply repay the tenants, *exclusive of the still greater benefit accruing in the better white crops and pasture invariably following a good green crop."*

"WAGES IN THE WEST.—Last week two smart young men were enlisted into that fine regiment, 1st Grenadier Guards, by their own brother, Corporal Sawyer. They were induced to enlist from the circumstance of their being unable to obtain adequate wages, their employer, a gentleman farmer near this place (Marlborough, in Wiltshire), *offering them 4s. 6d. per week each for the winter! Such is the difficulty of obtaining work, that at the same time a man with a family of several children offered himself for 6s. per week!"—Wiltshire Independent.*

Yet these are the labourers *said* to be protected by the Corn Law, and the agricultural district round Marlborough is *said* to be one of those peculiarly benefited by protection from foreign competition; and this is the result! The town of Marlborough is represented by two rabid monopolists, and the northern division of the county in which it is situated is in a like predicament; and the grand object of these politicians is to maintain a system which gives wages of 4s. 6d. and 6s. a week to able-bodied agricultural labourers!!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
Jacob Bright and Sons	£500	0	0
Theophilus Barlow, Barton-upon-Irwell, near Manchester	10	0	0
Jos. Hibbert, solicitor, Hyde, Cheshire	5	0	0
Thos. Clegg, New Market-lane, Manchester	5	0	0
John Jackson, Ardwick, do.	5	0	0
J. & W. Bottomley, Pinmill Brow, Ardwick, do.	1	1	0
Andrew Kerr, Ancoats-crescent, do.	2	0	0
Ainsworth and Hilton, 32, York-street, do.	5	0	0
John Watson, top of George-street, do.	1	0	0
John Worthington, 12 a, Back Mosley-street, do.	2	2	0
G. E., do.	2	0	0
Wm. Smith, 23, George-street, do.	1	0	0
Horsley and Co., 8, Charlotte-street, do.	5	0	0
A Friend, per W. M'Cartney	5	0	0
An Unknown Friend, per Richard Cobden	200	0	0
J. Chatterton, George-street, do.	1	0	0
John Brewster, Charlotte-street, do.	1	0	0
John Heap, jun., 22, George-street, do.	5	0	0
Wm. L., do., do.	0	10	0
J. D., do.	2	2	0
W. L., do.	2	2	0
J. B. S., do.	2	0	0
H. C., do.	0	10	0
H. S. Cox, Pine-street, do.	1	0	0
David Henry, Turner-street, do.	0	5	0
A Friend, 13, Swan-street, do.	0	10	0
Isaac Bloor, 21, Swan-street, do.	1	0	0
J. & H. Reyner, do., do.	0	10	0
A Friend, do., do.	0	10	0
Thomas Davy, do., do.	0	10	0
John Mills, do., do.	0	2	6
John Hull, do., do.	0	10	0
S. J. and J. Sheldon, do., do.	1	0	0
Elijah Sharp, do., do.	0	2	6
J. W., do., do.	0	10	0
George Thompson, Oldham-street, do.	0	10	0
A Friend, Swan-street, do.	0	5	0
Joseph Davidson, do., do.	0	10	0
T. Warburton, 10, do., do.	1	0	0
John Orr, do., do.	0	2	6
Wm. Satterwaite, 117, Oldham-street, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, do., do.	0	3	0
Wm. Lister, do., do.	0	5	0
A Friend, do., do.	0	12	6
W. S. Moss, do., do.	0	10	0
Small Sums, do.	0	7	0
John Lees, Messrs. Lees and Shore, do.	10	0	0
John Barlow, share broker, do.	5	0	0
Robt. Benson, jun., Esq., Fairfield, near Manchester	25	0	0
A. B. C.	1	0	0
"Working Men's League Rent," 147, Higher Hillgate, Stockport, per George Wood	1	0	0
Morton, near Bradford, Yorkshire, per Thomas Threlfall	5	1	0
R. Atherton, Newall's-buildings, Manchester	2	0	0
A Friend of the Right Sort	10	0	0
T. M. Barnes, 112, Lloyd-street, Green Heys, Manchester	1	1	0
J. Douglas, New Market-buildings, do.	5	0	0
Pincoff and Alliez, 7, Nicholas-street, do.	20	0	0
Andrew Brockbank, 11, Windmill-street, do.	1	0	0
Thorp and Statham, Collyhurst Dye Works, do.	5	0	0
Philip Thomson, 47, Spring-gardens, do.	5	0	0
Joseph Haycraft, 11, Brown-street, do.	1	0	0
Two Friends, do.	0	10	0
H. D. Hauregard and Co., Little Lever-street, do.	25	0	0
James Black, Haslingden, Lancashire	1	0	0
E. J.	1	0	0
J. G.	5	0	0
James Ainsworth, 93, Piccadilly, Manchester	1	1	0
Thos. Edwards, 32, London-road, do.	1	0	0
John Salt, 72, London-road, do.	1	0	0
Hugh Lewis, 80, London-road, do.	1	0	0
George Broadhead, 37, London-road, do.	0	5	0
Robert Priestley, 135, London-road, do.	0	5	0
William Rickerby, 94, London-road, do.	0	5	0
William Cliffe, High-street, do.	1	1	0
Fred. A. Fynney, 77, High-street, do.	3	0	0
F. B. Fynney, do., do.	1	0	0
James Slack, 3, Victoria-place, Hulme, do.	0	2	6
Charles Malpas, Tib-street, do.	1	1	0
P. Butterley, 59, High-street, do.	1	0	0
Benj. Eyre, 7, Dale-street, do.	0	10	0
John Slack, 17, Dale-street, do.	0	2	6
R. Shepheard, do., do.	2	0	0
Small Sums	0	1	0
Charles Stanton, Stroud, Gloucestershire	40	0	0
G. Elliott, Stoke, Bromsgrove	1	0	0
Two Friends, per W. Anderson, Castleton, Guisbro'	0	4	0
John Wales, Lower Head-row, Leeds	1	0	0
J. Kinworthy, 7, South Parade, do.	1	0	0
J. Brown, 169, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Gascoigne, do.	1	0	0
John Kinder, 151, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
Thos. Button, 145, York-street, do.	1	0	0
Hey, Central Market Hotel, do.	1	0	0
James Smith, 110, Meadow-lane, do.	1	0	0
James Jackson, currier, 3, Meanwood-road, do.	1	0	0
James Robinson, painter, 15, North-street, do.	1	0	0
James Walker, butcher, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
James Croisdale, cutler, Kirkgate, do.	1	0	0
Abraham Croisdale, dyer, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Couzens, carrier, do., do.	1	0	0
G. A. Shackleton, Wortley-lane, near do.	1	0	0
Jos. Lees, at Mr. Brown's, 169, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
Wm. Dunderdale, Wortley-lane, Holbeck, do.	1	0	0
John Burnlston, Bridge End, do.	1	0	0
Jas. Holroyd, Carlton Hill, do.	1	0	0
John Broadhead, Bridge End, do.	1	0	0
Henry Robinson, do., do.	1	0	0
J. N. Dickinson, Water-lane, do.	1	0	0
Thos. Anderton, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Broadhead, brush maker, do.	1	0	0
John Wales, smith, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
Fred. Jackson, Wellington-road, do.	1	0	0
T. Stephens, Sussex Tavern, Far Bank, do.	1	0	0
W. Holmes, St. George's-terrace, do.	1	0	0
W. Schofield, draper, Briggate, do.	1	0	0
Arthur Megson, Leathley-lane, do.	1	0	0
Richard Ward, at Messrs. J. Whitworth and Co's., Chorlton-street, Manchester	1	0	0
John Beesley, Engraver's Arms, Pool-street, do.	1	0	0
Wolff, Hasche, and Co., St. Mary's, do.	15	0	0
John Riddihough, 28, Hodson street, Salford	1	0	0
John Brogden, Esq., Ardwick-place, Manchester	50	0	0
R. S. Green and Friends, Green-park, Hulme, do.	5	5	0
E. P. Southall, Esq., Leominster, Hereford	2	0	0
J. Southall, Esq., do., do.	1	0	0
S. Southall, Esq., do., do.	1	0	0
Thomas Davies, Esq., do., do.	0	10	0
Rev. M. Jones, do.	0	10	0
W. R., do., do.	0	10	0
J. V. Chilcott, do., do.	0	10	0
J. Hammonds, Esq., do., do.	0	7	6
P. G., do., do.	0	5	0
John Collins, do., do.	0	5	0
G. Hinton, do., do.	0	5	0
J. Baker, do., do.	0	2	6
G. Rodwell, do., do.	0	2	6
Mr. Knill, do., do.	£0	2	6
J. P. P., do., do.	0	2	6
Small Sums, do., do.	0	8	0
Wm. Slater, 14, Broughton-lane, Manchester	1	1	0
C. T. Winkfield, Eccles, near do.	3	0	0
Thomas Lockyer, 69, St. Stephen's-street, Salford	1	0	0
George Binks, jun., Bolton	[illegible]	0	0
John Ryder, Bradford, Manchester	5	0	0
Samuel Woolley, Staleybridge, Lancashire	1	0	0
J. Anderton, do., do.	1	0	0
Rev. R. Wallace, 2, Cavendish-place, C.-on-M., Manchester	1	0	0
R. G. Stracy, 98, Great Ancoats-street, do.	1	1	0
Thomas Jones, 8, Swan-street, do.	1	1	0
A Friend to the Cause, do.	2	0	0
Jos. Walker, 6, Lime-place, Higher Broughton, do.	1	1	0
Thomas Tordiffe, Staleybridge	2	0	0
S. Brewis and Co., 40, Spring-gardens, Manchester	50	0	0
E. Dewhurst, Fold's-road, Little Bolton, Lancashire	2	0	0
James Aspill, Thomas-street, Manchester	1	0	0
Richard Tonge, 16, Chorlton-street, do.	1	0	0
James Brown, 65, High-street, do.	1	0	0
J. and J. Oldfield, Thomas-street, do.	1	0	0
Thomas Diggles, 32, York-street, Cheetham, do.	5	0	0
James Owen, 33, Carter-street, Green Heys, do.	1	0	0
George Taylor, 30, Clifford-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	0	0
James Boyle, Hanging Ditch, do.	2	2	0
Thomas Johnson, 39, Hanging Ditch, do.	2	2	0
Jacob Casper, 6, Hanging Ditch, do.	0	2	6
Thomas Slater, 2, Cateaton-street, do.	1	0	0
N. S. Johnson, 6, Cateaton-street, do.	1	0	0
P. J. Caudelet, Old Mill Gate, do.	1	1	0
W. H. and S. Appleby, 14, Half-street, do.	1	1	0
Edward Scales, do., do.	0	2	6
B. Greening, do., do.	0	2	6
A Friend, Old Churchyard, do.	0	5	0
Jabez Johnson, 48, Spring-gardens, do.	2	2	0
Robert Simpson, 23, Brown-street, do.	1	0	0
John M'Farlane, Sussex-street, do.	5	0	0
J. C. Ridge, 19, Brown-street, do.	5	0	0
J. and T. Mellalieu, High-street, do.	10	0	0
A Friend, do.	0	2	6
Richard Leake, 12, Downing-street, do.	1	0	0
William Smith, 16, Downing-street, do.	1	0	0
George Wood, 2, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
Richard Watson, 12, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
William Bunting, 44, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
Joseph Yates, Downing-street, do.	2	2	0
James Gaskin, Downing-street, do.	2	2	0
W. Antrobus and Friend, 1, Downing-street, do.	1	0	0
B. G., per A. Nodal, Downing-street, do.	2	2	0
Tole, 38, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
Robert Dixon, Lord Nelson, Mather street, do.	0	5	0
Jas. N. Grindrod, 2, New Brown-street, do.	2	0	0
Rev. W. Gadsby, do.	3	0	0
W. J., London, per John Gadsby, do.	0	5	0
R. W. C., London, per John Gadsby, do.	0	10	0
J. S., do.	1	1	0
W. L., London, per J. Gadsby, do.	2	2	0
Whitaker Pate, Parsonage, do.	1	1	0
Per Mathew Howard, Plesley Works, near Mansfield	1	0	0
C. Duveyrier, Paris	1	0	0
Samuel Newson, Spring Garden-terrace, St. George's-road, New Kent-road	0	2	6
Wm. Ogden, 11, Sudely-street, Islington	0	2	6
John Greenwood, Brick-court, Temple	5	0	0
Wm. Haslam, Epping, Essex	1	0	0
Edward Austin, 5, Upper Porchester-street, Cambridge-square	2	0	0
S. Renard, jun., 3, Denmark-terrace, Camberwell	0	10	0
J. A. Yates, Bryanston-square	25	0	0
Edward Spencer, 18, Mitre-street	0	2	6
Wm Cash, Peckham-rye	1	1	0
W. J. Wilson, 17, Crown-street, Finsbury	1	0	0
John Hall, Clifton-street North	0	10	0
R. G. S.	1	0	0
Robert Procter, 78, St. Paul's Churchyard	1	1	0
Richard Simons, Mincing-lane	1	1	0
G. R., per R. Simons, Mincing-lane	1	1	0
A Friend, per R. Simons, Mincing-lane	1	1	0
Wm. Scott, Mincing-lane	1	1	0
Richard Barford, 18, Wharf-road, City-road	1	1	0
—— Dunn, Robinson's-row, Kingsland	1	0	0
—— Dalton, Stoke Newington	1	0	0
—— Matson, Matson's Cottage, West Hackney	1	0	0
William Rathbone, Kingsland	1	0	0
J. Battley, Kingsland	1	0	0
G. Sutton, Dalston	1	0	0
F. Clark, Claremont Cottage, Stoke Newington	1	0	0
Thos. Crossley, Kingsland-green	1	0	0
Charles Wilden, 35, Cumming-street, Pentonville	1	0	0
—— Norman, 1, Temple, Dalston	1	0	0
—— Drake, Down Cottage, Shacklewell	1	0	0
W. Harrowin, Kingsland	0	5	0
—— Cock, Back-road, Kingsland	0	3	0
—— Dixon, 7, Lordship-terrace, Stoke Newington	0	2	6
Thomas Edmonds, High Wycombe, Bucks	5	0	0
Robert Henry Clarke, 52, New Bond-street	0	5	0
T. E.	1	0	0
Thomas Long, Richmond	1	0	0
Richard Searle, 13, Clarendon-place, Vassall-road, Brixton	1	0	0
W. D. Lazenby, 2, Belle Vue Cottage, York-square, Bristol	1	0	0
Rev. P. Cannon, 41, White Lion-st., Pentonville	0	10	0
J. Cuthbert, 12, Upper Ebury-street, Pimlico	1	0	0
—— Briscoe, Wath-upon-Derne, near Rotherham	1	0	0
John Nesbitt, Mincing-lane	25	0	0
Wm. Wooldridge, 6, Jermyn-street, Regent-street (2nd subscription)	0	11	0
G. J. Cox, 11, Elizabeth-terrace, Liverpool-road	1	0	0
Peter Macdonald, 91, Shoe-lane	1	0	0
Robert Skegg, 2, St. Martin's-pl., Trafalgar-square	2	2	0
G. Woodfall and Son, Angel-court, Skinner-street	5	0	0
H. Soden, 17, Myrtle-street, Hoxton	1	1	0
T. H. Penrose, 119, Camden-road Villas, Camden New Town	1	1	0
J. W. Thompson	1	0	0
A. Murray	1	0	0
R. Stagg	1	0	0
J. Badenoch	1	0	0
W. Hyslop	1	0	0
J. Andrews	1	0	0
Rd. Farrar	1	0	0
W. C. Harris	0	10	0
R. Tillidge	0	5	0
J. Weathbrook	0	5	0
J. B. Davidson	0	5	0
W. W. Elliott (18, Wood-street, City)	0	5	0
H. Hubert	0	5	0
J. Morton	0	5	0
J. Collison	0	5	0
W. Edgar, jun.	0	5	0
C. Armstrong	0	5	0
G. Edgar	0	5	0
J. Millard	0	5	0
W. F. Newton	0	2	6
W. E. Collins	0	2	6
Wm. Donne	1	1	0
Proctor	1	1	0
Charles Smith, 2, Kenton-street, Brunswick-square	1	0	0
James T. Preston, 94, St. John-street	0	5	0
Henry Capell, 51, Newgate-street			
John Pollitt, Wicken Newport, Essex (additional subscription)	1	0	0
Jos. Martin, do., do.	2	0	0
A Schoolboy's Earnings	0	2	6
William Brown, 41, Amwell-stret, Pentonville	1	0	0
James Clepham, Gateshead, (additional subs.)	0	5	0
T. H. Tooke (Trinity College, Cambridge)	£5	0	0
H. H. Dixon (Trinity College, Cambridge)	1	0	0
J. Kay (Trinity College, Cambridge)	1	0	0
F. T. B. Astley (Trinity College, Cambridge)	2	0	0
H. F. Hallam (Trinity College, Cambridge)	0	10	0
A. Martineau (Trinity College, Cambridge)	0	10	0
F. Gisborne (St. Peter's College, Cambridge)	1	0	0
—— Shedden (St. Peter's College, Cambridge)	0	10	0
—— Thompson (St. Peter's College, Cambridge)	0	2	6
H. Cox (Jesus College, Cambridge)	0	10	0
G. H. Rohrs (Jesus College, Cambridge)	0	10	0
T. S. Gisborne (St. John's College, Cambridge)	1	0	0
Others (Cambridge)	1	18	0
William Hutchinson, draper, Reading	1	0	0
A. C. S. and H. Crowley, Alton, Hants	10	10	0
C. S. Crowley, Croydon	10	10	0
Henry Crowley, do.	10	10	0
Collins and Waters, Knightsbridge	2	2	0
Thomas Leadbitter, 8, Staple Inn	1	0	0
Charles Robinson, 4, Smart's-buildgs, High Holborn	0	5	0
Torrens M'Cullagh, 3, New London-street	10	0	0
F. and C. Osler, Birmingham	1	0	0
John Reid, Markinch, Fifeshire	1	1	0
William Bury, Accrington	1	0	0
Jonathan Harris, sen., Papcastle, near (Cockermouth)	5	0	0
Jonathan Harris, jun., do.	5	0	0
A Friend, p. Jonathan Harris, jun.	5	0	0
Jos. W. Hains, Papcastle, near	5	0	0
Joseph Hains, do.	5	0	0
Smith Harrison, do.	2	0	0
A Friend, per Smith Harrison	2	0	0
A Friend, per do.	1	0	0
A Farmer, per do.	1	0	0
Robert Benson, solicitor	1	0	0
Thomas Wilson, hatter	1	0	0
Joseph Brown, grocer	1	0	0
A Tenant Farmer, per Smith Harrison	1	0	0
Miles Robinson, carrier	1	0	0
Wm. Robinson, grocer	1	0	0
John Fisher, jun., currier	1	0	0
Joseph Banks	1	0	0
A Tenant Farmer, per Smith Harrison	1	0	0
John Banks, sen., ironmonger	1	0	0
John Richardson, jun., tanner	1	0	0
Joseph Martin, druggist	1	0	0
Daniel Fidler, bookseller	1	0	0
John Fearon, grocer	1	0	0
Leonard Bowe	1	0	0
Robert Barber, Jetty-road, Great Yarmouth	1	0	0
Robert Heron and Co., Fife Pottery, Kirkaldy	1	0	0
Mary, per H. S.	0	5	0
James Judd, Somerstown	0	2	6
Emily Jones, Homerton	0	10	0
R. Sedgwick, Walthamstow	1	1	0
James Curtis, 1, Clifton-street, Finsbury	1	0	0
Some Workmen in Soho	0	5	0
T. Watson	2	10	0
Henry White, London	5	5	0
John Coulden, 12, Smith-street, Northampton-squa	1	0	0
P. T.	0	10	0
T. S. Hall, 18, Surrey-place, Old Kent-road	1	1	0
Thomas Morris, 179, Sloane-street	1	0	0
Wm. West, 17, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell	0	5	0
Robert Clarke, 27, Brook-street, Holborn	0	5	0
—— Collier, 112, Jermyn-street, and Reform Club	1	0	0
James Whatley, 10, James-street, St. George's-in-the-East	1	0	0
A No-Party Man, per J. Whatley	0	5	0
W. J. Butterworth, woolstapler, Butts, Rochdale	1	0	0
Wm. Hickson and Sons, 20, West Smithfield	20	0	0
J. W. Sawtell, 17, Pear Tree-street, Goswell-street	0	2	6
A. Clark, 132, Jermyn-street, St. James's	0	10	0
James Drew, 19, Bridge-street, Westminster	1	0	0
J. P. Malleson, Hove House, near Brighton	1	0	0
A Friend	0	5	0
R. W. Gibbons, Colne	1	1	0
A Barrister	1	0	0
R. Lloyd, 85, West Smithfield	1	1	0
W. Owen, do., do.	1	0	0
C. Birch, do. do.	1	0	0
G. Moore, 23, Percival-street	1	0	0
J. Howell, 1, West Smithfield	1	0	0
J. Shedlock, 2, Johnson-street, Westminster	1	0	0
M. Roberts, 20, Valentine-place, Blackfriars-road	0	5	0
Daniel Ferguson, 21, Giltspur-street	2	2	0
T. Blyth, Langham, Colchester, per J. B. Harvey	1	0	0
Joseph Marler, draper, 33, East-street, Walworth	1	0	0
John Griffiths, 37, Pitfield-street, Hoxton	1	0	0
Edward Hart, Woodville Cottage, Gravesend	1	0	0
—— Ewart, 6, Cambridge-square	1	0	0
Wm. Harvey, 105, Guildford-street, Russell-square	1	0	0
Press Grainger, 4, Tredegar-square, Mile End-road	1	0	0
John Hall, 31, Orchard-street, Portman-square	1	0	0
Thomas Hepburn, Clapham	1	0	0
J. D. Lowden, 205, Fleet-street	1	1	0
A. K. Watson, Middle Temple	2	0	0
Wm. Phipps, Ball's Pond, Islington	0	2	6
C. Higgins, King's Head (Salisbury)	1	0	0
C. Gummer, Poultry-cross	1	0	0
W. Farnell, Catherine-street	1	0	0
H. Young, Winchester-street	1	0	0
F. White, Culver-street	1	0	0
Thomas Adlam, Queen-street	1	0	0
W. Fawcett, ditto	1	0	0
Walter Smith, Fisherton	1	0	0
Henry Cooper, ditto	1	0	0
A. Pittman, Bedwin-street	1	0	0
John Clarke, Gigant-street Brewery	1	0	0
J. B. Williams, Chipper-lane	1	0	0
Miss Eliza Golden, Queen-street	1	0	0
J. B. Moore, Queen-street	1	0	0
John Butler, Castle-street	1	0	0
J. H. Wills, ditto	1	0	0
W. Targett, Blue Boar-row	1	0	0
W. J. Giddings, brewery, Milford-street	1	0	0
Thos. Cooper, bricklayer, Castle-street	1	0	0
J. H. Dawkins, High-street	1	0	0
E. Judd, Catherine-street	1	0	0
H. J. Bracher, St. Mary's Grange	0	2	6
Robert Barnard, printer	0	1	0
John Hart, clothier	0	5	0
James Burton			
Thomas Vivean, pastry-cook (s. 2, d. 6)			
Mrs. Vivean (s. 2, d. 6)			
John Isaac Vivean (s. 2, d. 6)	1	0	0
Miss Vivean (s. 2, d. 6)			
Five other Daughters (s. 10, d. 0)			
W. Hill, whipmaker, Winchester-street	1	0	0
Joseph Wristbridge, Silver-street	1	0	0
Rev. Isaac New, Endless-street	1	0	0
A. G. Moore, Queen's Arms, Ivy-st.	1	0	0
James Peavey, Fisherton	1	0	0
Rev. Samuel Sleigh	1	0	0
Rd. Dudman, Goat Inn, Milford-street	1	0	0
John Armstrong, Bedwin-street	1	0	0
Robert Stokes, Silver-street	1	0	0
Stephen Hill, Endless-street	0	2	6
W. Hicks	0	2	6
H. Durkin	1	0	0
T. J. Holloway, 2, De Vaux-place	1	0	0
Wm. Buckle, Silver-street	0	5	0
John Patterson, Church-st., Fisherton	1	0	0
J. S., Jun.	1	0	0
Joseph Sainger, Fisherton	1	0	0
R. K. K. Welch, Downton, near	1	0	0
Wm. Kingdon, Plume of Feather's Inn			

	£	s.	d.
T. Waltham, 10, Mariner-square, Edgware-road	0	5	0
From a few Workmen in the Brass Trade, in the parish of St. Bride	3	5	6
The Workmen in the employ of Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field (weekly penny subscriptions)	3	1	10
Alexander Nicholson, 2, Fish-street-hill	1	0	0
Wm. Hockin, 22, St. Paul's Churchyard	1	0	0
Fred. Faithful, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Jobson do., do.	1	0	0
W. E. Greening, Bromsgrove	1	0	0
Samuel Hickson, 163, High-street, Chatham	1	0	0
J. S. Letcher, Nunsham, Gloucestershire	1	0	0
The Rev. Jerome Clapp, Appledore, Devon	1	0	0
J. N. Foster, Biggleswade	1	0	0
James M. Tait, Wigtown	1	0	0
Wm. Lister, Ironfounder, Darlington	1	0	0
Henry Walker, 13, Claremont-place, Gateshead	1	0	0
The Compositors of the *Gateshead Observer* office, per D. Dunglinson	1	0	0
Robert Pullar and Son, Perth	2	0	0
G. L. Cornfute, Perth	2	0	0
Douglas and M'Intosh, carriers, Perth	1	0	0
John Benson, Albion-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne	1	0	0
James Fletcher, Albion-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne	1	0	0
Robert Woolley, Dukinfield Hall, near Ashton-under-Lyne	1	0	0
Richard Owen, Whitefield-lane, Kirkdale	1	1	0
Joseph Young, High-street, Chatham	1	0	0
M. Bacon, Ordnance-terrace, Chatham	1	0	0
Philip Alexander, Swanage, Dorset	2	0	0
Henry Ratcliffe, engraver, Accrington, Lancashire	1	0	0
John Crick, solicitor } Maldon, per J. B. May	1	0	0
G. W. Digby, solicitor } Maldon, per J. B. May	1	0	0
W. P. Read, farmer } Maldon, per J. B. May	1	0	0
H. May, merchant } Maldon, per J. B. May	1	0	0
W. Clarke } Maldon, per J. B. May	1	0	0
Small Sums	5	2	0

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Justitia."—The LEAGUE is sent free only to those who are registered as subscribers to the £100,000 fund.

"R. R. H." may be enrolled as a member for 1s.; a subscription of £1 will entitle him to a copy of the LEAGUE weekly, for twelve months.

"L. D."—The passage to which our correspondent refers occurs, Amos viii. 5, 6.; it is as follows:—"When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, *making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?* That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?" The inspired prophet denounces the sliding scale of the Jewish corn monopolists; they made the measure (ephah) small, and the price (shekel) great, and falsified the balances just as their modern imitators falsify the averages. The next verse is addressed to the supporters of all such sliding scales. "The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works."

"The Labourer's Address to the League" is rather too laboured for publication.

"Mark."—We agree with the writer that the improvement in the home-manufacture of umbrella-frames, and the consequent increase of demand for umbrellas which followed the importation of a new kind of umbrella-frames from Germany, aptly illustrates the national value of "Free Trade." In fact, the prospect of Free Trade has produced similar advantages in the West Indies, for we see by the last papers that the planters of Jamaica have roused themselves from the lethargy of centuries, and commenced a better system of cultivating sugar.

"A Subscriber" should recollect that caution is not inconsistent with courage.

"G. B. S."—The distinction between duties for revenue and duties for protection has been so often shown in the LEAGUE, that we do not deem it necessary to return to the subject at present.

The letter of "R. T.," Upper Bingham, has been received, but the paper he encloses cannot be published in the LEAGUE.

An anonymous correspondent has sent some strictures on a notice of Huber's "Universities," which appeared in the LEAGUE. It was not denied by the reviewer, that very able scholars have been educated at Oxford and Cambridge. What he did say is, that these institutions in their corporate character have ceased to be national authorities in science and general literature. Cambridge theology is not proved to have "a cognizable existence," by a reference to two or three writers educated in the University. The schools from which they went to college would have at least an equal claim to the merits of their acquirements in divinity.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, December 2,* 1843.

We earnestly recommend to the attention of our readers the able and impressive speech delivered by Mr. Cobden at Covent-garden Theatre on Thursday evening. It is a speech full of significance. Much more belongs to it than the merit or effect of lucid statement, cogent argument, or stirring appeal. It marks a step in the progress of the agitation. While making good the ground already won, it reconnoitres the new position which the enemy is preparing to take up, notes the strength or weakness of that position, and marshals the force of the League so as to render the contemplated manœuvre itself a means of securing and expediting the victory of the people. The fixed-duty battle is lost by monopoly before it is waged. The movement comes too late; its purpose is penetrated, and its attack is anticipated. The friends of Free Trade are forewarned and forearmed. From whatever quarter the proposition of a fixed bread-tax, instead of a variable one, may come, its reception is prepared. The *Times* is out-generalled, whether its march, as an advanced guard, be spontaneous or prompted. And he must be a bold man, whatever his standing in public life, or his connexion with interested classes, who shall dare to propose the imposition of a permanent tax on imported food, the fixed injustice and cruelty of a fixed duty, and to face the popular reaction, which his proposal will be sure to excite, of scorn and execration.

The powerful exposure of this enormity, which is evidently meditated, and for which the *Times* has undertaken the work of pioneer to the general camp of monopoly, and the reception of that exposure by the audience, constituted the peculiar interest of the Covent-garden meeting on Thursday evening. Some had feared that the excitement of these meetings might decline; that the great capitalists of London not having yet come forward like those of Manchester to gild the cause with their munificent contributions, its lustre might be waxing dim to the public eye; or that the return of a monopolist for New Sarum would have proved a damper, and chilled the enthusiasm that won the metropolitan election. The vanity and ignorance of these apprehensions was evinced, before the proceedings of the meeting commenced, by the eager, thronging crowds that besieged the theatre hours before the time, and that might well have filled the other large theatre also. Why will not the sliding-scale and the fixed-duty men combine and take Drury-lane Theatre for the same nights. Audiences are ready of sufficient magnitude to occupy both, and probably the League would allow an interchange of speakers, so that both sides of the question might be heard by each assemblage. We merely throw out the suggestion for their consideration; and we link them together, these two sets of bread-taxers, for they may depend upon it that, henceforth and for evermore, they are one in public estimation. There is no real difference between them. In words, the difference is, that the one cries "protection," and the other cries "revenue." But the revenue gets something out of the sliding scale, and the landlords would get abundance by the fixed duty. They would get just the amount of that duty, per quarter, in the enhanced price of their own produce. The people would be dolts indeed to endure the one any more than the other. The meeting of Thursday, in its evidently clear perception and strong reprobation of the trick, proves that no such compromise, or metamorphosis, has any chance of success. It is already scouted. The *Times* is on a forlorn hope; but it will win no colours.

We have spoken elsewhere of the Rochdale meeting, the interest of its proceedings, and the freedom of its contributions. Other meetings, of a similar description, will soon, we trust, claim their place in our columns. A spirit is moving over the land, and traversing its length and breadth, whose influence seems not only to be creating a power for the destruction of monopoly, but, by the means adopted for that end, working out also a moral elevation and expansion; generating independence, liberality, firmness; and producing the best and no blest results upon national character.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Nov. 25	Mon. Nov. 27	Tues. Nov. 28	Wed. Nov. 29	Thurs Nov. 30	Fri. Dec. 1
Bank Stock	181½	181	182	181	181½	182
3 per Cent. Con.	96	96⅛	96⅝	95⅞	96⅛	96⅛
New 3½ per Cent.	103	103	102¾	103	102¾	103⅛
Long Annuities	12⅛	—	12⅛	12 9-16	12 9-16	12 9-16
S. Sea Ann.	—	—	—	—	93⅝	—
India Bonds	69 70	—	69 71	70 72	72 73	70
India Stock	—	271	272	272	—	—
Exchequer Bills	53 55	51 54	51 54	52 54	52 54	55
Consols for Acc.	96	96⅛	96⅝	96⅜	96⅝	96⅝
Brazilian	—	75	74	75½	74¾	—
Mexican, 1837	—	—	31	31½	31½	—
Portuguese, conv.	43½	—	43½	43⅛	43⅛	—
Spanish 3 per Ct.	31⅞	32⅛	32¼	32¾	33⅛	32¾
Chilian 6 p. Ct. df.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	115½	—	115¾	—
Dutch 5 per Cent.	100	100	100	100	99⅞	99⅞
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	54½	54⅝	54⅝	54¾	54⅛	54⅝
Columb. 6 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	11⅛
Austrian, 5 p.Cent.	112	—	—	—	—	—
Danish	—	—	—	-	—	—
Peruvian	—	—	—	27½	—	—
Belgian 5 p. Cent.	104	103	—	103¼	—	103⅛
French 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Nov. 27.—The supply of English Wheat to this morning's market was rather short, and the condition of most of it was very bad. Such samples as were of good quality, and in good condition, were sold readily at last week's prices; but the greater part of the supply met a slow sale on rather lower terms. There was a good retail demand for free Foreign Wheat at former rates. The supply of Barley being short, the best Malting samples brought rather better prices, and there was an improved demand for other descriptions. White Peas were 1s. cheaper. In Grey Peas and Beans, both old and new, there was no alteration. There was a fair supply of Oats last week, chiefly Irish, but there were no fresh arrivals this morning. The trade was slow, and in some instances where vessels were on demurrage, a slight decline was submitted to. The stock of Wheat under lock on the 5th of November, was 112,675 qrs.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 20th to the 25th of Nov. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	2200	1323	776	666	636
Scotch	—	490	2372	—	—
Irish	—	600	21483	—	—
Foreign	—	—	—	—	—

Flour, 1511 sacks. 200 bls. Malt, 810 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed	21s — 23s
——, Distilling	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato	23s — 26s
——, Grinding	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Dec. 1.—The supplies of all grain since Monday are very moderate. The Wheat trade is not brisk, but Monday's prices are maintained. Barley of all descriptions being scarce, brings full prices. The supply of Irish Oats is very short; a few English and Scotch have arrived since Wednesday; the demand is chiefly confined to small buyers, the larger dealers holding off in expectation of further supplies. Monday's prices are well maintained. In other articles there is no alteration to notice. There was no variation in the duties yesterday.

52, Eastcheap. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 25th to the 1st of December, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	2310	—	1600
Barley	2730	—	—
Oats	140	3860	—

Flour 4060 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 25, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	108,812	51 0	107,220	32 1	33,420	19 0	9246	32 4
Aggregate Averages	..	51 2		31 7		18 4		31 8
Duty	..	19 0		7 0		8 0		10 6

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Nov. 28, 1843.

	Qrs.	Price.		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	3874	54s. 8d.	Rye	—	—
Barley	2633	33s. 4d.	Beans	837	31s. 7d.
Oats	20934	19s. 6d.	Peas	747	35s. 5d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

CROWN-OFFICE, NOV. 28.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

City of New Sarum.—John Henry Campbell, Esq., in the room of Wadham Wyndham, Esq., deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

C. PARSLOW, Blackman-street, Southwark, tailor. [Braham, Chancery-lane.

W. PEARSON, Chelmsford, draper. [Cattlin, Ely-place.

W. DUNNAGE and I. DUNNAGE, Tooley-street, plumbers. [Butler, Tooley-street.

G. BARNES, Portsea, innkeeper. [Lawrence, Old Fish-street.

R. GOODWIN, Eton, Bucks, ironmonger. [Baylis, Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate.

J. BATES, Colt-street, Limehouse, grocer. [Hindmarsh and Co., Crescent, Jewin-street.

C. ROBINSON, Great Trinity-lane, oil and colour merchant. [Lawrence and Co., Bucklersbury.

J. DEAKINS, Elmley Castle, Worcestershire, horse dealer. [Oldaker, Woodward, and Ball, Pershore; Nicholls, Birmingham.

T. W. JONES, Wellington, Shropshire, draper. [Robinson, Wellington; Slaney, Birmingham.

I. PARSONAGE, Birmingham, paper hanger. [Dimmock and Burbey, Size-lane, London; Ludlow, Birmingham.

W. MIERS, Leeds, oil merchant. [Sudlow, Sons, and Co., Chancery-lane, London; Middleton, Leeds.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 19. T. and J. L. Keasley, Long-lane, Bermondsey, tanners—Dec. 19. A. C. Marsh, Great Scotland-yard, navy agent—Dec. 22. W. Smith, Leeds, iron founder—Dec. 21. J. Swann and J. Kelly, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, Lancashire, bricklayers—Dec. 20. T. Joyce, Bristol, woollen draper—Dec. 21. G. Taylor, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Gloucestershire, mercer—Dec. 21. J. Oram, Chard, Somersetshire, lace manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES.

Dec. 19. G. F. Widnall, Edgware-road, stationer—Dec. 21. R. White, Ilford, Essex, draper—Dec. 19. J. Sell, Union-street, Southwark, baker—Dec. 21. W. Bates, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, auctioneer—Dec. 20. W. S. Espivent, Coleman-street-buildings, City, merchant—Dec. 19. R. W. Lewis, Shenfield, Essex, farmer—Dec. 19. E. Goldsbury, Hastings, draper—Dec. 20. M. D. Morgan, Llangottock, Brecon, grocer—Dec. 21. G. Taylor, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Gloucestershire, mercer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. BOATH, jun., Forfar, manufacturer—J. MORRISON, Edinburgh, painter—J. GIBSON, Glasgow, writer—J. M'DONALD, Parkholm, Printfield, calico printer—J. STEWART, Edinburgh, coach hirer.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1.

BANKRUPTS.

T. ALFORD, Harrow-road, Paddington, licensed victualler. [Berkeley, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

J. HART, Quadrant, Regent-street, tailor. [Teague, Crown-court, Cheapside.

R. W. ELLIOTT, Compton-street, Clerkenwell, silversmith. [Evans, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

J. SMITH, Darenth, Kent, carpenter. [Tripp, Gray's-inn-square; Hayward, Dartford.

C. WILLIAMS, Sunderland, currier. [Bell, Broderick, and Bell, Bow Churchyard; Snowball, Bishop Wearmouth.

W. STONE, Birmingham, printer. [Haywood and Webb, Birmingham.

R. LOWRS, Sunderland, innkeeper. [Cox and Stone, Poultry; Welford, Hexham.

J. JONES, Conway, Carnarvonshire, ship builder. [Lowe, Sweeting, and Byrne, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane; Roberts, Carnarvon.

T. FAWCETT and J. MUIR, Hollingworth, Cheshire, builders. [Hibbert, Cheshire; Tyler, Staples Inn.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Nov. 28, 1843, is 32s. 10½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

GOWLAND'S LOTION.—This elegant preparation, an original formula of the late Dr. Gowland, for all Impurities of the Skin, continues to maintain a repute commensurate with its specific properties of speedily eradicating every species of Eruptive Malady, Discoloration, &c., and of preserving and enhancing the beauty of the Complexion by a congenial action upon the skin as perfectly innocent as it is agreeable and efficacious. "Robert Shaw, London," is in white letters on the government stamp, without which it is not genuine.

Prices 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d., quarts 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Vendors.

FACTS which concern the whole Human Race.—First. Disease, in all its varied forms is but a chain of many links—thus establishing the principle of "An Unity of Disease."

Second. The form it assumes is governed by the peculiarities of the patient's constitution.

Third. A Medicine, to be really useful, should be one calculated to render to Nature just that assistance she requires in her efforts to expel disease.

Fourth. A Medicine suited to this purpose, must be as digestible as our common food, that the whole system may become impregnated therewith.

Fifth. To be digestible it must be entirely free in its composition from all minerals.

Sixth. It is notorious that nearly the whole of the medicines generally in use are either wholly or in part composed of mercury, in some shape or other, however much disguised.

The foregoing facts are important, and happily a medicine has been discovered suited to all the purposes therein laid down. Dr. HAMILTON'S VITAL PILLS are composed of the gums and herbs of the field, to the utter and entire exclusion of any mineral whatever, and possess the peculiar property of establishing in the patient's mind, by every day's use, that they are doing the very best they can for their health; and thus it is they are being recommended by cured patients into every corner of the empire. Let those who have tried, but every thing in vain, make trial of these, and they will be amply rewarded.

Pay particular attention to the directions which accompany each box. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. Sold by Simpson and Co., 20, Mile-end-road (who will forward any quantity by post, free, upon receiving the value in postage stamps); also, by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Prout, Strand; Johnston, Cornhill; Hannay, Oxford-street, and most vendors of medicines.

On the 1st of January, 1844, price 2s. 6d.,

HOOD'S MAGAZINE, and COMIC MISCELLANY.

"Order, order, order!"—THE BE-SPEAKER.

N.B. Order of any bookseller, or of the Proprietors at the office, 1, Adam-street, Adelphi, where all communications for the Editor are requested to be addressed.

On the 1st of every month is published, price 6d. stamped for post,

THE PHILANTHROPIST. A Journal devoted to Social, Political, and Moral Reforms.

"Its principles are those of the Miall, Cobden, and Sturge School; that is, it advocates the separation of Church and State, Corn-Law repeal, and complete suffrage * * Decidedly the most talented of its class."—Northern Star. Published by W. Brittain, 11, Paternoster-row.

SEQUEL TO DON JUAN.

Now ready, price 10s. 6d., elegantly bound,

A SEQUEL TO DON JUAN; with four beautiful Portraits of Heroines.

The work takes up the thread of the narrative so abruptly broken off in the original, concludes the adventure of Don Juan and the Duchess of Fitz Fulke, pursues the career of the hero in his amours with Lady Adeline Amundeville and other ladies, and follows him into the midst of the Reign o Terror in France, &c. &c. There are passages in this poem which will produce an extraordinary sensation, not only amongst the fashionable world, but also in the very palace itself.

Paget and Co., Publishers, 2, Bury-street, St. James's.

Just published, price 1d.,

THE PICTORIAL ANTI-CORN-LAW ALMANAC, containing a great variety of information on the Free Trade Question, and embellished by 14 spirited Woodcuts. This Almanac will form a very appropriate New Year's Present for Shopkeepers and others, and is well worthy of being circulated by the Anti-Corn-Law Association throughout the country.

TESTIMONY OF THE HON. C. P. VILLIERS, M.P.

London, November 22, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—I think the Pictorial Almanac excellent. The designs are clever and appropriate; and, as I suspect, more instructive to the many than all our oratory can be. Yours truly,

Mr. J. Livesey. Also, just published, C. P. VILLIERS.

No. 100 of the WEEKLY STRUGGLE. Price ½d.

Printed and published by J. Livesey, Preston. Sold by Gadsby and Heywood, Manchester; Willmer, and Anti-Monopoly Association, 7, Water-street, Liverpool, J. Kershaw, 14, South Market, Leeds; Houghton, 47, Westgate, Huddersfield; Riley, Chestergate, Stockport; Gill, Blackburn; Wragg, Bury; J. Dawson, Clitheroe; E. Bowker, Accrington; H. Earnshaw, Colne; Strange, Paternoster-row, London.

SONGS FOR THE APPROACHING SEASON.

Songs.	Written by.	Composed by.	
Old Christmas	T. Fricker, Esq.	E. J. Westrop.	2s.
The Rhine! The Rhine ..	do.	do.	2s.
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London: E. T. Purday, 45, High Holborn, Publisher of the following highly popular comic songs:—1. * The Sliding Scale—2. * Quang Chi and Pum Ho, or Love in China—3. * The Railroad—4. * Paddy from Cork—5. Wants—6. Wanted a Wife!

* These have highly finished and characteristic lithographic frontispieces.

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MEDICAL, INVALID, AND GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 26, Pall Mall, London. CAPITAL, £500,000.

This Office is provided with very accurately constructed Tables, by which it can ASSURE DISEASED LIVES on Equitable Terms.

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INCREASED ANNUITIES granted on UNSOUND Lives, the amount varying with the particular disease.

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The superiority of the system of Assurance adopted by this Company will be found in the fact that the premium required by a bonus office to assure £1000 on the life of a person in the 20th year of his age would in this office insure £1291 7s. 6d.

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JOHN RENDIGE, Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

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Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic., cap. 9.

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This Institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to Policy-holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies.

Assurances may either be effected by parties on their own lives, or by parties interested therein on the lives of others.

The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of £5 2s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience—he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

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Increasing Rates of Premium on a new and remarkable plan, for securing Loans or Debts; a less immediate payment being required on a Policy for the whole term of Life than in any other Office.

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All claims payable within one Month after proof of death.

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Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Annual Premiums payable during 1st Five Years.			2nd Five Years.			3rd Five Years.			4th Five Years.			Remainder of life.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
20	1	1	4	1	5	10	1	10	11	1	16	9	2	3	8
30	1	6	4	1	12	2	1	19	1	2	7	4	2	17	6
40	1	14	1	2	4	4	2	14	6	3	7	3	4	3	4
50	2	14	7	3	9	4	4	5	5	5	6	3	6	13	7

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained at the Office.

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

A Board of Directors attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

SIXPENCE EACH given for Nos. 93, 101, 110, 113, 119, and 122, of the ANTI-BREAD-TAX CIRCULAR.

The above may be sent by post to J. Gadsby, Manchester, accompanied by a letter, and J. G. will pay postage of letters both ways.

MEMBERS of the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, residing in the Country, can be supplied with the MORNING CHRONICLE, clean and regular, for 14s. per quarter; "Evening Sun" or "Globe," 13s. 6d. per quarter; sent by post to any part of the kingdom free of extra charge. Orders, pre-paid, to E. HALL, News Agent, 223, Strand. Agent for THE LEAGUE, &c.

IMPORTANT PATENT IMPROVEMENTS in CHRONOMETERS, WATCHES, and CLOCKS.—E. J. DENT, sole patentee, has OPENED his West-end PREMISES, 33, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, in addition to 82, Strand, with an entirely new stock of Watches and Clocks. Lady's Gold Watches, 5 guineas each; Gentlemen's ditto, 10 guineas; and Silver Levers at 6 guineas each.—A new edition of Dent's Lectures, price 1s., but to customers gratis.

PATENT FLANNEL.—MESSRS. ROGERS and CO. having retired from manufacturing the above well-known and much approved article, the Patent has in consequence been renewed by Samuel Archer, and the flannels will in future be made by him and called ARCHER'S ROYAL PATENT FLANNEL, WARRANTED NOT TO SHRINK.

S. A. begs respectfully to acquaint the public that his Royal Patent Flannel is sold by all Principal Hosiers and Drapers in town and country, and to be obtained wholesale no where but in London, at Messrs. J. B. and W Nevill and Co., 11, Maiden-lane, Post-office, and Messrs. Ward, Sturt, Sharp and Ward, 89, Wood-street.

ESTABLISHED IN 1835.

J. D. STILES, UPHOLSTERER, Undertaker, House Agent, and Appraiser, 27, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road (next door to the chapel), begs to express his sincere thanks to his friends for the favours already conferred, and to inform them and the public generally that he has always on sale a servicable stock of new and secondhand Furniture, Carpets, &c. &c.

J. D. S. takes this opportunity of respectfully announcing that he undertakes the Letting of Houses, effecting Valuations, collection or recovery of Rents, and commissions for the purchase of Furniture or Effects and doubts not, from the references he can make to parties by whom he has been and is now engaged, to secure the confidence and entire satisfaction of those who may be disposed to favour him with their commands.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES, at 263, HIGH STREET, BOROUGH, between Town-hall and London-bridge, in consequence of expiration of lease.—Wellington Boots, 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., and 13s. 6d; Clarence or Cloth Boots, 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 9s. 6d.; Bluchers, 4s. 11d. to 6s. 10d.; Calf Shoes, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 9d.; Walking Pumps or Dress Shoes, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 4d.; Ladies' Shoes, 1s. 3d. to 3s.; French Clogs, best, 1s. 6½d. per pair.

The above are good things, not made up to deceive the unwary and inexperienced. All orders from the country, containing a remittance or Post-office order, despatched the same day. Captains, Merchants, and Wholesale Dealers should call, as we are determined to sell. Observe, 263, High-street Borough.

JOEL HEARNDEN, Proprietor.

CABINET FURNITURE, Carpets, and Upholstery.—THOMAS PAUL and CO. inform the nobility and gentlemen furnishing, that their CABINET STOCK comprises every kind of furniture, calculated for any description of residence, from the cottage to the mansion, and will be found 50 per cent. cheaper than at any other house in London. Independent of the great saving that will be effected by purchasing at their establishment, and selecting from one of the most choice and varied stocks in the metropolis, Thomas Paul and Co. point out that among other advantages consists the very important one, that of every article being of their own manufacture, and of the most seasoned and sound materials, so that strength and durability can be guaranteed without putting purchasers to the inconvenience either of repair or exchange. Parties furnishing for a foreign climate are particularly invited to an inspection of the solidity as well as the superior manufacture and finish of their goods. Their stock of Brussels carpets consists of a splendid variety, commencing at the extraordinary low price of 2s. 3d. per yard, and those of new and elegant designs from 3s. per yard. Feather beds, horsehair, flock, and other mattresses and paillasses of every description, at the lowest possible prices. Thomas Paul and Co., cabinetmakers, upholsterers, and carpet manufacturers, opposite the Mansion House, City.

MACINTOSHES SUPERSEDED.—Important to all classes exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather.—The NEW BRITISH WATERPROOFING COMPANY render goods of every fabric, either in the piece or made-up garments, thoroughly impervious to the most drenching rains, and yet the escape of perspiration remains unimpeded. Books of Testimonials, with list of prices, may be had gratis, at their offices, 15, Skinner-street, Snow-hill (late 343, Strand).

TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 23, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. ROWAN."

N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

COMPOSITION FOR WRITING WITH STEEL PENS.

STEPHENS' WRITING FLUID.—These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of the STEEL PEN, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary Ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of—

A BLUE FLUID, changing to an intense Black colour. PATENT UNCHANGEABLE BLUE FLUIDS, remaining a deep Blue colour.—A SUPERIOR BLACK INK, of the common character, but more fluid.—A SUPERIOR CARMINE RED, for Contrast Writing.—A CARBONACEOUS RECORD INK, which writes instantly black, and, being proof against Chemical Agents, is most valuable in the prevention of frauds.

Also a new kind of MARKING INK for Linen: and Inkholders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

Bottles at 3d. each convenient for writing from, are prepared, which will enable those who may wish to try either of these articles to do so at a small expense.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, the Inventor, 54, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, London.

Sold in bottles, at 3d., 6d., 1s. and 3s. each.

Be sure to ask for Stephens' Writing Fluid.

N.B. These unchangeable Blue Fluids are patent articles; the Public are therefore cautioned against imitations, which are infringements, to sell or use which is illegal.

STEPHENS' SELECT STEEL PENS.

The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the highest finish, they can be confidently recommended both for flexibility and durability.

G. T. MANSELL AND CO., 2, BUCKLERSBURY, CHEAPSIDE.

TEAS, at wholesale prices, for cash.—By this mode the large consumer, who pays ready money, is enabled to procure this necessary article at a saving of about 30 per cent. The patronage we have received induces us to persist, by every means in our power to make it universally known. Goods delivered to all parts of town daily, and country orders (containing £5 and upwards) forwarded free.

TEA.—Carriage Free.—Families resident in the country have hitherto been restrained from sending to London for their TEA and COFFEE on account of the expense of carriage. We have now made arrangements by which all orders amounting to £5 and upwards shall be delivered carriage free. All orders containing a post-office order or remittance despatched the same day.

TEA.—Strong Breakfast Tea, 3s. 8d.—This tea may be safely recommended as a good tea for economical purposes. Hotelkeepers and large consumers in particular are invited to try it. Pound samples may be had for cash on delivery. Delivered to all parts of town daily, free, and in the country where the order amounts to £5.

TEA.—SOUCHONG TEA, 4s.—This tea possesses much strength and flavour, holds out well in the pot, and far different to the vapid rubbish in general use. The price may perhaps be too low to induce many who have been paying a high price to try, but we know our interest too well to recommend what is not likely to please, and we do recommend it very strongly.

TEA.—Rich PEKOE SOUCHONG, 4s. 4d.—The connoisseur will find in this tea abundance of flavour and strength. It is a tea of the first class, possesses a rich Pekoe Souchong flavour, and a quality rarely met with. For general purposes our tea at 3s. 8d. and 4s. will be found sufficient. Orders from the country containing remittances of £5 and upwards forwarded free. Goods delivered in all parts of town daily. Cash on delivery.—G. T. MANSELL and Co., 2, Bucklersbury, Cheapside.

THE WATER RAM will raise water thirty times the height of the fall from which it is fixed—no manual labour required. There are upwards of 300 fixed; one on the premises for inspection. Estimates and Particulars sent, upon application to P. ROE, 70, STRAND, Fountain Maker, &c. Engines for deep wells, &c.

FURNISHED HOUSE, Delahay-street, near Storey's-gate, Westminster.—To Members of Parliament and others.

TO BE DISPOSED OF by Private Contract, by Messrs. DRIVER, the LEASE and FURNITURE of a HOUSE delightfully situate in the immediate vicinity of the two Houses of Parliament, Westminster Hall, and St. James's Park, and well adapted for a Member of Parliament, a Barrister, or any gentleman connected with the Government Offices; containing dining room, two drawing rooms, library, six bed chambers, and convenient domestic apartments.

For particulars, and to view the same, apply, by letter or otherwise, to Messrs. Driver, Richmond-terrace, Whitehall; or at the offices of William Crabb Knight, Builder, &c., 12, Alfred-place, Newington causeway, Southwark.

LOWDEN'S CELEBRATED COUGH PILLS, a safe and effectual cure for Coughs, Colds, Shortness of Breath, Asthma, &c. &c. They promote free expectoration, and hence prevent the accumulation of phlegm which causes a sense of choking; allay irritability, tickling in the throat, and relieve that sense of oppression, fulness, and difficulty of breathing, which nightly deprives the patient of rest.

In Asthma and Coughs of long standing they are invaluable, and universally admitted to be the best known Medicine; in any case where they do not effect a perfect cure they afford such relief to the sufferer during the paroxysms or fits as to induce him henceforth never to be without them.

Sold by Mr. Lowden, Chemist, 205, Fleet-street, London, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.; also by one or more respectable Medicine Venders in each town in the United Kingdom.

THE CELEBRATED LAMP OIL, and no IMPROVEMENT.—SMITH and CO., opposite Norfolk-street, Strand, have not at all improved their highly RECTIFIED LAMP OIL, which is precisely such as gave universal satisfaction to their numerous connexion last season. It is now in the highest perfection, and one trial will prove that it can have no successful competitor. It is applicable to every kind of lamp, equals sperm in strength and brilliancy of flame, and burns much longer, thus effecting a saving of nearly one-half in the cost of light. Price 4s. 6d. per imperial gallon. A lamp kept burning for inspection without solicitation to purchase. Old and ill-constructed lamps made to burn well and look like new, at a very trifling charge. New Lamps, for every purpose, upon scientific principles, at trade prices. Finest Solar Oil 3s. 4d. per gallon, at the depot.—Letters have immediate attention.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, continue to restore DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache, and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth	£0	10	0
A Set	5	5	0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 69, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET, &c.

Wellington-street, Strand, London.

HALL and CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather-Cloth Boots and Shoes for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented. Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing, or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

CAUTION AGAINST IMPOSITION.

MESSRS. DELCROIX, of 158, New Bond-street, beg to caution the nobility, gentry, and the public against a mock advertisement, headed "Delcroix's Perfumery, Caution," the insertion of which in the *London Mail*, &c. has been discovered to be the act of a clever barbier, who formerly luxuriated in a small practice in Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, and who now makes use of the name of a respectable old lady named Delcroix (by profession a milliner), for the purpose of decrying Delcroix's Macassar Oil, imported under the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury, and of palming upon the public his Macassar Oil, which he terms "The Genuine;" but which said Genuine Macassar Oil, Serjeant Talfourd in the late case of "Rowl and v. Berens," vide *Morning Chronicle*, 8th July, 1843, was prepared to prove was nothing but common oil coloured with acolata root. The public may therefore, from the above statement of facts, form an opinion of the respectability of the party acting in such a manner, and also of the value of his pretended nostrums.

ROYAL NURSERY.—"DELCROIX'S MACASSAR OIL," imported under the sanction of the "Lords of the Treasury," for the use of her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, &c., is protected by two elegantly executed correct likenesses, in embossed medallions, of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the signature and the address of the proprietors. It produces beautifully flowing curls, and by the transcendent lustre it imparts, renders the hair truly enchanting. To avoid the counterfeits generally sold by hairdressers, be sure to ask for "Delcroix's Macassar Oil," 158, New Bond-street. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle.

TO LADIES.—DELCROIX'S KALYDOR, a French Cosmetic, surpassing all others for preserving and beautifying the complexion, prepared for the use of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her Majesty the Queen Dowager, by especial command, and protected by letters patent, the label bearing the Royal Arms, elegantly embossed, surmounted by the Prince of Wales's plume. This all-perfect requisite for the lady's toilet imparts a softness to the skin, and removes all cutaneous eruptions, giving to the complexion a clear and healthful appearance. Ask for "Delcroix's Kalydor," 158, New Bond-street. Price 4s. 6d. per bottle.

A BRONZE SCROLL FENDER for 15s.—RIPPON and BURTON are now offering the most extensive assortment of FENDERS in London, embracing every possible variety, at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Iron fenders, 3 feet long, from 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, 3 feet, from 6s.; 3 feet 6, 7s.; 4 feet, 8s.; rich scroll fenders bronzed, from 15s.; or with steel rod and moulding, from 21s.; polished steel and ormolu mounted fenders at proportionate prices. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; ditto steel dials, from 3s. 6d.; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. 6d.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE ONLY SAFE AND HEALTHY STOVES.

THE PATENT CHUNK and VESTA STOVES are the only ones recommended by the faculty for the bedrooms of invalids, and other places where a genial warmth is requisite. They are without doors, from which, in Arnott's (whether improved or not) and all others, the impure gases escape; consequently, the evils attendant upon such escapes, as headache, dizziness, &c., as well as fatal explosions, cannot occur in the use of them. These stoves having stood the test of five years, during which time upwards of five thousand have been fixed in chapels, shops, halls, forcing pits, nurseries, &c., they are most confidently offered to the public. They have been found to combine, in an extraordinary degree, great simplicity of use and certainty of action, with perfect safety, at an almost incredible small cost for fuel (coke or cinders). Chunk, 60s. each; Vesta, 80s. each.

THE PYRIDON STOVE (also a patent) has most of the advantages of the Chunk and Vesta, with the extremely novel one of showing the fire-fan in a register stove) in one moment; it is eminently a ventilating stove, and will be found invaluable where any prejudice exists against a close stove: price 60s. Full particulars, with engravings and testimonials, post free.

RIPPON and BURTON, Proprietors.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The material RIPPON and BURTON offer to the public has for the last eight years been found equal to silver in appearance and sweetness, and superior to it in durability. Of the prices of tea-sets, waiters, candlesticks, and all articles hitherto made in silver, a detailed catalogue, with engravings, will be sent (gratis) post-free.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Threaded Pattern.	VICTORIA Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	20s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto ..	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto ..	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	15s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Established 1819.—Catalogues gratis.

London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton, Crane-court, Fleet-street) by A. W. FAULTON, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and published by him at THE LEAGUE Office, 67, Fleet-street, on Saturday, December 2, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 11.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1843. [3d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their addresses as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, *67, Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

THE COLLECTION OF THE £100,000 FUND.

In those towns where arrangements have not been already made for holding meetings to commence the subscriptions, it is desirable that they should be entered upon forthwith. The committees in all the large towns will oblige the Council by immediately deciding upon the time when they will be prepared to receive a deputation from Manchester. It must be understood that these arrangements will be required to be made quickly, as Scotland and a great number of towns in England will have to be visited before the meeting of Parliament. All letters on this subject to be addressed to George Wilson, Esq., Offices of the League, Manchester.

ON THE ADVOCACY OF A FIXED DUTY BY THE "TIMES."

The *Times* has taken up the cudgels against both the sliding scale and a free trade in corn. We leave the former to its tender mercies. To the mode in which it deals with the latter we shall pay some attention.

It is not always easy to disentangle the argument of the *Times* from its rhetoric. The elaborate article of Monday last is an instance of this. What there is of logic is enveloped in a huge cocoon of extraneous matter—extraneous as to the writer's argument, though not as to his object. We are treated in succession to a long tissue of self-laudations; compliments to moderate mercantile men for carrying into the Exchange "the feelings and the impulses of gentlemen," while they look with no favour upon "Utopian schemes," and are prejudiced against "a too comprehensive philanthropy;" insinuations that the "orators of the League" cant in their professions of sympathy with the poor, and are over-fervid in their "declamations against imaginary injustice;" and swelling sentences about "arms, men, ammunition, regiments of horse, foot, and marines, frigates, ships of the line, and gun-boats," as much finer things for England than "cotton and calico." All this mystification simply means that the *Times* is going to war with the Free-Trade principle, not by means of argument alone, but with the force of any prejudice which can be flattered, of any stupid John Bullism that can be cajoled, and of any timidity that can be terrified into augmenting the hostility. Be it so. The tactics of the *Times* in working a topic are well known. They will not be forgotten because it puts on a solemn face, and gravely announces that "a great question should be divested of all simulation." Nor will many people suppress a smile when they think of the unadorned, earnest, practical, and tough statements, that constitute the staple of Mr. Cobden's powerful speeches, and read, amid the stilted diction, the affected apostrophes and the swaggering commonplaces of that bullying sort of patriotism which went out of date with the war-time, that "allowance must be made for the theatrical atmosphere in which the claptrap was uttered." Had this deliberately-concocted article been an oral and extempore reply, such language might have been construed as an apology, though not very gracefully conveyed in the form of a censure. As it is, however, the unconsciousness and assumption render very amusing the contrast between the simplicity of the off-hand speaker and the turgidity of the solitary and rhetorical writer.

But, the argument against Free Trade. We shall endeavour to pick it out. Its first position, though put last in order by the writer, is that "we must pay our debts," and also support large military and naval armaments, for "the majesty of the British empire and the honour of the British name." "Let no man put them in competition with the cheapness of a loaf of bread, or the profits of a manufactory." The needful extent of our establishments we leave to be settled by the people's representatives. Our business is with the alleged, or implied, incongruity between Free Trade and Public Faith. We deny that there is any such incongruity—we deny that the public creditor has anything to fear from Free Trade. The *Times* aims at alarming him, and puts itself forward as his protector. It magnanimously swears he shall come to no harm. "Yes, gentlemen, WE MUST PAY OUR DEBTS. When we have done this—when the £800,000,000 becomes, with its annual interest, a thing of history only—then, sell bread at one penny the loaf, and sugar at twopence a pound, and everything else in the same proportion—*but not till then.*" A pretty long postponement this, for the starving artisans of the present generation. But where is the connexion? Whereabouts, in a free corn trade, lies the deadly poison for public faith? By what logic does the *Times* link together dear bread and sugar with the payment of the fundholders' dividends, and cheap bread and sugar with the bankruptcy of the State, and a fraud upon its creditors?

We look for any such connecting link in vain. It is all sheer assumption. Not a fraction of a reason is assigned why Free Trade should endanger the dividends. The only semblance of a reason is a falsehood in point of fact; not an argument derived from the Free-Trade principle, but a calumny against its advocates; and, even were it true, would be nothing to the purpose. They are spoken of as "men whose present language and conduct augur dangerous hostility to necessary taxation." This assertion is in the very teeth of truth. "Language?" Ask any of the crowded meetings at Covent-garden, if they ever heard the slightest approach towards invading the sacredness of public faith? Ask them if they ever heard elsewhere the legitimate rights of property more strenuously asserted? Ask them whether on all occasions the boundary line has not been broadly and deeply marked which separates taxation *for the profit of a class* from taxation for the exigencies of the State? "Conduct!" What conduct? The distribution of information, the purifying of elections, the attempted suppression of bribery, the invitation to all classes deeming themselves interested, the appeal to whatever is most intellectual and moral in the many: are here any perils to public faith? No proof is attempted by the writer of this preposterous imputation. He "augurs" it of the League—that is all. There is an evident and utter carelessless of fact and evidence, so that the very timid fundholder may but be sufficiently frightened by this sinister augury—

> "The raven croaked as he sat on the tree,
> And the old woman knew what he said;
> And she grew pale, at the raven's tale,
> And sickened and went to bed."

There will be no occasion, we trust, for the verdict of a coroner's jury, "Died, by an augury of the *Times*."

The Corn Laws, as the *Times*, in common with all the world, very well knows, are not a tax for the purposes of revenue. They form no part of the fundholder's security. If the State derive any resources from them, that is by accident, and not designedly. A repeal would leave the fundholder in full possession of all his existing guarantees. Nay, more than that; it would improve his condition. Extended trade would render more productive the taxation which is fairly and honestly levied for the support of the revenue. Every Government tax would be the more profitable for the removal of the landlord's tax. And there is another consideration for the fundholder. In whatever degree the necessaries of life would be cheapened by free trade in corn, and extended trade in other things, the fundholder would reap the benefit; he, and all persons of fixed income. His security would be strengthened, and his dividends augmented by a bonus. They would command more in the market in proportion to any reduction of prices.

The proposition of the *Times* is really that of a NEW TAX—a Government bread tax. What a proposition to make, while its columns are crowded with horrible cases of destitution; when the revenue has actually been raised to the level of the expenditure; and when, according to the same authority, there are symptoms of the growth of an anti-taxation party in the country! What more likely than such an impost to peril the sacredness of public faith. The writer sees the danger, and so he limits his projected tax to imported corn: "because a duty paid at the Custom-house is felt to be far less galling, irritating, and oppressive than *the same duty* paid at the retailer's." Yes, but would it, or could it, be "the same duty?" The people would (by the effect on prices) pay the duty on all the corn consumed; but the State would only receive the duty upon the corn imported. What the exact proportion may be, there are no means of ascertaining. One-sixth, as suggested by Mr. Cobden, is probably above the mark. Take it so; then for every twopence of revenue, the people have to pay a shilling. Would not this be "galling, irritating, and oppressive?" Does the *Times* think it would be endured? It speculates on a delusion by keeping the process of taxation out of sight at the Custom-house. The speculation comes too late; the delusion is its own. A public sufficiently enlightened to obtain the repeal of the sliding scale has got beyond the point at which this projected cajolery would be practicable. And why attempt it? Plainly *not* for the sake of revenue. That pretext is stripped off; it is the hollowest of shams. The true purpose is the same with that of the sliding scale—an artificial enhancement of the price of agricultural produce. Compared with that effect, the revenue to the State is contemptibly insignificant. The *Times* is fighting the rent battle under false colours. Its word is "revenue," but its project is for "protection." We thank it for showing the cloven foot so speedily.

If more taxation be necessary, for the maintenance of public faith, and for the legitimate purposes of Government, let it be laid on. But let the broadest shoulders be chosen to bear the burden. While labourers are toiling for 8s. a week on farms which are paying annual rent from 20s. to 30s. an acre, we cannot help thinking that land tax is quite as reasonable as bread tax. An estate worth scores of thousands per annum passes from father to son untouched by any legacy duty to the State, while the fourpenny loaf pays the landlord's penny tax in passing from the poorest donor to the most famished beggar. The "orators of the League" may retort, writers of the *Times*, "You are forgetful." Very forgetful, occasionally. The article immediately following that on which we have commented commences thus:—"It would be needless to add another stroke to the speaking horrors of the case of starvation to DEATH which we recorded on Saturday." And yet the *Times* does add "another stroke," and a bold one; the exhibition of a journalist who dares to combine, in the same column, the record of starvation to death with the proposal of a tax on bread. There they stand, side by side: the postponement of a cheapened loaf, by continuing the taxation upon food until the extinction of the national debt, interest and principal, be accomplished; and the description of the corpse, of which "*the stomach and bowels were perfectly empty—there was not the slightest particle of food or nourishment of any kind to be found therein.*" Neither sophistry nor bluster can bear up against that expressive juxtaposition. Which will the *Times* abandon—for relinquish one it must: the cause of the poor, or the continuance of a bread tax?

HOW SHIPOWNERS ARE INJURED BY THE CORN LAWS.

It is with no small gratification we learn from various quarters that a great change is taking place in the minds of shipowners in favour of Free Trade. We are not surprised at it, because, the moment they cease to view the question as one of party politics, it must be self-evident to them that their interests are not at variance with those of the rest of the community. If it be the interest of the public that all restrictions on trade be removed, that so an increase in the demand for the products of our industry in exchange for foreign commodities be promoted, it is clear that those must be greatly benefited who are the *carriers* of this increased import and export. We feel persuaded that the more the question is discussed the more palpable will the interests of shipowners in Free Trade appear, and particularly a free trade in corn.

A large portion of our shipowners are also merchants. Sometimes they purchase produce to load their own vessels; sometimes they let the use of

them to others at certain rates of freight; but whether they trade on their own account, or carry for others, it must be evident that the greater the variety and quantity of commodities they are enabled to deal in, and the fewer restrictions imposed on traffic, the greater the chances of obtaining cargoes and profitable freights.

Now the largest commodity on the face of the earth, one which grows almost in all countries, British shipowners are precluded, except at certain periods, either to carry or to purchase, because the law makes the trade in foreign corn an exception to the trade in all other commodities. They can safely trade at all times in cotton, coffee, sugar, timber, tobacco, and all other foreign produce, because it can always be imported at certain fixed rates of duty, whilst the duty on corn is generally prohibitive, and is ever fluctuating and uncertain. The law makes the importation of foreign corn only an *occasional* trade; it is never entered upon except in seasons of apprehended or real scarcity; the fluctuations, therefore, are rendered so sudden and great, and the rates of duty so uncertain, that prudent merchants and shipowners are shut out by the hazardous nature of the trade from venturing in corn as in other commodities, and it is left in the hands of reckless speculators and gamblers. But it may be said that, although shipowners may be shut out of an otherwise profitable trade by the risks attending the occasional import of foreign corn, they share in the advantages of carrying it wherever a trade exists. Here it is that those shipowners who are in favour of monopoly have not reflected upon the injury which they sustain by it, and we think such will be not a little surprised at the facts we purpose to lay before them.

By the official return of "the number of vessels, distinguishing the countries to which they belonged, which entered the ports of the United Kingdom, inwards, in the year ending 5th January, 1842," there were (exclusive of vessels laden with corn)—

British ships.....	12,532
Foreign do.....	4,621
	17,183

Now, if it be found that the number of vessels entered inwards *laden with foreign corn* bear the same relative proportion with those laden as above with other commodities, it might be said that shipowners had little to complain of on the score of loss of freights; but what are the facts? By another official return of the "Foreign and British vessels *laden with corn* from the continent of Europe entered inwards at the undermentioned ports, from 1st August to 1st October, 1841," the proportions appear as follows:—

	British.	Foreign.
At London	306	481
,, Hull	117	271
,, Newcastle	25	103
,, Leith	53	233
	501	1,088

Is it not well worthy the inquiry of British shipowners, why foreign ships bring into British ports *double* the quantity of *corn*, whilst of *other produce* they only bring *one-third* the quantity brought by British ships? What, then, is the reason of this difference? We answer, the Corn Laws. In ordinary years foreign corn cannot be imported at the high duties imposed by the sliding scale, and therefore there is neither employment for British or foreign shipping; but in seasons of scarcity, when prices rise in the English market and the duty falls, then foreign corn can be brought in; but, as the rates of duty fluctuate with the price of corn, importers are naturally anxious to get in their corn whilst the duty remains low; and hence the preference given to foreign vessels on the spot, even at a somewhat higher freight than English could be obtained at by waiting a few weeks. The risk of loss from higher sliding duties, by the delay even of a week, would not be compensated by lower freights; and thus it is that the sliding scale not only robs British shipowners of their fair share in a large and profitable trade, but enables foreign to obtain higher freights than British shipowners. The extent of the injury inflicted upon British shipowners, by preventing their fair participation in the trade of foreign corn in those seasons when the law allows it to be carried on, will be best seen by the following official return of the "Number of ships laden with foreign corn entered inwards at the ports of the United Kingdom, in the year ending 5th January, 1842," viz:—

From Russia	4	Ships!
Sweden	26	
Norway	2	
Denmark	752	*
Prussia	688	*
Germany	771	*
Holland	141	—**
Belgium	8	
France	280	
Spain	12	
Italy	13	
Austria	12!	
Egypt	1!	
United States	108!	
Total by foreign ships	2818	
By British ships	1887	
Total	4705	Ships.

It is reasonable to suppose that, if the trade in corn were *free*, the relative quantities imported by British and foreign ships would be similar to that of all other commodities. We have seen by the Custom-house returns that in the year ending 5th January, 1842, this was in the proportion of 12,532 British to 4621 foreign ships; whilst of corn the proportion was 1887 British to 2818 foreign ships; it follows, therefore, that the corn monopoly during that year deprived British shipowners of the freightage of upwards of 1000 ships! That shipowners, in the face of facts like these, can continue to support a law which seems almost as if it were *designed* to deprive them of their fair share of employment for their shipping will indeed be an instance of neglect of their own interest for no apparent object, which it will be difficult to account for on rational grounds. But it would be taking a narrow view of the question to confine it solely to the injury sustained by shipowners in those *occasional* years when the law allows importations of foreign corn; we would rather invite attention to the probable effects of a *Free* Trade in corn and all other articles, and the advantages which shipowners, in common with the whole community, would derive from it.

In the year ending 5th January, 1842, the total number of British and foreign ships entered inwards at the ports of the United Kingdom were as follows:—

4,705	ships laden with grain.
17,153	do. with all other commodities.
Total 21,858	ships.

More than one-fifth of the total number of vessels during that year were laden with corn. Would it not be important to shipowners that so large a portion of the whole shipping should be *permanently*, instead of occasionally, employed? Is it difficult to account for want of employment of shipping and consequent distress, when we see so large a number of ships, which a short time ago were employed, suddenly thrown out of the trade? How are these evils to be remedied? Simply by removing all restrictions on Free Trade in corn, and placing it on the same footing with all other commodities; and then we should as unfrequently see an *occasional* trade in corn as in sugar or cotton.

That a Free Trade in corn would give *permanent* employment to as large a quantity of shipping as was engaged in it in 1842 will become apparent when we consider that millions of our population "rejoice in potatoes," and millions more are very inadequately supplied with bread. But the most important results to shipowners arising from a Free Trade in corn would probably be that England would become the great storehouse of the world—her peculiar geographical position, the advantages of capital and extensive commerce, point her out as the natural collector and distributor of a large portion of the surplus produce of all countries.

We recommend these considerations to the candid reflection of shipowners, and call upon them for present aid in the struggle for Free Trade, and future exertions when the time arrives to remove every representative in Parliament who has brought distress and ruin upon the community by supporting monopoly.

A FIXED DUTY, OR NO DUTY.

The defenders of the sliding scale are one by one deserting it, and the only question for discussion now is a fixed duty or no duty. If the arguments in the *Times* of Monday last be the best that can be advanced, a fixed duty on corn rests on a foundation little less rotten than that of a sliding scale. The *Times* in advocating a fixed duty professes to echo "the known and professed opinions of the great mercantile body." We know not what authority they have for this assumption, but we should be sorry to believe that the specimen of reasoning and intelligence displayed by that journal in defence of its proposition is a representation of the intelligence of the great body of British merchants. We proceed, however, to dissect the fallacies, and expose the misrepresentations of "the leading journal."

The *Times* advocates a fixed duty for purposes of revenue:—

"Orators of the League (say they), we tax the poor man's bread not to enrich the aristocratic monopolist—but we tax the poor man's bread for the same reason that we tax the rich man's bread—for the same reason that we tax the poor man's tea and the rich man's tea—the rich man's silks and the poor man's cotton wool,—for the purposes of revenue."

There appears to us no analogy between the tax on tea and silks, and the tax on bread. A tax on tea and silks is a tax on luxuries; *a tax on bread is a tax on life.*

"Tea (as the *Manchester Guardian* well observes) is undoubtedly taxed for the purpose of revenue: but then the tax applies to *all the tea consumed;* and what is taken out of the pocket of the consumer finds its way to the exchequer. The tax, therefore, whether politic or impolitic in its nature or its amount, is, at any rate, a tax for revenue, and for revenue alone. But suppose that nine-tenths of the tea consumed were grown in England, in monopoly tea-gardens,—and one-tenth imported,—suppose a tax of 2s. 2½d. per pound laid upon the imported tea, and no tax at all upon the monopoly tea grown at home—(for that is the parallel case to that of the fixed duty on corn)—what would be the nature and effect of the tea-tax then? Its effect as a revenue-tax would be comparatively insignificant, as that of the bread-tax will be; but its consequences in the way of raising the price of monopoly tea, grown at home, would be serious indeed. It would increase the cost, not merely of the foreign tea on which it was imposed, but of *all the tea consumed*, to the extent of the tax levied; taking some three millions sterling from the pockets of the consumers—not for the benefit of the State,—not to increase the revenue, but for the sole advantage of the tea-monopolist."

Now, a fixed duty on corn would not apply, as in the case of tea, to *all the corn consumed;* it is not proposed to tax the corn grown at home; it is only intended to tax *some thirtieth or fortieth part of the consumption, namely, the corn imported from foreign countries.* The object of a fixed duty on corn is *not* to raise revenue. "If" (said Mr. Cobden at Covent Garden) "you are honest in wishing to tax bread for purposes of revenue, why do you not tax it at the mill?"—and thus a tax would be levied on *all the corn consumed.* The *real* object of a fixed duty of 6s., 7s., or 8s. a quarter on foreign corn is to raise the *price of home-grown corn for the benefit of those whom the Times calls the aristocratic monopolists.*

The sliding scale is become a by-word and an abomination among the people, and now that the monopolists feel that it is sliding from under them, attempts will be made to continue the monopoly under another form, and the proposition of the *Times* is an experiment to hoodwink the public under the specious pretext of a fixed duty *for purposes of revenue!*

Let us see, however, what amount a fixed duty would annually take out of the pockets of the people. Suppose an average fixed duty of 5s. per quarter were imposed on foreign grain—and suppose that we imported two million quarters per annum—a revenue would be thus raised of £500,000 to be paid into the Queen's exchequer. But how would the account stand with the people? It is estimated that the consumption of grain of all kinds in the kingdom is sixty million quarters per annum; a duty of 5s. per quarter, on foreign, would raise the price to consumers of *all* the grain consumed, by the whole amount of the duty. By a fixed duty, therefore, the people would be taxed:—

58,000,000 qrs. home-grown grain, at 5s. ..	£14,500,000
2,000,000 ,, foreign grain, at 5s.	500,000
Total burthen of 5s. fixed duty	£15,000,000

Here, then, is a pretty contrivance to raise revenue; it is proposed to tax the people to the extent of £15,000,000 per annum, in order to raise £500,000 for the Queen's exchequer!!! The Chinese proverb likens a monstrous absurdity, folly or extravagance, to "setting your house on fire to light your pipe." The proposition of a fixed duty is such an atrocious folly, that we hope in future, when it is mentioned, that the Chinese proverb will always be connected with it.

We see the extent to which a 5s. fixed duty would tax the people. It becomes an important inquiry who would bear the principal portion of this enormous burthen? We answer, the chief consumers of food. And who are they? Why, the labouring classes. Sir F. Eden states that, in 179[illegible], the annual expense of the family of an agricultural labourer, supposed to consist of 5 4-5ths persons, calculated from a table of the expense of [illegible] families of labourers in different parts of England, was—

Bread, butcher's meat, beer, and other provisions of home growth	£16	0	0
Tea, sugar, and foreign articles	2	0	0
Rent	1	13	0
Fuel and candles	2	10	0
Clothes and washing	4	7	0
Contingencies	0	10	0
	£27	0	0

At that time the earnings of a family were 10s. 6d. per week, and provisions were much cheaper than now. What, we ask, would be the proportion of wages spent in food, at present prices, of a Dorchester or Wiltshire family earning 7s. or 8s. a week? and what the proportion of a lord's income spent in such articles as are consumed by the poor—viz., potatoes and bread? Is it not a monstrous iniquity to tax a poor man for an essential necessary of life, one which absorbs 60 to 80 per cent. of his income, after the same rate as a lord, who probably does not spend on the same articles 1 per cent. of his income? Can a more infamous contrivance be conceived, of taxing people in the proportion of their inability to pay, than a tax on bread?

The *Times* professes to be the advocate of the poor and oppressed: scarcely a day passes in which they do not appeal to public compassion for the distressed. Has it never occurred to them how large a share the bread tax has in the sufferings of the poor? It is sheer hypocrisy to affect sympathy for the poor, and at the same time to uphold a bread tax, whether it be in shape of a sliding scale or a fixed duty.

Having disposed of the *Times'* fallacies, we must add a word on its misrepresentations. It labours to produce the impression that the "League is hostile

to necessary taxation." "Orators of the League (say they), we have a great debt, and that debt must be discharged by taxation. Yes, gentlemen, WE MUST PAY OUR DEBTS." So say we, WE MUST PAY OUR DEBTS, and we *can* pay them. But who ought to pay them, the poor or the rich? If ever there were one body more than another that laboured to uphold public faith, it is the League; for what body has laboured with equal earnestness and energy to overthrow monopoly? Hear the testimony of men of official station, great experience, unbiassed by interest, having access to the best sources of information, and therefore the best means of forming a deliberate and correct judgment of monopolies. Mr. James Deacon Hume, who for thirty-eight years held an official situation in the Customs, and for eleven years was secretary to the Board of Trade (the gentleman whose assistance in preparing his Free-Trade measures Mr. Huskisson said entitled him "to the lasting gratitude of the country," a gentleman of whom Sir Robert Peel has also spoken in similar terms), in his evidence before the Import Duties Committee in 1840 says, speaking of the burthen of the food monopoly as computed in money, "*I conceive the actual money paid, and the evil effect computed in money, would be more than the whole revenue of the country.*" Mr. John M'Gregor, the present secretary to the Board of Trade, in his evidence before the same committee, says, "*I consider that the taxation imposed upon the country by our duty on corn, and the provision duties and prohibitions, are far greater, probably much more, than double the amount of the taxation paid to the Treasury.*" This is the taxation the League has laboured to abolish; but is this what the *Times* calls "hostility to necessary taxation?" "We must pay our debts," and when we get rid of the burthen of taxation paid to monopolists, we can *easily* pay them, and the public creditor will possess double the security he has at present. When the *Times* has laboured like the League in defence of public faith, we will give it leave to boast.

We cannot condescend to discuss the vital subject of the Corn Laws, like the *Times*, on principles of expediency, or simply because they "embarrass the negotiations of merchants." We believe taxes on food to be indefensible on the eternal principles of justice; we therefore *never* will be a party to a fixed duty or any duty. Holy writ declareth, "The bread of the needy is his life; he that defraudeth him thereof is a man of blood." A FIXED DUTY, THEN, IS A FIXED INJUSTICE.

MEETINGS.

TRIUMPHANT PROGRESS OF FREE TRADE.

ANOTHER GREAT MEETING OF THE LIVERPOOL ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION.

(Abridged from copy forwarded from the office of the *Liverpool Journal*.)

On Wednesday last, another vast meeting of the friends of Free Trade, in Liverpool, assembled at the Amphitheatre, to testify, by the liberality of their pecuniary contributions, the sincerity of the professions to which they have on so many previous occasions given emphatic utterance. The result more than realized all expectations that could have reasonably been formed. Although the meeting was called for twelve o'clock—an hour exceedingly inconvenient to permit of the attendance of any person in any way connected with business—and although the prices of admission were, to the stage 2s., to the boxes 1s., and to the pit 6d., the attendance in these portions of the vast building was nearly as numerous as at any one of the former evening meetings, when admission, except to the stage, was gratuitous. No charge was made to the gallery, which was so densely crowded as, during the proceedings, to cause considerable interruption, which was in some degree obviated by ingress being afforded, without charge, to some few unoccupied benches of the pit. We may here mention that the Chairman, taking advantage of a pause in the interruption already referred to, stated that the reason why the Anti-Monopoly Association had departed from their former course, as to affording gratuitous admission, was, that by the agreement they had entered into with the lessee of the house, Mr. Copeland, they were compelled to make some charge, otherwise free access should have been granted, in conformity with the custom on this score that had marked their reunions hitherto. The character of that portion of the auditory who occupied the gallery, and their enthusiasm in the cause for the promotion of which the meeting was convened, may be gathered from the extent of their quota to the magnificent amount collected—most, if not all, the small sums announced in our subscription list being contributed from the gallery, the money, in the majority of instances, paid on the spot, and, in the remaining cases, the address of the subscribers, leaving no doubt that the figures affixed to their names would be represented in cash on the following day.

In the boxes we observed quite as many ladies as graced any of the late meetings of the association, and that several at least of them were not mere idle spectators of an ordinary piece of meaningless or worthless routine—to be seen, and forgotten as soon as lost sight of—is tolerably evident from the substantial manner they helped, by their purses, to swell the noble aggregate. The enthusiasm with which the largesse of each fair donor in the cause of suffering humanity and outraged common sense was received, was as creditable to the gallantry of the meeting, as it must have been gratifying to its objects; nor could the pleasure derivable from so warm a recognition of their services in the good cause fail to be enhanced by the judiciously complimentary remarks with which the Secretary prefaced each lady's name.

On the platform there were a great number of the largest contributors, whose names will be found in the list of subscribers, or of individuals connected with the firms those names represent. There was about the whole meeting a peculiarly business-like feature, that gave it a characteristic air not observable in any similar assemblage we have witnessed for similar purposes within those walls. Every one seemed to think that nothing remained to be said; while the effect of all that *had* been said would be tested by what was about to be done.

Shortly after twelve o'clock, the Chairman of the Association, Thomas Thornely, Esq., M.P., accompanied by Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and John Bright, Esq., M.P., entered; and the most tumultuous plaudits, protracted for many minutes, greeted the three honourable gentlemen, as they took their seats at the table. After a brief delay, the business of the meeting was commenced.

The CHAIRMAN rose and said that the inhabitants of Liverpool had been repeatedly called together to consider the great question of the existing Corn Laws, and, generally, the restrictions upon the trade and commerce of the country. At all the meetings which had been so held, it had been their unanimous decision to take measures to accomplish the total repeal of the Corn Laws, and to abolish every restriction upon the trade and commerce of the country. The meeting were honoured that day with the presence of two most distinguished individuals, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright. (Cheers.) Very rarely did it occur that gentlemen so distinguished for talent as were those two gentlemen would consent to quit the walks of business, in which they were largely engaged, for the sake of advancing the general interests of the country, and of showing, as they had shown to almost every district of the country, the importance of doing away with commercial restrictions, and of accomplishing the repeal of the Corn Laws. The meeting would presently learn what those gentlemen had to say; but, in the mean time, he had to announce that a very important business had brought them together that day, and that business was no other than to ask for their contributions, and the contributions of the people of Liverpool at large, to aid the funds of the Anti-Corn-Law League—a League which was established for the purpose of procuring a repeal of the Corn Laws, but, not less, of procuring a repeal of the monopoly on sugar and on every other article of commerce, and to bring about that happy consummation of charging duties for revenue purposes alone; and when this should have been accomplished, the meeting might depend upon it that they would not have to seek for reciprocity treaties, because other nations would be but too happy to follow their example. (Cheers.) Free Trade, with certain objects in view, was by no means a new question in Liverpool. He turned the day before to a matter of history regarding Liverpool, and found that at a public meeting held in Liverpool, when the mayor was in the chair, certain resolutions were passed. The chairman having read them proceeded to say that those resolutions which he had read to them, and which had been passed at a meeting of the people of Liverpool—the mayor in the chair—were passed before Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright were born. They were passed in the year 1792, to procure the opening of the East India trade; and if they were so sound in principle in the year 1792 as to lead to the opening of the East India trade, they were sound at this moment, fifty-one years after, to procure the repeal of the Corn Laws, and the abolition of monopolies generally. (Cheers.) He had some reason to believe that those resolutions had been drawn up by an individual no less distinguished than the late Dr. Currie, the father of their lamented friend, William Wallace Currie; and as a matter of curiosity he would read the names of the committee appointed at the time to carry the resolutions into effect. The Chairman having read them, proceeded to say that the parties had been since gathered to their rest, but that we had the sons of some of them, and particularly the son of one of them, now present (Mr. William Rathbone). (Cheers.) There were the descendants of some of the others living, who did not perhaps take the views of the League; but still he referred with pride and satisfaction to the resolutions passed by the people of Liverpool fifty years ago. It was now for the meeting to consider whether they would follow up the good and honourable course which had been set before them by those who had withdrawn from the world. They would hear what Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright had to say on the importance of carrying out such principles in the present day. Already had large subscriptions been made to the League fund, and, before they left that building on the present occasion, he should be happy to receive the names of any others who might choose to honour the League by forwarding the great object it had in view. He was aware that he ought not to trespass further on their time, more particularly as time was precious in the middle of the day; and without further delay he would conclude by asking the favour of their earnest attention to what Mr. Cobden, the member for Stockport, should now address to them. (Applause.)

Mr. COBDEN rose, and was received with rapturous and enthusiastic cheering, which was again and again renewed. When silence had been in some degree restored, he said that it had been his honour to address many large assemblies, but he thought this was the first occasion on which he had the pleasure of meeting so large an assembly as the present in the ordinary hours of business; and it did augur great interest in their minds on the question they had met there to discuss, that they had been induced in such great numbers to leave their businesses to come there and meet him and others on such an occasion. He then, in his usual able and forcible manner, pourtrayed the rapid progress of Free-Trade opinions in those quarters to which they had hitherto been strangers, and the different duties, plans, and operations upon which the "League" intended to act for the future. He advised no further petitioning to Parliament, as it was useless, constituted as it was at present. He said it was the intention of the Council of the League to visit, if possible, all the constituencies in the kingdom previous to another general election, and invite the electors to meet them for the purpose of discussing the iniquitous Corn Laws; and, before leaving each borough, to form a committee to watch the registration and adopt all legal means, in case of an election, to return anti-monopolists to Parliament. By these means, and the continued distribution of the Society's tracts, much good, he hoped, would be effected.

The CHAIRMAN said, that before calling on Mr. Bright, the member for Durham, it would be proper that a resolution should be submitted to the notice of the meeting. It would be moved by Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., and seconded by William Rathbone, Esq. (Cheers.) Now, before Mr. Heyworth addressed them, he would just state that he had not the honour to breakfast with Mr. Heyworth that morning, but it had come to his knowledge that a conversation had taken place at breakfast, which, if Mr. Heyworth had no objection to relate, would, he was sure, afford infinite satisfaction to the meeting, as it had done to him (the Chairman) in the early part of the day. (Hear.)

LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Esq., then rose and was most warmly received. He said that, twelve months ago, they had a similar meeting to the present, he meant except as to numbers;—the object was the same. At that time he thought it necessary to give a reason for his coming forward with a subscription, which, under the circumstances of the period, was considered to be rather large. He gave his reasons. He stated the sympathy which he felt for the poor, suffering labouring classes of the community in consequence of not having much trade. He stated that we deprived them of the means of being fed, at the same time that food was rendered dear by the cause which was impoverishing them. He also stated that, whilst he hoped to elevate his brethren of the working-classes from their miserable condition by obtaining the repeal of the Corn Laws, he also hoped to benefit himself considerably. (Hear.) He stated the amount at which he thought this benefit would accrue to himself, not directly, because he was not a tradesman and not connected with mercantile affairs; but he did hope that, because all the community would be made prosperous by the adoption of the honest and righteous principles of Free Trade, he also should partake of the general benefit. (Hear, hear.) For having expressed this belief regarding himself, the notable man of the *Times* attempted to throw a good deal of scandal on him. He (Mr. Heyworth) did not profess that he was free from that self-love which actuated every breast, for he believed that when a man was influenced by self-love he was likely to have the perfect good of his fellow-creatures at heart. (Hear, hear.) The *Times* had lately become so far a convert to the principles of the League, that it advocated a low fixed duty; but the same paper, with all that consistency which belonged to itself, was pleading most pathetically in favour of the poor sempstresses of London, who were in reality suffering from the evil effects of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) If the public could sum up all the destruction of human life which had happened since the year 1792, the time when the meeting alluded to by the chairman was held in Liverpool, and if they could show the multitude which had been carried to a premature grave in consequence of the existing monopolies, he was sure that it would be a most startling fact. (Hear, hear, hear.) The little circumstance, mentioned by the chairman as having occurred at his breakfast table, was simply this:—He addressed his family at breakfast that morning in the following way. He said—"We are to have this day, in Liverpool, a very great meeting, at which it will be expected that I should come forward with money to support the agitation to remove the Corn Laws. The principal object we aim at is, in the first place, to supply food to many hundreds and thousands of hungry stomachs—to clothe the naked, the thousands of our fellow-creatures now without clothing. The next thing is, that the laws of God should be justly and righteously obeyed, by nations doing unto other nations as they would that other nations should do unto them,—that we should reciprocate God's bounty. I said also, that whilst the removal of the Corn Laws, and all restrictions upon commerce, would benefit the whole community, I also should partake of the general wealth which would thus inundate the whole country. I said, with these objects in view, what is your opinion? Shall I give £100, or £200, or £300, to promote the agitation for so great and good a cause, in which all alike will be benefited, not only Englishmen, and the inhabitants of this favoured isle, but the inhabitants of every other country in the world—all will be partakers. The immediate reply was, one and all,—let the sum be £300." (Cries of "bravo!" and great cheers.) His principal object in mentioning the sum was, that the meeting might be excited, and that they might be induced, for the reasons stated, to come forward and give what they were able to this great and good cause. (Renewed cheers.) Mr. Heyworth concluded by proposing the following resolution:—"That this meeting heartily concur in the plan proposed by the Anti-Corn-Law League, as now explained by its distinguished representative, Richard Cobden, Esq., for the achievement of its great object—the total and immediate repeal of the corn and provision laws, as the first step towards the annihilation of all other commercial monopolies; and we pledge ourselves to do everything in our power, fully and effectually to carry that plan into speedy operation." (Cheers, and a voice, "Amen.") I, said Mr. Heyworth, say "Amen," too. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN observed that they were under great obligations to Mr. Heyworth for his noble contribution of £300. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

WM. RATHBONE, Esq., rose to second the resolution, and was received with vehement cheering. He said he would not, on that occasion, detain them long, because they had been told that a certain operation was to be performed upon them by their worthy friend, Mr. Bright; and if they had the same feeling that he (Mr. Rathbone) had, they would be very glad to have it very soon commenced and very soon over. ("Hear," and laughter.) He had much pleasure in seconding the resolution—a resolution which said that they fully approved of the proceedings of the League, and went still further, for they should remember that in passing the resolution they were pledging themselves to a determination to support the League honestly and earnestly in the great course which that body had undertaken. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) And he wished to put it to them as an awful responsibility, that every man who voted for the resolution was in the sight of Heaven pledged to do his duty. (Great cheers.) It was a gratification to see that men would leave their business—leave their families who were attached to them, and devote themselves, as Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright had devoted themselves to this great cause, and he hoped they would have their crown of glory. (Great cheering.) He had told them he would be short; but, before he concluded, he begged to remind the working classes of the town of Liverpool of what Lord Spencer had said when he came

the total repeal of the Corn Laws. "If I," said his lordship, "as an agriculturist, supposed that the Corn-Law repeal was to injure agriculture, I might be considered a very honest, but I should not be considered a very wise man. On the contrary, I believe that the repeal of the Corn Laws will be beneficial to agriculture, while it will not so much lower the prices in England as raise the prices on the Continent—(mark this)—and that it will increase the rate of wages to the poor." (Loud cheers.) He (Mr. Rathbone) dare not add one word more. He was now speaking to the labouring classes, and he entreated of them to take this, which was the authority of a warm-hearted agriculturist, who wished well to the agricultural population—to the poor agricultural population of the country. (Cheering.) Well, but if it would add to the wages of the agriculturist, what did the audience think it would do for the porters of Liverpool? Mark that! and having said that, he begged to call on them heartily and truly to respond to the resolution which was now submitted to their deliberation, and to give it their hearty support, not there but hereafter—ay! at the polling-booths, and everywhere, to show that Liverpool was at length wakening from the sleep of monopoly—from the despotism of the dirty faction by which it had been held. (Great applause.)

The resolution was here put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Rawlins here announced the receipt of the following subscriptions to the Great League Fund, blank cards having been previously distributed through the meeting, and according as they were filled up and sent in, they were read over as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Lawrence Heyworth	300	0	0
A. and A. Darby....	200	0	0
Christ. Rawdon....	100	0	0
James Harvey	100	0	0
James Mulleneux ..	100	0	0
James Muspratt ..	100	0	0
John, Robert, and Daniel Mather ..	100	0	0
Wm. Fawcett	100	0	0
G. Crosfield and Co.	100	0	0
Wm. Rathbone....	100	0	0
Watson Brothers ..	100	0	0
Thomas Thornely..	100	0	0
George Armstrong	100	0	0
J. D. Wood	100	0	0
Victor Poutz	100	0	0
James Mellor	100	0	0
Edward Wilson....	100	0	0
G. Holt and Co. ..	100	0	0
Wm. Brown	100	0	0
Charles Robertson	50	0	0
C. Wilson, Elm Farm, West Derby.....	50	0	0
Thomas Harvey....	50	0	0
R. Shell and Co.....	50	0	0
Charles Holland ..	50	0	0
Sir J. Walmsley ...	50	0	0
Rawlins and Son ..	50	0	0
Vincent Higgins ..	50	0	0
J. Stitt, Son, & Co.	50	0	0
Henry Edwards....	50	0	0
James Ryder	50	0	0
T. Blackburn, jun.	50	0	0
Fred. Pennington..	50	0	0
Jevons, Sons & Co.	50	0	0
J. Finch and Sons..	50	0	0
J. B. Cooke.....	50	0	0
John D. Thornely..	50	0	0
Tennants, Clows, and Co.	50	0	0
R. K. Harvey	50	0	0
John Taylor Crook	25	0	0
Edward Langsdale	25	0	0
Henry Romily ..	25	0	0
A. R.	25	0	0
Joseph Robinson ..	25	0	0
W. H. Darby	25	0	0
Wellwood Maxwell	25	0	0
James Ryley, jun.	25	0	0
H. W.	25	0	0
James H. Macrae	25	0	0
Joseph King	25	0	0
William Blain	25	0	0
Andrew Melly	25	0	0
Thos. Baines, *Times* Office	20	0	0
John Dickinson ..	20	0	0
Joseph Heap	20	0	0
Edward Brodribb	20	0	0
Thomas Morecroft	20	0	0
Isaac Cooke	20	0	0
R. V. Yates	20	0	0
Joseph Dawson .	20	0	0
W. F. Sim and W. H. Darby, Woodside, proceeds of Free-Trade speculation	20	0	0
Potter Brothers ..	20	0	0
Wm. Reynolds, M.D., Allerton	15	0	0
D. M'Viccar	15	0	0
John Ainsworth ..	12	12	0
Edward Lane	10	10	0
Vinnin, Jones, & Co.	10	10	0
G. L. Cox	10	0	0
Rowland Roscow ..	10	0	0
The Liverpl. Mercy.	10	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Worthington and Cunningham	10	0	0
Philip Quirk	10	0	0
Alfred King	10	0	0
Thomas Haigh ..	10	0	0
Howard Horsley ..	10	0	0
Firth Woodhead ..	10	0	0
Robert Abbatt ..	10	0	0
T. J.	10	0	0
Henry Martindale	10	0	0
John Aikin	10	0	0
S. and T. Burley ..	10	0	0
George Law	10	0	0
John Butler, West Derby	10	0	0
Jas. Hodgson & Co.	10	0	0
Joseph Fletcher ..	10	0	0
A Conservative Free-Trader	10	0	0
David Cannon	10	0	0
Taylor Brothers ..	10	0	0
David M'Clellan ..	10	0	0
Francis Hollins ..	10	0	0
John Bald	5	5	0
Mrs. Morecroft, Rock Ferry.....	5	5	0
Miss Rawlins	5	5	0
R. E. Hodges.....	5	5	0
Frederick Chapple	5	5	0
T. Smith	5	5	0
Liverpool Chronicle	5	5	0
T. W. Robinson ..	5	5	0
James Spence.....	5	5	0
James Smith	5	5	0
W. Wright Manifold	5	5	0
Mrs. Manifold ..	5	0	0
Mrs. H. Crosfield	5	0	0
A Friend, per Jas. Mellor	5	0	0
Samuel Stansfield, Woodside	5	0	0
Charles Sharp ..	5	0	0
A Friend (R. J.) ..	5	0	0
Launcelot Graham	5	0	0
Braga and Co. ..	5	0	0
Edward Heath ..	5	0	0
W. Bolderston ..	5	0	0
Henry Cram	5	0	0
J. H. Rawlins, and R. C. Rawlins ..	5	0	0
David Lamb	5	0	0
Mrs. Mathews, Wavertree	5	0	0
Miss Mathews, do.	5	0	0
Thompson, Anderson, and Co. ..	5	0	0
R. H. Bowman, Edgelane	5	0	0
A Conservative, Free Trader, and No Mistake	5	0	0
John M'Millan ..	5	0	0
Rockliff and Ellis, *Journal* Office ..	5	0	0
Hugh Ronald ..	5	0	0
J. A. Picton	5	0	0
The Misses Finch ..	5	0	0
Thomas Tilwall ..	5	0	0
W. Thornely	5	0	0
Owen Williams, St. James's road ..	5	0	0
Grote, Tomkinson, and Co.	5	0	0
Rev. L. J. Robberds	5	0	0
J. H. Smith .. .	5	0	0
James Ricarly ..	5	0	0
Hughes Ronald ..	5	0	0
Samuel Seaward ..	5	0	0

The following are amounts under £5 contributed by parties whose names will hereafter appear in our regular weekly list of subscriptions.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Three subscriptions of	3	3	0	.. ..	9	9	0
Two do.	3	0	0	.. ..	6	0	0
Eighteen do.	2	2	0	.. ..	37	16	0
Fifteen do.	2	0	0	.. ..	30	0	0
Seventy-three do.	1	1	0	.. ..	76	13	0
Seventy-one do.	1	0	0	.. ..	71	0	0
Four do.	0	10	6	.. ..	2	2	0
Sixteen do.	0	10	0	.. ..	8	0	0
Nineteen do.	0	5	0	.. ..	4	15	0
Ninateen do.	0	2	6	.. ..	2	7	6
Sundry Small Sums under	2	6		.. ..	1	14	6

The announcement of the subscriptions as they were handed in was received with tremendous cheers. At the conclusion of that part of the business the Chairman called upon J. Bright, Esq., M.P., who addressed the meeting for nearly an hour in the most eloquent and powerful manner. The enthusiasm throughout the whole proceedings was most intense, and more especially during the speeches of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright. Previous to the close of the meeting, the amount of subscriptions were (amidst much cheering) announced to amount to £4600, and it is expected £7000 will be realized.

FORMATION OF THE SALISBURY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

Salisbury, Monday last.

The first general meeting of the Salisbury Branch of the League was held at the Salt-lane School-room, on Monday evening last. The admission was by production of cards of membership, and shortly after eight o'clock the room was crowded with Leaguers, who by their enthusiasm showed a spirit of determination worthy of their cause.

John Lambert, Esq., was voted by acclamation to the chair.

The Chairman, after giving a description of the great meeting at Covent-garden Theatre on Thursday last, adverted to the question of exclusive dealing which had been so much discussed in this city, and at some length he condemned the principle, and pointed out that it could only be justified on the ground of self-defence. The Free Traders had not been, nor would they be, the first to commence it. The Free Traders were bound to protect their friends. He earnestly hoped that the League would not be required to organize any such system of self-defence; but, if they were, he was quite sure that the monopolists would repent of being the aggressors. It had been said that the farmers had determined upon exclusive dealing, but this he scarcely believed, seeing that there were many liberal landlords in this neighbourhood; and even amongst the Conservative gentry, he was sure there were many who would look down with anything but favour upon such intolerant tenants. They had been ridiculed for enrolling children, but he considered that circumstance as the strongest proof that their parents had no doubt of the justice of the cause; and he reminded those who objected to children on the score of their age becoming members of the League, that the same reason was an argument against the enrolment of them in earliest infancy in the great Christian family. He then stated that the object of the meeting was the appointment of a general committee to conduct the affairs of the Branch, subject to the direction of the Council of the League, and sat down amidst loud cheers.

The Rev. J. Barfett then rose to propose the first resolution for the appointment of the committee, and said:—We have met here this evening for the despatch of business. I am requested to move the appointment of a committee, whose names I here hold, and by whom the operations of the Salisbury Branch of the Anti-Corn-Law League will be conducted. Had no other benefit accrued by the visit of the deputation to our city than the enrolment of nearly *eleven hundred* Free Traders, it would have been a noble result. (Cheers.) Seed has been sown which cannot perish! Principles, holy, just, and righteous, have been promulged. Information has been diffused of the most valuable kind, and has taken possession of the public mind. The poor, especially, understand the question at issue between the friends of Free Trade and Monopolists. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to remark on the principle of *exclusive dealing*, to which parties were resorting. He deprecated the principle, but clearly showed that the eleven hundred members of the League had combined for no such purpose, but for far higher and nobler objects (cheers); and that, if necessity should be imposed on them to adopt the principle, they would adopt it in the defensive. The chairman had already noticed the contempt in which a certain journal in this city affected to hold the signatures of children to the Free-Trade principle, and had ably exposed the scribe. He, Mr. B., would only say, that you cannot too early begin with mind, to enlist it on the side of principles esteemed and just. (Cheers.) Such, said the reverend gentleman, I believe those principles to be, propounded in this place for the last five weeks—principles in perfect accordance with the mind of God and every precept of his word. For these reasons alone, I have taken my part in our late contest. We are not beaten! (Great cheering.) The cause, to which we have committed ourselves, *must* triumph; yea, it is on the very verge of victory! (Cheers.) Here the speaker took an able review of the public press, and especially of the daily *Times*, observing, it is plain that Monopoly is in the agonies of death! The sliding scale is abandoned by all, and a fixed duty cannot be adopted. The day has gone by for ever! Mr. Barfett concluded, amid much applause, by moving the appointment of the committee.

John Toone, Esq., rose to second the resolution, and took that opportunity of explaining, that if he had appeared slow to take a public part in assistance of the design of the Anti-Corn-Law League, it was because he had been desirous to make himself previously acquainted with all the bearings of the subject, that there might be no occasion for a future change in his sentiments upon it. He had examined the question calmly and deliberately, according to the best of his ability; and, convinced alike of the importance and justice of the object itself, and the integrity of the means by which its attainment was sought, he, without any hesitation, pledged himself to a frank and zealous co-operation therewith. He thought it needful to make a remark or two upon the attempts made to slander and vilify the leading members of the Council of the League. The character of their attempts was most evident, notwithstanding all the offers of fair discussion which had been made during the stay of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and their most worthy colleagues, in Salisbury: not one of these offers had been accepted; but when those gentlemen had left the city, then did these slanderers prowl about its streets, and labour to destroy the characters of these noble-minded men by their wanton and wicked falsehoods. One of them was to the effect—"That Mr. Cobden, with all his boast of philanthropy, was a grievous oppressor of his workpeople, giving them only 3s. 9d. per week as clear wages." Calumniators seem to lose both their judgment and memory. Mr. Cobden had declared, again and again, that even his most unskilled labourers were receiving 12s. per week. This had been published in very many of the public papers. Mr. Cobden's workpeople must have seen or heard of it, and had they been receiving the lower rate of wages, would they not at once have struck for the amount, at least, which their master had so frequently declared they were realizing? and more especially, since, according to another statement put forth by these calumniators, that "Mr. Cobden was realizing a clear profit of £1000 per week in his trade, and could not by any means supply the demand for his goods!" Mr. Cobden had most properly said, "*he did not deny these statements*"—they were too ridiculous and contemptible for his notice; and yet these were the standing objections of the enemies of the League in Salisbury. He (Mr. Toone) rejoiced that the Council of the League had come to the aid of the electors. He regretted the issue of the election on Mr. Bouverie's account, whose amiability of disposition, generosity and honesty of heart, excellence of moral character, extent of information, and soundness of judgment, so especially fitted him for that rank in the Legislature which was the object of his laudable ambition. But there was much, at the same time, to rejoice at in the issue of the election, since it evidently held out the promise of such a union between the middle and working classes, as, if maintained frankly, zealously, and with steady determination, would be productive of the best results. He (Mr. Toone) begged the electors not to be terrified at the fierce threats of injury in business by which they had been assailed. He was old enough to have known many storms of a similar kind, but they had all soon passed away. The threateners were just of that very class who, although they did not approve of others selling in the dearest market and buying in the cheapest, would always do so *themselves*. But let the tradesmen of Salisbury be industrious in their conduct and fair in their dealings, and reasonable in their plans of profit, they need never be afraid of not having their share of business, even from their political opponents, after the first warm burst of excited feeling had passed away.

Mr. Acland then rose, and was received with hearty cheering. This gentleman addressed the meeting at very considerable length; he compared the difference between the opinion of the Salisbury people when he first came into it, and that of the present time. He said, when he first lectured at the Black-horse Hotel there were but a very few persons that came and listened to him; but now look at the hundreds, nay, thousands of persons here, who gladly came there. Knowledge was offered to the people, and they willingly received it; and the fact was that the seed sown in Salisbury would never perish, but would continue to bring forth more abundantly. Mr. Acland then ridiculed the idea of exclusive dealing; he viewed the principle as emanating from wicked minds; he would never advocate such an abominable system, unless it were in self-defence, and then the agressors may, if they roused the honest indignation of the Free Traders, have cause to lament their wickedness and folly. He then urged the necessity of great diligence on the part of the committee, as great exertions were necessary, more especially with regard to the registration of voters; and concluded with an appeal, couched in the most forcible language, to one and all, never to relax in their duty, for by perseverance alone would success attend their efforts; and that, if they were faithful and watchful, to the enemy, it would not be a far-distant day when the trammels of Salisbury would be broken, and the old city be represented by two Free Traders. (Great cheering.)

It was then announced that monthly meetings, or at least that of six weeks, would be held, when some gentlemen of the League would be in attendance to address them. Three cheers were then given for Mr. Acland and the League, and three cheers for the newly-formed Branch of the League, and the meeting then peaceably separated. We would here observe, that had not the notice of the meeting been so very brief, some hundreds of other persons would have attended.

A Great Meeting in Manchester will be held *on Thursday next*, in the Free Trade Hall, at seven o'clock in the evening, when John Bright, Esq., M.P.; Robert Hyde Greg, Esq.; W. J. Fox, Esq., and other gentlemen, will address the meeting.

The £100,000 Fund.—A number of meetings have been fixed to be held in the manufacturing towns of the north, to commence the subscriptions to the fund. This week meetings have been held at Liverpool, on Wednesday; at Huddersfield, on Thursday; and at Holmfirth, on Friday. Next week meetings will be held in the following towns—Halifax, Tuesday, 12th; Leeds, Wednesday, 13th; Wigan, Thursday, 14th; Bury, Friday, 15th. The monthly meeting of the League in Manchester will also be held on Thursday, the 14th instant, in the Free-Trade Hall.

Free Trade in Bedford.—Two lectures on the corn and colonial monopolies were delivered by Mr. Falvey in the Castle-rooms, Bedford, on Monday and Tuesday evenings, the 27th and 28th ult. Mr. Stocker, corn-factor, occupied the chair on each occasion. The statements, authorities, and figures of the lecturer were listened to with the most profound attention by the numerous assembly each evening, and interrupted only by hearty responses of approbation. At the close of the second lecture the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That this meeting is of opinion that all monopolies, agricultural, manufacturing, and colonial, are unjust in principle and injurious in their operations upon the best interests of society, and ought, therefore, to be totally, immediately, and unconditionally repealed." On the motion of Doctor Elger, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Falvey, and three hearty cheers for the Anti-Corn-Law League. An association will be formed in the course of the week to further the objects of the Free-Trade movement.

The Anti-Corn-Law Movement in Yorkshire.—A deputation from the League are about to visit the boroughs of the West Riding, for the purpose of forwarding the collection of the £100,000 fund. The Leeds Association has determined to hold a grand meeting, which the deputation and other advocates of the cause will attend. Wednesday the 13th of December is the day now fixed for the demonstration. George Wilson, Esq., the chairman of the League, R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., and R. R. R. Moore, Esq., will in all probability form the deputation. In addition to these meetings, it is not unlikely that a general meeting of influential noblemen, gentlemen, and members of Parliament, will be held either at Leeds or Wakefield, some time before the opening of the next session, when the several sums subscribed in the several towns and villages of the West Riding will be reported.—*Bradford Observer.*

Meetings in Wiltshire.—During the past week Mr. Sidney Smith has been most actively engaged in forwarding the cause of Free Trade throughout the

county of Wiltshire. It will be remembered that, at the close of the late election, a branch of the League was formed at Salisbury, and that within a few days 1008 persons, out of a population of about 11,000, enrolled themselves as registered members. This association was anxious to commence immediate operations to promote the cause of Free Trade throughout the county, and in compliance with their request Mr. Smith has been deputed on a mission of enlightenment throughout the Wiltshire boroughs. The exertions of Mr. Smith have been attended with good success. He has lectured during the past week at Wootton Basset, Chippenham, Cricklade, Malmesbury, and Calne, everywhere to very large and most enthusiastic audiences. The following is a list of Mr. Smith's engagements for the present month:—Dec. 6, Marlborough; 7, Andover; 8, Ringwood; 9, Downton; 11, Winchester; 12, Wilton; 13, Shaftesbury; 14, Warminster; 15, Westbury; 16, Frome; 18, Trowbridge; 19, Devizes; 20, Devizes; 21, Salisbury; 22, Salisbury; 23, Swindon.

At a public meeting of merchants, bankers, manufacturers, shipowners, and traders, of Dundee, held in the Thistle Hall on Saturday, the 25th of November, 1843; Alexander Lawson, Esq., Provost, in the chair; it was moved by William Thoms, Esq., Dean of Guild, seconded by Alexander Balfour, Esq., and passed unanimously:—"That this meeting approves of the principles of Free Trade, as calculated to promote not only commercial prosperity, but social improvement and national greatness; and desires to see the cause advanced, apart from all party or political considerations, believing that its success will be attended with benefits in which all ranks and classes of the community will participate." Moved by Alexander Easson, Esq., and seconded by Alexander Low, Esq., and passed unanimously:—"That this meeting declares its approbation of the course hitherto pursued by the National Anti-Corn-Law League, for promoting the cause of Free Trade; and also of the plan proposed for its future operations; and this meeting hereby expresses its high sense of the good which must result from the resolution of the League to use every legitimate means for the suppression of bribery at elections." Moved by Thomas Neish, Esq., seconded by David Baxter, Esq., and passed unanimously:—"That the thanks of this meeting be given to Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., and the other members of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League, for the invaluable services they have rendered to this country, by their extraordinary exertions in promoting the abolition of the restrictions on trade, upon the success of which mainly depends the prosperity of the nation." It was moved by Edward Baxter, Esq., seconded by James Kennedy, Esq., and passed unanimously:—"That this meeting resolved to assist the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League in their future operations by raising a subscription in aid of the Great League Fund of £100,000, and hereby appoint the following gentlemen as a committee to canvass the town for that purpose." A large and influential committee was then named. It was resolved to insert the above resolutions in the Dundee newspapers, and in the LEAGUE. A vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to Provost Lawson for his impartial conduct in the chair, and also to the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, and George Duncan, Esq., M.P. for the burgh, for the services they have rendered to the cause of Free Trade. Signed, Alexander Lawson, Chairman. Alexander Low, Secretary to the meeting.

CORN LAWS—CLAPHAM.—A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, at the house of Mr. John C. Gregory, Manor-street, Clapham, for the purpose of completing the formation of a branch association to be called "The Clapham, Brixton, and Stockwell Anti-Corn-Law Association." Luke Embleton, Esq., was called to the chair, and on a motion, duly proposed and seconded, was confirmed in the office of perpetual chairman of the association. Mr. Reine, of Clapham, was appointed treasurer to the society, and Mr. J. C. Gregory was confirmed in the office of secretary. A working committee of not less than twelve members, and not limited as to number, was appointed. A sub-committee was also appointed, and deputed to draw up a circular to be delivered, together with a packet of Free-Trade tracts, to each householder throughout the district. The rules for the formation of the society were agreed to, after which, and the disposal of other business of the evening, thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting separated. Mr. Lyon, the secretary to the Camberwell Anti-Corn-Law Association, was present, and aided by his advice and experience in the formation of the new association.

CLERKENWELL ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the members of this association was held at the Red Lion Tavern, Rosoman-street, on Thursday evening, J. Wilson, Esq., president of the association, in the chair. It appeared from the addresses of the chairman, and Messrs. Daniel, Sherlock, Farmer (secretary to the association), Mason, Morrell, &c., that the association is rapidly increasing in importance, and that it, within the last few days, derived an accession to its ranks of 250 new members. The meeting expressed its determination to support the League by funds and exertion in its struggles to purify the representation of the country by the return of Free Traders. The association also expressed a determination to oppose the monopolists in the borough of Finsbury, should they have the temerity to dream of showing their heads in that stronghold of independent thought. Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting, for whose proceedings we regret we have not space for a more full account, separated.

CHEAP LIBERALITY.—The Duke of Norfolk has directed all the game slaughtered on his preserves at Arundel Castle to be given to the inhabitants, indiscriminately, of the town.—*Standard.*

[As the game has probably been reared and fed on the farms of his grace's tenants, this seems a very questionable species of generosity.]

EARL SPENCER—A TOTAL CORN LAW REPEALER.

We give the following important declaration, made by Earl Spencer at the mayor's dinner at Northampton, on Tuesday week, from the report in the *Northampton Herald.* We have no room for the remainder of the proceedings:—

"After several toastshad been given, the CHAIRMAN said, it now devolved upon him to propose a toast, upon which, if he were to follow his own feelings, he should be inclined to dwell at great length. But he was so certain that every glass would be filled to the brim—every heart open to receive it—that he need say but little. He was about to propose the health of a nobleman well known to them politically, publicly, privately, and who, in every one of those characters, had the strongest claim upon their attention. From his heart he asked them to drink it in a way which should convince him, that, although he had of late been too rarely seen at their festive meetings, he had never been forgotten. He called upon them to drink, with their warmest and heartiest welcome, the health of Earl Spencer. (It is impossible to describe the effect of this toast upon the meeting. Over and over again, after such bursts of cheering as we never before witnessed, did the entire company rise, and renew their enthusiastic greeting. For full twenty minutes his lordship was upon his legs before quiet was sufficiently restored to enable him to commence his address.) At length

"EARL SPENCER said:—Gentlemen, the manner in which you have received the toast proposed by my right hon. friend, deserves, as it receives from me, the warmest thanks. The gratification which such a reception must always afford is greatly increased, because I feel that you receive me on this occasion as an old, and, I hope, a faithful servant. (Renewed and enthusiastic cheering.) For many years, nearly thirty years, you had at your entire command the best abilities I had to bring to your service. During that time, I hope and trust, I did my utmost to serve you; and now, retired as I am from political—although not from public—life, it is certainly most gratifying to me to find my old constituents receive me in the manner you have done, and assure me, as by this reception you do, that my services were not without value, and were not unappreciated, Gentlemen, it is indeed a gratification to me, that when I have nothing more to ask at the hands of the county of Northampton—no other way of serving it than by attending to its local business—I should be afforded this opportunity of expressing my feelings towards you. Gratitude is said not to be a political virtue. In that I do not agree. It is a great private virtue, and I have yet to learn what private virtue is not a political virtue also. One species of gratitude, indeed, is said to belong to political life—the gratitude for favours to come. I feel, therefore, a great degree of gratification, that whatever I now say and do cannot be interpreted in that sense, but can only be attributed to a sense of favours past. While I do employ a considerable portion of my time in attending to the business of the county at large, in working with men of all parties, I do feel peculiar pleasure in working with and receiving the approbation of those in particular who acted with me during my political life, and on whose support I could always depend. I therefore have great satisfaction in attending this dinner, and I feel great obligation to the committee who arranged it for having invited me. (Cheers.) It was with great propriety that your two members addressed you as they have done, and entered upon an explanation of their political conduct. But for me, who am not now in political life, the case is different. My attention has not been sufficiently called to political questions to enable me to give you any useful explanation of my opinions. I can only say generally, with respect to Free Trade, that neither of your worthy members is a stronger advocate of it than I am. (Long-continued cheering.) The only time I addressed the House of Lords on the subject, what I said was to the same effect. I am anxious not to be misunderstood on this point. I am a landed proprietor and an occupier of land; and I have no other means of subsistence. If I were to say that I desired a repeal of the Corn Laws, believing at the same time that it would destroy the landed interest, you might say that I was a very honest man, but you would certainly not say I was a wise one. But I believe no such thing. I quite agree with what Mr. Currie has said. I believe that this is a question of the most essential importance to the welfare of the empire at large. But I do not believe that the repeal of the Corn Laws would tend materially to lower the price of corn. I believe it would raise wages, and increase the employment of the people. Thus, although it would not lower the price of corn, it would bring increased means of buying it. With respect to the objection that foreigners will not take our manufactures in exchange; as Mr. Currie has said, if we have their corn, they must be paid for it; and if they are to be paid for it, I know of only one way of paying them, directly or indirectly, and that is by the industry of the people. I set little value on reciprocity treaties. If we take from the foreigner corn, we must pay for it with our manufactures, if not directly, indirectly; and the effect of such a trade must be to raise the Continental price of corn to our level, not to reduce ours to theirs. The noble earl concluded by saying, that they would well understand why he, declaring himself an advocate for a total repeal of the Corn Laws, was anxious not to be misunderstood He should be sorry, indeed, if such a change should involve the ruin of those with whom he was now associated (the agriculturists); but he had no such belief. He believed, on the contrary, that it would be for their benefit, as well as for the benefit of the country at large.

"His lordship sat down amidst repeated rounds of the heartiest cheering we ever witnessed."

LORD ASHLEY'S SPEECHES IN DORSETSHIRE, 1842 AND 1843.—CURIOUS PARTICULARS.

To the EDITOR *of the* LEAGUE.

SIR,—Lord Ashley has been making one of his annual speeches. It is different from that of last year, but not less important. This has been made at Sturminster; that was made at Blandford; but both were made in Dorsetshire, and both related to the Dorsetshire labourers.

In 1842 Lord Ashley referred to the poverty, crime, and ignorance of the workers in the factory towns of the north; and moving all at once, in the next sentence, to his own county, he said he might say much about the labouring people everywhere; but he broke off, and said nothing of those in Dorsetshire.

In 1843 he says—"*We have been told* that there exists a great amount of distress amongst our poor, and it is the sacred duty of us all to look into the face of this charge." * * * "At this moment the county of Dorset is in every man's mouth; and every newspaper, town and country, so teems with statements of the condition of the peasantry of our county, that we are on the eve of becoming a by-word for the whole kingdom. Gentlemen, charges have been brought against us, *which, if true,* it is our bounden duty to endeavour to remedy."

In 1842, Lord Ashley, speaking at Blandford, 24th December, excused himself from going into the condition of the agricultural labourers; though he had in the same speech abused the Anti-Corn Law League, and the great manufacturers of the north, "because," said he, "I am reminded that to-morrow is the great anniversary of Christian thankfulness, and we should now be prepared to have our hearts lifted up to high and holy things." Yet at that very time he was in a district which Mr. Austin, the assistant poor-law commissioner, was in, who is one of those to whom his lordship refers when he says, this year, "*We have been told,*" &c.; and Mr. Austin says, "In the village of Stourpain, in Dorsetshire (near Blandford), there is a row of several labourers' cottages mostly joining each other, and fronting the street, in the middle of which is an open gutter. There are two or three narrow passages leading from the street between the houses to the back of them. Behind the cottages the ground rises rather abruptly; and about three yards up the elevation are placed the pigsties and privies of the cottages. There are also shallow excavations, the receptacles apparently of all the dirt of the families. The matter constantly escaping from the pigsties, privies, &c., is allowed to find its way through the passages between the cottages into the gutter in the street, so that the cottages are nearly surrounded by streams of filth. It was in these cottages that a malignant typhus fever broke out two years ago, which afterwards spread through the village. The bedroom I have above described is in one of them."

This bedroom was the sleeping place of a family consisting of father, mother, two grown-up daughters, three children below the age of seven, and four sons, aged from ten to seventeen. "There was no curtain nor any separation between the beds," says Mr. Austin.

It is only in 1843 that Lord Ashley has "*been told*" of such things; and yet the Hon. and Rev. S. Osborne, rector of Bryanston, near Blandford, says to Mr. Austin in 1842, "I do not choose to put on paper the disgusting scenes that I have known to occur from this promiscuous crowding of the sexes together. Seeing, however, to what the mind of the young female is exposed from childhood, I have long ceased to wonder at the otherwise seeming precocious licentiousness of conversation which may be heard in every field where many of the young are at work together." * * * * * "Within this last year I saw in a room, about 13 feet square, three beds: on the first lay the mother, a widow, dying of consumption; on the second, two unmarried daughters, one 18 years of age, the other 12; on the third, a young married couple, whom I myself had married two days before. A married woman of thorough good character told me, a few weeks ago, that on her confinement, so crowded with children is her one room, they were obliged to put her on the floor in the middle of the room, that they might pay her requisite attention."

These cases are related by Mr. Austin as evidence of the deplorable want of cottage accommodation in Dorsetshire. And in respect of the poverty of the field-labourers, he farther says,—"A change of clothes seems to be out of the question." * * * * "It not unfrequently happens that a woman who returns home from work has to go to bed for an hour or two, to allow her clothes to be dried."

Speaking of Stourpain, and the general want of furniture and cottage accommodation, Mr. Spooner, the parish surgeon, says, "In this cottage lived an old man and his wife, his two daughters, middle-aged women, and his son and wife, with three children—in all, ten individuals. The whole family had the fever; the son's wife was on a bed in an outhouse."

Were these and all the other cases given in Mr. Austin's report confined to the neighbourhood of Blandford, we might believe it possible that Lord Ashley, who devotes himself to the factory districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire, and not to the farming districts, knew nothing about them until "*told*" by Mr. Austin and others in 1843. But when we know that the present state of Dorset is what it has been for many years—that the condition of Stourpain, near Blandford, is identically the same as the state of Cranborne, at the verge of his noble father's and his own country residence—what are we to say for his lordship's candour, when he omits agricultural Dorset and rails at manufacturing Lancashire? But, above all, what shall we say of him, when even now he speaks of the poverty and vice of the Dorset labourers, by saying, "*If those things be true?*"

His lordship proceeds to point out some of the remedies for the evils, *if they be true*, and mentions education, and the abolition of the truck system which so largely and grievously prevails in Dorset. I shall not at present stop to speak of the payment of labourers in farm produce. In the south of Scotland this system is attended with the highest advantages; but there it exists in equity. In Dorset the system is altogether different. But the worst of all trucks in the world is that which prevails on Lord Shaftesbury's own property, and of which Lord Ashley is the patron—namely, a truck in religion and the church. Before a family can get fuel on that estate, where others get it and at the rate which others get it at, they must go to the Established Church; before they can buy milk in the village, they must go to the church; before they can get work or wages, or their children the benefit of such a school as there is, they must go to the church. An allotment of land for potatoes, though none is let to the cottagers on the Shaftesbury property but at a higher rate than the farmers pay for their land, cannot be had by any one who does not go to church. Lord Ashley has given notice of a proposed legislative measure to establish loan funds for labourers who have allotments. If this is not sharply looked after, the condition of the loan will also depend on the borrower going or not going to church. Of all trucking this truck is the worst. Those who will not go to church are, of course, a prescribed people in Dorset. They must steal or starve; or they must poach,

and be imprisoned or transported. There is no place left for them in honest society.

There is a matter illustrative of the morals and habits of the labourers in that county which I have not published hitherto; it will not be out of place now. When the speech of Lord Ashley, on Christmas eve of last year, and the absurd boasting of Mr. George Bankes, on the same evening, about the "cheerful hearths" of the labourers, and of "agriculture being the sun of the social system, gilding the dome of the palace, the spire of the church, and the thatch of the cottager's roof!"—when those speeches drew public attention to Dorsetshire, I went down to see what the condition of Mr. Bankes's labourers really was. Before I left London I was warned, by a gentleman who had been in the Isle of Purbeck, to which I was going, that I would be in danger of personal violence if my purpose became known. This I heeded not, as the gentleman was not himself a resident there, nor likely to be thoroughly acquainted with the people. But when I reached Poole the same warning was given; and at Wareham, it was repeated. At Swanage, where I was in the vicinity of Studland, Mr. Bankes's place, and where I heard dreadful things of the working people's physical and moral wretchedness, I was again seriously warned not to go on the property and let my purpose be known. A gentleman, living ten miles off, sent after me a special message, on being told by a mutual friend where I was going, to bid me profess to be looking for curious stones and pebbles, an amusement which many people follow in the Isle of Purbeck.

I at last asked a gentleman in Swanage what kind of opinion I was to form of the people who would commit a personal outrage on me. "Are they," I asked, "so naturally savage as to throw me into a quarry-hole, or over the sea-cliffs, or into the sea itself, merely because I am a stranger and defenceless?" "No," said he; they are not." "Are they, then," I continued, "so in love with the poverty you say they endure, so in love with the hard masters who pay them so ill and work them so hard, that they would, at the bidding of such masters, fall upon me?" "No;" he again replied, "they are not." Why, then," I asked, "would they assault me?" "They would assault you or any other man," he replied, "for a pot of beer."

Soon after this a letter from a tenant of Mr. Bankes appeared in a London morning paper, in which he spoke fiercely of the report which I made of the condition of the labourers, and promised—promised in print—that if ever I, or any one on the same mission, came to Studland, we would probably not return with a whole skin. I do not recollect that this letter called forth a single remark from the newspapers that copied it. But if that letter had been written by a tenant in Ireland; had the threats offered in Purbeck been offered in Tipperary; had the labourers of Dorset been the peasantry of Tipperary, what correspondence there would have been in the London papers!

RUBEN.

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

WRITTEN FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION.

CHAPTER VIII.

The narrative of the singular persecution of P—— R—— continued and concluded—His imprisonments—The power of a landlord to throw a witness into gaol to prevent him giving evidence in a civil suit, exemplified—The law of libel exemplified in the prosecution of Irish newspapers.

The landlord by this time (winter of 1842 and spring of 1843,) was in a labyrinth of litigation with his tenants. Nearly one-half of them were parties to lawsuits with him; and it would seem that, impatient of the law, he at last determined to be brief with his proceedings. One of his tenants, the widow D——, owed him 30s. for rent, and 7s. 11d. costs. He had a decree against her, and she, to avoid being taken to prison, shut herself up in her house. The landlord sent four bailiffs to take her, with orders not to waste time as they had done with P —— R——, but carry her off at once. They accordingly broke open her door, and took her. For this they were prosecuted and found guilty: one of them was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, and the others to three months each. The landlord, however, by whose orders they broke into the house, escaped all punishment, as the law could not reach him, he being a landlord. The widow D——, though thus taken illegally to prison, was kept there. She had been five months incarcerated when I was in the county, and there was no hope at that time of her liberation.

By this bold defiance of law, and complete escape from the consequences, and by the ill-feeling that was now raised over many miles of country, the landlord had few friends on the estate, and many enemies. One Sunday morning, in March, between the hours of ten and eleven, when driving in his car to Kilkenny from his own residence, he was shot at from behind the pillar of a gate, but was not injured. The trials arising out of this case will afford matter for a curiously speculative chapter hereafter. Meantime I shall not speculate upon the question of whether he was fired at or not. He was not injured at all events, though the assassin was alleged to have been within three yards of him. But, if really fired at, and therefore much frightened, as he, doubtless, would be, it was not a loss to him. With the facility which the law in Ireland gives him as a landlord, he at once threw those tenants into gaol with whom he had been involved in litigation. Consequently, before they could prosecute him for damages, or before they could be witnesses in another case, they had themselves to be tried for attempted murder!!

P—— R—— was one of those arrested; and though several hundreds of people, some of them gentlemen of rank and property, knew that he had been in the Catholic chapel for an hour before, and an hour after the time the shot was alleged to have been fired, and that at the distance of two miles, yet he was kept in prison, in solitary confinement, not allowed to see any friend, nor even a lawyer, for several weeks. He was not even examined before a magistrate. This last fact in the administration of the law is, I believe, peculiar to Ireland only. Whether it is consistent with or contrary to law, [illegible] to do justice to the accused and the accuser to bring them face to face before a magistrate at the earliest opportunity. But in this case the landlord (and I am told such a thing is quite common in all such cases) put P—— R—— in prison, kept him there three weeks in close confinement, apart even from a legal adviser, and then allowed him to get out without even taking him before a magistrate, or offering any evidence against him.

We may easily conceive circumstances which would warrant the landlord to suspect this man, so as to have him taken up, and which might ultimately turn out to be so weak as to prevent the production of any evidence whatever. Had the landlord merely put P—— R—— in prison, and let him out again after finding, through a period of three weeks, that he could get no evidence against him, there would be little to complain of, save that the law should not compel the magistrates to bring the accused up for examination, or that the prison authorities should not let the prisoner have an interview with a legal adviser; but the landlord did much more. While P—— R—— was in gaol, the landlord sent and made a wreck of his house and farm; took the roof, thatch, and wood off the barn, stable, and dwelling-house, save in one small portion of the latter; and every handful of the thatch and wood so pulled down was carried away to the landlord's own premises. The doors and windows he also carried away; pulled down the gates of the farm-yard and the garden, and the garden wall. These gates were iron, and had been erected by the tenant a few years before at considerable expense. The houses were also all of his own erection; the thatch and timber of the roof, carried away by the landlord, was P—— R——'s own property; and all was taken away, and the whole place wrecked, without any warrant whatever for so doing; without any right whatever, save the right which, by the laxity of the law and the dominancy of a faction, a landlord, belonging to that dominant faction, may create for himself; without any authority whatever, save the power of his own high hand, against which the law is powerless.

P—— R——, after being kept in prison for three weeks, apart from every friend and adviser, and apart from every human creature save the spies with which every prison in Ireland abounds,—persons who are kept there at the public expense, and who are put to sleep with such men as P—— R——, and who, pretending to make a confidant of the fresh prisoner, tell tales of the assaults and murders which, as a trap, they profess to have been concerned in; they urging the new prisoner to confess all, to split on his accomplices, and take the reward of £100 at once;—except such companions as these, some of whom I saw produced as witnesses for the Crown at the Kilkenny assizes; thus learning from their own mouths the nature of their diabolical employment; excepting these, to whom, as P—— R—— declares, he indignantly answered again and again that he had nothing to confess, he saw no human being during his incarceration. He was liberated, and went joyfully home; but when he went there, alas! his home was a ruin.

This, and the former imprisonment, and the continual expenses of defending himself at law, operated so as to prevent the proper cultivation of his land this year, only one field, about one-third of the farm, was ploughed and sown; and this was done by the assistance of his neighbours. On the day that the neighbours came to help in this work, the landlord, on horseback, hovered all day about the outskirts of the field to discover who they were that thus dared to brave his power in helping a tenant with whom he was at war. Several of them were people from other estates, but three of them were tenants of his own. He has not failed to let the unhappy three feel that they did not consult their own interests in doing what they did. One of them was M—— D——, whose barley still rotted on the field on the 15th of November; the others will be spoken of hereafter.

When one-third only of the farm was under a crop this year, and the seed for that crop was only obtained by a loan of £4 from the solicitor in Kilkenny who had conducted P —— R ——'s cases—the solicitor having no hope of repayment until some of the actions against the landlord in which P—— R—— was plaintiff would be decided in plaintiff's favour, and the damages be recovered—it is little wonder that the rent was not all paid. That such damages will be so recovered, there is no doubt; but the law, while it falls with the force and rapidity of a stone from a precipice against a poor man, moves like a snail up the front of the same precipice when a rich man is to be pursued. He can avoid the damages for years; during which time, in Ireland, it is no matter of surprise if the pursuer be hanged or transported at the instance of persons not beyond the landlord's influence.

We come now to a period of P—— R——'s history which will throw some light on the truth of this assertion.

A local newspaper, speaking of the alleged attempt on the landlord's life, had a paragraph worded in this form:—On Sunday morning, as Blank Blank, Esq., of somewhere, the "notorious landlord," was coming to Kilkenny in his car, he was shot at, &c. &c.

An action was brought against the proprietor of the journal for a malicious libel, in calling this gentleman a "notorious landlord." A man who had, in two years and a half, had above two hundred disputes with his tenantry, not half of which I have yet even alluded to, but all of which, alluded to and related, had occurred previous to that time,—such a man, to prosecute for being called "notorious," had good confidence.

But he had also a good case. It would be scouted out of Westminster Hall; but it was a good case in *Ireland*. An English judge, after hearing evidence for the defence in such a case—evidence in justification—would not sum up to the jury; or, if he began his summary, the jury would stop him with an intimation that their minds were made up! But to the Irish jury—the special jury of landlords, before whom this case was about to be brought—the proprietor of the Irish newspaper looked forward with a certainty of being convicted on a criminal charge, the punishment of which would have probably been one or two years imprisonment and a heavy fine.

He would have relied on a verdict in his favour had the case stood for a common jury, or for a special jury in any of the counties where he was known, or where his paper circulated. When it was intimated to him that the trial would not take place in Kilkenny, he urged that the venue might be laid in Waterford, or Tipperary, or Wexford, or Carlow, or in the Queen's County, where something was known of each of the parties; but no, the venue was laid in the county of Dublin, where the gentlemen who would form the special jury were all of the landlord class, and nearly all belonging to the dominant church-and-state party. In that county nothing was known of either plaintiff or defendant, save that the first was a distinguished Protestant partisan, and that the other was a Catholic, and proprietor of a liberal newspaper. Of their private characters nothing was known.

Still the defendant resolved to go to trial and justify the epithet "notorious" as applied to the landlord. He intended taking several of the worst-used tenants up as witnesses; and he also obtained the official records of the petty sessions, quarter sessions, and assize courts, to put in as evidence to show the overwhelming amount of litigation carried on by the landlord with his tenantry. He resolved on doing all this, though sure of being condemned to imprisonment and a fine by the special jury; he judged, from the well-known reputation of that class of men, and from what he had seen other newspaper proprietors receive at their hands for publishing the oppressive conduct of landlords; but he resolved on justifying by evidence, in the hope that a public trial, at which such witnesses as the persecuted tenants of plaintiff would appear, would draw public attention to their unfortunate condition. He had chosen P—— R—— and J—— R——, the worst used of the tenants, and one or two others, as witnesses; but what was his dismay when he found P—— R—— once more thrown into gaol, as also the others, at the instance of the landlord, on the charge of attempting to shoot him!

Thus, without his witnesses, the defendant, after incurring the expense of about £100 in preparing his defence, was glad to get out of the case in any shape. He made a public and most humble apology, paid all expenses, and the prosecution was dropped. As soon as this was effected, P—— R——, but for whose imprisonment on an accusation of murder the trial would have gone on, *was again allowed to walk out of gaol without having undergone any examination; without having had any evidence produced against him.* The only one of the persecuted tenants who was brought to trial for the alleged attempt at murder, was J—— R——. He had an action against the landlord, which was to be tried at the next assizes (it was spoken of in Chapter V., and will be spoken of again); and, previous to its coming on, the landlord had him tried for a conspiracy to murder. J—— R—— was acquitted, the Protestant clergyman of the parish with other gentlemen deposing in prisoner's favour, though he was a Catholic, that they believed him to be utterly incapable of having anything to do with such a crime. There was no evidence against him so strong as would justify a police magistrate in London to keep a man in prison a single day; there was nothing whatever against him but the secret information sworn by the landlord. This detained him in prison, and prevented the proprietor of the journal from taking him to Dublin as a witness; but it did not prevent J—— R—— from bringing his pending action against the landlord. It was tried on the day following his acquittal on the charge of conspiring to murder, and the jury gave a verdict for J—— R——, damages £100.

The apology which the proprietor of the newspaper made is a curiosity rather too good to be omitted, now that it has been alluded to. The defendant was not willing to make a very large apology for merely calling such a landlord "notorious;" still, as his witnesses had been thrown into prison, and as he had no relish for a heavy sentence himself, he consented to settle the matter by paying all costs and publishing an apology. It was not easy, however, to draw up a document agreeable to each party: that which defendant would give, plaintiff would not take. At last defendant's Dublin attorney, a clever fellow named C——o, said to his client, "Now, listen to me; I shall settle it; I shall make an apology that will go down. I find he has a throat to swallow anything. I shall make one ample enough for him, and that he'll swallow like an oyster."

Whereupon Mr. C—— went to work, and wrote to the effect that defendant regretted that he had caused any uneasiness to plaintiff; that plaintiff was one of the most honourable and benevolent landlords in the county; and that it was in reference to his many excellent qualities that the word "notorious" was used—a word which defendant regretted the use of, as it was liable to misconstruction. As predicted by the attorney, this apology was swallowed, not but what the landlord knew it was a satire, but he looked to the effect it would have in the newspapers where he was not known. From the time he had been shot at, the newspapers of his own party had insisted on calling him a martyr and Christian Protestant. They wrote of him being shot at on the "holy sabbath, on his journey to the House of God," although he neither goes to church, nor makes any pretence of being a religious man. By his own evidence, given at the trial of J—— R——, he was going to Kilkenny, as usual with him every Sunday, to read the newspapers at the club-house. He is, however, an eminent Protestant, according to the Irish characteristics of Pro-

testant connexion. He sticks at nothing to serve his party. Therefore, the apology, though a palpable satire, was accepted by him. In the county of Kilkenny the people who knew him said the apology was worse than the original libel; but in other quarters, and in the English Tory papers especially, this apology was reprinted from one to another as an instance of the injustice done to an excellent landlord and religious man.

This prosecution of the newspaper will explain to some extent why detailed accounts of the conduct of Irish landlords and land agents so seldom appear in the public prints, and why, therefore, so little is known in England of such subjects. Even when Mr. O'Connell and other public men have exposed such cases in their speeches, the Irish newspapers, in reporting them, have been constrained to give the cases in general terms, lest they might be prosecuted. Of the London papers, the only Liberal ones which have actual correspondents in Ireland, have been prosecuted and put to great expense by Irish landlords. The others who have correspondents in that country confine themselves to the publication of Irish outrages, when these are committed by the peasantry; they do not publish the outrages committed on the peasantry.

The narrative of P—— R——'s case has now reached the month of July, 1843. At that period he was once more in prison for the non-payment of costs incurred in defending himself against the landlord.

These were paid, and a new decree, for some other costs, was got against him. There was also a warrant for his ejectment obtained. At this time his family were ill of typhus fever, and had been for several weeks. The sheriff refused to execute the ejectment while they so suffered. The landlord was exceedingly anxious to eject as early as possible, because (let the English reader mark this peculiarity of Irish tenures,) a tenant, though ejected, may recover possession; the law says he may *redeem* within six months. Now, P—— R—— had an action for damages pending against the landlord, a very simple action, which could have been easily tried, and in which a jury could not have hesitated to award ample damages. To this, at the summer assizes, the landlord, through his law agents, pleaded that he was not ready to go to trial, consequently it was put off until next assizes, to wit, March, 1844. If, therefore, P—— R—— could have been ejected in July, or early in August, 1843, the six months in which he could redeem possession of his land would have expired before the trial of the case postponed to March, 1844,—a case which promised to put P—— R—— in a condition to redeem his land by payment of his debts to the landlord.

But the sheriff would not eject while the family were prostrate in the fever. The landlord, however, was determined to compel him. They met on the day after I arrived at Kilkenny, namely, Monday the 31st of July. Accident brought them together in the Provincial Bank. I was present. It was about eleven in the forenoon. The landlord demanded to know why the sheriff did not execute the ejectment. The sheriff replied, he would not do so while the family was in the fever. The landlord denied they were in the fever, and asserted it to be all a pretence, and added, with a volley of oaths, exceedingly vulgar and unfit for publication, that the sheriff was in collusion with the tenantry, and would not do his duty because he wanted to thwart him, the landlord. The sheriff thereupon called the clerks of the bank, and other gentlemen, to witness the slander, and intimated that he would prosecute the slanderer.

That he might be on the safe side, the sheriff immediately despatched a medical gentleman to the suffering family, who returned and reported that the mother and three of the children were in the fever. I followed him in a car, and found the house between four and five miles in the country. Save one small portion, it was all in ruins. Two of the fields were lying without a crop; the crop upon the remaining field was growing without manure. The dunghill had been taken away in the spring; the house had been unroofed; the thatch and the timber carried away; the walls and gates of the farm-yard and garden had been wrecked and carried off; nothing remained for shelter but one apartment of the house, about twelve feet square;—all had been done by the landlord; and the wretched creatures, who lay huddled on the bare earth, diseased, helpless, and hopeless, would have been dragged out to the highway, on that very day, had the sheriff not sternly refused to be made the instrument of an act so cruel.

The neighbours told me that only two years ago that house, now in ruins, contained good furniture; that that family, then on the bare ground, had two good feather beds; that four years ago the village, now so overrun with armed men, and incessantly harassed with the officers of the law, was quiet, pleasant, and undistinguished by outrages of any kind.

It has already been stated, that the crop of the only field sown in 1843 was seized and sold by the landlord for £17 odd shillings; the expenses of seizure being £6 10s. At the time I was there, the early potatoes in the garden were nearly ready for use, but a distraint had been put on them, though the family were literally starving of hunger, as well as some of them dying of fever.

P—— R—— and family are now ejected, and though contrary to the mandate of the landlord, who forbade all the tenants to admit him into their houses, he and his family and aged mother, nearly eighty years old, are staying in the house of M—— D——. Already the two families are almost without a potato, and there are eighteen of them in the one small house. The landlord has let the farm of P—— R—— *on lease* to another tenant, presuming that the six months within which redemption can be effected on the part of P—— R—— will expire before he can make any effort to redeem; before he can have the action for damages against the landlord tried; or before any friends, private or public, will enable him to redeem.

The last act of the landlord towards P—— R——, that of letting the farm on a lease to a new tenant, while the time is yet unexpired which the law allows for the ejected tenant to regain possession, if he can, is quite consistent with the whole course of his proceedings. The law of the land is nothing; the will of the landlord everything.

But what would the landlord say, if some hundreds, or ten hundred, or ten thousand persons, whose pity for one so wronged, whose indignant scorn for one who has so grievously wronged him, should put their hands in their pockets and enable P—— R—— to redeem possession of his land before the six months have expired? The only fear is, that he might undergo the same process of persecution, and again be ejected. And, moreover, he does not stand alone. Bad as is his case, that which next falls to be related is still worse, that of J—— R——.

NOTE.—This case of J—— R—— I shall hereafter publish in whole, or quote largely from the legal documents connected with it; because a mere narrative is so weak as to leave people in the belief that the whole is a dream—a fiction. The documents in question, however, have been submitted to Mr. Paulton, at the LEAGUE Office, for perusal, and are now in his possession.

STATE TAXATION COMPARED WITH MONOPOLY TAXES.

In an excellent article on the subject of taxation in a recent number of the *Nonconformist*, the following analysis, with the remarks appended, show most strikingly the injustice of the landlord's law towards the poorer classes. It will be seen also how small is the proportion of *state taxation*, as compared with the *slave* tax, levied, not for *state* uses, but for the exclusive advantage of our feudal task-masters and colonial monopolists. The illustration is taken from an account of the earnings and expenditure for one year of John Allen, agricultural labourer, Bolton Percy, near York, published by Sir F. H. Doyle in his report to the poor-law commissioners on the employment of women and children in agriculture in the counties of York and Northumberland, 1843, page 302.

The earnings and expenditure of John Allen, his wife, and five children, from March 1, 1841, to February 28, 1842:—

EARNINGS.

				£	s.	d.
Himself..	50 weeks, at	14s.	.. ..	£35	0	0
„ ..	2 ..	14s. 6d.	..	1	9	0
His wife..	29½ ..	5s.	.. ..	7	7	6
„ ..	4½ ..	4s.	.. ..	0	18	6
„ ..	0¾ ..	3s. 6d.	..	0	2	8
Boy ..	29 4½ days ..	3s.	.. ..	4	9	3
„ ..	7½	4s.	.. ..	1	9	4
Total income of family ..			..	£50	16	5*

* This is 4s. 8d. more than his account, which is incorrectly cast up.

ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.	Monopoly Tax. £	d.	State Tax. £	s.	d.
Flour, 152½ stone } equal to 7	20	1	1					
Oatmeal, 4 stone } qrs. wheat	0	8	0					
Meat, say 186 lbs. at 6d. ..	4	12	4					
Bacon, 10lbs, at 8d.	0	6	8					
Potatoes	0	16	7					
Cheese	0	3	0					
Butter	1	1	6					
Milk	0	17	6					
Yeast	0	12	0	..	..	0	2	6
Candles, 25 lbs	0	14	2					
Soap, 30 lbs	0	17	2	..	..	0	3	9
Total agricultural produce	30	10	0	.. 7	12	6		
Tea, 2½ lbs	0	16	4	..	..	0	5	3
Coffee, 7½ lbs	0	14	6	.. 0	2	5 .. 0	2	6
Sugar, 70 lbs	2	2	0	.. 0	11	8 .. 0	16	0
Apples, salt, pepper, &c. ..	0	6	8					
Coals	1	18	2					
Clothes, making, &c.	6	12	4					
Miscellaneous	0	15	0¾					
Boys' schooling	0	6	0					
House-rent	4	0	0					
Balance	2	15	4¼					
	£50	16	5	.. 8	6	7 .. 1	10	0

In the above account the excess of price, or monopoly tax, occasioned by restrictions on the importation of agricultural produce is taken at *one-fourth*, undoubtedly underestimated; that on coffee at 4d. a pound, the amount of the differential duty; and that on sugar at 2d. a pound, the difference between colonial and foreign sugar in bond. By that means £8 6s. 7d. or *one-sixth* (16¼ per cent.) of John Allen's property is taken to increase the rent of the landholders and colonists beyond what they had a right to obtain. And in addition, 1-34th part more is taken from him by excise and customs duties, to be expended principally in protecting the property of those for whose benefit he has been plundered. By these two processes 4s. in the pound of his earnings are taken, and, as about the same proportion is taken annually, it is precisely the same as if one-fifth of the property of the landholders was annually taken. Thus, from the possessor of an estate valued at £25,000, one-fifth or £5000 the first year, £4000 in the second year, and so on until the individual was reduced to the same necessity as John Allen, to exchange his labour for property on which to live.

Such is the manner in which the industrious classes are plundered by the operation of restrictions—in being thus made to pay 4¾d. for permission to spend 2½d. for a pound of sugar, which is the natural price of it freed from monopoly and customs taxes. Until that system is abolished every person who earns his bread by the sweat of his brow will be held in a condition analogous to slavery; for what is slavery, but that one man is *legally* deprived of the product of his labour that another may be enriched by it?

One lady asked another how she liked the *odious income* tax. Her reply was, that it was very *incom(e)-modious.*

To the EDITOR *of the* LEAGUE.

SIR,—As in the report of "weekly average earnings," given by Richard Cobden, Esq., in Covent-garden Theatre, and copied in your paper of Saturday last, we appear to considerable disadvantage as compared with other firms, we shall feel much obliged by your inserting in the columns of your paper the following details in explanation:—

We have 120 7-8 looms.
„ 685 9-8 do.

Total .. 805

		£.	s.	d.
We have 329 weavers } average net weekly				
„ 70 learners } earnings		181	2	6
Total .. 399	£ s. d.			
70 Learners, each 5s. per week	17 10 0			
322 Weavers, each 9s. 10½d. do.	158 19 9			
7 do. 3 looms each, 13s. do.	4 11 0			
		181	0	9

Yours, most respectfully,

T. B. REYNER AND BROTHERS.

Albion Mills, Ashton-under-Lyne, Dec. 2, 1843.

THE SUGAR MONOPOLY AND THE REVENUE.

An amusing article appeared in the *Times*, the other day, on the propriety of greatly reducing the present exorbitant duty on tea, as the best possible mode of extending our commercial intercourse with China, which is represented as more likely to fall off than to increase, unless some such measure be speedily carried into effect by Government. At present, as our readers are aware, the duty on tea is 2s. 2½d. per pound, producing a yearly revenue of nearly four millions sterling. This duty the writer in the *Times* wishes to see reduced to 1s. per pound; and he endeavours to show that, while such a reduction would be felt as a very great boon by the labouring population, the revenue would not suffer materially, as the increase which might be expected to take place in the consumption of tea, and consequently of sugar and other exciseable articles, would soon make up for the immediate deficiency of nearly two millions sterling, which would necessarily result from the proposed change. In order to show that such would be the case, were the duty reduced to a shilling per pound, it is first assumed, that the consumption of tea would increase from 35,000,000lbs. to 65,000,000lbs. a year, and next, that "the consumption of 30,000,000lbs. extra of tea would bring with it that of 45,000,000lbs. extra of sugar (about 401,794 cwt.) and would yield to the revenue (at 24s. per cwt. and five per cent.) £506,260." But, although we have always advocated the doctrine that the lowering of duties on most commodities increases consumption, we are not quite prepared to go along with the writer in the *Times* in these calculations. As regards the increase in the consumption of tea, we have no doubt that a reduc- of fifty per cent. in the duty levied on an article which has now become a necessary of life with the bulk of the community, might, perhaps, reach the estimated amount after a few years; but we cannot see the slightest ground for supposing, that any such increase would "bring with it that of 45,000,000lbs. extra of sugar," *were the duty to continue at 24s. per cwt.*

The grand mistake committed by the *Times* is in concluding, that a large increase in the consumption of tea would necessarily bring with it a proportionate increase in the consumption of sugar,—a mistake into which any one would very naturally fall, who should reason from what takes place in a single family to what takes place in the whole kingdom. Nothing can be more certain than that, with people in comfortable circumstances, the consumption of sugar will generally bear pretty much the same relation to the consumption of tea, whatever the quantity consumed may be. But, when we inquire into the consumption of those commodities by the nation at large, we find that the same rule will not hold. In 1840, our consumption of tea was 11,549,819lbs. above what it was in 1811. In 1840, our consumption of coffee was 22,274,214lbs. greater than in 1811. What increase, then, had taken place in the consumption of sugar during those thirty years? In 1811, our annual consumption of the two articles named was, in round numbers, of tea, 21,000,000lbs.; of coffee, 6,400,000lbs., or altogether upwards of 27,000,000lbs., so that the increase was considerably more than 100 per cent.; and, had the hypothesis of the *Times* been correct, our annual consumption of sugar ought to have increased from 4,047,221cwt. in 1811, to something like 8,500,000cwt. in 1840. Instead of which, if we are to judge from the quantity cleared for consumption, it amounted only to 4,035,845cwt., or *rather less than that of* 1811, although the population had increased [illegible],000 during those thirty years.

Should any of our readers wish to know how it happens that the people contrive to do with so much less sugar now than formerly, we must confess our inability to give them any satisfactory explanation. This, however, we may venture to say, that, although the total quantity of sugar cleared for consumption in 1840 was only 4,035,845cwt., there is every reason to believe that, in addition, a large quantity of something or other resembling sugar, but paying no duty to Government, must have been consumed. In confirmation of this explanation, we need only refer to the *East India Circular* of Messrs. Littledale, in which it is estimated, that "the consumption of certain articles for adulterating sugar is not less than 20,000 tons (400,000cwt.) per annum." And all this wholesale pollution of food, and defrauding of the revenue, is connived at by Government, merely because it has not courage to meddle with the West India monopoly.—*Manchester Guardian.*

REVIEW.

Chronicles of England, France, Spain, and the adjoining Countries. By Sir John Froissart. Translated by T. Johnes, Esq. London: W. Smith, 113, Fleet-street.

The Chronicles of Enguerraud de Monstrelet. Translated by T. Johnes, Esq. Same publisher.

These valuable chronicles take up the history of the struggle between the feudal lords of Flanders and the great commercial cities at a period of the strife when the great principles involved in the contest were mixed and blended with extraneous political movements, and more especially with the disputed succession to the crown of France consequent on the failure of the male line of Philip the Fair. It is therefore necessary to go farther back, and trace the causes of mutual discontent which placed landed property in the position of an antagonist to mercantile industry, and which ended in producing the most fatal consequences to both. On examining the old collection of Oudegherst, and the more modern researches of Sismondi, we find that the dislike of the nobles to the merchants rested both on positive and comparative grounds. Not only were the lords grieved at the loss of their power to levy discretionary imposts, but they regretted the growth of that mercantile wealth which invested counting-houses and stores with a political influence not inferior to that which had formerly attached itself exclusively to castles and estates. The wealthy Flemings did not make any effort to assimilate themselves to the nobles: they formed an aristocracy of their own, and devised titles, ranks, and dignities, which they valued not less highly than the nobles did their heraldic honours. The Earls of Flanders and their great feudatories viewed these symptoms of mercantile independence with the more jealousy on account of the great contrast which the relative position of nobles and merchants in the neighbouring kingdom of France afforded. In France, Philip the Fair adopted an anti-commercial system of legislation, which placed the whole industrial community at the mercy of the ruling powers. He levied on all engaged in trade an arbitrary tax called *maltôte*, that is, "the mischievous tax," a name which it well deserved, inasmuch as it was levied not only on income, but on invested capital. In consequence of this imprudent system, the few manufactures that were in France rapidly declined, and the nobles began to purchase and wear foreign fabrics. A cry was then raised that "the money was going out of the country," for one of the oldest and most inveterate blunders in political economy is the vulgar imagination that gold and silver possess some magical quality independent of their exchangeable value; that to pay in cash is, under all circumstances, an evil; and to pay in produce, under all circumstances, an advantage. Reserving, for another occasion, the exposure of this rather palpable fallacy, which, by the way, lies at the bottom of the preposterous demand for reciprocity treaties, we must see what was its result at the close of the thirteenth century. Philip issued an ordinance forbidding the export of the precious metals in coin, bullion, or jewellery, from his dominions, without special license under the sign-manual, and thus put an end to the whole commerce of France at one blow.

Pope Boniface VIII., with all his faults, and they were many, had sufficient intelligence to perceive the evil tendency of this law; and he issued a bull against it, which is deservedly regarded as one of the most remarkable documents of that age. It may indeed be said that the ire of his Holiness was, in some degree, provoked by the interception of the large pecuniary contributions which were annually sent to Rome from the Gallican churches; but though this doubtless was one of his motives, we find that he himself states more honourable causes for his interference. "It was neither lawful nor expedient," says the pontiff, "to introduce such unusual regulations into your kingdom; they take away from those who are not natives the privileges of residence and the customary liberties of lawful commerce. By refusing freedom of import into France you not only injure the foreign merchant, but cause great loss and oppression to your subjects. In war, intercourse with enemies may be prohibited, but such a prohibition of imports as that which you have issued is intolerable." It is creditable to Boniface that he discovered that the question of Free Trade for which he thus strenuously contended, not only on this but on many subsequent occasions, turned on the "imports," not, as Philip and some modern followers of Philip imagine, on the exports. If money went out, money's worth came in—a very plain proposition, which legislators have too often shown an inability or a disinclination to comprehend.

Philip disregarded the remonstrances of Boniface; indeed one of the most perplexing circumstances in the history of this period is the inconsistency of the policy of the French monarchs in their relations with the Papacy. At one time they exhibit themselves as the most servile adherents of the Vatican, zealously supporting every extravagant claim set forth by the successors of St. Peter; at another period we find them denouncing the Papal pretensions with a vehemence and virulence not ex[illegible] Philip,

PILLORY OF THE POPE'S MESSENGERS. *Monstrelet*, I., 88.

who would without hesitation have sent heretics and schismatics to the rack or the stake by thousands, not only wrote the most insulting letters to Boniface, but issued orders for his arrest as a criminal, and persecuted his memory after his death by the most calumnious accusations. In the same way Charles VI., himself a gross slave of superstition, and reigning at a period when the French were most intolerant of any doctrine or discipline opposed to the Church, did not scruple to expose the messengers of Pope Benedict XIII. in the pillory at Paris. "With mitres on their heads, and having surcoats emblazoned with the family arms of the Pope (Pietro della Luna) reversed, they were carried most disgracefully in a dung-cart from the Louvre to the court of the palace; and shortly after, near the marble table at the end of the steps, were set in a pillory. They were thus exhibited for a very long time to all who wished to see them, having labels on the mitres, on which was written, *disloyal traitors to church and king*." It would lead us too far away from our immediate subject, to examine into the nature of the relations between the various feudal governments and the ecclesiastical power; but it is only justice to state, that the Roman pontiffs of the middle ages were generally favourable to commercial and manufacturing industry, and that their interference to protect these interests was frequently the cause of their being embroiled with the court of France.

On the death of Robert, Earl of Flanders, his grandson Louis, already Count de Nevers in right of his mother, succeeded to the rich inheritance of the Netherlands. Nurtured in the polished court of Paris—a Frenchman in character, habit, and feeling—accustomed to exercise feudal despotism of the most absolute kind over his vassals in the county of Nevers—Louis was incapable of comprehending the independent spirit of the wealthy and industrious Flemings; he could not understand how persons having no pretensions to noble birth or feudal rank, should still assert their claims to privileges and liberty. His entire reign was a con-

CITIZENS OF GHENT BEGGING PEACE OF THE EARL OF FLANDERS. *Froissart*, I., 673.

tinuous civil war. He was twice enabled, by the assistance of the entire power of the French monarchy, to reduce the Flemings to submission; but the degrading conditions on which he granted peace, and the severities he inflicted on the vanquished, created a spirit of revenge, which broke forth with renewed violence whenever a new opportunity of revolt was offered. When Philip of Valvis re-established the authority of the earl by overthrowing the patriots at the fatal battle of Cassel, Earl Louis, instead of endeavouring to conciliate his subjects, caused more than ten thousand Flemings to be publicly executed in less than three months, and nearly all of them were put to death with the most excruciating tortures. Zeyher Jahnson, one of the bravest leaders of the patriots, was taken prisoner near Ostend; he was exposed on the wheel at Bruges; his flesh was seared with redhot irons; his limbs slowly broken; and, when the spite of his persecutors had been sufficiently gratified by his agonies, his head was struck off in the presence of his fellow-citizens, who did not even dare to lament his fate. This was the first act of the great struggle between the mercantile and landed aristocracy of Flanders; but it was only the commencement of a sanguinary drama, replete with the most varied interest and the most useful instruction.

In this first struggle the citizens of Ghent, actuated by unworthy jealousies of the people of Bruges, refused to aid the patriots, and even showed

common rights of all the mercantile class were trampled down by the feudal chivalry. It cannot now give offence to say, that the same culpable want, not merely of public spirit but of a knowledge of their own interests, was shown by the men of Manchester, when the citizens of London fought their battle against the imposition of the iniquitous Corn Laws. Manchester, like Ghent, could have shown men who showed more than apathy when the contest, in which at a later period they were forced themselves to take an active part, was commenced. There is no doubt that if Ghent had joined the other confederate cities during the first struggle with Earl Louis, he would never have been able to fix the yoke of French feudalism on Flemish commerce; and there is scarcely less reason for doubting, that if the manufacturing districts of the North of England had seconded the zeal of the metropolis when Corn Laws were first proposed, this incubus on industry could not have been carried. The fever of what men were pleased to call "loyalty," but what posterity sometimes designates as "servility," was for a season equally strong in Ghent and in Manchester: the citizens of one shouted after the prisoners brought in from

INSURRECTION OF GHENT. *Monstrelet*, I., 607.

Bruges, and the "merchant-princes" of the other raised a loud cheer when Bamford and his companions were carried to a prison in Salford.

But if these cities were alike in their apathy, they were still more closely identified in their heroic efforts to atone for their former indifference. When Earl Louis adopted a course of policy which threatened utter ruin to the trade of the Netherlands, by preventing the import of English wool, the raw material of their staple manufacture, the citizens of Ghent placed themselves in the van of the "Free Traders," and their exertions, their sacrifices, and their perseverance surpassed all that was done by the rest of the commercial cities put together. So far as we can gather from Oudegherst, Earl Louis pretended to exclude English wool on the same absurd pretence assigned in our days for the exclusion of foreign corn, viz., the danger of dependence on foreigners. But the Flemings saw clearly that they were already dependent on foreigners *to sell*, and that the process of selling ought in some way or other to include that of *getting payment;* and whether this "getting of payment" was called *buying* or importing foreign produce, was to them a matter of complete indifference. When once this discovery was made, the character of the contest underwent a decisive change, the nature of which will probably engage our attention at an early opportunity.

Peel, Partridges, and Potatoes; or Leash, Leases, and Lashes. Bacon, Lewes; Strange, Paternoster-row, London. pp. 20.

A very clever parody has been just published, with the above title, on the speech of Sir. R. Peel at the late meeting of the Tamworth Farmers' Club, and upon which the *Times* remarked to the following effect:—

"We must say that there is a certain prominence of Number One, which appears out of taste, to say the least, on the semi-public occasion on which Sir R. Peel addressed the Farmers' Club of Tamworth. It is 'I' who will buy the bull—'I' who grew the potatoes—'I.' who utter 'no empty declarations'—'I' who 'make sacrifices of my personal pleasures'—'I' who have just given a nineteen years' lease—'I' who will kill off all the hares and rabbits Most proper and fitting that 'I' should do and promise all this, if it were but at 'my' own dinner table. There nothing would be more fitting than for the owner of Drayton naturally and unaffectedly to tell his tenantry what he was ready to do for them; and nothing would have been more likely than that the example there set would have been more largely known as it now is, and as generally followed by his brother landowners. But as delivered to a 'numerous body of landed proprietors and farmers,' collected to the tune of about 240 in the Town-hall of Tamworth, these very circumstantial announcements of 'my own' intentions and merits savour of the egotistical—a failing with which we would rather that our excellent Premier should not be chargeable."

The grave Premier himself must have smiled upon seeing rendered into free Hudibrastic verse his speech upon Stock and Breeding, upon Potatoes, Corn, Leases, Game, and Birmingham Bulls! The following is the portion of the speech referring to Leases and to Game:—

"He then resumed.—Some week or two ago
I made on leases a remark or so;
I said, that if a tenant were to make
His wishes known, that he a lease would take,
I certainly should hesitate before
I should refuse him—nay, I e'en said more,—
I said that I may—might—could—should—or would—
Be happy—be most glad—to do him good;
And I declared I should be much inclined,—
Perhaps induced—bearing all things in mind—
To hold out hopes that to such application
I e'en might grant—my best consideration.
This is not empty talk—I've done it once,
Tho' I must own 'twas simply for the nonce;
Still I did give one lease, perceiving thereby,
That I should then have just enough to swear by;
'Tis true the land was wretchedly let down,
So much, indeed, it was not worth a crown—
The tenant very rich, and, what is more, he
Was into boot a thundering good Tory.
Perceiving here the landlords looking blue,
And rather nervous, what, said he, ails YOU?
The deuce is in it if we can't insert,
In order to protect ourselves from hurt,
Some stringent covenant—some saving clause,
By way of 'stopper'—'Hear,' and loud applause.

"'There is another subject I'll now name,
Important to us both, and that is Game:
I know it plays Old Harry with a farm,
But 'tis the hares and rabbits do the harm;
The birds, perhaps, MAY spoil a LITTLE wheat,
But then the killing them is such a treat;
Besides I give my tenants every season
A brace or two expressly for that reason.
I'm a keen sportsman, and I own 'tis pleasant
To blaze away at partridge and at pheasant.
I don't like hares and rabbits, and I've reason,
They're rank 'free traders'—scorn 'protecting laws,'
Have no 'fixed duty' but to fill their maws
At other folks' expense—(though in that light,
More like monopolists a deuced sight).
Those hares have always so much DOUBLE dealing,
Now on this side, now that, turning and wheeling,
Like Gr-h-m, Ab-ng-r, B-rd-ett, or St-nl-y;
Such vacillation's anything but manly,—
It never stood so very high, but now
It's got beyond all decency, I vow;
'Tis really low,—
And more especially since that 'Jim Crow'
With his abominable 'do just so'
Was all the go.
So much for hares. I don't much like a rabbit,
'Twill dodge you when you most expect to grab it.
Just like O'Connell or those folks in Wales;
(I only wish that I could on THEIR tails
Just lay a LEETLE salt, slyly and neatly,
Wouldn't both Dan and 'Becca catch it sweetly!)
But to return.—You see I freely yield,
Solely for you, the pleasures of the field;
For as a landlord—owner of the ground—
I am, as I conceive, in duty bound,
And am prepared, I say in short, I'm 'GAME'
(And other landlords doubtless are the same,)
At once a personal sacrifice to make,
If you declare your interests are at stake.
So kill the rabbits off without remorse—
The hares though, as a matter quite 'of course,'
Must only subject be to such destruction
As will ensure their moderate reduction;
Just such a one, in short, as you might call
My Scale and Tariff—that is—none at all.

The invaluable articles contained in the LEAGUE newspaper from week to week, coupled with the very low price of 3d., ought to secure for it an immense circulation. This is certain, if the friends of Free Trade will but exert themselves in making it known. There is not a newsroom in the United Kingdom that ought to be without this excellent paper. Members of these rooms ought to urge upon the managing committees the propriety of ordering the LEAGUE paper.—*Struggle.*

TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm.

SIXTH LETTER.

In this letter Mr. Brown continues to write of Wiltshire. He speaks of Trowbridge—of mistaken prejudices there; of Hindon, and elections there; of Shaftesbury; of Fonthill Abbey—of its past and present proprietor; with other matters incidental to these topics.

SALISBURY, November 20, 1842.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—I regret to hear your account of the markets as regards the letting of your turnips; but surely you have more good sense among you than to attribute the low prices of cattle, and the consequent lowness of the turnip prices, to the new tariff. All the cattle that have been imported, and all the meat, under the new tariff, would not be sufficient for the proper maintenance of the inhabitants of Trowbridge, a Wiltshire town, which I visited the other day.

I visited this town on market day. It was thronged with the country people, who carried in their butter and cheese and eggs for sale, and who could not sell such articles for the want of customers. I need not write of this fact as peculiar to Trowbridge, or to any town in England: you can see and feel the same thing at home. But you do not see so clearly why you have few customers at home as I did at Trowbridge. The people selling the eggs and butter and cheese, and I may add, the poultry, bacon, and all kinds of butcher's meat, could not obtain remunerating prices, nor in many instances could they sell at any price, for the want of customers. But do you think there were nobody in the town willing to buy? The streets were literally crowded with broad-cloth weavers, many of whom were wholly unemployed, and all of whom, whether in work or out of it, were unable to buy a sufficiency of the meanest kinds of food; to say nothing of butcher's meat.

Now, why could the weavers of Trowbridge not afford to buy and eat? I inquired, and some of them answered, that the steam machinery of Yorkshire had taken away the trade of the west of England; that they in the west could never expect to have better trade until the machinery of the north was abolished. This led to a conversation in which some Wiltshire farmers joined; and one or two gentlemen whom I soon discovered to be the agents of landlords. All of them blamed the Yorkshire machinery for taking away the Wiltshire trade in woollen cloths. And when I pointed out the fact, that at that time trade was as bad in Yorkshire as in the west of England, they said that arose from over-production by steam machinery.

"Why are so many thousands of people in this neighbourhood so badly clothed," I asked, "if there be such an over-production? Why are the weavers of Trowbridge, and the other men in the market-place, whom you point out as mechanics—smiths, carpenters, and shuttle-makers—why are they and your tailors and shoemakers going with rags that will scarcely hang together, if there be such an over-production?"

"That is," says a farmer on whose arguments the others seemed to rely with confidence, "because the working men of this neighbourhood are not able to buy clothes." "And," says I, "you would have clothes to be dearer by means of under-production, that they might buy them?" "No," says the farmer; "we would have them better employed, that they might both eat food and wear clothes; as it is now, a working man in Trowbridge, if he be in work, cannot do more than get a bellyful of something to eat twice a day for himself and family; am I right or wrong, friends? Can a man who has a family do more than get two meals a day, though he be in full work? Upon which some cried, "Not so much;" others cried, "Not more;" and some said, "There be hundreds of working men now a-starving in the streets!"

"Well, then," says I, "what does it all amount to but this? That, to make an attempt to get a certain high price for farm produce, a law is made for preventing the manufacturers of Trowbridge from exchanging their products for some of the foreign corn that would help to feed those people who are either now wholly unemployed, or, as you say, must, if in employment, give all their wages for food, and yet not have enough of that. Don't you see that the want of trade makes them unable to buy even your beef and mutton and butter and cheese and eggs and poultry?"

I also called their attention to the fact that the farm labourers were getting no more than seven and eight shillings a week; that, in consequence of low prices, the result of a low demand and under-consumption, the farmers in Wiltshire were reducing wages, and paying off some of their men; that the men at seven and eight shillings a week complained of not being able to do more than keep themselves in life; that they could not buy clothes: which last fact once more affected the weavers, making work scarce, and "over-production" an apparent, though an unreal, circumstance.

It was then urged against me that, if an exchange of cloth for corn did give relief to trade, it would do no good to such a town as Trowbridge and neighbourhood; that it would benefit the factories of Leeds, not the hand-loom weavers of Trowbridge. To which I replied, in an argument much the same as I shall now address to you, my good and respected uncle. You are one of those who still think that such a place as Trowbridge should be protected against the competition of Yorkshire; that such a place as England should be protected against the competition of Europe and America.

Now, I would ask if, according to this principle, the farmers of Essex have not a good reason to demand that the Scotch steamers be hereafter prevented from carrying carcases of beef and mutton from Scotland to London? Are you not dependent on London and Hull and the great manufacturing population of the west of Scotland for a good market when you have a good market? Are you not depressed when the people of those places have bad trade? But, above all, are you not well aware that four or five times, without exaggeration I may say six times, more beef and mutton is fed now in the Lothians than was fed in grandfather's time, fifty years ago? And are you not equally aware that the price is higher now than it was fifty years ago? And how is this to be accounted for but in saying that our commerce and trade have given a greater number of people the power to consume?

This Trowbridge is a town situated on a river called the Were, which, having a peculiarity in its water well suited for dying the most delicate colours, has caused the fine

mixed cloths made here to be in high repute. I perceive there are a great many Chartists here, together with hundreds of others who follow Chartism from hunger, not from the force of any other argument. There is, as in every other hungry town, a barrack filled with dragoons; so that you as a farmer in Scotland have to pay in two ways, uncle: your prices are depressed because the people with a bad trade must suffer hunger and buy less of your produce; and you must also pay for soldiers to keep the hungry people in subjection.

The number of unemployed labourers in every village and in this county is most alarming; their poverty and savage life are such as you will not easily believe to be actually existing in this country and age of civilization. I would not hold land in Wiltshire as a farmer on any condition whatever. Those who have been used to the customs of the county, and to the state of society prevalent here, may endure both; I could not; neither could you, nor any farmer in the south of Scotland whom I am acquainted with.

In the first place, there are twice as many people as can find employment of any kind, who depend on agriculture for a livelihood. And of those who are at the present time employed, not a third, probably not a fourth, of them have constant employment. Yet all must do something rather than die. It is not in human nature to die quietly of starvation in a land of plenty. Therefore the people steal: turnips, potatoes, corn, sheep, poultry—everything is a prey to a population literally starving. The steward of a gentleman near a town called Hindon, which I passed through the other day, told me that since the turnip culture was introduced into Wiltshire for winter food to the sheep, the number of sheep bred and fed in the county had increased four-fold; and that only for the people of Hindon and neighbourhood, who plundered the turnip fields, sheep might be fed six-fold. I asked why such wretched fences disgraced every field, laying the crop, whatever it might be, bare to any one who passed it? He replied, that almost the only fuel the people had to burn was the dried dung they gathered on the pasture lands, and the fences and gates and trees they broke down. The lives of these people pass in one continued struggle for existence. At hay-time and harvest, most of them find temporary employment; but, for nine or ten months of the year, they go the round of the county prison and the workhouse, to expiate their thefts, their poaching, and their poverty.

When I was at Hindon I found it to contain a population of nearly 900 persons, of various ages. Of these a few were shopkeepers; a very few were people who had some little property; but most of them were people dependent on agriculture for employment. They depended on agriculture, and yet no more than thirty men, out of the whole, had any employment whatever. Still they depended on the land, and such subsistence as they found came from the land; they pilfred from the farmers until they were put in prison, and then they were maintained on taxes paid by the farmer, which taxes fed them better in the prison than they lived outside.

In every other respect these people are in a state of barbarism; few of them can read or write. In their houses there is no furniture, literally none that we would call furniture. Such clothes as they have are all on their backs at once, and still their backs are bare. They partake of all the grovelling vices of savage nations, a natural result of incessant privations, and the entire absence of moral precept and intellectual expansion. No county in England seems to be better supplied, indeed filled to extravagance, with churches and clergy than this; yet no attempt is made to educate and instruct this barbarous population. Incendiary fires, and destruction of property in almost every form, occur as an unceasing consequence. Instruction would do little for empty stomachs; but were it general and comprehensive, the farmers might also profit by it: in which case the land might be very differently farmed, and many more people steadily employed; which last circumstance would lay the foundation of social and intellectual improvement.

I have noticed that in Wiltshire, as in some other counties west of London, the men have no calves to their legs. All of them, young and old, wear knee-breeches, and a sort of tight leather legging, and this exhibits more palpably their thin shanks. Otherwise, they are generally handsome men, mostly of a middling size, thin and wiry. I was told by a gentleman, who seems to know the rural population of England well, that in all the counties where bacon is eaten as a staple article of diet, the men have small calves. I cannot see any reason for this; but whether it be bacon, or whether it be that a bacon-eating race may have invaded those counties, and have brought a peculiar formation of legs with them, it is a fact that they have calveless legs, no matter how well fed or how starving they may be. The jolly-faced farmers have the same kind of legs as the lean labourers.

Another peculiarity I find in Wiltshire is, that all the ale is sour before it is considered fit for use. Moreover, they call strong ale "beer," and small beer they call "ale." You would not like either of them: I do not. The ingredients of which they are made are not to be disparaged, nor is the manner of brewing. There are none of the great public breweries here as in London, nor as with us. Each publican brews his own beer, and lays by a large cellar-stock, to lie untouched until the following year, when, if it be what he calls "fine," that is, clear, he draws it off. I believe, now, since beer-shops, or, as they are called, "Tom and Jerrys," the prolific curse of English villages, have been established, there are brewers who sell to the trade; but most of the publicans brew their own beer. Most of them, I perceive also, are farmers. Not that they elevate the profession of publican to that of farmer, but they, being farmers, are already low enough in the scale of society to smoke and drink with all who can come to their houses and smoke and drink, *and pay*, with them.

I may mention that Hindon was, up to 1832, from the time of Henry VI., a borough sending two members to Parliament. The means by which those members were returned will in some degree account for the low tone of morality which is so distinctive of the population of that neighbourhood. So may the fact of Wiltshire having more rotten boroughs previous to the Reform Act, and twice as many since the Reform Act, than any other shire of equal extent, account for Hindon being but a specimen of the whole county. The voters of Hindon were the "potwallopers;" that is, each man of twenty-one years of age who had a separate fireplace for cooking his own meals, for a certain period before the election, I believe twelve months, was a voter. The account given to me by people in the neighbourhood of the cooking of meals at separate fireplaces in outhouses, stables, byres, and such like, by journeymen, by grooms, postilions, and all manner of unwived and houseless personages, that they might be voters, is truly comical. As soon as an election approached, even in vague report, candidates were in the town with money; and up to a month after the election the people of every age, male and female, wallowed in drunkenness and vilest immorality. The neighbouring clergy, to maintain the ascendancy of their establishment in Parliament, were not content to be mere spectators of such debasing practices: they were active participators with those who caused and partook of the results. Even now the neighbouring town of Shaftesbury, a town not better than any one of some dozen of your parish villages, sends a member to Parliament; and I learn from people who know it, and from the sworn evidence of its voters before election committees of Parliament, that its public-houses, at every election, including that of 1841, have been opened indiscriminately to man, woman, and child; that benches for tables and forms for seats have been set outside; and that there, in the open streets, night and day, for a space of two or three weeks, old and young, married and unmarried, male and female, Churchman and Dissenter, Christian and Infidel, have united in general debauchery. And, when the day of election came, the males from among these were selected and carried away to vote for a member, who in his turn votes in Parliament, and has as much power over English legislation as the member elected by the great constituency of Dundee, or of Paisley, or of Greenock, or of Rochdale, or other such towns, great in commerce and manufactures, great in money power and moral power, and which, each of them, send only one member to Parliament. This miserable Shaftesbury does as much in Parliament as your towns of Haddington, North Berwick, Dunbar, Lauder, and Jedburgh, which have only one member among them; and yet it is not so good a town as the meanest of them: it is not even equal in respectability to "L——y Lauther." This town, however, gives title to its feudal lord, the father of that eminent saint, Lord Ashley, under whose nose all its elections are conducted.

This little drunken borough is not in Wiltshire, though close upon it; it is in Dorsetshire. Between it and Hindon, a distance of seven or eight miles, is a celebrated place called Fonthill Abbey. This abbey is in ruins, but it is not aged, nor celebrated for its antiquity. It was built by a Mr. Beckwith, who spent money to the amount of several hundred thousand pounds on it, and who still lives, or lived not long ago, in retired pauperism, the result of the most stupid folly that ever built for itself a monument He piled story on story and turret on turret, until the whole fell and crushed in the ruins the most gorgeous and costly furniture (so descriptive books say) that was ever collected under any roof, save in the palaces of the oriental emperors. It is noticeable, though neither wonderful nor unnatural, that the estate of the most voluptuous spendthrift of modern times, this Fonthill Abbey, is now the property of one of the most remarkable money-making men of the present day, that is, James Morrison, Esq., M.P. for Inverness.

Mr. Morrison is not a Scotchman; his father or grandfather was; but he himself was born at no great distance from this very place. There is a roadside inn near Hindon, and which is situated on the Fonthill estate, now his own property, where he slept a night when a boy. He had then left his home, and was about to journey to London. Probably he had left without the consent of his parents, for he was in no way provided for such a journey. His stock of money when at the inn, is said to have been only half-a-crown, his friends in London nobody, his expectations nothing. But, with characteristic prudence, he made as much bread as he could buy for a penny serve him for breakfast on his departure from the inn. (I speak on the authority of the people who still inhabit there, most of whom never lived anywhere else.) On his arrival in London, he was walking along the pavement of a certain street, looking about him, but not where he should have looked: he stumbled into an open cellar, and, in his fall, either broke or very severely injured one of his limbs. The people to whom the house and shop belonged were much concerned at the accident, and the more so when they found he was a poor, friendless, and penniless adventurer in London. They got surgical assistance to him; kept him in their own house until well; and after that, being pleased with his amiable disposition, took him into their linendrapery shop as an apprentice. He advanced successively to be journeyman, foreman, and son-in-law to the principal; then to be a partner, and ultimately to be principal himself. He extended the business vastly beyond the limits he found it confined in. He went into general merchandise, and ultimately advanced money on landed estates. He also became a buyer of land; and at this very time is one of the largest landowners in England. In a former letter, written from Berkshire, I stated that he had estates in that county, in Wiltshire, in Suffolk, and in Cambridgeshire.

Mr. Morrison's rule for buying land is one well worthy of notice and of general imitation, though it is neither new to you nor to me. It is the rule that would guide us in taking a farm; that would cause us to pass over the highly-cultivated land, and prefer the badly-cultivated; that makes me leave well-improved Lothian, and seek a farm in comparatively unimproved England. Mr. Morrison buys no high-rented nor well-cultivated estates. He prefers those that can be improved in culture and in rental. Taose of Suffolk and Cambridge I have not seen; but, judging of Fonthill Abbey estate, I should say that it and much of the country around was made for him, or such another. The meanness of the agriculture is positively deplorable. The same may be said of his estate in Berkshire, with this difference, that it contains some of the finest land in England—land superior to anything known to us, save in very rare spots of East Lothian; and the rental is not more than a half of what you pay. Previous to Mr. Morrison's acquisition of the property, it was not, including tithes, more than a third of what you pay.

I do not know how long I shall stay in the west of England, but shall let you know in my next. As to taking a farm here, it is out of the question. To say nothing of the impossibility of doing anything as a tenant-at-will, and the difficulty of getting a lease, I would not occupy a farm, even free of rent, amid a population so barbarous. Any one that would attempt to bid a man do work out of the stupid course to which he is accustomed here, would have his farming stock burned the next night.

Yours, as ever,

ADAM BROWN.

AGRICULTURE.

THE KNELL OF MONOPOLY.

If any intelligent agriculturist, from any part of England, were asked what individual amongst the public men of the day has most completely obtained the confidence of the agricultural body, can it be doubted that his answer would be, EARL SPENCER? Whether his lordship be regarded as a landlord, a practical farmer and breeder, or a promoter of improved and scientific husbandry, his character will be admitted on all hands to be that of a good, wise, and eminently useful man. Look at him as the founder and most effective President of the English Agricultural Society,—a society which, if it had done no more than render universal a knowledge of the best practices in husbandry of different districts, would have conferred infinite service on agriculture,—read his practical and thoroughly sensible papers in the society's journal, observe his business-like attention to all the details of a most important branch of farming at the Smithfield and other cattle-shows, and say whether the man who in all England has best deserved the respect and confidence of English farmers, is not LORD SPENCER? In political life he was honoured alike by friends and opponents with the title of "Honest Lord Althorp;" and his direct practical sense has given him the same position in the one party which the Duke of Wellington has in the other. Moreover, he is strictly and exclusively a landowner—the hereditary possessor of a patrimonial estate. He has no left-handed connexion with trade. His personal tastes make him a farmer; his pecuniary interests depend upon the value of land; and if there be one person more than another entitled by his knowledge and experience to offer an opinion on the great question of Free Trade which now agitates the country, and by the absence of all possible bias adverse to agriculture to have his opinion regarded by the farmers, that person is EARL SPENCER.

We last week, on the authority of Lord Ducie, who may be regarded as the first of arable farmers, showed that Free Trade in corn is an indispensable condition to the improvement of English husbandry; and we have now the concurrent testimony of Lord Spencer, who is the best stock farmer in England, that the English farmer has nothing to fear, but much to hope, from a repeal of the Corn Laws. At a political dinner in Northampton, at which the two members for that borough were present, and had both declared themselves in favour of a total repeal of the Corn Laws, Lord Spencer took occasion to say to the meeting, "*that neither of your members are stronger advocates of Free Trade than I am.*" This is positive and distinct; for Mr. Vernon Smith, as well as Mr. Currie, voted last session with Mr. Villiers for a total repeal of the Corn Laws; and the latter, Mr. Currie, is a subscriber to the League fund. In addition to which he had, in a most able and convincing speech, just vindicated the Council of the League from insinuations thrown out against them by his colleague. But important as such a declaration from Lord Spencer is at this time, he is no new convert. Unlike the ministerial discoveries in regard to farming and leases, which were announced at Tamworth and Liverpool, Lord Spencer's opinions in favour of Free Trade have not been forced upon him by agitation; for he told his audience,—"The only time I addressed the House of Lords on the subject, what I said was to the same effect;" and on turning to the Parliamentary debates of 1841, we find that his lordship, in the House of Lords, spoke then to nearly the same effect as on this occasion. And it is upon strictly agricultural grounds that Lord Spencer advocates Free Trade in corn. He said:—"I am anxious not to be misunderstood on this point. *I am a landed proprietor and an occupier of land, and I have no other means of subsistence.* If I were to say that I desired a repeal of the Corn Laws, believing at the same time that it would destroy the landed interest, you might say that I was a very honest man, but you certainly would not say I was a wise one. *But I believe no such thing. I quite agree with what Mr. Currie has said.* I believe that this is a question of the most essential importance to the welfare of the empire at large. *But I do not believe that the repeal of the Corn Laws would tend materially to lower the price of corn.* I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD RAISE WAGES AND INCREASE THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE PEOPLE. I set little value on reciprocity treaties. If we take from the foreigner corn, we must pay for it with our manufactures, if not directly, indirectly; and the effect of the trade must be to raise the continental price of corn to our level, not to reduce ours to theirs. They would well understand why I declare myself an advocate for a TOTAL REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS. I am anxious not to be misunderstood. I should be sorry, indeed, if such a change should involve the ruin of the agriculturists; but I have no such belief. On the contrary, I believe *that it would be for their benefit as well as for the benefit of the country at large.*" And it is recorded by the

local journalist that this speech was "received with repeated rounds of the heartiest cheering we ever witnessed." Now, this speech renders the case against the Corn Laws complete. It is literally the KNELL OF MONOPOLY. For a long time nothing, beyond the most futile puerilities, has been advanced in its favour. Those by whom it is, for the moment, maintained in practice have declared against its principle. The trading classes are loud in condemnation of the Corn Laws. Statesmen and political economists have exposed their absurdity. And now we have the *élite* of the landlord agriculturists declaring those laws useless, or mischievous to the very classes they are intended to "protect."

We have again and again proved, upon the evidence of farmers, that the business of agriculture and the condition of the labourers in husbandry can never rise from their present state of depression until the mass of farmers shall become more enterprising; and that such change will not take place until the contracts between landlord and tenant become more equitable and permanent. This cannot take place whilst the habits and uncertainties which are caused by the Corn Laws remain. Turn which way you will, and wheresoever a good farmer is found, wherever a man is met with who has embarked a considerable capital in farming, and constantly employs a large number of labourers at full wages, there will be indifference or hostility to the Corn Laws. While, on the other hand, the bad farmers, the niggard and irregular employers of labourers, the great body of *yearly* tenants, are those who alone are apprehensive of Free Trade. Yet it is in the power of the landlords to render the last class independent of high prices, by the simple process of granting long and rational leases. But such leases will never become general, nor in truth will *average* farmers be induced to take them, until the question of Corn Laws be settled by a total repeal.

That such a settlement is not far distant there have been of late omens of no slight significance. Most farmers begin to doubt whether they have not lost more than they have gained by the Corn Laws—by a monopoly promised but not realized—and we are satisfied that the public declarations of Lord Spencer and Lord Ducie will go far to convince all the intelligent farmers that they are as much interested in obtaining freedom of trade as the rest of the community. Against the opinions—the matured opinions—of such men, what have the monopolists to offer, except the ravings of bankrupt landowners, or the oft-exposed sophisms of party politicians?

THE TENANT FARMERS AROUSING.

A remarkable instance of the rapidity with which opinion *against* the Corn Laws is becoming matured amongst the tenant farmers of England occurred on Thursday evening, the 7th instant, at the dinner of the members and friends of the newly-established Farmers' Club House, which took place at the York Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Mr. Wm. Shaw, the able editor of the *Mark-lane Express*, was in the chair, and on giving the toast of "Prosperity to the Farmers' Club House," he alluded, with some reserve, to the "ulterior purposes" to which the club might be turned by means of an organized communication with all the local agricultural clubs in the kingdom, as the means of "protecting" the peculiar interests of farmers. This was accompanied with a distinct disclaimer of politics; but the meeting obviously understood him to intend that the club might be rendered the means of combining the English farmers in an organized band for the defence of the Corn Laws. This was only partially applauded, and the matter passed off for the time. Subsequently, however, the Hon. Mr. Wilson (son of Lord Berners)—whose health had been proposed, as the only member of the aristocracy present—in returning thanks, enlarged upon the same topic. He mentioned the efforts he and another gentleman present had formerly made, in the formation of the "Society for the Protection of Agriculture"—an abortion of the monopolists which expired of inanition soon after its birth—and expressed a hope this club might be the means of associating the farmers in defence of "protection to agriculture," against what he called, "the attacks of a body leagued for the destruction of the agricultural interests, whose object was to set class against class, which had organized communications, not only with every parish in the kingdom, but with many individuals in each parish, and which had overwhelming funds at its disposal," and much more to the same effect. This also was received with but partial expressions of approval.

These remarks, however, called up Mr. Charles Lattimore, who expressed his warm interest in what he had understood to be the object of the club, namely, to bring the practical farmers of England into frequent intercourse with each other, and thereby to promote a beneficial interchange of sentiment and opinion. But he wished to understand the mysterious allusions to other objects which Mr. Shaw, and especially Mr. Wilson, had made, for he wished to be able, when he asked his friends to become members of the club, to tell them the purposes for which its members were associated. If the purpose of the club was to maintain the present system, by which agriculture had been degraded and tenant-farmers reduced into the condition of serfs, he would not be a party to it. On Mr. Wilson asking, "how that had been done," Mr. Lattimore replied, "Why, by the competition amongst farmers for farms which landlords and land-agents had turned to the purposes of the landowner, and by the refusal of leases which prevented farmers from embarking capital in the improvement of husbandry, or deprived them of the benefits of their own outlays when they ventured to do so;" and more to the like purpose. This was loudly applauded by the majority of the company.

After another toast or two, Mr. Wilson got up in high dudgeon, saying, that he had listened to Mr. Lattimore's speech, but for his life he could not understand what was meant, except that he (Mr. Wilson) gathered from the applause at the other end of the room that this club was not intended for landlords; and, if that was the sentiment of the meeting, he had only to apologize for intruding, and to make his bow. This was earnestly disclaimed by all present, at which Mr. Wilson expressed himself gratified, but, pleading another engagement, he walked off. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Hutley, of Essex, one of the best farmers in that county, said, that he had been one of those who had cheered Mr. Lattimore's speech, but not with the purpose of expressing any wish to exclude landlords. What he particularly cheered was, the opinion in favour of leases; and he was pleased to be able to say that *his* landlord, of whom he held upwards of 600 acres, and who had been sitting opposite to him, had cheered as loudly as himself. He maintained that no good farming could take place without leases; he would not himself attempt to farm without a lease; and he gave some forcible instances of the independence on political questions which leases secured to farmers. With scarcely a dissentient voice this capital speech was applauded to the echo. Here the matter seemed about to end, until Mr Robert Baker, of Writtle, an Essex land-agent, commenced a rambling defence of the Corn Laws, and a Billingsgate attack on the League by name, which, both as to the Corn Laws and the League, had been cautiously avoided by previous speakers; and then the difference of opinion which prevailed in the meeting became apparent. A few cheered Mr. Baker with frantic ecstasy; while a more numerous portion no less energetically repudiated both the arguments and the imputations of the speaker; and a third class seemed to listen with silent interest. But a general feeling of disgust was excited by the coarse and offensive way in which Mr. Baker attacked the estimable Earl Spencer, on account of his recent declaration, that the Corn Laws are injurious to the English farmer. So much so, that Mr. Fisher Hobbs, who stated that he did not coincide in Lord Spencer's opinions against the Corn Laws, felt bound to vindicate his lordship from the vulgar aspersions of Mr. Baker. After Mr. Hobbs sat down, Mr. Lattimore again began to address the meeting, and was proceeding ably and eloquently to expose the injurious operation of the Corn Laws upon the tenant-farmers of England, when the Chairman interposed, and put a stop to the discussion, to the obvious disappointment of all except three or four violent protectionists, who were uneasy and savage under the well-put arguments of Mr. Lattimore. Had the discussion continued, there would probably have been a pretty general expression of hostility to the Corn Laws, and the vicious system of which they have been productive. Full half of the company loudly applauded the enunciation of sound opinions, and one gentleman, Mr. Rotch, a Scotch landowner and farmer, immediately withdrew his application to become a member of the club, under the impression that it was to be made a "protection" club. When the public discussion had been stopped, several gentlemen sought, from the advocates of Free Trade present, solutions of the doubts and difficulties with which the querists had thought the question beset, and the most attentive consideration was given to arguments against the Corn Laws.

LANDLORD SPORTS AND LANDLORD SYMPATHY.

It has been too often our fate to lament, and our duty to expose, the hollow pretences of care for the condition of the peasantry, which the landlords just now peculiarly affect. The time when these new-born sympathies are expressed is so obviously one in which they feel their own pecuniary interests in peril, that the most insinuating whine which the most dexterous squire can assume at an agricultural dinner, will gain him but little credit for sincerity. On the contrary, when such ardent professions of regard for the welfare of the labourer are put forth, men will be more apt to scrutinize the ordinary conduct of the aristocracy towards the country labourers. Now, one of the chief sources of rural crime and of misery amongst the peasantry will be found in that system which is deemed essential to induce landowners to reside on their estates, viz., the game laws. Indeed, next to the poverty amongst the agricultural labourers, which is caused by the tenant-at-will system, game may be said to be the main cause of rural vice and demoralization. Thus, in the very same paper from which we have taken the report of the *Taunton Agricultural Meeting*, which is in type, but stands over for want of space—where it was, as usual, assumed that the labourers were "benefited by the interest excited towards them" in the breasts of lords and squires—we find the following consecutive charges in petty sessions, arising out of breaches of the game laws:—

"CHARD.—PETTY SESSIONS.—Before the Rev. W. Palmer, D.D., J. B. Coles, Esq., and C. W Loveridge, Esq.

"James Bull, of Crewkerne, was summoned to answer to an information by Henry Silly, one of the gamekeepers of Earl Poulett, for using engines (wires) for taking game, on Sunday, the 15th ult., at the parish of Crewkerne. The charge was fully substantiated by Mr. Charles Silly, head keeper, and the defendant *was convicted in the penalty of £5 and 15s. costs, and in default to three months' hard labour in Wilton gaol.*

"James Ridout, also of Crewkerne, for the same offence, *was fined £5 and 10s. costs*, and, the cash not being forthcoming, was ordered to be *rid-out* of the justice-room, *and transplanted into the same nursery as that to which James Bull was hastening, for a similar term.*

"James Hall, of Chaffcombe, for the same offence, on Sunday, the 10th of September, was fined 30s., *and, as the defendant had no ready money, he was committed to Wilton for two calendar months.*

"George Roper, of Winsham, another poacher, was informed against by the gamekeeper of Captain Henley, of Leigh-house, for using a gun, on the 16th ult., at Winsham. Mr. East appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Langworthy for the defendant. The defendant was convicted in £1 and 8s. 6d. costs.

"George Turner, of Whitchurch Canonicorum, labourer, was convicted of an assault upon Mr George Hodder, constable of Hawkchurch, on the 20th of September last, and fined £2, to be paid on the 9th of December."—*Dorset County Chronicle.*

And, as if the mere report of *such* punishments for such offences were not in themselves sufficiently fearful, the reporter enlivens his recital by the most heartless mockery. What can any man of right feelings, or even of sound head, think, in these perilous times, of the mocking tone in which the reporter puns on the name of the unfortunate peasant *Ridout*, who was fined £5, and 10s. costs, for an offence against the game laws? Can that recital be read without the recollection that this fine, with the costs, amounts to, within a few shillings, of a third of the total yearly earnings of a Somersetshire labourer, at his ordinary wages of 7s. a week? and that supposes him to be constantly employed!

But the man was unable to pay the money, so, says the reporter, he was "*transplanted into the same nursery* as that to which James Bull was hastening, for a similar term;" in other words, he was sentenced to three months imprisonment. Does this aristocratic journalist know the force of the words he thus recklessly uses? Yes, *James Ridout* is, probably, "transplanted into a nursery" where all the malignant passions, which poverty and oppression, crime and misery, engender, will be sufficiently cherished. Where are his children during his incarceration? Where his hapless wife? On coming out and finding them in the workhouse, or in a state of starvation, will he be more inclined to submit to the world or the world's law? Will he "feel that he is an object of consideration," and "remember it in the discharge of his private duties?" Will he not rather feel that he is far less an object of consideration than the landlord's sport? Will he not know that the preservation of hares and pheasants is a far higher object with the great ones of the land than his soul's health? Will he not see that the safety of a rabbit is thought proper to be purchased by his mental, moral, and physical degradation? These—these are the acts which contradict all the whine and cant about the "honest agricultural labourers!!"

Nor is it unworthy of remark that the journal on whose whose report we have found it necessary to make these strictures, affects the especial advocacy of the landlords and is earnest in urging the extension of ecclesiastical establishments as good for the religious health of the nation. And in commenting upon the Taunton meeting it thus winds up a eulogy on such societies:—

"The rewards that are bestowed on the labourer for faithful servitude and good conduct have an importance far beyond their money value in the encouragement they give to industry, sobriety, and provident habits, in weaning the labourer from the pestilent influence of the beer-shop, *and inducing him to extend and appreciate the domestic comforts at his command.* In receiving these rewards, and listening to the words of *kind confidence* and friendly intercourse with which their award is accompanied, he feels himself elevated in the scale of society, and that he, as well as others, is interested in the maintenance of tranquillity and good order."

Admitting for a moment that the rewarded labourers do feel all or a tenth part of this—though in fact we know it to be far otherwise—what do those whose want of employment may have led them into offences against the game laws? Verily the dominant landowners of this country, even on their own showing, scatter tares amongst their wheat with a lavish hand. But as we like to know the real state of things, and to learn how far the *landlords' exuberant anxiety* for the welfare of the Somersetshire peasant has "weaned" him "from the pestilent influence of the beer-shop," as well as what are "the domestic comforts at his command" which this "confidential intercourse" with the squires at ploughing matches is to "induce him to extend and appreciate," we just dipped into Mr. Austin's report as to the county of Somerset. There we find, in a letter from the *Rev. J. S. Toogood*, vicar of *North Petherton*, this passage, "It would be much for their [the labourers'] good if the *large landowners would build cottages on their estates for those employed on their farms.* Now they congregate in villages, and SPEND THEIR EVENINGS AT THE BEER-HOUSES."

So much for the interest felt by the landlords. Now for the "*domestic comforts*"—really it is an awful mockery to use those words in connexion with a Somersetshire peasant—and we learn from Mr. R. King of North Petherton, farmer, that "the wages paid to the labourer are 7s. or 8s. a week, and three pints of cider [per day], worth from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. more, perhaps." And Mr. H. N. Tilsey, surgeon, of North Petherton, and medical officer of the union, says, "The able-bodied labourer is at this moment in the receipt of 7s. a week, but there are instances of its being no more than 6s., out of which he pays a house rent of at least 1s., and frequently 1s. 6d., a week. Some occasionally earn more at task-work, but "*many pass through the year without the smallest addition to the standing wages.*" Again, the same gentleman says, "There is a great want of cottage accommodation, so that the labourers are driven to the villages, many of them resorting to the beer-shop, who would, under a different system, be better members of society. *What cottages there are, are generally badly arranged, badly ventilated, and badly drained, occasionally all ages and sexes sleeping in one common room.*"

Such are the "domestic comforts" the care of the Somersetshire landlords has hitherto provided for the "appreciation" of their "honest agricultural labourers." We shall be well pleased if even now, though late and under the apprehension of free trade in corn it be, the landowners of the neglected districts begin to understand that "PROPERTY HAS ITS DUTIES AS WELL AS ITS RIGHTS."

But it must not be imagined that the evil influence of the game laws is confined to the backward districts of the west; in the home counties the same evils prevail. Thus, on taking up the Hertford paper of last week, we find that, of three cases reported at the Hertford petty sessions, two were informations under the game laws; at the *Hitchin* petty sessions, five cases are reported, and two are for poaching; at *Bishop's Stortford*, one case only, and that a "trespass in pursuit of rabbits!" and at Hemel Hempstead, four cases, and two for poaching. At Bedford petty sessions, there were five cases, and *four* were game-law informations; while at Ampthill, three labourers were convicted for distinct acts of poaching. Such is the state of a district not particularly notorious for agricultural destitution and game-preserving, and taken at random on the testimony offered by the incidents of a single week. Then, nearly every other

case spoke of the poverty and demoralization of the agricultural classes; for they all turned on beer-house assaults, wood-stealing, or pauperism.

Such is the state of things *the Corn Laws are necessary to maintain!!*

MORE FARMERS' EVIDENCE.

The following are the principal parts of the able paper read by Mr. John Long, of Whaddon, to the Gloucester Farmers' Club, which was referred to by Lord Ducie in his letter to Mr. Cobden. The subject for consideration was, that of "*Tenants entering upon and leaving their farms in the Vale of Gloucester.*" After referring to some observations previously made on the same subject, as applicable to the Cotswold Hills, Mr. Long said—

"The greatest portion of the land in this district *is grass*, and adapted principally for dairy and grazing purposes; in some few instances, quarter part, or perhaps half, may be arable, and that principally of a heavy quality. In the first place, I consider the present *law of landlord and tenant a defective one*, and that it requires an amendment; *inasmuch as the tenent is so uncertain, 'particularly with a needy landlord,' that it prevents him from making improvements which are really requisite*, and which he is really anxious to make, but by the present law of giving six months' notice to quit his farm, the whole of his improvements are placed in the hands of the landlord to deal with them as he pleases, and without giving any compensation for them, except only such acts of husbandry which have been performed within the last year, and for which the landlord or his coming-in tenant receives the immediate benefit. This law I consider to be bad *in principle*; an industrious improving tenant, who has been farming highly, and brought his land into good condition, ought in fairness to have a compensation upon quitting his farm, not only for the last year, but for the last three years at least, upon all lands which have been highly cultivated within that period. It appears this is not only my opinion, as I am borne out by a member of the House of Peers (Lord Portman), who is an extensive landowner; he has given notice of his intention to bring in a bill for the amendment of the present law of landlord and tenant; I hope and trust he will furnish details in that bill which will, if carried out, put an end to the evils I have been complaining of, and protect fairly the interest of both parties. If this should be made the law, we shall cease to see so many farmers *of little or no capital*, and whose only object is getting into the possession of land, and reaping the advantage of their predecessors' *industry, perseverance, and outlay*. All coming-in tenants would then (and very fairly so) have to pay down a sum of money, equivalent to the condition of the land upon which they are about to enter."

These observations, it must be remembered, are those of a practical farmer. He expends no time in declamation on draining and improvements, for he and his hearers have long known that all the matters which squires parade as new discoveries are absolutely necessary to successful farming. He therefore quietly says the present law of landlord and tenant prevents the tenant from "*making improvements which are really requisite.*" We have heard a first-rate farmer again and again declare that he would not occupy a farm rent free, with an express condition not to improve it annexed, because he knows that he must lose money by so doing. Now, this is the tacit condition on which ninety-nine yearly tenants out of the hundred hold their farms.

Upon the granting of leases Mr. Long says:—

"Again, this state of things would, in some degree, be remedied if a lease were granted containing clauses which would secure to the tenant, or at his death to his family, *the repayment of the sum expended upon permanent improvements*, in case he had not occupied the farm a sufficient time to profit by the alterations made by him. It might happen that a tenant had received a promise from his landlord of a new lease, and that in consequence he had commenced making a heavy outlay in improvements, and before his intended new lease was executed, he (the tenant) died, not leaving any part of his family able to carry on the farm. In such a case I cannot but think it unjust and unfair if that family should lose the sum expended by their parent, which would have been amply regained by him if he had lived to work out another lease. These are my reasons for thinking that leases should be granted to tenants requiring them, and with such clauses that would give to the cultivator an equal security, in his capacity, with the owner of the land."

This points to large alterations in the law of landlord and tenant, which are forced upon the attention of tenants. That is where there is no lease. Then, where leases are granted, he says:—

"I give you my opinion as to the terms upon which I think in fairness leases should be granted. *The Legislature of this country is so frequently making alterations in the corn and provision laws, and consequently materially affecting the value of agricultural produce, that I think the taking of a farm upon a long lease at this time*, UPON ANY STATED RENT, *is running a much greater risk than is prudent.* Being impressed with this idea, I will suggest that leases should be taken at a *corn rent*; both landlord and tenant would then be equally affected by any sudden change that may take place in the value of produce. I may be asked in this dairy country, what terms shall we make upon our dairy farms? I will answer, it would be equally fair to let those farms at a rent varying with the value of *cheese, instead of corn.* If all the farms were let upon this principle, it would put matters on so plain a footing, that no complaint could in any way arise; and it must, I consider, be for the mutual benefit of both landlord and tenant."

This is only fair. Let the landlord honestly embark in the same boat with the tenant, and let his income slide with the fluctuations in the prices of produce under a restrictive law, and we shall soon have landlords giving up the Corn Laws. The truth is that, through the competition amongst farmers, the landlords have been able to throw the losses of cheap years upon their tenants, and to pocket themselves all the benefits of monopoly in years of scarcity. *Tenants are beginning to understand this.*

Then, as to yearly holdings, Mr. Long observed:—

"In the third place, gentlemen, I will make a few remarks upon the yearly holdings in the vale of Gloucester. The principal part of the farms in this locality are held by yearly tenants, and, notwithstanding this tenure, many of them are held under *agreements which are severely restrictive in favour of the landlords.* It is notorious that there are many farmers who, either from want of thought or careless ignorance, are induced to sign these agreements, and for which the agents invariably pocket a considerable sum. When those documents are presented for signature, *the tenants are informed the clauses are rather severe, but they are only formal and not intended to be carried out;—but in the end, on giving up the farm, many have suffered rather severely in pocket by being called upon to fulfil their agreement up to the full extent of its meaning.* This I consider should be put on the same footing as the leases, which would with a candid landlord be the means of giving comfort to many farmers who are yearly tenants, and whose age tells them they ought not even to think of a lease. *The terms on which many farms are now let are so oppressive as to prevent all improvement, and keep the tenant in a state of fear instead of comfort.* Such an order of things I think it is the duty of all parties to discontinue. That some proprietors prove by the manner of letting their estates that they are no improvers of the soil, nor at all inclined to promote any increase in its production, we are all aware. To explain this, I have in my possession a copy of an agreement under which a large landowner in this county lets his estates, and principally to yearly tenants; *it is a document of so oppressive a nature, that, did I not know it to be genuine, I should doubt if any landlord could be found who could think of so fettering his tenantry, and much more, that farmers are to be found to take such a yoke upon them.* I cannot suppose that these terms of letting estates could even enter the thought of any landlords, *they surely must be led by the feeling of their stewards, who are many of them totally unacquainted with the necessity of improvement.* Gentlemen, this club was established with a view of promoting agriculture. I take it to be a duty of all its members to *show up* any circumstance that may appear detrimental to its progress."

This passage speaks for itself, and the biting truths it contains will be admitted by every farmer. He then refers to the remedy for low prices:—

"I cannot suffer the present opportunity to escape of remarking upon the excessive reduction in value which has taken place upon the produce of dairy farms, and which is and will be severely felt in this our immediate district. *I am inclined to think that the only remedy we have in our power is the breaking up of a greater portion of pastures, which in the present state of things cannot but be of benefit to the owner and occupier of the land.* But the prejudice of many proprietors in favour of green fields is so great, that they steadily refuse any application made to them for that purpose. If landlords generally would well consider this subject, it does appear to me that they would, in their leases and yearly agreements, give greater scope for the use of the plough."

We are convinced that, were one half of the pasture land of this country broken up, as much dairy produce might be obtained as at present, and a vastly-increased quantity of grain besides. But Mr. Long had not forgotten draining, for he said—

"It is to be regretted *that a large portion of the lands in the vale of Gloucester*, and no doubt in other parts of this county, *is suffering greatly for the want of draining*; this we are aware is a great drawback upon production, and ought to be removed either by the proprietor or occupier. *If the owner would make the outlay that may be required, the tenant, with equal fairness, would make no hesitation in paying a fair interest upon the sum expended upon so desirable an improvement.* In our part of the county, we have many landed proprietors, and some of them are present, who are putting their shoulders to the wheel in the shape of improvements, and *removing nuisances which have hitherto been a great bar to the improving farmer. I mean the cutting away of trees, removing hedges, draining, and breaking up some inferior pastures, and for all which desirable improvements and alterations we are greatly obliged to them*; but it must be borne in mind that these alterations and improvements, however desirable they are, *bring upon the tenant a considerable outlay of his own capital.* Therefore, gentlemen, my opinion is, after all the arguments and improvements that can possibly be made or set forth, the business will not be complete without a considerable *abatement of rent.*"

This is positive and business-like. Improve as you may, landlords, you must still suffer "a considerable" deduction from rent, unless you can induce tenants to accept *long leases.* To this end two conditions are necessary: first, the surrender of all obsolete feudalities by the landlord; secondly, the removal of all artificial causes of fluctuation in prices, by a TOTAL AND IMMEDIATE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

ECONOMY IN FARMING.—While farmers are often unwilling to lay out money in the permanent improvement of their farms, they continually incur much unnecessary expense in keeping more horses than are actually required. Thus, at the *Wellington Farmers' Club*, Mr. Stainer, a farmer, said—

"In the vicinity of this society as good landlords existed as in any part of England; and it is their duty to enable their tenantry to thorough-drain and improve. *There is no farm but is capable of continued improvement*; and the practice of using *three or four horses in ploughing should be generally abandoned.* If two horses will do the work as well, why employ three or four? One of the judges of the ploughing match, Mr. Pritchard of Buildwas Abbey, *is managing his farm with ten horses, yet the previous tenant maintained sixteen or seventeen.*" (*Hear.*)

Now, the keep of each horse cannot be reckoned at less than £20 a year, or its wear and tear at less than £5; so that, by the disuse of seven horses, no less than £170 a year is saved in the expenses of one farm. Besides, this the capital before laid out in the purchase of the seven horses may be invested in sheep or cattle, which, instead of consuming unproductively, will be constantly adding to the farmer's profit.

"A PLAGUE OF RATS.—There are the present time, in and about the fens around Ely, such quantities of rats that their number cannot be reckoned. Great efforts have been made to exterminate the vermin, but still they are not sensibly lessened. *Many acres of wheat must be sown again, and this again may fall a prey to their incursions.* Poison is laid in large quantities, which must take effect, as the bait has disappeared by the morning. Mr. W. Harlock *has had men employed on his farm for some time past to take these animals, and they have destroyed the almost incredible number of about* 2000."—*Bury Post.*

What a mercy it is that landlords have never taken to rat-catching, otherwise we should have farms overrun with rats as well as rabbits and hares. However, fortunately for us farmers, we are permitted to destroy the rats. Yet, with the simple substitution of one word in the above paragraph, how completely would it apply to a farm overrun with rabbits: there, how often "must many acres of wheat be sown again, and this again might fall a prey to their incursions;" and as to several men having been employed for some time in killing 2000 rats, why, the other day in Buckinghamshire four or five gentlemen are recorded to have shot in one day 700 rabbits. At the Vale of *Evesham* Agricultural Association, the judge, in making a report on the competition for a prize for the best crop of swede turnips, said, "I beg also to commend Mr. Bayzard's crop of swedes, *which are very much retarded in their growth by the excessive number of hares and rabbits which are constantly feeding upon them.*" On which the reporter remarks, "The extraordinary feature in this matter is, *not that landlords should thus allow their tenants* to suffer—for unfortunately this has been too common—but that any tenant so situated should have the spirit to incur the expense necessary for the cultivation of the land in such a way as would give him a chance of success in competing for a prize of this description." Nothing but fear for their rents will bring landlords to their senses on this subject.

THE PRESENT UNCERTAINTY.—The following passage from the review of the Corn Trade in the *Mark-lane Express*, shows that it is the interest of the farmer to urge on the only settlement of the Corn-Law question which can be made, viz., a total repeal of all restriction. Any other is now entirely out of the question.

"Viewing the trade in all its bearings, we should certainly be disposed to give it as our decided opinion that wheat would rally in price were it not for the counteracting influence likely to be produced by the *continued agitation carried on against the existing laws regulating the importation of corn, and the increasing uncertainty in regard to the intentions of Ministers on this all-important point.* The belief in the possibility of a further and early change being made in the laws *has lately become very general*, and to this alone can be attributed the extreme caution which merchants and millers have so long exhibited in all their operations."—*Mark-lane Express.*

The farmer ought to go for a total and immediate abolition. Nothing would injure him so much as another half measure, for instance, a fixed duty; for then the whole subject would remain open, and no permanent arrangements could be made.

RURAL HELPLESSNESS.—A ludicrous instance, in a small matter, of the habitual dependence of inferior English farmers upon some empirical nostrum instead of their own activity and intelligence—which the Corn Laws have engendered—will be found in the following letter, which appears in the *Mark-lane Express*, under the head of "Agricultural Queries:"—

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE MARK-LANE EXPRESS.

"SIR,—If any of your readers can inform me *the best means of keeping rats out of the thatch of a new barn*, I should feel very much obliged. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"A WILTSHIRE FARMER."

Beautiful, child-like simplicity! worthy of the county of moonrakers! Fancy a Wiltshire farmer staring with open mouth at the ravages made by rats in the "thatch of his new barn," and then calmly going to his writing-desk and inditing a letter to the *Express*, to ask the editor "the best means of keeping out" these troublesome rats! Did our friend ever think of poison or traps? Does he know of the existence of such useful animals as ferrets and terriers? Is there no professional rat-catcher in Wiltshire? He may be assured that the rats won't commit suicide, but, on the contrary, will increase and multiply while the farmer is waiting to be told of a specific for rendering rats harmless. A sporting friend, who is also an agriculturist, ranks rat-catching as the next best sport to fox-hunting, and it is far more profitable. We recommend the "Wiltshire Farmer" to try it. But, perhaps, he expects to be "protected" against rats by act of parliament; if so, had he not better apply to Mr. Walter Long and Sir Francis Burdett, his county members? They are both thought to know something of the nature of rats!! But, seriously, this is only an example of the way the Corn Laws have taught the farmers to stand calling upon Hercules, instead of putting their own shoulders to the wheel.

DELUSIONS OF THE MONOPOLISTS.—It is curious to what straits the "protectionists" are reduced by the rapid and successful progress of the *Anti-Corn-Law* agitation. For instance, a Mr. R. Baker, an Essex land agent, who wrote one or two rather sensible letters to the *Mark-lane Express*, on the subjects of leases and rents, intended to follow out Sir Robert Peel's move of suggesting improvement as a *substitute* for Free Trade, has been since stimulated into writing two columns of incoherent nonsense, from which we select the following:—

"Let our landlords come forward handsomely and *liberally* in its (an anti-Free-Trade society) support, and let the tenants, by their assistance, show that they are warmly interested in the cause; let a committee be formed at once, and let the watchword be *protection; let all societies in the country, whether agricultural or consisting of farmers' clubs, be invited to join*, and let us one and all, from the landlord to the labourer, show by our firmness, that we do not intend to succumb to the League, *but rather to meet them with argument, and expose their fallacies and false statements. 'Knowledge is power,'* and, if fairly exercised, will tend as greatly to repel an attack as to commence one. *The agriculturists have all the wisest and best men with them.*"

What an utter oblivion of facts and circumstances is indicated in this passage. Has not "protection" been the watchword of landlords and tenants for the last twenty-eight years? Have they not formed the most powerful "society" possible, namely, the two Houses of Parliament? Does not the League invite, solicit, entreat the protectionists to meet its speakers in argument, and to sift and scrutinize all its statements? The monopolists have not done this, and the best evidence that "knowledge *is* power" will be found in the fact that, by a simple and persevering enunciation of a few plain truths, the League *has* compelled the monopolist Ministry, and the two Houses of Parliament, to succumb to public opinion. Lastly, if the monopolists have all the "wisest and best men with them," what are their own chosen Ministers, who have, one and all, declared for the *principle* of Free Trade? Moreover, agriculturists have been in the habit of considering Lords Spencer, Ducie, Fitzwilliam, and Kinnaird, men both wise and good; and they are adverse to "protection." We advise Mr. Baker to stick to the practical details of farming business, about which he really seemed to know something, and to leave alone general principles, of which it is plain he is totally ignorant.

THE FARMERS AND THE MINISTRY.—The following remarks made by Earl Fitzhardinge at "Colston's Anniversary" in Bristol, on the uncertainty which has marked the present Administration with respect to the Corn Laws, will find a response in the minds of thousands of farmers.

"Let us look to the 14th of March, 1839, when those who now compose the present Government proposed a resolution, *that it would be unwise to put into the lottery of legislation for a better Corn Law than then existed.* Well, the Administration was constituted in 1841, and a noble duke took office in it, but afterwards very properly withdrew, when he found that the principles on which he imagined that it was found were departed from. At the hustings the cry was 'the Corn Laws, and no surrender.' (Cheers.) *The agriculturists thought they knew under what thimble their pea was, but, presto! when the thimble was raised no pea of theirs was there.* (Cheers and laughter.) Under what thimble they may find their pea at the next session it is impossible to foretel. (Laughter.) *No man can calculate on the dexterity and shuffling of the players.*" (Cheers and laughter.)

Now, let us ask our agricultural readers to apply these observations somewhat more widely than they were intended by the speaker. Let them "calculate on the dexterity of the players" of both political parties, and when they are asked to abet the "next dodge" of a fixed duty, let them remember that there *can* be no final settlement of the question but by a total and immediate repeal. The farmers, above all other classes, are interested in exempting their business from further ventures in the lottery of legislation. Freedom, absolute freedom, is the only basis on which the corn trade can now be placed with safety to the tenant-farmer.

REDUCTIONS OF RENT.

"Dr. Beale Cooper, of Bengeworth, Worcestershire, has returned to all his tenants, this audit, ten per cent."—*Gloucester Journal.*

"George Lane Fox, Esq., of Bramham Park, has returned 20 per cent. to his tenantry in Craven."

"At his last rent audits, Richard Arkwright, Esq., the pro-

prietor of Hampton Court and its fine domain, in this county' returned 10 per cent. upon their respective rents to his tenants. We understand that Mr. Arkwright also signified to the tenantry that, if they wished, the farms they held *should now be valued*, and he would grant them leases. *The proposal was unanimously declined, the tenants stating their unbounded confidence n their excellent landlord."—Hereford Journal.*

We suspect the cause of the refusal of leases must be sought in a very limited "confidence" in the permanence of the existing laws which affect the Corn Trade, and the feeling of uncertainty as to the future entertained by the tenants, rather than any "unbounded confidence" in their landlord, however excellent he may be.

If the farms were *now valued*, what security have the tenants that the valuation would not be founded on the act-of-Parliament price of 56s. for wheat, instead of the real one of 51s.? No, no, landlords must surrender their monopoly law before they can induce farmers to take leases.

ALARMING STATE OF THE AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.—INCENDIARY FIRES.

FRITCHLEY.—On Sunday morning last, between four and five o'clock, the stackyard of Mr. Joseph Fritchley, of Fritchley, near Crich, was discovered to be on fire. Fortunately, there was a good supply of water within a short distance of the stackyard, and the fire was got under, but not before the wheat and straw stacks were entirely consumed. There is not the least doubt but that it was wilfully set on fire, and who could commit such a diabolical act on so inoffensive a character is hard to say.—*Derby Reporter.*

BILLINGHAY.—On Sunday afternoon last, during divine service, a fire, evidently the work of an incendiary, broke out in the stack-yard of Mr. B. Holland, farmer, of Billinghay. An alarm was given at the church and at the Methodist chapel, when those buildings were quickly deserted, every one being anxious to render assistance in such an emergency. The fire had been kindled in the centre of four wheat-stacks, but owing to the direction in which they stood the wind did not obtain free access, and consequently the spreading of the flames was not so rapid as it might have been. It being Sunday, plenty of help was at hand, and, with the aid of a good fire-engine belonging to the parish, the destructive element was shortly got under, not more than £5's worth of damage being done.—*Lincoln Mercury.*

BARNSLEY.—On Monday night last, a hay-stack, containing 25 tons, the property of Messrs. Oxley and Kershaw, butchers, was set fire to in a field near to the barracks. Fortunately there is a coal-pit sinking just at hand, which furnished a plentiful supply of water; and when the engine got to work the fire was arrested in its progress, six or eight tons of the middle of the stack being saved from destruction. The stack was insured to the full amount.—*Doncaster Gazette.*

THORNE.—On Tuesday evening last, about seven o'clock, a stubble stack in the Blue Boar-yard at Thorne, and belonging to Mr. J. Holroyd, was discovered to be on fire. Assistance was instantly procured by Pigott, jun., police-officer, who happened to be passing at the time; but the stack was half consumed before the fire could be quenched. An old barn and some outbuildings immediately adjoined the stack, which would undoubtedly have caught fire but for timely assistance. There is too much reason to fear that this is the act of an incendiary.—*Doncaster Gaz.*

A fire broke out on Monday evening last, about half-past seven o'clock, on the premises of Mr. French, of Whitfield, near Brackley, which consumed a bean rick, a hovel, containing two dung-carts, &c., and next caught a large hay rick, containing about twenty tons, a good part of which was spoiled. The people formed a double row to the brook, a distance of about a quarter of a mile, which was the only place whence a supply of water could be obtained. Two men who stood in the brook to fill the buckets were taken so ill as to require medical aid, and were laid on a bed on the floor of the kitchen till they were sufficiently recovered to be removed. There is little doubt of its being the act of an incendiary, as the hovel where it first broke out was discovered to be on fire at both ends, a distance from each other of about fifteen yards. Mr. French was insured in the Norwich Union fire-office.—*Northampton Merc.*

BIDDENHAM.—On Tuesday afternoon, about two o'clock, a fire was discovered in the farmyard of Mr. W. Golding, of Biddenham. The flames proceeded from a stack of straw, and would doubtless have destroyed the whole of the property if it had not been detected so early. It is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. A reward of fifty pounds has been offered for the apprehension of the offenders.—*Herts Reformer.*

We deeply regret to find that incendiarism is again spreading its diabolical ravages in our rural districts. About half-past nine o'clock on Saturday night last, a fire broke out in the rick-yard of Mr. Abraham Mann, at Tebworth, in the parish of Coalgrave, at the entrance of the village, about a mile from Hockliffe. The flames raged with dreadful fury, and in the space of an hour and a half consumed two large barns and another large building, filled with wheat and barley, several ricks, a stable, and other outbuildings. The cattle, being driven out at the commencement of the fire, were, with the exception of a pig, preserved. The dwelling-house caught two or three times, but, being a strong brick and tiled building, was saved by the strenuous exertions of those who were assisting. The flames communicated to a cottage on the opposite side of the road, the property of Mr. William Whinnett, in the occupation of John Randal, an industrious labourer, and clerk of the parish, who has a wife near her confinement, and six young children, the latter of whom were in bed at the time; the neighbours conveyed the children to other houses, and removed the whole of the furniture, which was greatly damaged by the haste in which it was carried away. The cottage was destroyed, as was also a barn. No cause can be assigned for the perpetration of the vile act, as Mr. Mann is a gentleman of a remarkably quiet and inoffensive disposition, an excellent master, who employs a larger number of labourers than any other person in the parish, and the farm is the property of his daughter, an amiable young lady, who is, we believe, at present a minor.—*Aylesbury News.*

SUPPOSED INCENDIARY FIRE AT FARNBOROUGH, KENT.—Monday evening information was received at the Watling-street, Southwark-bridge-road, and other stations of the fire-brigade, that a most destructive fire had broken out upon a farm in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Stow, immediately opposite the George Inn, Farnborough, Kent, upwards of fifteen miles from town. Upon arriving at the scene of desolation, we gleaned the following particulars:—The fire was discovered burning with considerable fury by a butcher's lad, who was passing at the time. At that moment it was raging in a shed contiguous to an extensive barn, which was stored with between twenty and thirty loads of hay, the property of Sir J. Lubbock, the banker, opposite the Mansion-house. From the lower part of the shed it spread with the utmost rapidity, consuming carts and implements of husbandry without exception, and it was with the greatest difficulty that a valuable mare, a milch cow, and two pigs were rescued from the flames. Before any assistance had arrived the conflagration spread southward, igniting the hay in the storehouse belonging to Sir J. Lubbock. By this time an engine arrived from Bromley, which was serviceable in preventing the further extension of the fire. Shortly afterward the subscription engine from St. Mary's Cray was upon the spot, followed by the brigade engines from Watling-street and Southwark-bridge-road, with Henderson and Hitchen, the engineers. The flames were checked before midnight; but this morning (Tuesday) at one o'clock, when we left, dense volumes of smoke were rising from the ruins. The whole of the premises are destroyed, and the contents of the barn and outbuildings entirely destroyed. The occupier is uninsured. The fire is said to have originated in the act of an incendiary, and a person is in charge of the police for being connected with its outbreak. Much credit is due to Inspector M'Gill for his promptitude in conveying information of the fire to the most distant stations of the brigade, otherwise a far greater destruction of property might have taken place.

INCENDIARISM, by the frequency of its occurrence, has ceased to be considered a crime by the generality of labourers; and some, I am persuaded, have been excited to commit the crime by the force of example alone.—*Letter of a Bedfordshire Farmer in the Mark-lane Express.*

On Wednesday evening, about seven o'clock, the inhabitants of Harleston were alarmed by the dreadful cry of fire. The victim singled out for diabolical revenge, by a wicked incendiary, is Mr. John Aldous, of the Ant-hill farm, in the above parish. On the arrival of the parish engine a barley-stack, the produce of thirteen acres, and a pea-stack of five acres, were both in flames; fortunately the wind was blowing stiffly from the north, which, with the very judicious management of the engine, enabled them to preserve from destruction two wheat-stacks, a barn, cattle-sheds, &c. Mr. Aldous is amply insured in the Norwich Insurance-office.—*Norwich Mercury.*

On Friday se'nnight a barley-stack, the property of Mr. Stephen Gooch, of Honingham, was discovered to be on fire. The engines were soon on the spot, and they, with the assistance of the inhabitants, succeeded in extinguishing the flames. A reward of £200 has been offered for the apprehension of the offenders, as there is not the slightest doubt of its being the work of some incendiary.—*Norwich Mercury.*

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—Her Majesty will hold a Privy Council at Windsor Castle the latter end of next week, when Parliament will be further prorogued from Tuesday, the 19th instant, to a future day, then to meet for the despatch of business. We understand that there is no intention at present of calling the Legislature together before the usual time of assembling.

Since the Queen has been at Drayton, the standard has been floating on the top of the mansion. The papers say it took a great deal of time to fix it. We thought the "*Standard*" had been wavering a good deal of late, and we are not surprised at its stubbornness, when an attempt was made to hang it up over Sir R. Peel's residence.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW ALMANAC.—A shopkeeper at Macclesfield has ordered 400 of these Almanacs, in order to present a copy to every one of his customers as a *New Year's Gift.*

MORTALITY OF LONDON.—The total number of deaths in the metropolis, for the week ending last Saturday, as made up by the Registrar-General, was 1188. The weekly average for the last five years is 903.

LANDLORDS AND THE INCOME-TAX.—Some doubts having arisen, whether landlords were liable to pay the income-tax on rents which they did not receive, an application was made to the Treasury, by a gentleman whose tenant had been distrained on for the property-tax, which ought to have been paid by a tenant who had absconded, and paid neither the rent nor the tax; the Treasury answered, under date Nov. 21:—"The circumstances of the landlord not having received his rent forms no ground for the remission of the duty; such rent having become a debt, which he may hereafter recover from the tenant, in which case, if the tax were given up, he would profit to the amount thereof, at the expense of the revenue. The assessment, besides being a personal charge on the occupier, on whom it was made, is also a charge upon the premises; and therefore the collector, on the refusal of the present tenant to pay the arrears, was bound to levy for the amount; otherwise he would have become responsible for the same to the Crown." All the tax boards will henceforth act on this instruction, and levy on the property, though the tenants pay no rent.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
Edward Evans, 148, Deansgate, Manchester	1	0	0
Joseph Deaville, 216, Deansgate, do.	1	0	0
J. R. Taylor, 228, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Frodsham, 264, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Roberts, 268, do., do.	1	0	0
William Bowker, 300, do., do.	1	0	0
James Whitworth, 246, do., do.	1	0	0
John Birks, 258, do., do.	0	10	0
J. W. Bennington, 246, do., do.	0	10	0
Thomas Taylor, 160, do., do.	0	5	0
James Duncan, 200, do., do.	0	2	6
James Boxall, 232, do., do.	0	2	6
Daniel Hall, 276, do., do.	0	2	6
Michael Brierley, 306, do., do.	0	2	6
John Youill, Bridge-street, Ardwick, do.	0	2	6
—— Heathcote, Every-street, do.	5	5	0
—— Gallemore, Ardwick, do.	1	0	0
Wm. Roberts, Chancery-lane, Ardwick, do.	100	0	0
George Ashton, Pimmill Brow, do., do.	0	5	0
Small Sums	0	2	6
James Derbyshire, Ogden-street, Ardwick, Manchester	0	3	0
A Friend, per G. Harrison, at Gallemore's, do., do.	1	1	0
Rev. John Thornton, Stockport	0	5	0
Silas Leigh, Worsley, near Manchester	1	0	0
William Johnson, do., do.	10	0	0
John Graham, Mayfield, do.	1	0	0
Edward Shawcross, East-street, do.	50	0	0
J. and R. Higgin, Dale-street and Chapel-st., Salford	5	0	0
W. Thatcher, 9, Scholes-street, Tib-st., Manchester	2	2	0
Abraham Bauer, Clarence-court, Brown-street, do.	1	1	0
John Baker, Thirsk, Yorkshire	15	0	0
James R. Beard, 2, Camp-terrace, Broughton-lane, Manchester	1	0	0
J. J. Moller, Lloyd-street, do.	1	0	0
Poor Cotton Spinners	5	0	0
Peter Sherlock, 178, Deansgate, Manchester	5	5	0
Julius Leipman, 28, do., do.	0	5	0
Samuel Scott, 56, Deansgate, do.	1	1	0
Jacob Franks, 114, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Taylor, 160, do., do.	0	2	6
John Graham, 156, do., do.	0	2	6
Ansell Speir, 95, do., do.	1	0	0
A Conservative, and Farmer's Son	1	0	0
Worthington and Myers, 288, Deansgate, Manchester	5	0	0
Gustavus Gumpell and Co., Joiner-street, do.	2	0	0
Joseph Bradshaigh, 15, Birchin-lane, do.	5	0	0
Thomas Cunliffe, 21, Church-street, do.	2	0	0
Smith and Lambert, 26, do., do.	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
Thomas Taylor, 5, Mason-street, Manchester	0	5	0
Joseph Cockshott, Stephenson-square, do.	1	0	0
A Lady, per J. E. Royle, King-street, do.	5	0	0
A Friend to the Cause, do., do., do.	1	0	0
A Ditto, do., do., do.	1	0	0
W. H.	1	0	0
James Woolley, 58, King-street, Manchester	10	0	0
James Ford, London-road, do.	2	2	0
J. H. Cockbaine, 51, Piccadilly, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, per J. G.	1	0	0
A Friend	2	2	0
Z. Devoge, Sycamore-street, Oldham-road, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, 22, Lime-street, do.	0	5	0
Rev. John Layhe, 23, Sudell-street, do.	0	5	0
John Scholes, 18, Oldham-road, do.	0	5	0
James Davy, 1, Butler-street, do.	0	5	0
Per J. Hastie, Doncaster	0	2	6
Thomas Bangham, maltster, Tenbury, Worcestershire	1	0	0
George Green, watchmaker, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Fenton, Crimble, near Rochdale	1	0	0
Jas. Littlewood and Sons, do.	35	0	0
John Howard, Rochdale	20	0	0
Mrs. W. B. Lumb, do.	20	0	0
George Swindells, Littleborough, near do.	10	0	0
Wm. Hastings, Healey, near do.	5	0	0
George Adamson, do.	5	0	0
The Fruits of Industry and Self-denial, by a female, Rochdale	5	0	0
W. A. Scott, druggist, do.	2	0	0
David Cheetham, do.	2	0	0
Wm. Wilson, 118, Drake-street, do.	2	0	0
F. Yorkshire, do.	2	2	0
Oliver Holt, Mardyke, near do.	2	0	0
Wm. Standring, College-street, do.	1	1	0
Rev. Wm. Smith, do.	1	1	0
James Leach, Littleborough, near do.	1	1	0
Wm. Law, do., do.	1	0	0
Two Ladies, total repealers, do.	1	0	0
A Free Trader, do.	1	0	0
Ann Hardisty, do.	1	0	0
Workmen of J. & B. Schofield, Littleboro', near do.	0	10	0
Wm. Holt, dyer, do.	6	8	0
Robt. Whitworth, Mount Pleasant, do.	5	0	0
Samuel Standring, do., do.	5	0	0
Miss S. P. Standring, do., do.	1	0	0
Miss M. P. Standring, do., do.	0	5	0
Miss E. P. Standring, do, do.	0	5	0
Benj. Greenhalgh, Drake-street, do.	0	2	6
J. W. Harris, Wardleworth Brow, do.	1	0	0
Wm. Cross, Smallbridge, near do.	1	1	0
John Mills, woolstapler, do.	5	0	0
D. Simpson, Post-office-buildings, do.	5	0	0
Thomas Lomax, Blackwater, do.	1	0	0
—— Procter, Cheetham-street, do.	1	1	0
William Williams, Rope-street, do.	15	0	0
Thomas Smith, at Petrie's foundry, do.	1	0	0
Jonas Lacy, do., do.	1	0	0
Jas. Taylor, at Briggs and Bright's, do.	1	0	0
Jos. Barrow, at Briggs and Bright's, do.	1	1	0
A. Wilson, 4, Great Ducie-street, Strangeways, Manchester	1	1	0
J. Foster, 55, Brook-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	0	0
W. Moore, Great Easton, near Rockingham, Northamptonshire	0	4	0
Abraham Lees, Blackfriars, Manchester	1	0	0
Saml. Mellor, at Mrs. Thompson's, corn-factor, Hanging Ditch, do.	20	0	0
Charles Brocklehurst, Edge-street, do.	1	1	0
Wainwright Bellhouse, do.	1	0	0
John Bellhouse, do.	20	0	0
Jonas Foster, jun., 18, St. George's-road, do.	20	0	0
A Friend, per Robert Munn, do.	1	1	0
Robert Higgin, Teneriffe-street, Broughton, do.	5	0	0
Joseph Higgin, do., do., do.	1	0	0
Henry Bebb, at H. Bannerman's, York-street, do.	1	0	0
Charles Bannerman, do., do.	1	0	0
—— Gillibrand, at Bannerman's, do., do.	1	0	0
A. Winterbottom, 20, Mount-street, do.	1	0	0
James Naysmith, Patricroft, near do.	1	0	0
John Tolly Lane, Worsley, do.	2	0	0
A Friend, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, do.	2	0	0
William Tiping, Patricroft, do.	1	0	0
John Henshaw, do., do.	0	5	0
Small Sum	0	5	0
Mrs. Roger Gaskell, at Mrs. Walmsley's, upholsterer, Hastings	0	1	0
Holbrooke Gaskell, Patricroft, near Manchester	5	0	0
J. King and Sons, Moss House, Rochdale	10	0	0
	200	0	0

		£	s.	d.
Simeon Farrar, Chapelfield, Pilkington, near Manchester		£5	0	0
Wm Ryder, Brighton-place, C.-on-M., do.		10	0	0
Chas. Ryder, Lansdowne-crescent, Leamington		7	0	0
Workmen of Messrs. Collier and Co., tool makers, Greengate, Salford		1	4	0
Venables Hankinson, 7, Upper Brook-st., C.-on-M., Manchester		2	0	0
Thomas Thompson, Villiers-street, Sunderland		5	5	0
James Donkin, High-street, do.		5	5	0
John Peacock, Murton-street, do.		2	2	0
H. Ogden, M.D., Dunning-street, do.		2	2	0
George Hardcastle, Norfolk-street, do.		1	1	0
E. Mounsey, Bridge-street, do.		1	1	0
Thos. Patterson, do., do.		2	2	0
E. Bowmaker, Coronation-street, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Adamson, near Smyrna Chapel, do.		1	1	0
John Scour, Norfolk-street, do.		1	0	0
R. French, do.		1	0	0
J. K.		1	0	0
R. C.		1	1	0
William Coxon, King-street, do.		0	10	6
John Lindsey, Bridge-street, do.		2	2	0
John Fairweather, 121, London-road, Manchester		1	1	0
Henry Hope, Parliament-street, York		1	1	0
C. F., Manchester		1	0	0
F. M'Gill, 7, Edward-street, do.		1	0	0
H. T. Dow, 37, Thomas-street, do.		1	[illegible]	0
Alex. Taylor, Greenacres Moor, near do.		1	0	0
H. Taylor, Hardman street, do.		1	0	0
Samuel Horne, 107, Canal-street, Ancoats, do.		1	0	0
A Friend, per J. Aspell		1	0	0
John Rome, 39, Thomas-street, Manchester		1	0	0
Robert Sugden, Bread-street, do.		1	1	0
A Friend to the League, do.		10	0	0
Wm. Skinner, 16, Bond-street, do.		2	2	0
Joseph Holmes, tea dealer	Durham, per Nicholas Oliver	5	0	0
A Friend, per do.		0	5	0
Thomas Blenkinsopp, Gilesgate-moor		0	2	6
William Crowe, Claypath		0	2	6
Nicholas Oliver, 10, Leaze's-place		2	2	0
David Leroy, Crossgate Toll-bar		1	0	0
William Ainsley, printer, Sadler-street		1	0	0
A Friend to the League		0	5	0
William Gray, Dun Cow, Old Elvet		0	2	6
William Robinson, 24, Market-place		0	2	6
William Oliver, jun., 12, New Elvet		0	2	6
Robert Tiplady, New Elvet		0	10	0
William Marshall, Sadler-street		0	5	0
William Dean, Silver-street		1	0	0
William Oliver, 12, New Elvet		0	2	6
A Foe to all Monopolies		0	5	0
George Norrie, Back-lane		0	2	6
Robert Blakey, North-road		0	2	6
Francis Harker, jun., Claypath		0	2	6
Isaac Horsfield, Back-lane		0	2	6
Robert Moore, 43, Claypath (2nd sub.)		1	0	0
William Hutchinson, 78, Sadler-street		1	1	0
Miss Ann Dickinson, 3, South Bailey		0	5	0
Christopher Nesbitt, 78, Sadler-street		1	0	0
Henry Elder, 2, Silver-street		1	0	0
John Burdon, Claypath		1	0	0
Major Dixon, North-road		0	10	0
Henry Hills, Silver-street		1	0	0
John Sheldon, Gilesgate		1	0	0
Thomas Thwaites, Milburngate		0	2	6
James Ferens, Gilesgate		0	2	6
Benjamin Hill, Elvet-bridge		0	2	6
Mark Story, 212, Gilesgate		1	0	0
Thrush Story, West hall, near		1	0	0
Messrs Henderson & Co.'s Workmen		1	6	0
Small Sums		0	3	6
John Elliott, shoemaker, Hill-top, near Ushaw College, per T. Hall		0	2	6
Thomas Hall, 24, Hallgarth-street		0	2	6
Thomas O'Neill, 2, Silver-street		0	2	6
An Enemy to either a Fixed or Sliding Bread Tax		0	2	6
James Calvert, 67, Gilesgate		1	0	0
A Friend		0	2	6
J. Garry, at Wm. Wood's, Back-lane		0	2	6
Henry Marshall, solicitor, Claypath		1	0	0
John Watson, North-road		0	2	6
An Opponent to Class Legislation		0	2	6
Thomas Peele, Elvet-bridge		0	2	6
George Burdon, Claypath		1	0	0
John Allison, Market-place		1	10	0
H. Taylor, Hollingside-cottage, near		1	0	0
Matthew Wardell, builder, Claypath		7	0	0
W. S., Durham		5	0	0
William Hodgson, 60, Sadler-street		0	2	6
John Henderson, Esq., Leaze's House		10	0	0
T. Bletcher, Carver-street, Sheffield, per R. Moore		0	10	0
S. Henderson, 21, Mosley-st., Newcastle, per J. Calvert		0	2	6
William Hunter, iron merchant	Hartlepool, per George Burdon	0	2	6
Thomas Burdon, painter, Northgate		0	2	6
John Best, King's Head		0	2	6
Small Sums		0	2	0
James Agate	Horsham and its neighbourhood, per James Agate	1	0	0
William Rickward		0	10	0
John Stanford		0	10	0
P. D. W.		0	10	0
Anonymous		0	10	0
William Lantott		0	10	0
H. E. P.		0	7	6
A Friend to the Cause		0	5	0
William Jupp		0	5	0
Mrs. Henry Wood		0	5	0
Anonymous		0	5	0
Do.		0	5	0
S. C. D.		0	5	0
P. Stepney		0	5	0
J. Tocker		0	5	0
Robert Rowland		0	5	0
John Knight		0	2	6
Richard Pollard		0	2	6
James Mitchell		0	2	6
John Philpot		0	2	6
John Clarke		0	2	6
Joseph Laker		0	2	6
W. T. Colman		0	5	0
A Free Trader		0	5	0
M. P.		0	2	6
Drew Honywood		0	2	6
James Jupp		0	2	6
Robert Ashdowne		0	5	0
Anonymous		0	5	0
Do.		0	2	6
Do.		0	2	6
Do.		0	2	6
Do.		0	2	6
Do.		0	1	0
Elias Shaw	Newcastle-under-Lyme, per J. H. Robey	1	1	0
William Hargreaves		1	0	0
John Harrison, Upper-green		1	0	0
James Brindley, Red Lion-square		1	0	0
J. H. Robey		1	0	0
John Thursfield		1	0	0
Samuel Prime, sen.		1	0	0
John Warrington, Brampton		1	0	0
A Friend to a moderate Fixed Duty		1	0	0
Josiah Robey		1	0	0
R. Carryer		1	0	0
G. Gear, North Perrotta, Crewkerne, Somerset		0	2	6
Samuel Wood, 33, St. Paul's Churchyard		1	1	0
Fitzpatrick, 1, Gilbert's Buildings, Lambeth		1	0	0
Wm. Inglis, 75, St. Paul's Churchyard		1	0	0
James Brewster, 92, East-street		0	10	0
W. S. Williams, 3, Camden Hill-terrace, Kensington		0	5	0

		£	s.	d.
R. Ellis, 4, St. Peter's-street, Islington, per R. D. Cummins		£0	10	0
Ed. Wheeler, Plough Brewery, Walworth-common		0	5	0
John Rose Brandon, do., do.		0	5	0
James Sprague, 17, York-square, Regent's-park		0	2	6
Joseph Guise, 75, Margaret-street, Spafields		0	3	6
Wm. Price, 20, East-street, Lamb's Conduit-street		0	5	0
James M'Laughlin, *Morning Advertiser* Office		1	1	0
G. Marshall, 3, Rye lane, Peckham		1	1	0
Joseph Baker, 19, St. Paul's Churchyard		1	0	0
Richard Hatfield, do., do.		0	5	0
Charles Darwin, Down, Kent		1	0	0
Thomas Hodgson, Goodman's-stile		50	0	0
John Wilkins, Westbury		1	1	0
W. Morris, Kent Waterworks, Deptford		1	0	0
Richard J. Rees, 45, George-street, Portman-square		1	1	0
Richard Russell, 135, Oxford-street		0	5	0
Robert Hobbs, 4, Park-street, Islington		0	5	0
Richard Hobbs, 2, Somerset-place, Dalston		0	5	0
John Tarplee, 101, Old-street, St. Luke's		1	0	0
Jas. Giles, 24, St. Mary-at-Hill, Lower Thames-street		1	0	0
Henry Foskett, Tunbridge Wells		1	0	0
Frederick Cox, 24, Friday-street		1	0	0
John Mann, 63, Bartholomew-close		1	0	0
James Smith, Green Dragon Inn, Hertford		1	0	0
H. Bury	per J. Saunders, Ramsey, Huntingdonshire	0	2	6
B. B.		0	2	0
J. S. R. Ramsey,		0	10	0
J. S. Hooker, at Mr. Hodsoll's, grocer, 11, Stone-street, Maidstone		1	0	0
Samuel Robinson, confectioner, King-st., Maidstone		1	0	0
A Friend and Well-wisher to the League		1	0	0
A Friend		0	5	0
J. Smith, railway carrier, Southampton		1	0	0
Samuel Allvey, ship-broker, Southampton		1	0	0
A Friend, Bathford, Bath, per James Jackson		0	10	0
—— Cannings, sen., Bathford, Bath, per do.		0	10	0
Henry Gatchell, Waterford		0	5	0
A. Strang, Waterford		0	5	0
George Wakeman, Thame, Oxon		1	0	0
V. Levinson, 46, Bedford-street, Strand		1	1	0
Thomas Spearman, 20, Wilderness-st., Bermondsey		1	0	0
James Watson, 167, Fleet-street		1	1	0
Wm. Harding, 164, Fleet-street		1	1	0
Geo. Cheesman, Rye Lodge, Peckham-rye		2	2	0
John Davy, 15, Queen-street, Long-acre		1	0	0
Robt. Prosser, 9, King's-place, Commercial-rd. East		1	1	0
W. L.		1	1	0
Richard Draper, 3, Sugar-loaf-court, Leadenhall-st.		1	0	0
P. T. Batsford, 30, High Holborn		1	0	0
W. H. Mitchell, 79, Quadrant		1	1	0
B. H.		1	0	0
Luke White, 68, Eccles-street, Dublin, per R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.		20	0	0
T. Thompson, 95, Watling-street		0	5	0
Mrs. Mason, Albany-terrace, Old Kent-road		0	5	0
W. Day, labourer, 2, Taylor's-court, Bow-lane (towards repealing laws, for the permanent relief of our wretched brethren the agricultural labourers)		1	0	0
Edmund Norris, Sutton, near Abingdon		1	1	0
John Mackenzie, 30, Store-street, Bedford-square		0	5	0
Henry Grece, Chart Lodge, Reigate		1	0	0
John Pugh, 157, Regent-street		1	0	0
Wm. Sharp, Midway, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch		1	0	0
X. Y. Z.		0	5	0
James Robinson, Bruton-mews, Bruton-street		0	2	6
Arthur Street, Grafton-street, Fitzroy-square		0	2	6
John Field, 13, Whitechapel-road		0	2	6
Charles Shipway, 27, John-st., Dock hd., Bermondsey		0	2	6
Richard Greenwood, 35, Old Compton-street Soho		0	2	6
Thomas Ross, 5, Brunswick-place, Brixton-hill		1	1	0
Henry Agate, 36, Harmer-street, Gravesend		0	2	6
James Huruard, Colchester		1	0	0
John Massey, 25, Dalston-terrace		1	0	0
Harriet Massey, do., do.		0	5	0
Edward Massey, do., do.		0	2	6
A Friend, per Robert Hibbert, Welbeck-street		10	0	0
George Edmunds, 19, St. Swithin's-lane		1	1	0
James Askew, do., do.		1	1	0
Henry Juer, Battersea		1	1	0
Joseph Parkes, 4, Russell-street, Mile-end-road		0	5	0
John Morris Jones, 37, Paternoster-row		0	5	0
Henry Smith, 53, Trinity-square, Southwark		1	2	6
Herman Buckler, do., do.		0	2	6
Thomas Ferry, 4, Smart's-buildings, Holborn		0	2	6
L. Sharp	89, Wood-street, City	2	2	0
J. Cumberland		2	2	0
E. Garrett		1	1	0
F. Adams		1	1	0
J. Ablitt		1	1	0
G. Webster		1	1	0
H. Honey		1	1	0
E. La[illegible]on		0	10	6
J. Aldred		0	10	6
D. Warr		0	10	6
J. Nichol		0	10	6
J. Nicholson		0	5	0
C. Wilcocks		0	5	0
R. Nicholson		0	2	6
R. Bird		0	2	6
J. Terry and Son, 5, Bread-street-hill		1	1	0
J. Heskins, sen., 19, St. Paul's Churchyard		0	5	0
J. Heskins, jun., do		0	5	0
D. P. H.		1	0	0
A Commercial Traveller		1	0	0
Henry Stephens, 71, York-road, Lambeth		1	0	0
Joseph Smith, Brook-green, Hammersmith		1	1	0
Joseph Barnabas French, chemist, Chatham, Kent		1	0	0
Henry Sturt, jun.	91, Wood-street, City	2	3	0
S. E. Freuer		1	1	0
Wm. Matthews		1	1	0
John F. Scuttard		1	1	0
E. Diggins		1	1	0
John Jones		1	1	0
G. Ward		0	10	6
Wm. Ford		0	2	6
Richard Breddeley		0	2	6
Edward Watson		0	2	6
Thomas Ward		0	2	6
J. R. Torlock		0	3	0
Andrew Young, Hotspur-place	Alnwick 2nd subscriptn.	0	2	6
Anonymous		0	2	6
John Easton		0	2	0
William Browne, St. Michael's-lane		0	2	6
Anonymous		0	3	6
Ditto		0	1	0
Ditto		0	2	6
Robert Shiel		0	1	0
Joseph Jameson		0	2	0
Thos. Archbold, Market-place		0	2	6
H. Hindmarsh, Alnmouth		0	5	0
John Hogg, Clive-terrace		0	2	6
Geo. Oliver, Roxburgh-place		0	2	6
John Bell, Paike's-lane		1	0	0
John Lilburn, Market-place		0	2	6
Geo. Cockburn, Clayport-street		0	2	6
James Allen, draper		0	5	0
John Henderson		0	1	0
Trotter Thompson		0	1	0
Wm. Thompson, Hotspur-street		0	3	0
A Friend		0	2	0
Wm. Robertson		0	2	0
Mrs. Elizabeth Ord		0	1	0
Miss Newbiggin		0	1	0
George Thompson		0	1	0
W. Laidlaw		0	1	6
Arthur Tate		0	2	0
A Friend		0	1	6
Joseph Appleby, Clayport-street		0	2	6

		£	s.	d.
A few Workmen in the Brass Trade in the Parish of St. Bride		£0	14	6
I. S.		0	2	6
Miss Brettle, 4, Goldsmith street, Wood-street		1	1	0
E. Morris, Ringwood, Salisbury		0	5	0
H. A. Wedgwood, Tenby, South Wales		10	0	0
G. Buckland, chemist, Catherine-street, Salisbury		1	0	0
Thomas Horton, Baptist minister, Devonport		0	10	0
J. W. Marcellier, Leicester		1	1	0
R. Manley, Ide, near Exeter		1	0	0
C. Green, solicitor, Northwich		1	1	0
Miss Green, Northwich	per C. Green	0	2	6
B. Shaw, 3 Church-st. Everton, Liverpool		1	0	0
Miss Shaw, do., do.		0	2	6
K. S. Davenham		0	10	0
—— Carnes, bookseller, Northwich		0	5	0
James Perkin, grocer, do.		0	5	0
R. Wells, shoemaker, Doncaster, per J. Hastie		1	0	0
Dr. J. Pye Smith		10	0	0
John Shirley, M.D., Lanark, N.B.		1	1	0
Mark Richardson, Mabgate Mill, Leeds		1	0	0
Small sums		7	0	0

Homerton, Dec. 6, 1843.

SIR,—I have the happiness of enclosing £10, a subscription to the righteous, benevolent, and patriotic cause of Free Trade as represented by the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE. My excellent friend will only allow himself to be published under the designation which I will subjoin.

The last year I had the pleasure of subscribing to the League £5: and this year I propose the offering of £10. At the commencement of the year I hope to have the happiness of remitting that sum to you, and now remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. PYE SMITH.

DEAR SIR,—I have desired Mr. Villiers to put down my name as a subscriber to the League for a sum of £100. Dear Sir, yours faithfully,

HENRY WARBURTON.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We quite agree with "*Glenvarlochide*" on the subject of leases. The question, however, has been so much discussed of late that we must reserve his comments for some other occasion.

"One who feels that People may be worse than Slaves," sends the following advertisement, taken from the *Sydney Morning Herald* of July 5th, 1843:—"*Cheap Loaf Sugar*.—Just landing from the Stratheden, and on sale at John Stirling's, Lower George-street, forty hogsheads *English refined* loaf sugar, the finest quality imported, 4d. per lb. by the single loaf, and 3¾d. per lb. by the hogshead." This sugar, the produce of slave labour in Brazil or Cuba, English law *allows* to be refined in bond in this country, and *exported* to and *sold* in other countries, and *our own colonies, at a lower price* than the coarsest brown sugar can be purchased for in the British market; and all this is done in the name of humanity!—on the insolent and hypocritical pretence of putting down slavery by its prohibition! If there be consistency in cant, surely the *Pecksniffs* of our "*moral world*" should illegalize the *export* as well as the *import* of such plague-stricken produce.

"H" has been received. His denunciations of monopoly are *rather* too strong for our columns; though his facts are food enough for a keen appetite in that way.

"W. B. H." will see that we have attended to his suggestion.

"J. C. B." of Alnwick sends us the following case of gross hardship and injustice. We withhold the comment; the text is strong enough without it:—

Alnwick, 5th December, 1843.

On the 3rd instant, at the justice-room, Alnwick, George Turner of Boulmer was summoned before Captain Dale, Major Clutterbuck, Hugh Moises, ——— Bosanquet, Esqrs., and the Rev. L. S. Orde, justices, on a charge of killing rabbits on Morwick West Farm in the parish of Warkworth. The informer withdrew the case, alleging, that the witness by whom he could prove that the game on Morwick West Farm was reserved to Captain Barrett, the tenant of ———, Morwick House, was from home. Mr. Busby, solicitor, Alnwick, who appeared for Turner, stated, he was prepared with evidence to show one of the grossest cases he had ever known; that Turner had been employed by Mr. Mickle, the tenant of Morwick West Farm, to thin the rabbits, they having literally destroyed sixty acres of corn, which had been valued by respectable, disinterested parties, on a most moderate calculation, at £286 10s.; that there were also six acres of turnips in course of being destroyed by these vermin, and this was going on while *millions of our fellow-countrymen were in a state of absolute want*. He could also prove that the rabbits caught in the garden of Captain Barrett had been afterwards turned loose upon the crops of his unfortunate client, who, having no lease, was a tenant from year to year, and could gain no redress for the injury he had sustained. Mr. Busby then applied to the justices for the costs the poor man had been put to in bringing in his witnesses. This application, however, the bench refused, Mr. Moises observing, that if the game was reserved, and any one was brought before him for destroying the rabbits, he would take care to have them punished; he thought the man had got very luckily off.

"A True Repealer" from Birmingham may rely upon it the "*League*" looks to no leadership, and hopes nothing from party. Our end is simple: the means will realize themselves whenever the public will is strong enough to call for them.

The syllogism of our Liverpool correspondent, "H. E.," is more subtle than satisfactory. *Facts* every day *do* contradict each other—*truths*, never.

"N. J. J."—Mr. Baring *never* had a majority during the poll. The return at twelve o'clock gave Mr. Pattison his *smallest* majority of 43 votes.

"A Friend to the Cause," near Cheltenham, was not noticed last week, because we took it for granted that he would find the matters referred to treated of by implication amongst the agricultural topics of the day.

"R. T.," of Brixham, is obviously ignorant of many things. Charity may alleviate the sufferings of individuals; justice is the only remedy for the wrongs of a nation.

"A Correspondent," from Kendal, sends several cases of gross oppression towards some of the electors who voted for Mr. Warburton at the late election. We cannot insert them.

"J. B.," of Salisbury, has been received. The facts are as stated in the LEAGUE of last week. The new register did not come into operation until the 1st of December.

"Bristoliensis" has an *obscure* mind. He can't tie his own premises and conclusions together. Some men are nothing if not critical. "Bristoliensis" is critical, and nothing at it.

"J. W."—Ebenezer Elliott's poems will be reviewed at an early opportunity.

Our Friend in King's-square will find that the subject has not escaped attention.

"J. A." deserves our thanks, but a little reflection must convince him that verses in praise of ourselves would not be as acceptable to the taste of our readers as they are flattering to our own vanity.

"A Member of the League" will find that his suggestion has not been thrown away.

"N. F."—Earl St. Vincent's denunciation of the iniquity of the Corn Laws is before us; we shall probably review the life of that great naval reformer in our next number.

"Feigned Issue" will see that his hints have been anticipated.

"R. N."—Archbishop Whately has demolished the fallacy in the following passage, which appears in the "Easy Lessons on Reasoning:"—"There is an analogy in many respects be-

tween all 'valuable articles' that man uses; as corn, and iron or lead, and again (what are called the precious metals) gold and silver And as an increased supply of *most* of these articles, while it lowered their *price*, would not diminish their *usefulness*, and would thus prove a general benefit, some might infer that this would hold good in respect of gold and silver. If the earth should yield two bushels of corn, or two tons of iron or lead, for one that it now yields, these articles would be much cheaper, while a bushel of corn would be as useful in feeding us as now: and so, with most other articles. But if the supply of gold or silver were thus doubled, the chief *use* of these being for *coin*, and the *utility* of coin *depending on its value*, the only important change would be that a sovereign or a shilling would be twice as large as now, and therefore twice as cumbrous. So that no advantage would result.

"M A."—The labourer may be cheated either when employed or when paid. Slavery is the fraud at one end of the bargain, and monopoly at the other.

"N O"—Grattan's description of the notorious Jack Giffard, editor of the *Hibernian Journal*, the Irish father of the *Standard*, has been published by Sir Jonah Barrington. The concluding passage was—"In his own house, a bully; in the street, a firebrand; in the field, a coward; on this floor, a liar." We are not called upon to vouch for the accuracy of the description. In the multiplicity of business which engages our attention, long letters are rather inconvenient; and we therefore earnestly recommend brevity to our correspondents.

"Inquiries having been made as to whether the great crush at the entrance of the theatres on the night of the League meetings can be in any way obviated, we have to state that there were seven distinct entrances to the theatre open, and it had been thought that the division of the crowd would have prevented the great pressure (We find that the theatre was filled to overflowing in seventeen minutes from the opening of the doors.) Arrangements are now in progress to further divide the crowds at the doors; and it is to be hoped that for the future the worst of the pressure will be prevented."

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear n mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, December* 9, 1843.

The subscription to the League Fund continues its course, accompanied in its progress by those unmistakable indications of public feeling and determination which are not less decisive of the result than the pecuniary contributions with which they are conjoined. At the Liverpool monthly meeting of the Anti-monopoly Association, on Thursday, the sum of £4600 was announced before the meeting broke up; and this is but the beginning. Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford, Wigan, and other large manufacturing towns in the north, are preparing speedily to follow. And everywhere the object is regarded with such earnestness of purpose—there is so much of a sense of moral duty and bounden obligation evinced, and the concurrence of various classes is so complete and heartfelt—that the movement bears the aspect of what we may term a religious devotedness, a holy crusade against injustice and inhumanity. The people give their hearts to it—women submit to privations, and make exertions, that they may offer anonymous contributions. Children's names are inscribed on the sacred muster roll of the future victors over monopoly. And we do hope that the name of every contributor to this last great supply of the means of warfare against oppression will be authentically preserved, a precious heirloom in many an industrious family.

The leaders of the League are men who have shown themselves independent of stimulus from without in the prosecution of their great task. At the times when there was least apparent encouragement, Cobden and Bright went on, working like steam-engines, the fuel that supplied their power being in their own convictions and conscientiousness. Now, the gathering cry of popular sympathy swells around them—multitudes petition, as it were, to co-operate—and from another quarter there comes another stimulus; alas, of how different a description! Aggravated cases of oppression, hardship, and destitution, multiply in the daily papers—literal starvation shows its fearful aspect—with these, the *Times* assails the New Poor Law. The *Morning Chronicle* has commenced retaliation, by taking some gross occurrences in the Birmingham Workhouse to pelt the old Poor Law. And is the wellbeing of the multitudes of England to depend on poor laws, new or old? The history of both is but a bitter record for the lower classes; and a very accusatory one—a branding and damnatory one—against the ruling classes. Purveyors of public charity, when will you learn that the human being, not deficient in mind or body, can live if you will let him? The Power that sent him into the world has provided for him in the world. When his native soil becomes too limited to feed the late comer, trade will fetch from remotest regions the support he will earn, if you will but leave trade unrestricted. If not, you must bear as you can the demoralization and crime of which your blind and selfish policy is the creator.

While some cry for more public charities, others are crying for more gibbets. A correspondent of the *Times*, in yesterday's paper, supplicates for hangings in the agricultural districts, to stop the alarming progress of incendiary fires. Those eloquent tongues of flame might, we think, preach a wiser lesson to an attentive mind. If a manufactory of crime be established, it is of little avail merely to destroy the criminals. Better were it to cease breeding for the gallows. We extenuate not the enormity of the offence; but no enforcement of its enormity will help the complainant; no strangulation of the offenders will relieve the want or mitigate the ferocity that led to the offence. It may lead, perhaps, with the aggravated brutality of vindictiveness, to its repetition. The writer suggests that Sir Robert Peel should restore the abolished capital punishments in such cases. Better try first the abolition of that Bread Tax which inflicts capital punishments and worse (for brutalization is worse), for the offence of poverty. The farm-labourer lives by trade although he tills the soil. It constitutes the worth of his wages, and saves him from ruinous competition. And now, the dispute about farm-labourers, like so many other disputes of a similar kind in the Corn-Law controversy, is verging towards a general agreement. Dorsetshire is *not* Arcadia. Its peasantry may bless the League for having stripped the veil from their deplorable condition. The day of denials has gone by. The *Times* says of Lord Ashley's speech at the Sturminster Agricultural Society, "it is the voice of contrition, not of exultation; it speaks, not of the advancement of science, but of abject poverty and degradation; it points, not to examples of generous munificence, but to the long and shameful neglect even of the most ordinary duties of Justice and Charity." Lord Ashley is too humane to join in the gibbet prescription. His counsel is kindlier; and so far, but no further, wiser. What he has to recommend is to pay wages in good time and hard money, and to allow poor old women to glean, according to the Scriptures. It will not do, my lord; any more than the pretty little buns in the pastry-cooks' shops would do for the famishing multitudes. O how long will it require to make even all honest and kindly men see the merits of a plain question, involving the rights, food, morals, and lives of millions of the community? On, on, with the subscription, ye sound-headed and true-hearted people of the North; send it from North to South; and then, on, on, with missions, and meetings, lectures and tracts, and the enlightenment of all constituencies.

They are toiling onward, that noble band,
With the shield of truth in their clasped hand;
And their banner of love, where it floats on high,
Angels have blessed as they passed it by.
Well have ye fought; press on! press on!
Fear not, nor faint till your work is done.

Darkness and error have fled amain,
Ye have routed them, camp'd in tow'r or plain;
And the foe hath taken its last vain stand
With the broken ranks that rule our land.
One struggle more, and the breach is gained,
And a triumph, nor blood, nor tear hath stained.

Take to your bosom the poor man's prayer,
It will kindle a flame undying there;
Unsheathe your sword with that injured cry,
It hath pierced the ear of the Lord on high;
Ye may not stop in your mid career,
Strike! for the homes each holdeth dear.

Ye have sown in doubt! would ye reap in joy
A harvest of fame without alloy?
Gird on your souls that armour bright
That shall never, oh, never, be foiled in fight!
And cast your laurels before His feet,
To whom all glory and praise are meet.

Newcastle, 11th Month, 1843.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Dec 2	Mon. Dec 4	Tues. Dec. 5	Wed. Dec. 6	Thurs Dec. 7	Fri. Dec. 8
Bank Stock.....	—	—	181½	181½	182	182
3 per Ct. Con. dv.	96⅞	96⅞	96⅞	95⅞	96⅞	96⅞
New 3½ per Cent.	Shut	102¾	—	102¾	—	102¾
Long Annuities..	—	12 7-16	12 9-16	12 9-16	12 7-16	12 9-16
S. Sea Stock ..	—	108¾	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	74	72 75	73 75	73	—	73
India Stock.....	—	271¾	272½	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills..	56 57	56 59	57 59	57 59	57 59	—
Consols for Acc..	—	95⅞	95⅞	95½	95⅞	95⅞
Brazilian	—	71½	75	—	—	—
Mexican, 1837.. .	31½	31½	31⅞	31¾	31½	31¾
Portuguese, conv.	—	43½	44	44	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	32⅞	31½	31½	31½	31	30¾
Chilian 6 p. Ct. ..	—	—	—	100	100	—
Russian	—	—	..	—	—	—
Dutch 5 per Cent.	99⅞	99¾	99¾	99¾	99⅞	99¾
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	54½	54⅞	54⅞	—	54½	54¼
Columb 6 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	14⅞	—
Austrian, 5 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	-	—
Danish	—	—	—	-	—	—
Peruvian	22	—	—	—	—	—
Belgian 5 p. Cent.	—	—	103½	103½	—	—
French 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Dec. 4.—Since Friday a considerable quantity of Wheat has arrived from Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire—a large proportion of it direct to the millers. The supply of Essex and Kentish Wheat to this morning's market was also large; the condition of most of it was, if possible, worse than last week, and for such 1s. to 2s. per qr. less was obtained; but the best dry samples readily brought last Monday's rates. Foreign Wheat sold slowly at former rates. The supply of Barley was larger than we have had since the harvest. Fine Malting samples maintained their former value, but Distilling and Grinding qualities met a slow sale, and a good deal remained unsold at the close of the market. White and Grey Peas and New Beans 1s. cheaper. No alteration in Old Beans The arrivals of Irish Oats last week were short, and there was nothing fresh up this morning but a few English and Scotch. English and Irish Oats fully maintained last week's rates; but Scotch Oats went off slowly at rather lower prices.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 27th of Nov, to the 2nd of Dec. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	10991	10059	532	1500	2054
Scotch	80	1260	4174	100	—
Irish.....	—	—	3872	—	—
Foreign	1600	812	—	584	1413

Flour, 11899 sacks, 70 bls. Malt, 6521 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do , Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple.....	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk.....	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin.....	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting ...	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed ..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old....	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Dec. 8.—There is a fair supply of English Wheat and Flour this week; there is also a good supply of Barley, but a good deal of it is direct to the distillers Six cargoes of Irish Oats have arrived, and a few English and Scotch. We have had a most inanimate trade this week for all descriptions of grain, and prices remain the same as on Monday, with the exception of Scotch Oats, which are a shade lower, most of the vessels having to be cleared almost immediately after their arrival. The lower qualities of Barley for grinding are scarce, and the prices for this description are consequently high in proportion.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 2nd to the 8th of December, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	5770	—	2170
Barley.....	13210	—	—
Oats.....	3960	8940	1150

Flour 6390 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 2, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	109,573	51 1	108,139	31 8	38,595	19 0	8564	31 10
Aggregate Averages..	..	51 4		31 10		18 8		31 10
Duty.....	..	19 0		7 0		8 0		10 6

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Dec. 5, 1843.

	Qrs.	Price		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat.. ..	4480	53s. 11d.	Rye	4	31s. 1d.
Barley.. ..	5853	33s. 4d.	Beans	860	31s. 1d.
Oats	26075	19s. 6d.	Peas	1318	35s. 2d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

E. RABY, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, spectacle maker.

J. WOOD, Coleman-street, City, tobacconist.

BANKRUPTS.

M. ALLEN, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, dealer in patent wood carving. [Bischoff and Coxe, Coleman-street, City.

E. T. GORE, Church-end, Berkshire, cattle dealer. [Johnson and Co., Temple.

J. L. HEATHORN, Abchurch-lane, London, ship owner. [Pering and Co, Laurence Pountney-lane.

R. PUSEY, Drayton, Berkshire, baker. [Ford, Bloomsbury-square; Frankham and Bartlett, Abingdon.

H. TREGENT, Basinghall street, City, merchant. [Crowder and Maynard, Coleman-street.

J. GIBSON, Kirton, Lincolnshire, grocer. [Longstaff, Lincoln; Payne, Eddison, and Ford, Leeds.

S. W. SUFFIELD, Birmingham, druggist. [Ryland, Birmingham.

W. SHAW, Stafford, sadler. [Ryland, Cherry-street, Birmingham

E. B. BAYLEY, Pendleton, Lancashire, stuff printer. [Clay and Co., Manchester; Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London.

C. E. SHORT, Woodend, Cheshire, calico printer. [Atkinson and Saunders, Manchester; Makinson and Sanders, Elm-court, Temple, London.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 28. G. Salter, Davies-street, Middlesex, builder—Dec. 22 F. Carey, Nottingham hatter—Jan. 9. S. Middleham, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, wine merchant—Jan. 23. S. Kirk, Kimberworth, Yorkshire, ironfounder—Jan. 9. W. Borton, Kirbymisperton, Yorkshire, banker—Jan. 9. W. T. H. Phelps, Newport, Monmouthshire, coal merchant—Jan. 3 W. Jones, Park, Glamorganshire, ship builder—Dec 29. J. Bonny, Liverpool, tailor—Jan. 12. J Massey, Habergham Eaves, Lancashire, wo sted spinner—Dec. 29. T. Brook, Liverpool, licensed victualler—Jan. 2. R. Ferris and Co., Liverpool, merchants—Jan. 16. D. Matthews, Pendleton, Lancashire, victualler—Jan. 16. J. Thompson, Blackburn, power loom cloth manufacturer—Jan. 16. R. Heathcote, Manchester, victualler.

CERTIFICATE.

Dec. 27. J. Ryan, Stockport, Cheshire, surgeon.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8.

CROWN-OFFICE, DEC. 8.

MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

County of Kilkenny.—Pierce Somerset Butler, of Lodge-park, in the county of Kilkenny, Esq., in the room of George Bryan, Esq., deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

HENRY CONGREVE, High-street, Peckham, dealer in patent medicines [Wells, Skinner street, Snow-hill.

W. COX, Daventry, Northamptonshire, money scrivener. [Hall and Mourilyan, Verulam-buildings, Gray's Inn; Pell, Welford, Northamptonshire.

T. BAUGH, Anchor street, Bethnal-green, silk manufacturer. [Hudson, Bucklersbury.

J. BOHN, King William-street, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Middlesex, bookseller. [Offley, Henrietta-st., Covent garden.

B. REYNOLDS, Phipps-bridge, Mitcham, silk printer. [Young and Son, Mark-lane.

ANN WALES, Spring-street, Shadwell, wood splitter. [Musterman, Hind-court, Fleet-street.

T. RAWLINGS, Cheltenham, auctioneer. [Badham and Houghton, Gray's Inn, London.

D. HAGUE, Horsforth, Yorkshire, paper manufacturer. [Sudlow, Sons, and Torr, Chancery-lane; Bradley, Leeds.

T. BENTLEY, Rawden, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer. [Blackburn, Leeds.

J. HAYES, Taunton, Somersetshire, innkeeper. [Galworthy and Nichols, Cook's-court, London; Turner, Exeter.

J. DYSON, Sheffield, scythe manufacturer. [Haywood and Co., Sheffield.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Dec. 5, 1843, is 32s. 11½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—Quarterly Average of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of England, from the 9th day of September to the 2nd of December, 1843, both inclusive, published pursuant to the Act, 3 and 4 W. IV., cap. 98.

Liabilities.		*Assets.*	
Circulation	£19,121,000	Securities	£20,926,000
Deposits.....	10,944,000	Bullion.....	12,275,000
	£30,065,000		£33,201,000

Downing-street, Dec. 7, 1843.

SMITH'S STANDARD LIBRARY.

THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTERS. From the Swedish of FREDRIKA BREMER. Price 2s. 6d.

Also, by the same Author,

STRIFE AND PEACE. Price 1s. 6d.

THE H—— FAMILY. Price 2s.

London: William Smith, 113, Fleet-street.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, No. LXXIX., is NOW READY.—CONTENTS:—

1. Opinions of Sir Robert Peel.
2. Poems by William Thom.
3. Life of Lord Sydenham.
4. Authority of Niebuhr as an Historian.
5. The Coal Trade.
6. Porter's Progress of the Nation.
7. New Novels.
8. Working Classes of Sheffield.
9. Atmospheric Railroads.
10. State Trials of Hardy, Tooke, and Thelwall.

Postscript and Miscellaneous Notices.

Samuel Clarke, 13, Pall-mall East.

NATIVITY OF SIR R. PEEL, AND FATE OF THE MINISTRY.

Now ready, price One Shilling,

ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC, AND HERALD OF ASTROLOGY, for 1844:—containing Predictions of the Wars and other exciting events of the coming year, including Distress and Violence in the Mining Districts—Sudden Changes in Portugal—Troubles regarding the Corn Laws—Tumults and Bloodshed in America—Warlike Measures of Government—Derangements at Manchester—Disease amongst Cattle—Death of a Member of the Royal Family—The Queen, the Duke of Wellington, and Sir R. Peel—Dissension and Sedition in England—Taxation—Commercial Distress—Financial Derangement—Floods, Fires, Accidents, Earthquakes, &c. &c., with SIR R. PEEL'S NATIVITY, and the DATE of his RETIREMENT from Office.

London: Sherwood, Gilbert, and Piper, Paternoster-row; and may be had of all booksellers.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

PUNCH'S HOLIDAY LETTER.

MY DEAR PUBLIC,—

It is with the most unfeigned satisfaction I now write to inform you that the completion of my FIFTH VOLUME is fixed for Saturday, the 23rd instant.

I am happy to inform you that I have again obtained this year the PRIZE for WRITING, and that I have completely beaten MASTER GIBBS in my ARITHMETIC.

The weekly specimens I have sent you of my Drawing will, I hope, satisfy you of my proficiency in this branch of my studies. Deeply impressed with the parental care you lavish on me, I feel myself bound (in five volumes) to cultivate assiduously those parts (monthly parts) which you have encouraged me to put forth; and I am preparing to make exertions out of number, which will appear in the numberless numbers that I intend issuing.

Messrs. BRADBURY and EVANS, in whose establishment I am placed, beg leave to present their compliments (of the season) to you, and to call your attention to the fact, that the whole of my valuable lessons are to be learned for the weekly sum of *Threepence*, which includes WRITING, DRAWING, MORAL PHILOSOPHY, LAW, POETRY, the USE OF THE GLOBES, THE ABUSES OF THE WORLD, and the usual BRANCHES—that is to say, SIX BRIGHT LEAVES OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE.

On the 16th instant it is my intention to present you with a CHRISTMAS PIECE, which I trust will meet your approbation, and hoping that in the ensuing Holidays we shall have much enjoyment in each other's society,

I remain, dear and honoured Public,

PUNCH OFFICE, 194, Strand, December 9. Your most devoted Servant, PUNCH.

P.S.—I forgot to tell you that my ALMANAC will be ready on the 30th inst., and will be the admiration of the whole World.

THE WATER RAM will raise water thirty times the height of the fall from which it is fixed—no manual labour required. There are upwards of 400 fixed; one on the premises for inspection. Estimates and Particulars sent, upon application to F. ROE, 70, STRAND, Fountain Maker, &c. Engines for deep wells, &c.

IMPORTANT PATENT IMPROVEMENTS in CHRONOMETERS, WATCHES, and CLOCKS.—E. J. DENT, sole patentee, has OPENED his West-end PREMISES, 33, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, in addition to 82, Strand, with an entirely new stock of Watches and Clocks. Lady's Gold Watches, 8 guineas each; Gentlemen's ditto, 10 guineas; and Silver Levers at 6 guineas each.—A new edition of Dent's Lectures, price 1s., but to customers gratis.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES, at 263, HIGH STREET, BOROUGH, between Town-hall and London-bridge, in consequence of expiration of lease.—Wellington Boots, 10s. 6d., 11s 6d., and 13s. 6d; Clarence or Cloth Boots, 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 9s. 6d.; Bluchers, 4s. 11d. to 6s. 10d.; Calf Shoes, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 9d.; Walking Pumps or Dress Shoes, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 4d., Ladies' Shoes, 1s. 3d. to 3s.; French Clogs, best, 1s. 6½d. per pair.

The above are good things, not made up to deceive the unwary and inexperienced. All orders from the country, containing a remittance or Post-office order, despatched the same day. Captains, Merchants, and Wholesale Dealers should call, as we are determined to sell. Observe, 263, High-street, Borough. JOEL BEARDER, Proprietor.

THE CELEBRATED LAMP OIL, and no IMPROVEMENT.—SMITH and CO., opposite Norfolk street, Strand, have not at all improved their highly RECTIFIED LAMP OIL, which is precisely such as gave universal satisfaction to their numerous connexion last season. It is now in the highest perfection, and one trial will prove that it can have no successful competitor. It is applicable to every kind of lamp, equals sperm in strength and brilliancy of flame, and burns much longer, thus effecting a saving of nearly one-half in the cost of light. Price 4s. 6d. per imperial gallon. A lamp kept burning for inspection without solicitation to purchase. Old and ill-constructed lamps made to burn well and look like new, at a very trifling charge. New Lamps, for every purpose, upon scientific principles, at trade prices. Finest Solar Oil 3s. 4d. per gallon, at the depot.—Letters have immediate attention.

A BRONZE SCROLL FENDER for 15s.—RIPPON and BURTON are now offering the most extensive assortment of FENDERS in London, embracing every possible variety, at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Iron fenders, 3 feet long, from 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, 3 feet, from 6s.; 3 feet 6, 7s.; 4 feet, 8s.; rich scroll fenders bronzed, from 15s.; or with steel rod and moulding, from 21s.; polished steel and ormolu mounted fenders at proportionate prices. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; ditto steel ditto, from 3s. 6d., handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. 6d.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE ONLY SAFE AND HEALTHY STOVES.

THE PATENT CHUNK and VESTA STOVES are the only ones recommended by the faculty for the bedrooms of invalids, and other places where a genial warmth is requisite. They are without doors, from which, in Arnott's (whether improved or not) and all others, the impure gases escape; consequently, the evils attendant upon such escapes, as headache, dizziness, &c., as well as fatal explosions, cannot occur in the use of them. These stoves having stood the test of five years, during which time upwards of five thousand have been fixed in chapels, shops, halls, forcing pits, nurseries, &c., they are most confidently offered to the public. They have been found to combine, in an extraordinary degree, great simplicity of use and certainty of action, with perfect safety, at an almost incredible small cost for fuel (coke or cinders). Chunk, 50s. each; Vesta, 80s. each.

THE PYMIDON STOVE (also a patent) has most of the advantages of the Chunk and Vesta, with the extremely novel one of showing the fire (as in a register stove) in one moment, it is eminently a ventilating stove, and will be found invaluable where any prejudice exists against a close stove; price 60s. Full particulars, with engravings and testimonials, post free.

RIPPON and BURTON, Proprietors.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The material RIPPON and BURTON offer to the public has for the last eight years been found equal to silver in appearance and sweetness, and superior to it in durability. Of the prices of tea sets, waiters, candlesticks, and all articles hitherto made in silver, a detailed catalogue, with engravings, will be sent (gratis) post-free.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Threaded Pattern.	VICTORIA Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	18s. 0d.	20s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto ..	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	24s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto ..	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Established 1829.—Catalogues gratis.

DISEASED AND HEALTHY LIVES ASSURED.

MEDICAL, INVALID, AND GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25, Pall Mall, London. CAPITAL, £500,000.

This Office is provided with very accurately constructed Tables, by which it can ASSURE DISEASED LIVES on Equitable Terms.

The Extra Premium discontinued on restoration of the Assured to permanent health.

INCREASED ANNUITIES granted on UNSOUND Lives, the amount varying with the particular disease.

Members of CONSUMPTIVE FAMILIES assured at Equitable Rates.

F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary.

YORK and LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, King William-street, London. Empowered by Act of Parliament.

GEORGE FREDERICK YOUNG, Esq., Chairman.
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The superiority of the system of Assurance adopted by this Company will be found in the fact that the premium required by a bonus office to assure £1000 on the life of a person in the 20th year of his age would in this office insure £1291 7s. 6d.

Assurances at other ages are effected on equally favourable terms, and thus the assured has an immediate bonus instead of a chance dependent upon longevity and the profits of an office. In cases of assurance for a limited number of years, the advantage offered by this Company is still greater, no part of the profits of a bonus office being ever allotted to such assurances. Prospectuses, containing tables framed to meet the circumstances of all who desire to provide for themselves or those who may survive them, by assurance either of fixed sums or annuities, may be had at the office as above, or of the agents. JOHN RUDDISH, Secretary.

VICTORIA LIFE ASSURANCE and LOAN COMPANY, No. 18, King William-street, City.

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Benj. Barnard, Esq. | Charles Baldwin, Esq.

Peculiar advantages are offered by this Company. Thus—

Parties assuring the lives of others may make their policies secure, notwithstanding the life assured may go out of the limits of Europe, without the necessary permission of the Directors having been previously obtained.

Credit of half the premiums for the first five years allowed on policies effected for the whole term of life.

Assurances may be effected with or without profits—on an ascending or descending scale, or for short periods.

Advances made to Assurers on real or undoubted personal security, for terms of years, repayable by instalments.

Attention is particularly requested to the detailed prospectuses of the Company, which may be obtained at the Office, 18, King William-street, City, or by letter, addressed to the Secretary.

WILLIAM RATRAY, Actuary and Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 1, Princes-street, Bank, London. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic., cap. 9.

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This Institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to Policy-holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies.

Assurances may either be effected by parties on their own lives, or by parties interested therein on the lives of others.

The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of £5 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience—he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

A Table of Decreasing Rates of Premium on a novel and remarkable plan; the Policy-holder having the option of discontinuing the payment of all further premiums after Twenty, Fifteen, Ten, and even Five years; and the Policy still remaining in force—in the first case for the full amount originally assured; and in either of the three other cases, for a portion of the same according to a fixed and equitable scale endorsed upon the Policy.

Increasing Rates of Premium on a new and remarkable plan, for securing Loans or Debts; a less immediate payment being required on a Policy for the whole term of Life than in any other Office.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.

All claims payable within one Month after proof of death.

Medical attendants remunerated in all cases for their reports.

Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Annual Premiums payable during				
	1st Five Years.	2nd Five Years.	3rd Five Years.	4th Five Years.	Remainder of life.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 1	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 1	2 4 4	2 14 6	3 7 3	4 3 4
50	2 16 7	3 9 4	4 5 6	5 6 3	6 12 7

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained at the Office.

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

A Board of Directors attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, continue to restore DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache, and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth	£0 10 0
A Set	5 5 0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 60, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

G. T. MANSELL AND CO., 2, BUCKLERSBURY, CHEAPSIDE.

COFFEE.—G. T. M. and Co. are enabled to offer great advantages to the purchasers of ROASTED COFFEE. With a view of establishing an extensive trade in that article they abide by their old scale of prices prior to the late advance. The trade, particularly country dealers and large consumers, will find this a favourable opportunity. Not less than pound samples can be had.—Cash on delivery.

COFFEE.—CEYLON COFFEE, 1s. per lb. Notwithstanding the recent advance we still continue to sell at the above price, which is lower than the first cost. Large consumers will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity. May be had in quantities not less than one pound.

COFFEE.—Finest PLANTATION CEYLON, 1s. 4d. per lb. This Coffee is the production of Ceylon, from the Jamaica berry, and is in high estimation. Few require a better Coffee. It possesses a rich mellow flavour, and is far better than most Coffees in use. Pound samples may be had.—Cash on delivery.

COFFEE.—The finest JAVA COFFEE, 1s. 6d. per lb., in quantities not less than a pound, for cash on delivery. Those who like Java Coffee will do well to try this, and they will find it far superior to what is usually sold under that denomination; in fact, most of the Coffee sold as Mocha is Java.

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STEPHENS' WRITING FLUID.—These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of the STEEL PEN, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary Ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of—

A BLUE FLUID, changing to an intense Black colour. PATENT UNCHANGEABLE BLUE FLUIDS, remaining a deep Blue colour.—A SUPERIOR BLACK INK, of the common character, but more fluid.—A SUPERIOR CARMINE RED, for Contrast Writing.—A CARBONACEOUS RECORD INK, which writes instantly black, and, being proof against Chemical Agents, is most valuable in the prevention of frauds.

Also a new kind of MARKING INK for Linen; and Inkholders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

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TO MR. PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON.

19, Lisson Grove, St. Marylebone.

SIR,—In recompense for the great benefit I have received from the use of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, I feel it a duty I have long owed to the afflicted with the excruciating torture of the Gout, to make your valuable remedy more extensively known.

I am upwards of seventy years of age, and have, when occasion required, used them for more than twelve years past. I have at all times found nothing to relieve me but them, and my firm belief is that they are not composed of anything injurious to the constitution, as I always find, after their use, my general bodily health renewed, and my appetite considerably sharpened.

Should you, Sir, think this statement worthy of insertion in your list of testimonials, I can with truth solemnly declare the above.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

April 16th, 1842. ANN MOORE.

P.S.—I will with pleasure answer any application in proof of this testimony.

The never-failing effects of BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS in curing every description of Gout and Rheumatism, have secured to them a celebrity unequalled by any medicine of past or present times. They not only give relief in a few hours, where the patient has been driven nearly to madness by the excruciating tortures of this disease, but restore to perfect health in an inconceivable short space of time. They are equally speedy and certain in rheumatism, either chronic or acute, lumbago, sciatica, pains in the head or face, and indeed for every rheumatic or gouty affection; in fact, such has been the rapidity, perfect ease, and complete safety of this medicine, that it has astonished all who have taken it; and there is not a city, town, or village in the kingdom, but contains many grateful evidences of its benign influence.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their* addresses *as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, 67, *Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

LAND TENURES INQUIRY IN ENGLAND.

There has been a commission appointed to inquire into the tenure of land in Ireland; there is a commission now sitting in South Wales for inquiring into the grievances which have driven the Welsh farmers into acts of violence, incendiarism, and murder; but do Ministers—do the landowners of the kingdom who have made the Ministry—believe that inquiry can be confined to Ireland and to Wales? Do they suppose that the tenure of land forms a grievance which afflicts only the peasant-farmer of Ireland? Do they deem "Rebecca" riots the only symptoms of a vicious state of the relations of landlord and tenant? Are these the only signs which ought to attract the attention of politicians and statesmen? If so, they egregiously deceive themselves. Inquiry into the effects of land tenures is as much wanted in England as in Wales or Ireland. The grievances which the manner of letting land in England inflicts on tenant-farmers are as galling as any in the known world. Monopolist landlords may deny the facts and political landlords may blink the subject; but we know that as deep an under-current of indignation, as intense a feeling of injury, exists in the minds of the tenant-farmers of "merry" England as can be found amongst the poorer classes of occupiers whose turbulence has compelled their rulers to institute inquiries. Not that there is any chance of the English farmers adopting the means to enforce attention to *their* wrongs which have been found so successful by their Welsh and Irish brethren, for they are men of a different stamp. Though, in some respects, behind their countrymen of the same class who are engaged in trade, they have that first essential of a civilized community—complete submission to the law. The mode, therefore, in which the tenant-farmers of England will make their opinions and feelings on this subject known must partake of that character of moral agitation of which the Anti-Corn-Law movement forms such an eminent example. And that such a movement is commencing the occasional bursts of independence and sound opinion which agricultural meetings so frequently exhibit, sufficiently indicate. And this is the only form which inquiry into land tenures in England can usefully take. No Government commission, at least none that is likely to be constituted, would be of the slightest value; for fancy a commission of eight or ten ministerial landowners pretending to inquire into the errors and evils of English tenures! In fact, the exertions of the League have already led to much inquiry into this question; and though hitherto it has been irregular and desultory, it is day by day assuming a more definite purpose and direction. And what has been disclosed has gone to show, that the evils which press upon English agriculture differ in degree, not in kind, from those which oppress husbandry in Ireland and Wales. An Irish friend, the other day, forcibly explained the root of the evils of Irish tenures by the following anecdote. "I was walking," said he, "with an Irish landowner on his own estate, past a Catholic chapel just as the congregation issued from it, and I could not avoid observing and remarking on the extremely shabby and destitute appearance of the people; but there was one man whose dress indicated comparative comfort and competence, for he had a decent coat, though of homely cut; and I noticed the remarkable contrast to his landlord. He immediately exclaimed, 'Ah, that fellow is making a fortune *out of my land, but I shall raise his rent!*'"

Here we have a clue to the tangled skein of Irish agrarian evils. The landlord has no conception that anything beyond the lowest and meanest subsistence is to be got out of *his* land by its unhappy cultivator. The tenant's position is literally one of Egyptian bondage. No sooner does a tenant, by superior thrift, industry, or intelligence, obtain a trifle beyond the rent for himself, than the Irish landlord thinks he is robbed, and avails himself of the existing competition for land to raise the too prosperous tenant's rent. Now, precisely the same thing takes place in England. The landlords—there are some noble exceptions—but the mass of landlords look with a grudging eye upon every evidence of the advancing wealth of a tenant. They overlook the capital, the skill, the patient industry, employed to produce abundant crops; they regard only the gross returns at harvest, and, casting an evil eye over the field, they mentally exclaim "That man is making a fortune out of *my land;*" and the reflection is quickly followed by a determination to have an advance of rent. Nor have we far to go for an illustration. At a meeting held at Totness in Devonshire, for the purpose of establishing an agricultural association for South Devon,—a scheme to which, by-the-by, some of the best farmers of the district were opposed,—the following statement was made by the Rev. C. Johnson. "He knew it had been thought that landlords were ready to avail themselves of such associations, on account of the opportunity it afforded them for diving into their tenants' affairs, and opening their own eyes. An instance of this occurred to him at a recent ploughing match, when he met a respectable agriculturist whom he well knew, and asked him 'Whether he was going to it?' He said 'No!' 'Why?' 'Because he did not approve of such things.' This why produced another why, and the man gave a reason. 'Suppose I send a man with two superior horses, *the landlord at once would say 'This man is doing too well on my estate,' and would increase the rent.'*" Nor is the Devonshire yeoman far wrong.

Landlords too commonly seem to regard all that is grown on *their* land as its spontaneous produce, and forget that the tenant's outlay has had, at least, as large a share in producing the crop as the inherent properties of the soil. And this dishonest feeling has been very much fostered by the Corn Laws, which, by inducing the belief that a high range of prices will be obtained, enables landlords, through the competition of farmers, to obtain higher rents than the actual produce and real prices will justify. Yearly tenancies —"mutual-confidence" tenures—of which landlords are so much enamoured, spring from the same source. They do not like to bind themselves for more than a year or two, lest by so doing they should lose an opportunity of advancing rents. Then, independently of rent, landlords like to hold their tenants in a state of subservience. They require services as well as rent; they would retain a relic of the old forest laws, the shadow of the old baronial rights of vert and venison. Political influence and game are nearly as much objects of landlord cupidity as rent itself. The sentiments of feudality are retained after feudal tenures have ceased; and it is the abandonment of all such aristocratic prejudices which, amongst other advantages, is implied in a free trade in corn. Tenants cannot, and will not, farm without leases, rational leases, when all the delusions about prices, which the Corn Laws create, have been completely dissipated. They will not pay rent *and* services. They will require to be emancipated from the absurd restrictions on cultivation, imposed by the ignorance of land agents. Contracts for farms will assume a more business-like and permanent character when the "demoralizing dependence on landlords and agents" shall have been removed. And this points to one of the most remarkable facts in the present opposition to Free Trade, which is, that not even the landlords themselves—not the nominal owners of the most deeply mortgaged estates—fight so strenuously for the monopoly as the inferior class of land agents. We have here offered a mere glimpse of the numerous branches into which the question of land tenures in England ramifies; but we have, we believe, suggested enough to show that, with or without Government commissions of inquiry, the influence of tenures in England forms one of those great social questions of the day, which require to be searchingly investigated.

SWING *VERSUS* THE CORN LAWS.

Among the fallacious arguments set forth to defend the iniquity of the Corn Laws, there is none more palpably absurd and more flagrantly insulting than that they were devised for the protection of the agricultural labourers. This oppressed class has endured much from the perversity of unequal legislation; but there are limits even to their patience, and they are justly indignant at being told that the cutting down of their wages, the limitation of their food, and the exorbitant rent demanded for their cottages, are elements called into existence for their good, and perpetuated for their prosperity. Since the Corn Laws have been enacted, has the condition of the English peasantry improved? Are the labourers better clothed, better fed, better educated, and more contented? Every man in the country knows that the very contrary is the case; and the incendiary fires recorded daily in every paper are evidences of misery so intense, that it has been driven to that desperate remedy which has not been inaptly described as "the wild justice of revenge." We deprecate the deeds of the incendiary, we feel horror at the destruction of property and the wanton waste of the means of subsistence; but we cannot hide from ourselves that Swing has had efficient instruction from high places.

> "They were taught
> Bloody instructions, which being taught,
> Return to plague the inventor. Thus, even-handed justice
> Commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice
> To our own lips."

If Swing destroys property, have not noble and honourable legislators destroyed that labour which is the primary element of all property, by imposing restrictions on the industry of the community? Labour is a commodity which perishes every hour that it remains unemployed as certainly as the rick is consumed by the flame. If food is wantonly sacrificed when a stack is fired, it is not less obviously and wantonly destroyed when cargoes of wheat are flung into the Thames. In fact, Swing does that directly which his masters effect by tortuous artifice. He has "bettered the instruction." But remonstrances are unavailing when addressed either to the selfish or the suffering. Instead of reasoning with the incendiary or the monopolist, we turn to the intelligent middle classes of England, and desire them to read the refutation of protection's favourite fallacy, written in legible characters of flame through the length and breadth of the agricultural districts, so that he who runs may read. We ask them if these outrages are evidences of content, prosperity, and a sound condition of society; or are they not like plague-boils thrown to the surface, evidences of pestilential disease within?

At agricultural dinners, indeed, we find the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham landing the agricultural labourers, and declaring that to them the country is mainly indebted for its present prosperity. But how do we find those labourers treated in the counties honoured by the residences of these twin Graces? The agricultural reports which we have quoted on previous occasions give the answer; and the incendiary fires give to that answer "confirmation strong as proof of Holy Writ." Every rick and stack which is seen in flames tells the tale of "misery, oppression, and famine" which have driven their unfortunate victims to the recklessness of despair. With such evidence before him, we wonder how the Duke of Richmond, a stanch supporter of those restrictions on industry which fetter every description of labour in the country, could venture, even at an agricultural show, to set himself forward as an advocate for the British peasantry. From the towers of Goodwood he can see districts where destitution is the rule, and even inadequate means of subsistence the rare exception. Does he dream that honeyed words and sugared compliments will be received even by the peasantry of Sussex as a compensation for low wages and dear food? Will not this leader of the monopolists rather incur the danger of adding mockery and insult to substantial injury? We are sorry to see his Grace of Richmond showing signs of closer approximation to the Duke of Buckingham: he should hasten to dissolve the connection—if for no better reason, at least for that given in the old song:—

> "'Dear sister, 'tis time we should part,'
> Said Clorinda in sorrow to Sue,
> 'For *your* character's totally gone,
> And I have not sufficient for two.'"

These flattering speeches have been repeated too often; their hollowness is thoroughly understood; and Swing gives them his authoritative refutation. The repeal of the Corn Laws is in truth the labourer's question, and this the labourer himself knows

and feels, but his way of telling it is rather awkward, though it is sufficiently plain and luminous in its form of statement.

MR. BARING AND THE CITIZENS OF LONDON.

Mr. Thomas Baring has escaped from the hands of those prudent friends who have held his eloquence under restraint during the last two months, and has been exhibiting another proof of his disqualifications to represent any constituency which values either soundness of principle or sanity of intellect. This melancholy exhibition of a weak mind and weaker morality took place on Wednesday evening, at the Sussex Hotel, Bouverie-street. A Great Unknown, S. J. Hoare, took the chair, and, having apparently taken more wine than his head could well bear, he declared that the registered majority of the London electors which voted for Mr. Pattison was a rabble, destitute of what he was pleased to call "respectability." Nothing but vinous excitement can be pleaded in excuse of so false and insulting a declaration. A reference to the poll-books will show that there was not one among all those who supported Mr. Pattison that was not fully an equal to Mr. S. J. Hoare, whatever he is, was, or may be. But perhaps Mr. Hoare entertains peculiar notions of "respectability;" he may believe it consistent with public plunder and private peculation—with open jobbing and secret abstraction of charitable funds—with the hypocritical pretensions of sugar monopolists, and the infliction of the misery and starvation which fills the columns of every daily paper. It was by persons of Mr. Hoare's calibre that Thurtell, the murderer of Weare, was called a respectable man, because he kept a gig. We are too courteous to be provoked to a retort, or to check monopolist polls by a reference to the criminal records of the country. But we ask the citizens of London whether so gross an insult to the majority of their body will be forgotten at another election? We trow not. Mr. Hoare will find his sneer retorted, and his contumely paid back with interest.

But, passing over this *great* unknown, we turn to Mr. Baring, who with characteristic eagerness pounces at once on the great League Fund, and with characteristic folly utters the most inconsistent statements in one breath. He says that the League *wants* the money,—insinuating that the *want* is similar to that with which association has made him familiar, and at the same time he declares that the leaders of the League are sufficiently wealthy to raise double the sum which they have required out of their own pockets. Mr. Baring then asks, "Why is not this money given to the poor?" This artifice is a miserable plagiarism; here is the original:—"Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, which should betray him, *Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence and given to the poor?* Thus he said; not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief and had the bag."—(John, xii., 4-6).

Mr. Baring next states as a "great fact" about Holland a plump contradiction of his former description of the corn trade in that country, and with singular infelicity contrives to make the correction of his former blunder an equal example of gross ignorance. When a candidate for the City, he declared, in one of his crack speeches, that the corn trade of Holland was perfectly "free," and to this circumstance he attributed *great fluctuations in price* in that country. Now he says that the trade is *not* free, but that Holland has "a sliding scale, which produces *no evil consequences whatever!*"

> One of these speeches surely must deceive;
> Come tell us, Proteus, which shall we believe?

This glaring inconsistency is well exposed in the *Morning Chronicle* of yesterday:—

> I can tell you a "great fact," says Mr. Baring, "about a sliding scale. There is a sliding scale in France, in *Holland*, and in Belgium; and it is a fact, ay, a 'great fact,' that the sliding scale in those countries is never regarded as destructive to the classes engaged in manufactures." This bold assertion is made in the very teeth of a fact, of which we dare avouch that Mr. Thomas Baring is cognizant, namely, that but the other day there appeared in print an extract from a letter of a well-known mercantile firm in Amsterdam (correspondents of the Barings), in which it was stated that, "Previous to the enactment of the new law (the Dutch sliding scale) came into operation at the beginning of 1836), we had always a large stock of grain in our warehouses here, and a steady trade, *but now the trade has become so dangerous and speculative, that it is entirely neglected by safe houses.* The price is now so fluctuating and uncertain, that we even dare not accept it on consignment, on the customary terms; and the consequence is, that our granaries are now comparatively empty, and the trade is only done by fits and starts; and, when an accidental demand exists, much speculation and great losses generally result, so that now we look upon corn as a proscribed article to the regular safe trader." Such is a description of the effects of the Dutch sliding scale (similar in results to our own) by a mercantile firm in Amsterdam: yet Mr. Thomas Baring, who, two months ago, told us the corn trade in Holland was "free," now tells us, as a great fact, that its "sliding scale" produces no injury whatever. Candid, well-informed, honest Mr. Thomas Baring!

He then proceeds to attack the *Times* and the Whigs, parties able to take care of themselves, and therefore not in want of our defence; and in conclusion he proposes that a Monopolist League should be formed to counteract the exertions of the Free-traders. We heartily join in the recommendation, for we are anxious to meet the band of monopolists in the face of day. In addition we should suggest that Mr. Thomas Baring should be appointed chairman and orator to the Anti-National Association he has proposed; he has every qualification for the double office.

> How fluent nonsense trickles from his tongue,
> How sweet the periods neither said nor sung.

WICKEDNESS OF THE CORN LAWS.

It is now nearly 2000 years since our Saviour appeared on earth to teach men their duty to God and to their neighbour. What centuries of war, bloodshed, murder, robbery, crime, oppression, distress, and suffering would the world have been spared had it listened to the simple but gracious teachings of this Heavenly Messenger; but, alas, even at this distance of time, although we have had a priesthood for upwards of a thousand years to teach his doctrines, how little has His example or His precepts influenced the hearts of men, or the councils of legislators!

We not unfrequently hear, both in Parliament and in our courts of law, that Christianity is the law of the land—our Legislature pass laws to protect religion, soldiers are maintained to fight for it, a priesthood is paid for preaching it,—but we grieve to say, notwithstanding this earnest *profession*, our Legislature neglects to *practise* it. What is religion? Is it a mere assent to certain opinions? Or is it not rather a living principle which ought to actuate us in all our relations with our fellow-men? God forbid we should set ourselves up as judges; God alone knows the hearts and intentions of men; but He who will one day come to judge us all has not left us without a test of the sincerity of Christian profession. "*By their fruits shall ye know them.*" It is to this infallible test we are desirous of bringing our Corn-law legislature.

When God created man and placed him in paradise, he said, "Behold, I have given you *every herb* bearing seed, which is upon the face of *all the earth*, and *every tree*, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to *you it shall be for meat.*" But what says the British Legislature? "Thou shalt *not* eat of the fruits of *all* the earth; thou shalt *only* eat of the fruits grown on *our land.*" Again, God said, "*Every moving thing* that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you *all things.*" What saith the British Legislature? "Thou shalt *not* eat of the cattle of *all* the earth: *none other* cattle than are grown by us shall be allowed to come into this kingdom to be meat for you."* Our Saviour hath taught us, when we approach our Heavenly Father, to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." On two occasions, when the multitude were hungry, he had compassion on them, and wrought miracles to feed them. What doth the professing Christian British Legislature? Hunger, distress, and wretchedness stalk the land, and we daily hear tales of misery, appalling to the stoutest heart; and in the same papers we read the following account of the destruction of human food, last week, solely because *it was not grown in our own land*:—

> Effect of Protection.—On Wednesday a quantity of foreign wheat, which had become heated, was taken out of a bond warehouse at Sunderland, and conveyed to a large dunghill in carts, where it was mixed with the manure, so as to prevent it being used as food, the duty not having been paid on it.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

It is not long ago that the newspapers contained accounts of the destruction, by the custom-house officers at Liverpool, of several hundred firkins of foreign butter, by mixing it with cow-dung and tar, to prevent its being used for human food, and this was solely because the said butter was not the produce of British cows!

We remember, some years ago, to have seen in the newspapers an account of a quantity of foreign corn which had been held in bond in London for several years, the owners of which had become insolvent. The duty then amounted to more than the corn was worth, and, as the shortest way of getting rid of the accumulating expense of storage and turning, it was abandoned to the Government to be destroyed. The custom-house officers proceeded to throw it out of the warehouses into the Thames—the river was covered with masses of floating corn, which was scrambled for by the numerous boatmen, who loaded their boats with it. The officers, seeing that a portion of the corn was likely to be saved, forbid the boatmen to pick it up, and ordered them to throw what they had got into the river; the boatmen refused; quarrels ensued, which soon attracted crowds of people, who, when they had ascertained the meaning of the extraordinary process of throwing corn into the river, took sides with the boatmen, and expressed their indignation at the wanton and wicked waste in such a manner as to lead to the apprehension of popular tumult. To allay the excitement which this exemplification of Corn-law legislation had produced, it was deemed prudent to shut up the warehouses for a time; and, shortly afterwards, the remainder of the corn was loaded into vessels, taken down the river, and thrown into the sea. Such are the Infidel laws passed by a Legislature *calling* itself Christian!! What an outrage on the goodness of God.

In 1839, Mr. Baines, the then M.P. for Leeds, moved, in the House of Commons, for "a return of the quantity of corn and other grain abandoned in bond and *destroyed* since 1828," and the following return was made to the Parliament under "our most *religious* and gracious Queen," then assembled:—

2330	quarters of	Wheat.
63	do.	Barley.
738	do.	Oats.
23	do.	Peas.
4	do.	Rye.
38	do.	Beans.
43	do.	Indian Corn.
26	cwt. of	Flour.

The return is very particular;—fiscal laws made by landowners are very precise. To make sure that not a grain of these more than 3000 quarters of corn should be used, it was "all destroyed,"—so says the return; "*all destroyed under the inspection of the proper officers.*" The foreign corn thus destroyed under this wicked law would have furnished bread for 6000 souls during a whole year!! Such are the laws of the British Legislature, sanctioned and upheld by bishops, calling themselves the descendants of the Apostles! "By their fruits shall ye know them."

* This cruel law has been modified by Sir Robert Peel: cattle can now be imported on payment of a duty; and meat, cheese, and butter are also admitted at high rates of duty.

MEETINGS.

GREAT MEETING OF THE LEAGUE AT THE FREE-TRADE HALL.

Manchester, Friday Morning.

Another of those extraordinary gatherings for which Manchester has now become so famed, in connexion with the Anti-Corn-Law movement, assembled in the Free-Trade Hall last night, for the purpose of receiving the report of the great League Fund Committee on the progress of the subscriptions, and to hear addresses from John Bright, Esq., M.P., and W. J. Fox, Esq. Often as we have gazed upon meetings of a similar kind in the spacious and magnificent building where it took place, we have never seen a more enthusiastic and spirit-stirring scene. The whole assemblage seemed to be animated but by one feeling, and that of the most intense and deep-seated interest. The meeting began to assemble a little before seven o'clock, and at twenty minutes past seven, ten minutes before the time announced, the hall was so full that it was deemed unnecessary to delay the commencement of proceedings. At this moment Mr. George Wilson, Chairman of the Council of the League, came upon the platform, accompanied by Mr. Bright and Mr. Fox, with some members of the Council, and these gentlemen were received with demonstrations of the most unbounded applause. Among the gentlemen seated around the chairman we observed the following:—Col. T. P. Thompson, Mr. Joseph Brotherton, M.P., Mr. Alderman Walker, Mr. Alderman Brooks, Mr. Alderman Callendar, Mr. Alderman Burd, Mr. Thomas Bazley, jun., Mr. William Rawson, Mr. William Bickham, Mr. Thomas Woolley, Mr. Henry Rawson, Mr. W. Harvey, Mr. J. B. Smith, Mons. Duveyrier, Mr. C. Tysoe, Mr. J. Chadwick, Mr. T. Harbottle, Mr. Thomas Bright, jun., Mr. J. B. Scott, Mr. F. Cobden, Mr. John Swindells, Mr. James Carlton, Mr. Samuel Watts, Mr. Henry Tootal, Mr. Charles Cobden, Mr. C. H. Marsland, and Mr. David Ainsworth.

Mr. George Wilson, in taking the chair, called upon Mr. Hickin, the Secretary of the League, to read the minutes of the last meeting at Covent Garden, and the proceedings of that meeting, on the motion of Mr. Thomas Bazley, seconded by Mr. Alderman Walker, were confirmed.

Mr. George Wilson, the Chairman of the League, then rose and spoke as follows:—Ladies and Gentlemen, there is a very general opinion at a distance, that to attempt to set forth before a Manchester audience anything new on the subject of the Corn Laws or Free Trade, although it might be considered the act of a bold man, would by no means be considered the act of a wise man (hear, hear); and yet this meeting is evidence, and the subscriptions which we have raised here during the last month are evidently most conclusive that this question never before has taken so strong a hold, or excited so abiding an interest in the minds of the people of Manchester, as it has at this present moment. (Cheers.) It was here that the League first sprang into life; it was fostered and reared by the men of Manchester and the other great towns of the north of England and Scotland; it has not been indebted to the lustre of great names, either in its introduction to celebrity or for giving it currency in quarters where these names might have been of service; it is a creature of their own creation; it has now continued for five years, working, year by year, with increasing zeal, until it has distributed the fruits of its labours over the whole kingdom—until they have been seen springing up far and wide, reaching to the remotest districts of the empire, and until we have drawn within the wide circle of the supporters of the League the good men and true of London, and most of the large towns of the North, as well as those in the rural districts in some of the most remote parts of the kingdom. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, we have recently perceived a disposition to compliment the League upon the better and more moderate tone of its supporters and leaders than the same parties were willing to concede to it some time ago. Now, if gentlemen will have it so (and we are not by any means disposed to enter into a discussion with them on that score, which must be a mere matter of opinion), but if it be true that any obstacle has been removed by which we can secure the co-operation of the many gentlemen of more moderate opinions—if it be true that barriers and impediments have been removed, why, then we are glad to

think that anything should have arisen by which we can secure from them more favourable opinion than that which they formerly entertained towards us. (Hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, the League must be taken as a whole—as a great fact. (Laughter.) Its proceedings, if reviewed from the commencement, must be taken as a whole before condemnation can be pronounced upon it; and I appeal to any man here to say whether there yet has existed an association of equal extent or influence which has committed since its commencement so few mistakes as the League has done. (Loud and long cheers.) We have been told that, although we may have been less violent, we have been, nevertheless, inconsistent; but which of the fundamental principles of the League have been in any way compromised or evaded? (Hear, hear.) Which of them have been either abandoned or concealed? Have they not been as fairly and broadly stated by the hon. members who represent the League in the House of Commons, on the boards of that House, and on the platforms of public meetings held in the agricultural districts, in the face of the agricultural members wherever they chose to attend? But, gentlemen, if we were disposed to receive the admonitions of these good friends of ours, could they look to the leaders of the two great political parties of the day, and say that there has been as great a degree of consistency in their public conduct as there has been in the management and conduct of the League? ("Hear, hear, hear," and cheers.) Why, first, we had the noble lord (Melbourne), who said that any man who sought a total repeal of the Corn Laws must be a madman. (Hear, hear.) Now, I should like to see Lord Melbourne look in the face of his own colleague, Earl Spencer (long-continued cheering), and tell him that he looked like a madman. (Renewed cheering.) Then look at the noble lord, the member for the city of London, introducing his measure for an 8s. fixed duty. (Hear.) I wonder whether the agriculturists think that Lord John Russell will ever treat them to another opportunity of getting an 8s. fixed duty (hear, hear); or, if he were so inclined, how many of his late colleagues would be likely to support him in such a measure; or how many of those electors who returned him for the city of London—how many of those electors who voted for Mr. Pattison (very loud cheers)—would vote for Lord John Russell? Mr. Wilson then referred to the policy of Sir Robert Peel, who said, but a few years ago, that he was not the man to commit the Corn Laws to the lottery of legislation. Had *he* been *consistent* to that declaration? No; he had thrown both tariff and Corn Law into that lottery, and what had been the result? Why, it turned out a lottery without luck; there were no prizes, but all blanks. The measures of the Ministry had failed, but the League held on its course. Juggle after juggle had been tried, from the bluster of Ferrand to the foul slanders of Peel. The League had met the one with silent contempt, and risen with threefold triumph above the dark insinuations of the other. The progress of the League had been most rapid during the past year. Nottingham had been contested and won; Durham was no small victory over monopoly; and the first commercial city in the world had triumphantly returned an avowed Leaguer to Parliament. Mr. Wilson then alluded to the elections at Kendal and Salisbury, and, after commenting on the present position and prospects of the League, said, that last year, at a meeting of two thousand people assembled at Newall's-buildings, the plans and operations of the League were laid down, and it was agreed that £50,000 should be asked for. It was asked for, and almost as readily obtained. This year, in Covent-garden Theatre, in London, with an audience of from five to six thousand, the plans of the League were proposed and adopted, and it was unanimously resolved that £100,000 should be asked for. (Loud cheers.) Far be it from me to attempt to turn prophet on this occasion, or to venture an assertion whether that sum will be collected or not, but we look with confidence to what is taking place about us. (Cheers.) Last year you subscribed in Manchester upwards of £8000; you will hear shortly what we have reached now, and the town is by no means canvassed. Last year Liverpool sent us in a subscription of £2000; this year they held a meeting in the Ampitheatre, and collected upwards of £4000 (cheers) in the room, which sum has been increased to £5500 since. (Renewed cheers.) Rochdale has had its meeting. Last year it raised upwards of £2200; this year the subscriptions have reached nearly £3000 (cheers.) and they are not yet completed. In Glasgow they have not waited for a deputation from the League to attend their meeting. Last Saturday the merchants of Glasgow called a public meeting by requisition to the Lord Provost (who had himself taken the chair), to support the future plans, and in other respects to aid the National Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) Halifax has had its meeting, and was addressed by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Col. Thompson, Mr. Ashworth, and Mr. Moore. The Chairman, Mr. Ackroyd, gave £300 to begin with (great cheers); and they raised at Halifax £1500 in the room, which sum has since been increased to £1700. (Cheers.) Last night the men of Leeds had their meeting. It was presided over by that excellent friend of ours, Mr. Hamer Stansfeld, the mayor of Leeds. (Cheers.) Mr. Marshall gave £500 for himself and firm (cheers), and £300 more was given by one of his family. The total subscription received last night at Leeds was £2200 (great applause), exceeding more than double the total amount received from Leeds last year. (Cheers.) These then are the answers to all the misrepresentations and calumnies which may be thrown upon us. (Cheers.) We point to these subscriptions to show that we still retain the confidence of those who have ever been foremost in this great movement. (Renewed cheers.) We know not what plots may now be concocted to oppose this movement, whether by new combinations of parties or by other means; nor is that a subject requiring much consideration; but on every side to which we direct our attention we see an increased array of intelligence and local influence among those classes who have the return of members to Parliament in their hands (cheers); we see information which has sunk into the minds of all those who formerly held aloof from this movement, now ripening into warmth and affection for it. (Hear, hear.) We know not what attempts may be made to divide us; but we know this, that no power on earth can long delay the settlement of this question. (Long-continued applause.)

Mr. Bickham here rose and said:—I beg to present to this meeting a report of the subscriptions raised in Manchester towards the great League fund, by the committee appointed at the great meeting at the Town-hall on the 14th ult.

Mr. Hickin read the following report, including the names of the contributors. Of these 67 were subscribers of £1 each, 40 of one guinea, nine of £2, four of two guineas, and one of three guineas.

Report of the Committee appointed at a Meeting of Merchants, Manufacturers, Traders, and others, held in the Town-hall, Manchester, 14th November, 1843, to canvass for Subscriptions in aid of the £100,000 League Fund.

In making their first Report, your Committee deem it unnecessary to enter minutely into the details of their labours—their object will be best accomplished by briefly stating the result.

They would, however, beg to observe that, gratifying and successful as their exertions have been, much still remains to be done; and it would greatly facilitate the labours of your Committee, if they were favoured with the assistance of all who are willing to co-operate in so just a cause.

Your Committee would specially urge upon all who are friendly to the objects of the League, and who have not yet contributed to the Fund, the desirableness of their not waiting to be canvassed, but of sending in their names, with the amounts they intend to subscribe, to the offices of the League with as little delay as possible. It may be well to state, for the information of some who may not be aware of the fact, that, by a resolution of the Council of the League, all Subscribers of One Pound and upwards will be entitled to receive a copy of the League newspaper weekly for twelve months from the receipt of their subscriptions.

Looking at the result of former efforts, your Committee would respectfully suggest that early steps be taken for the formation of a Ladies' Committee, by which, they doubt not, much valuable assistance would be afforded to the objects of the League.

The amount subscribed in Manchester up to last Friday week, and advertised in the local papers on the following day, was £17,902 18s. 10d. Since that time your Committee have been actively engaged, and the following is the result of the canvass.

A Friend, per R. Mann	£5	0	0
Simeon Farrar	5	0	0
Mrs. R. Gaskell	5	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. M'Cartney	5	0	0
Thomas Bowsfield	5	0	0
Robert Johnston	5	0	0
Thomas Bateman	5	0	0
Atkinson and Bayley	5	0	0
Two Friends	5	0	0
Eliza Cox	5	0	0
N. M., per J. Gadsby	5	0	0
C. Ramsay and Co.	5	0	0
A Friend, per William Bickham	5	0	0
Thos. Goadsby	5	0	0
A. M.	5	0	0
A Friend to Free Trade	5	0	0
T. Slatter	5	0	0
Saml. Eveleigh	5	0	0
J. Jessop	5	0	0
Argenti and Co.	5	0	0
An Enemy to that legislation which gives protection to the Rich by robbing the Poor	5	0	0
William Simpson	5	0	0
John Kirkham	5	0	0
Prentice and Cathrall	5	5	0
Chadwick and Son	5	5	0
Workmen of Thomas Hoyle and Co.	6	12	6
Charles Ryder, per William Ryder	7	0	0
Deithelm and Gaddum	10	0	0
William Ryder	10	0	0
Holbrook Gaskell	10	0	0
Wm. Besley	10	0	0
A Friend, per T. H. Williams	10	0	0
Dixon and Galloway	10	0	0
Jos. Owen	10	0	0
Wm. Collier and Co.	10	0	0
Jno. Harrison	10	0	0
B. Woodcroft	10	0	0
A Friend, per W. Graham	10	0	0
Jno. Spencer	10	0	0
Collier and Phythian	10	0	0
Thos. Johnson	10	0	0
A Friend, per J. Gadsby	10	0	0
Wm. Bow	10	0	0
Some Students of the New College, Grosvenor-square	11	0	0
Abraham Lees	20	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Payant	20	0	0
A Free Trader, per Charles Cobden	20	0	0
A Friend, per William Bickham	20	0	0
Armitage and Ward	20	0	0
Dyrenfurth, Brothers, and Co.	21	0	0
William Newall	21	0	0
A Friend, per R. Cobden	25	0	0
Humanitas, per Mr. Harbottle	25	0	0
A Free Trader, per Sir T. Potter	30	0	0
H. Lees and Brothers	40	0	0
Alex. Kay, Mayor	50	0	0
Jno. Kenworthy and Co.	100	0	0
Wm. Ross	100	0	0
Thomas and Robert Barnes	100	0	0
James Heywood	100	0	0
Alfred Binyon	100	0	0
George Foster	100	0	0
William Walker	200	0	0
Alfred Orrell	200	0	0
J. and N. Philips and Co.	200	0	0
	500	0	0
Making a total of	£20,280	15	4

The reading of this report was followed by great cheering.

Mr. Bickham moved that the report be received and entered on the minutes.

Mr. Henry Rawson seconded the motion, and it was agreed to unanimously.

The Chairman: Mr. Bright will now address the meeting. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Bright then came forward and said:—It is a pleasure which I dare say every one of us has felt at times, to recognise old faces, and to meet old friends; but it is peculiarly pleasant when these are friends who you have laboured long and heartily with in a great and glorious cause like that which occupies the attention of the Anti-Corn-Law League (applause); and I have a pleasure which I am not able to express, in seeing this vast building again crowded with such an audience as I have seen in times past, but such as I recollect seeing nowhere else than in this town of Manchester. ("Hear," and applause.) But many as are our friends here, I can assure this meeting that in every town in the kingdom we have some friends, and in many of them a zealous body of friends, who are just as heartily and constantly working for the advancement of this great cause as are the individual members of this vast assembly; and whilst on every hand we see and feel that we are gathering friends and coadjutors, I would not be unmindful of the fact that here and there some warm friend of this cause is taken from amongst those with whom he has co-operated, and is compelled by the stern mandate of death, to cease from his labours. Among these there is one who last year was a large contributor to the funds of the League, and who, many years ago, from the quiet of his own home, sent forth a pamphlet declaring the evil consequences which must attend the continuation of the Corn Law. I allude to John Clay of Rastrick. And another instance of a more impressive character still; for only last week I received from an esteemed friend of mine a large sum of money, and now the hand that gave that sum is still and cold, and the heart that felt warmly for his countrymen has ceased to beat! I allude to Edward Wilson, Esq., of Liverpool, whose decease every friend of humanity must mourn. (Hear, hear.) This meeting seems to me one at which we are called upon to survey the position we have attained—to look around upon our prospects, and upon the progress of this great question in which we are so deeply concerned. Manchester was the cradle of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and the League in those days was but an inefficient instrument—weakly, but still giving promise of strength—and now it has grown up to be a giant of enormous strength and good proportions, which is marching on to the accomplishment of the greatest triumph which mankind, probably, have ever achieved. (Applause.) There are men in this town—there is an organ of such men—which has dared to assert that the influence of the League in Manchester is on the decline. They fancied that whilst we were traversing the country to proclaim those great principles in the rural districts which had become triumphant in yours, that the cause of the League was no longer popular here; when suddenly there was held a meeting which resulted in a demonstration of opinion such as never had been made by the middle classes of this country in connexion with any political object whatever. (Loud applause.) It is satisfactory to know who are working in the cause; it is satisfactory to know that here, where we worked first and are best known, there is the most implicit confidence placed in the conduct of the League. (Applause.) And in the surrounding towns we find a spirit nearly equal to that in Manchester; and from our Chairman's speech to-night you have learnt what has been done and said in the places already visited; but there is a remarkable fact to be noticed, that this year we have not received so many letters as we did last year for deputations. The tone of the letters last year was, "Send deputations, or we can do nothing for you; the people want stirring up." Now the people stir up themselves. (Loud cheers and "Bravo.") There is a spontaneousness in the exertions now making never before witnessed. I point particularly to the great meeting in Glasgow last week, at which the subscription of £2600 was put down as a promise of what Glasgow intends to do. And we may note the progress of a strong opinion on this question in the fact that the highest municipal authority of Glasgow, the Lord Provost, took the chair; and at the installation of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, that gentleman declared that, as the highest magistrate in that city, he would endeavour to be as impartial as possible, and give no aid to party objects; still he must tell those who had conferred the honour upon him, that there was one question so important—so momentous to the best interests of his country, that he should, on all occasions, give his support and warm co-operation to aid its progress. (Loud cheers.) We have accounts from Norwich that there is a committee acting there of which the mayor is the chairman, and the high sheriff and several of the aldermen are on that committee. (Applause.) And last night, at a meeting in one of the most important cities in the north of England, the mayor took the chair, and expressed his determination cordially to co-operate with the League. Now, I find there is a delicacy in the minds of some men as to the course they ought to take when placed in such situations. I would ask for what was it that municipal institutions were given to the towns of this country? Had they no higher office in view than the watching of houses and the sweeping of the streets, and the minor matters connected with the police of the towns? They had a higher, a far higher and more solemn office to discharge—they were placed there to form a barrier against the encroachments of a feudal aristocracy. (Loud cheers.) They were intended to be a rallying point; that by their means the population of the towns might organize and bind themselves together, so that they might be able to defend the rights and interests of commerce. I remember reading a French author, De Tocqueville, on "the Democratic Institutions of America," where he declares that there can be no fear for the rights of the people of the United States so long as they maintain in all their integrity their municipal institutions. (Hear, hear.) I can understand the sensitiveness of these men—I can understand that they should be anxious not to tarnish the office they hold by interfering in ordinary political questions; but when there is a political question like this, not a mere dirty party squabble, but a great contest on which the eyes of the world are fixed—when men who have laboured for years among their townsmen have become honoured for the exertions they have made in their service, and have been exalted to preside over the town in which they have lived—then I say it becomes their duty to give the sanction of their names at once to those great national contests in which the country for the time being may be engaged. (Great cheering.) Mr. Bright then proceeded in an eloquent strain for upwards of three quarters of an hour to address the meeting; but the length of the report and the lateness of the hour at which we received it, preclude us from giving it in full. He sat down amidst the most enthusiastic cheering of the meeting.

Mr. W. J. Fox was next introduced to the meeting, and received with considerable applause. He said, I rejoice to find myself face to face with the men of Manchester in your Free-Trade Hall—in this capacious cradle of the Anti-Corn-Law League, where has been cherished that young Hercules that already grasps by the throat with one hand the serpent of Monopoly, and with the other that of Electoral Corruption. (Immense cheering.) I am glad to find myself here with you, in whose zeal that League originated, by whose munificent contributions it has been supplied, and by whose co-operative multi-

tudes it has been supported; amongst you who have sent forth men that are teaching the country, and the rulers of the country, this great lesson—that as Napoleon failed to subdue England through commercial restrictions abroad, the conqueror of Napoleon shall fail to govern England through commercial restrictions at home. (Great applause.) I am glad to see those who have sent forth through the length and breadth of the country the men who, if they may not yet be said

"The applause of listening senates to command,"

are in a way for accomplishing a much greater object than the applause of any senates; and as they march onward to the accomplishment of their great purpose,

"Will scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,
And read their history in a nation's eyes."—(Applause.)

Full of anxiety for the success of this cause, to their devotedness of spirit, backed by your cheering aid, what will not the country owe? and how proud should all be who like myself are thus privileged to come among you to acknowledge the obligations which throughout the land we feel to them—feel to many on whose merits I will not dwell, because they are here around me—feel towards one, of whom I may speak because he is not present—your able, your eminent, your devoted townsman;—that man to whom all who are interested in the cause of Free Trade look as to one who is destined to achieve its triumph, who, while conciliating different classes, has never sank into a tremor (hear, hear)—whom the applause of multitudes has never inflated into a demagogue, and whom the malaria of St. Stephen's has never paled into conventionalism. (Great applause.) By his straightforward simplicity of fact and argument he has baffled the tactics and the efforts of the most veteran sophists; by his obvious integrity he has conciliated the spirit of all honest men; and when the work shall be done, when the future historians of our country shall record the conflict and the triumph—then, with an eulogy that will give him place above the statesman and far above the warrior, will they, in their most flowing language, record the efforts, the exertions, and the achievements of Richard Cobden. (Here the whole meeting rose and cheered most enthusiastically for a considerable time.) To his mind, in conjunction with his worthy fellow-labourers, is owing that which I regard as one of the greatest blessings of the Anti-Corn-Law League—indirect, indeed, but not unworthy of being compared with its direct effect; I mean, that when the reform for which you strive shall be accomplished,—when the victory of the League is gained, and its labours are over—when the League may have ceased to be in existence,—it will live beyond all these, the surety and the pledge of all other desirable reforms—it will leave ample materials of future good for our country, in the knowledge it has diffused, in the intelligence it has stimulated, in the integrity it has cherished, in the independence of spirit which it will have fostered and matured, in the large views of other interests to which it will have expanded men's thoughts, in the brotherhood of feeling that it will have generated between classes too often hostile to each other, and between nations too often engaged in sanguinary warfare; and thus, in the moral elements of future good, these reforms will be the pledge, the germ of a thousand reforms, raising our country to a noble elevation, and endowing England with what her great Poet calls her ancient privilege and prerogative of "teaching nations how to live." (Immense applause.) That you are moving onward to certain success, every new event is the presage. The prospects of victory seem to redouble upon us as we look around. I find them one day in the accession of illustrious names; another day in the zeal of countless multitudes; now in the enthusiastic meetings which are held in towns; now in meetings affording a like prospect of success and usefulness that are held in agricultural districts. (Cheers.) We see success in the elections you win; we see it also in the elections you lose—lose, polling votes more numerous than gained former elections in the same town; and showing to monopoly that, inch by inch, its dominion will be contested, that no quarter will be given, till its nefarious domination is everlastingly abolished. (Loud cheers.) But while this process is going on we cannot but remark, with deep anxiety and with acute suffering, that the evils which you would remedy are going on from year to year, producing most fearful and heart-rending results. Notwithstanding every effort, still the powers of mischief are afoot; industry is languishing throughout the country, and the occasional gleams—transient gleams—of restored occupation to the industrious artisan do but serve to make more visible the darkness across which they flash—they do but illustrate the fact that in cheapness of food, and in that alone, can the people of this country find their security—that industry will thrive, and will meet with its due recompense—that all the various sources of human existence and well-being continue to flow on in their fertilizing streams. (Applause.) Why, there are cases in which monopolists are obliged to adopt the arguments of the League. As soon as they begin to reason, they play your game; they have no winning card which they do not take from your pack. (Hear, hear.) About a week ago the great landowners of Norfolk met to consult about the formation of a railway to London, to connect them at once with the metropolis and with the northern counties. And what were the arguments used at this meeting? Why, that all railways had, in all cases, enhanced the value of land; that they could not be cut off from the metropolitan market; that without a railway their traffic would be completely isolated; that they should imitate those who slaughtered their cattle and sent them to London by the trains, as is said to be done by the large northern counties: for, said they, the manufacturing districts are the best contractors for our coarse beef. Now, the minds of these men must be coarser than their beef, if they are not content to remain isolated in their county, while at the same time they tell the people that they should be isolated from all the world. (Cheers and laughter.) Why, traffic is what they are representing to be the great desideratum for England. It is independence of the foreigner: it is independence of the counties; it is independence of the metropolis: and what is the result of this independence? (Hear, hear.) But, they say, "We must have greater facilities of intercommunication." They say, "We must have more trade for our productions; we must have a railway, and get into livelier competition with the landowners of other counties." That which is good for them is surely good for you also; for if the manufacturer is to be restricted, what is he but the mere tool and agent—the workman of this class? He toils in that case for the British landowner, and for him alone. And what scope is there? Thirty thousand landowners in this country, with one or two of your great establishments, would give to them all the productions which they deign to wear, and accumulate a surplus which can only be useful for exchange with the foreigner. (Applause.) It is by industry that England has been made, not by Norman conquerors—not by feudal barons—not by an aristocracy of any description of wealth or title. It has been made by that slow but unfailing process, upon which generation after generation has applied its powers of mind and invention, and physical endurance, to realising the good which the earth gives out, and which the different materials that can be brought from the remotest regions can be applied to. War-horses do not create lands; but the coral insects, from generation to generation, raise them up from the depths of the ocean; the land appears, the sun shines, the dews descend, seeds spring up, and there at length is life and joy and industry and happiness. (Great applause.) However this land of ours was formed, whether by such slow labours, or by some volcanic eruption—

——— "Britain first at Heaven's command,
Arose from out the azure main"—

still the lesson which is thus taught us has this moral importance, that, in the League there is a power, like that of the central fire of which geologists tell us, that raises the lowest beings of creation to endow them with the capability of exhibiting all the powers of life and animation. The great masses of the people of this country also may have been from generation to generation only slowly accumulating their capabilities and their powers, forming like the strata that are being deposited in the great bed of the ocean, exposed to the agencies of fire and water until the time comes when they are heaved above the waters; thus, by the powers of association and gradual elevation, the industrial classes arise into magnitude and strength. Though the billows of oppression shall have rolled over them for ages, thus shall they be borne to the surface of things, and take their position among the world's realities, and bear their harvests of truth and goodness and enjoyment. (Immense applause.) If industry languishes, even while these efforts are put forth for the emancipation of industry, can it be said that agriculture thrives? It has had its nursing-fathers and nursing-mothers. (Hear, hear.) King George the Third was a great farmer, whatever he might be as a sovereign. (Laughter.) He is said to have been the author of several articles which appeared in the "Farmer's Magazine," articles which were published anonymously, but which are quite as good as many royal speeches that have been delivered; and in his time there was a board of agriculture which was to rival the Highland Society of Scotland; it lived twenty-five years, during every one of which years it had a Parliamentary grant for its support; at length the grant was withdrawn, and the board perished. The landowners thought it better to rely on the legislative board, which they made subservient to their purposes of "protection" for improvements, and only in the years 1838 and 1839 did the founder of the Agricultural Society declare that agriculture was then quite in its infancy. (Laughter.) Since that time we find that this society is spending £5000 a year in premiums, for inventions of improved machinery for agricultural purposes, and in holding great public meetings; and it has boasted from time to time that now agriculture is showing symptoms of taking rank as a science and an art; that at the last agricultural exhibition there were 290 more inventions than had been exhibited at the preceding one; and that a prospect was opening for them of indefinite improvement. Who has done all this? 1838 and 1839? Why, they are the years of the birth of the League, as well as of the Royal Agricultural Society. (Great applause.) We find here symptoms of action and reaction; those who depend upon protection are not likely to cherish internal improvements; and now that you have driven them upon the other tack, let us hope they will learn where their reliance is, and turn the land to its legitimate purposes; for certain it is, after all that has been said about the growing of corn; it is not for the growing of corn merely that the landowner looks to his estate. He values it for the growing of other things of a very different kind. The land grows political influence—it grows votes, large crops of them; it grows places and pensions; it grows peerages, and stars and garters, and mitres (great applause and laughter); and, above all, it has grown that horrible Upas tree of monopoly, more pestilential than the famous poison tree of Java, whose atmosphere restricts all communication from a distance, under whose boughs no justice is ever administered, and where lie around the whitening and the rotting carcases of those who have perished under its malignant influence. (Long-continued applause.)

Colonel THOMPSON was next called on to address the meeting, after which a vote of thanks was given to the speakers, and the meeting separated.

GLASGOW GREAT ANTI-CORN LAW MEETING.

(From the Glasgow Argus.)

On Saturday, a public meeting of the citizens of Glasgow, called by the Lord Provost, on a respectably signed requisition, was held in the Trades' Hall, for the purpose of considering the best means of aiding the future operations of the National Anti-Corn-Law League. The meeting was both numerously and respectably attended; and we are happy to state that the whole of the proceedings were conducted in the very best spirit. To facilitate the raising of subscriptions in the meeting for the Great League Fund, each person, on entering, was provided with a card, on which he might mark the sum he intended to subscribe; and, as will be afterwards seen, this plan was attended with excellent results. On the platform and adjoining seats were the Hon. the Lord Provost; James Oswald, Esq., M.P.; Bailies Hastie, Anderson, and Whitehead; Councillors Cross, Turner, A. Orr, Stewart, Bryson, M'Phail, Wilson, Brodie; Walter Buchanan, Esq.; Alex. Graham, Esq.; John Tennant, Esq.; C. J. Tennant, Esq.; W. P. Paton, Esq.; Geo. Stirling, Esq.; Samuel Higginbotham, Esq.; A. Bannatyne, Esq.; Wm. Hamilton, Esq.; James Dunlop, Esq.; Alex. Couper, Esq.; James Couper, Esq.; Wm. Watson, Esq.; Wm. Blackwood, Esq.; Thomas Davidson, Esq.; David Murray, Esq.; James Drummond, Esq.; James M'Clelland, Esq.; G. C. Dick, Esq., &c. &c.

Mr. OSWALD, M.P., who was received with great cheering, said:—Gentlemen, I beg leave to congratulate you and this city generally, on the great prosperity of the cause in which we are engaged, and the promotion of which has brought us together this day. I have no doubt that, if we go on vigorously in the way we are now doing, we shall soon gain the object we have at heart—a total repeal of the Corn Law, and of all restrictions on trade. (Cheers.) I have much pleasure in proposing that the Lord Provost do take the chair on this occasion. (Cheers.)

Mr. WILSON of Dundyvan seconded the motion, which was carried amid loud cheering.

The LORD PROVOST returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, and called upon Mr. Murray, secretary, who read the requisition calling the meeting. His lordship then rose, and said:—Gentlemen, you will perceive by the requisition that has just been read, what is the object that has brought us together—an object, I am sure, which requires no recommendation from me to induce you to give it that enthusiastic and energetic support it so well merits, and which, I have no doubt, you will evince by your acceptance of the resolutions to be this day proposed. (Cheers.) As this is the first occasion on which I have appeared at a public meeting in my official capacity, I take the opportunity of stating that it gives me great pleasure indeed to be called upon to preside at a meeting which has for its end the abolition not only of the Corn Laws, but of all monopolies, and I shall always be willing to lend any aid that may be consistent with my duty as chief magistrate, to the Anti-Corn-Law League, honestly and constitutionally, either through moral influence or by pecuniary support, to get rid of the monster monopoly. (Cheers.) In exercising the office of chief magistrate, I shall always endeavour to do justice to all parties, civil and religious; at the same time I will never abandon my right as a private citizen, to maintain freely my own views on the great and important political questions that agitate the country—(loud cheers); and the present is one in which, I am proud to say, I have all along acted with the friends around me, who for a very long time have not only struggled for the abolition of the Corn Laws, but for the adoption of Free Trade generally. Had I not been in the honourable situation in which my fellow-citizens have placed me, I should have been proud to have my name associated with those gentlemen, and the leaders who have taken a prominent part in getting up the meeting, and in lending them my best assistance in furthering their object. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, the different speakers who are to move the resolutions will explain better than I can the objects the League have in view, and I for one feel confident that the procedure they now mean to adopt will have an important effect on the constituencies of the kingdom, in enabling the electors to come forward free and unfettered. (Hear.) We have also every reason to anticipate with confidence that the measures of the League, by informing the electors more and more on this important question, will secure the return of Free-Trade members when opportunities of doing so arise, and thus ultimately secure the great end we have in view, the total abolition of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. ALEXANDER GRAHAM proposed the first resolution. It was a general condemnation of the impolicy, injustice, and wickedness of the corn and other monopolies. We had first, by our own practice, taught the world the protective system; and persevering in it, notwithstanding our professions of having at length arrived at sounder views, these professions were viewed by foreign nations as mere hypocrisy. The consequence had been a combination among them to pay us back in our own coin, and more and more narrow the cordon of exclusion against our productions. The monopolies of timber and corn had created not only the German League, but also the prohibitory duties of all Europe. (Hear, hear.) The same causes had lost us our exports to the United States, which had fallen off, in consequence of retaliative tariffs, from 9 to 3½ millions. Our Brazilian export, amounting to 5 millions, had now all the appearance of suffering a similar decline, since the recent negotiations for a new treaty with that country had been within these few days broken off, in consequence of our rejection of its proposal, for our reception in exchange of the sugar and coffee of Brazil. (Hear, hear.) Between abstract Free Trade and practical exclusion, we stood in a false and impracticable position. The grounds of exception to abstract freedom, too, pleaded by the Peel and Gladstone school, were such as to be perpetual, and, therefore, to cut off even a distant hope of relief. Could any objections be more frivolous than that of existing leases, and the large capital invested in land? as if the few leases which exist could not legally undergo a prior conversion into grain-rents, and as if we could ever reach a period when there would be no leases and small capital in land. This abridgment of our foreign markets reduced the profits of our manufacturers, and compelled them to escape from loss by reducing wages, while, at the same time, forty per cent. was added by the landowner to the bread of the labourer. (Hear, hear.) Thrown upon the lowest diet for subsistence, the masses of poverty were converted into forcing-beds of epidemic disease. Monopoly had thus become the minister of artificial pestilence as well as of artificial famine, usurping the destined functions of the locust-cloud and the poisoned miasma, and inflicting the two great scourges of Divine vengeance originally reserved for the congregated wickedness of nations. (Cheers.) Wonderful it is, that the sympathy and commiseration of the monopolists should pass over objects so near, and warm into a sudden overflow of pity for the negro of Brazil. Their compassion is an exception to the law of charity, for, instead of beginning at home, it does not begin at all until it has reached the antipodes. (Cheers.) Were Britain never to consume a single pound of Brazilian sugar, she would not thereby accelerate, by a single day, the abolition of foreign slavery. Even if she could do so, to purchase such an object by the sacrifice of her own deserving labourers would be the height of drivelling imbecility. Our conscience, professing such fastidiousness, ought also at least to be consistent, and reject with horror the many millions' worth of slave-grown produce which we now greedily take, not only from the United States and other countries, but even from Brazil herself, so long as such produce is of a kind offering no competition with our own colonies. (Hear.) We would be bound by the same scruples, did they really exist, to keep back the five millions' worth of manufactures which we furnish to Brazil, as well as similar supplies which we

send to St. Domingo, Cuba, and other slave-owning countries. The whole of these manufactures are exchanged for slave-grown produce, which is shipped to the Continent, and sold there for British account. It appears from recent statements in the newspapers that we are now consuming colonial sugar at an extra cost of five millions of money. If, then, we are really sincere in our zeal for the emancipation of the foreign slaves—if we are inspired, as we profess to be, with an irrepressible passion for their freedom—then let us at once do the thing honestly and straightforward. (Hear, hear.) Let us collect, as a separate fund, this five millions of monopoly-tax at the Custom-house, and apply it in purchasing the freedom of the foreign slave. But, after all, this sudden alarm for the encouragement of slavery is the most barefaced example of hypocritical humbug and philanthropic cant that ever insulted common sense—humbug and cant which it is impossible to believe can be gravely, as it is, pleaded by so sagacious a man as Sir Robert Peel without laughing in his sleeve at his fancied gullification of the British public. ("Hear" and cheers.) The enhancement of rents and land which has taken place since the commencement of the protective system shows that the motives of our landowning legislators were far from having been of that patriotic and unselfish character to which they lay claim. What outcries of treason, revolution, and anarchy do the same interest not make on the smallest approach to any proposal which might possibly cause even a moderate reduction of the value of their rents and estates; while, at the same time, from their fortified elevation they witness, with perfect composure, periodical prostrations, such as that through which we have recently passed, of factories, ships, manufactures, tropical produce, stocks, and even houses, to half of their former value. (Hear, hear.) Monopoly has been also deeply aggravated in consequence of the transference by our landowning legislators from their own shoulders to those of the consumers of nearly the whole burden of the national taxes, although a large portion of these were originally due as land-tax, as they still are France, Prussia, and Austria, where upwards of 50 per cent. of the national taxes continue to fall upon the land. (Cheers.) The resolution also refers to the wickedness of monopolies. Wicked they assuredly are, alike offensive to God, and injurious to our fellow-men—causing, in the mass of the people, that low physical condition which must ever prove an impediment to the progress of education and morality, as well as the fruitful parent of vice and crime. (Hear.) We cannot, indeed, congratulate ourselves upon the alliance of our own Established Church, which once, in council assembled, perpetrated the act (of which many of them shall live to be ashamed) of petitioning against a repeal of the Corn Laws. As little can we expect the aid of the English Church, whose prelates in the Legislature, as lords over God's heritage, are arrayed in the ranks of monopoly. But, thank God, we are not without the united voice of the Dissenting clergy of all denominations in condemnation of the existing system—a condemnation worthy of the servants of that Master who taught us to pray for our daily bread, and who, so far from abridging the solitary loaf of his disciples, was ever ready miraculously to multiply it into food for assembled thousands. (Loud cheering.) The organs of the monopoly press have charged the League with a concealed design to overthrow the hereditary aristocracy of the land. False as the charge is, it is worthy of that press which could affirm that the very manure-droppings of the cattle in the fields are of more value than all our boasted manufactures, and that England would be as great and powerful if all her manufacturers were swept into the sea. (Hear, hear.) We know who are the real enemies of hereditary rank and title. They are not the men who entreat the aristocracy—were it only for the honour and dignity of their own order—at once and for ever to wash their hands of gains abstracted from the bread of the people. No—but they are the men who proclaim the privilege of the aristocracy to tax the wages of labour for the marriage settlements of their daughters. They are the men who dare to avow in the face of the country, that monopoly had, for its own preservation, put in the Queen's ministers, and would for the same purpose, if necessary, turn them out again. The aristocracy of the land yet stands strong in our habits and institutions; but after the mask has been torn, as it has been, from the face of monopoly, the most inveterate, the most levelling democrat (were he desirous) could invent no means more effective for their overthrow, than to encourage them to persevere in standing out before the world as the unrelenting, unmoved, and immovable enhancers, for their own aggrandisement, of the price of the hard-earned bread of the industrious poor. Mr. Graham then moved the first resolution, amid loud cheers.

Mr. John Tennant seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Walter Buchanan, who laboured under a cold, craved the indulgence of the meeting for not being able to make himself so well heard as he might wish. He had also to state that, not expecting to be called upon to address them, he was wholly unprepared with any observations. If an opportunity of preparing himself had been given, he would have endeavoured to point out to them very briefly the scope of operations in which the League had been engaged, and those which they still had in contemplation. He, however, felt that, in addressing the present audience (most of whom he had had the pleasure of meeting on many previous occasions of a similar kind), it was superfluous to enter into anything like an extended detail of the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League. It fortunately happened that they could say of that body, and of its purposes, that they were intimately known to every intelligent inhabitant of this country—they were intimately known not only to the friends and abettors throughout the country who were watching their progress with anxious and admiring eyes, but they were as well, if not better, known by their trembling opponents, who looked upon the progress of the League as threatening with doom that false fabric of injustice and monopoly which they had so carefully built up. (Cheers.) The meeting knew well what the Anti-Corn-Law League had recently been doing. They had traced their leaders from place to place—they had seen them at Durham overthrowing the power of the Marquis of Londonderry, and prevailing against all the corrupt practices resorted to there—they had seen them at Kendal—they had witnessed their triumphant progress in London, and what they had done in Salisbury. (Cheers.) It was therefore unnecessary to dwell upon these things, or to tell them what were the scope and purpose of all these exertions; and it was as little necessary to say what would be the triumph which most assuredly would be the end of their labours. (Cheers.) The men who had done so much were willing yet to do more. On a recent occasion they held a meeting at Manchester, and pledged themselves to still farther efforts; and, as a crowning proof of their earnestness and zeal, they had subscribed the munificent sum of £20,000 to defray the expenses of the coming campaign. (Great cheering.) This example had been vigorously followed up at Rochdale, where the zeal of the enemies of monopoly had led them to contribute a sum large indeed for so small a community, amounting to upwards of £3000. (Cheers.) Yesterday's post announced a meeting at Liverpool, at which £4000 had been subscribed on the spot in favour of the League, and there was an expectation that, in that town at least, £7000 would be raised. (Cheers.) Would Glasgow lag behind when they saw so much earnestness and zeal exhibited in other parts of the country in this good work? He was satisfied that it would not be said of them that they were willing to do anything in this cause but to spend their money. (Cheers.) And he was gratified in being able to lay before the meeting, as the result of a very short effort, the fact that a larger sum had already been subscribed in Glasgow than was obtained last year by the combined efforts of all the different movements that were put in operation. (Cheers.) Last year the whole sum subscribed was £2344. He hoped that they would be able to double that sum. (Cheers.) Mr. B. then moved the next resolution.

Mr. Higginbotham seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Murray then read the following list of subscriptions already received, the announcement of the respective sums being received with loud and hearty cheering by the audience.

The Honourable the Lord Provost	£100	0	0
A. and J. Dennistoun, George-square ..	200	0	0
Charles Tennent and Co., Cochran-street ..	200	0	0
William Dixon, Govanhill	200	0	0
Samuel Higginbotham, Queen-street ..	200	0	0
Dunlop, Wilson, and Co., St. Vincent-street	200	0	0
Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co., St. Vincent-place	100	0	0
A Friend	60	0	0
Neale Thomson, Adelphi Works	50	0	0
James Scott, Exchange-square	50	0	0
Alexander Graham, Miller-street	50	0	0
D. M'Phail and Co., Greenhead	50	0	0
William Stirling and Sons, Queen-street ..	50	0	0
S. R. and Thos. Brown, Queen-street ..	50	0	0
J. and A. Anderson, Candleriggs	40	0	0
William Gemmell, St. Vincent-street ..	40	0	0
Robert Dalglish, jun., North Exchange-court	40	0	0
John Whitehead, Ingram street	30	0	0
George Smith and Sons, London-street ..	30	0	0
John Ker, South Frederick-street	25	0	0
James Oswald, M.P.	25	0	0
W. G. Mitchell, Virginia-street	21	0	0
A. and D. J. Bannatyne, Gordon-street ..	21	0	0
John Young, jun., Ingram-street	21	0	0
Robert Stewart, Buchanan-street	20	0	0
Andrew Mitchell, Miller-street	20	0	0
Alexander M'Gregor, George-square ..	20	0	0
John Wilson, Auchineden, St. Vincent-place	20	0	0
Charles Gray, Carlton-place	20	0	0
A Friend	20	0	0
John Robertson and Sons, Queen-street ..	20	0	0
Archibald M'Connell, Jamaica-street ..	20	0	0
Alexander Hastie, Ingram-street	20	0	0
W. P. Paton, Virginia-buildings	20	0	0
D. and J. Anderson, South Hanover-street	20	0	0
David Chapman, Jamaica-street	20	0	0
John Anderson, Renfield-street	20	0	0
Alexander Couper, Virginia-street	20	0	0
George Anderson, Hill-street	20	0	0
Robert Bartholomew, Ingram-street ..	20	0	0
Wm. and Jas. Murray, Maxwell-street ..	20	0	0
George Wilson, St. Vincent-street ..	20	0	0
Francis Orr and Sons, Brunswick-street ..	20	0	0
William M'Laren, Sons, and Co., Candleriggs-street	10	10	0
Alexander Tennant, Wilson-street ..	10	0	0
James Couper, Exchange-buildings ..	10	0	0
Wylie and Lochhead, Trongate	10	0	0
Wm. Stevenson and Sons, Virginia-street -	10	0	0
James M'Clelland, Ingram-street	10	0	0
John Hamilton, Stockwell-street	10	0	0
James Mitchell, Miller-street	10	0	0
Alexander Kerr of Moorepark	10	0	0
William Falconer, Montrose-street ..	10	0	0
A Friend	10	0	0
J. Davidson	10	0	0
Robert Ker, West Nile-street	10	0	0
Robert Wilson and Co., Candleriggs ..	10	0	0
James Paterson and Co., Virginia-street ..	10	0	0
John Lawrie and Co., 31, Montrose-street	10	0	0
Andrew Paton, Moodie's-court	5	5	0
Ewing, Paul, and Co., Ingram-street ..	5	0	0
John Loudon, St. Vincent-street	5	0	0
Clark and Drummond, Queen-street ..	5	0	0
John Jamieson, Queen-street	5	0	0
John Bogle, Renfield-street	5	0	0
Robert Kettle, Virginia-street	5	0	0
Wm. Barr, 100, Queen-street	5	0	0
Thomas Fingland, 54, Princes-street ..	5	0	0
Robert Bryson, 55, Wilson-street	5	0	0
Wm. Blackwood, Candleriggs	5	0	0
John Mair, 82, Trongate	5	0	0
H. and W. Drummond, 151, Argyle-street	5	0	0
Thomas Watson, Regent-terrace	5	0	0
Lewis and Chas. Park, 86, Buchanan-street	5	0	0
Wm. M'Ewan, Sons, and Co., Trongate ..	5	0	0
Robert M'Kay, Candleriggs	4	4	0
Brown and Downes, 106, Gallowgate ..	4	4	0
Alexander Miller, Croy-place	4	4	0
Wm. White, 73, Queen-street	4	0	0
Thomas Richard, Virginia-street	3	3	0
John M'Gregor and Sons, Old Wynd ..	3	0	0
Peter B. Henderson, 17, Virginia-street ..	2	2	0
James Turner, Thrushgrove	2	0	0
Alexander Russell, Portland-street ..	2	0	0
Samuel M'Dowell Stuart, Buchanan-street	1	1	0
William M'Ewan	1	1	0
William Barclay, 66, Argyle-street ..	1	1	0
Lewis S. Middleton, 74, Buchanan-street	1	1	0
William M'Kean, 11, Miller-street ..	1	1	0
William Gemmill, 115, Candleriggs ..	1	1	0
Robert Smith, 26, North Albion-street ..	1	1	0
Robert Galt, 193, Trongate	£1	1	0
D. and T. Bain, Frederick-street	1	1	0
John Orr, 18, South Frederick-street ..	1	1	0
Dr. John Black, 53, Charlotte-street ..	1	1	0
James Beaton, 114, Trongate	1	1	0
William Lang, 25, Queen-street	1	1	0
John Strathern, 15, John-street	1	0	0
James Smith, 119, Main-street, Bridgeton	1	0	0
William Young, M.D., Calton	1	0	0
John Douglas, 14, Bedford-street	1	0	0
James Hamilton, 104, Brunswick-street ..	1	0	0
James Armstrong, 35, Trongate	1	0	0
Dr. Lightbody, Bridge-street	1	0	0
William Smith, 41, London-street	1	0	0
J. and P. Wilson, 40, Brunswick-place ..	1	0	0
John Lemon, 18, Saltmarket	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
Wm. R. W. Smith, 11, South Frederick-street	1	0	0
A. M'D. Houston, 96, Garngadhill ..	1	0	0
Robert Watson, 16, St. Vincent-place ..	1	0	0
Small sums	1	8	0
	£2,531	5	0

When the cheering which followed the announcement of these subscriptions had subsided,

Mr. W. P. Paton read the next resolution, which embraced the names of a large committee to follow up the object of the meeting.

Bailie Hastie seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Bailie Anderson proposed that Mr. Alexander Couper should be appointed treasurer to the association, which was seconded by Mr. W. Hamilton, and unanimously agreed to.

Here those of the audience who wished to subscribe were requested to hand their cards up to the platform. A very considerable number complied with the request, and for a short time the meeting exhibited a scene of great animation. Mr. Murray read the amount and the name of the subscriber on each card as it was handed in, and the amounts were hailed with repeated bursts of cheering by the audience. In this way an additional sum of about £150 was subscribed in the course of a few minutes.

Councillor Cross then moved a vote of thanks to the Lord Provost for his conduct in the chair, and congratulated his fellow-citizens on the fact that they had that day a Lord Provost who was a thorough and energetic Free Trader. (Cheers.)

Mr. George Stirling seconded the motion, which was carried amid loud applause.

The Lord Provost acknowledged the compliment, and expressed a hope that the example now set in Glasgow would have the effect of stirring up the country generally to increased efforts in the good cause. (Cheers.) He also begged to thank the meeting, in the name of the committee, for the very handsome contributions which had been sent in to the fund. (Cheers.)

The meeting then separated.

LEEDS GREAT MEETING.

One of the most extraordinary demonstrations of public feeling and opinion ever witnessed in Leeds occurred on Wednesday evening last, in the Music-hall in that town, on the visit of the deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, for the purpose of promoting subscriptions in aid of the great fund of £100,000. Notwithstanding the somewhat high prices of admission, and the absence of all attractions in the shape of edibles, the tickets were selling at a premium for days before the meeting took place; and for half-an-hour before the opening of the doors on the evening of its occurrence, the street outside the building was thronged with a crowd of persons impatient to obtain admission and to participate in the proceedings. The great progress which the cause of Free Trade has made since the meeting last year was abundantly evinced by the increase of enthusiasm, as well as of numbers, displayed on this memorable occasion.

Long before the proceedings commenced, the saloon, gallery, and orchestra were crowded to excess, and from the enthusiasm that pervaded, the whole assembly presented a very remarkable and animated spectacle.

The deputation, consisting of Messrs. Cobden, Bright, Ashworth, and Moore, and Colonel Thompson, entered the room about half-past six o'clock in the evening, and were hailed by tremendous and often-repeated bursts of applause from the assembly.

The chair was taken by Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., Mayor of the borough, according to previous announcement.

Among the many influential gentlemen present on the occasion we noticed J. G. Marshall, Esq., Hatton Stansfeld, Esq., George Goodman, Esq., John Jackson, Esq., J. D. Luccock, Esq.; J. Heaton, Esq., Darnton; — Lupton, Esq., John Wilkinson, Esq., Edwin Birchall, Esq., T. W. George, Esq., John Coodman, Esq., W. B. Holdsworth, Esq., Edward Wurtzburg, Esq.; John Nussey, Esq., Batley; Dr. Smiles, J. G. Maclea, Esq., S. J. Birchall, Esq.; Thos. Nunneley, Esq., surgeon; Matthew Gaunt, Esq., Geo. Wise, Esq., Wm. Brown, Esq.; Dr. Rischaeneck, of Ikley; S. Upton, Esq., Rev. Samuel Crawford, Arthur Lupton, Esq., Rev. C. Wicksteed, A. Titley, jun., Esq., H. J. Marcus, Esq., W. S. Fennell, Esq., Frederick Baines, Esq.; J. Wilson, Esq., Bramley; Mr. Devon, Mr. Councillor Dickinson, Mr. Councillor J. W. Smith, Mr. Councillor C. Heaps, Mr. Councillor Yewdall, Mr. Councillor Carbutt, Geo. Hammond, jun., Esq.; Mr. Dyson, merchant, Huddersfield; also Messrs. Jonathan Shackleton, John Jackson, jun., Rd. Bayldon, Edwd. Smith, J. Wilson, S. Clapham, Geo. Tatham, Chas. Tatham, Alexander Ritchie, P. Kettlewell, Thomas Harrison, E. W. Thomson, T. Newsam, Robert Benson, H. Higgins, John Darby, Wm. Dixon, R. B. Watson, &c. &c. A sprinkling of ladies (principally Friends) gave the scene an additional attraction.

A series of resolutions strongly condemnatory of the existing monopoly in corn, was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

The Chairman, on rising to open the proceedings, was received with most enthusiastic applause. He said:—I thank you for the honour you have conferred upon me by appointing me your chairman on this interesting occasion, and I gladly undertake the duties of the office, feeling assured that you will support to the utmost the gentlemen who will address you, in their various endeavours to emancipate the question of Free Trade from the thraldom of party. (Applause.) For a season we must lay aside,

important as they are, our usual distinctive appellations of Tory, Whig, Radical, and Chartist, and recognise, for our country's good and the world's good, only two political antagonists the Monopolist and Free Trader. (Great applause.) I ask you not to do that which I have not done myself already—(hear, hear)—for two years ago I pledged myself never to vote for a Parliamentary candidate who would not support the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Law. (Applause.) So that, were the political party with whom I have usually acted to appeal to the country on the principle of a fixed duty, be it of 5s, or 3s., or even 1s., I could not and would not give them my humble support. (Great applause.) Nay, more: were their opponents, under the sanction of their leader, to outbid them, and offer immediate repeal, my vote should be for them. (Hear, hear.) I am not fond of giving pledges, it is too much of a shackle on one's love of liberty; but when the path of duty is clear before us, not to pledge ourselves to take it, were to dishonour our nature. (Great applause.) I would that every elector in this room took the same views of this subject—that every elector in this borough would take the same pledge—then, my friends, you would indeed serve this holy cause, by rescuing it from the vortex of party feelings in which so many of the best interests of humanity have been engulphed and lost. (Applause.) Party, what is it? It has been defined to be the madness of the many for the gain of a few (hear, hear); but surely this agitation possesses the very opposite characteristics, for within the last year or two it surely was the madness of the few, as some would say, for the gain of the many. (Applause.) Those few are behind me; for those apostles of Free Trade—"those men who are turning the world upside down are come hither also,"—I would their name were legion. (Immense applause.) Should you think that we overrate the importance of the subject (and I say we, because I am proud to claim brotherhood with the League—(hear, hear)—should you think that we look at it with the interested eye of the merchant or manufacturer, I would refer you to the evidence of other times and places. I would conduct you for a moment from the excited atmosphere of the manufacturing districts to the cooler region of the University of Oxford, and to the year 1827, when the doctrine of Free Trade still lay slumbering in its cradle. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) I would, then, call your attention to a lecture delivered by one of its professors, Nassau W. Senior, Esq., and to those memorable words, "That the question of Free Trade, next to the Reformation, next to the question of Free Religion, is the most momentous question ever submitted to human decision." (Applause.) I would go still further—I would say that next to Christianity itself it was the most momentous question, for it is the soil in which Christianity would soonest take root and yield the most abundant fruits. (Applause.) If you would convert the heathen, deal with him in a Christian spirit; make it his interest to deal with Christians, then he will lend a ready ear to the doctrines and precepts of that religion, which, alas! we much oftener preach than practise. (Hear.) Fortunately, in this contest we run not counter to its dictates, for the principles of Free Trade are identical with the precepts of the most unbounded philanthropy, and harmonize beautifully with its spirit, promoting peace on earth and good will amongst men. (Applause.) It is a delusion to suppose that Free Trade will injure any class. (Hear, hear.) Like the quality of mercy, it is twice blessed: it blesseth him that giveth and him that taketh. (Hear, hear.) From the very first of this agitation, I have maintained that the landlords themselves would be equally benefited, and I once had the presumption to pen an article under the very alluring title (but it did not take) that a free trade in corn would raise the price of land, whilst at the same time it would lower the price of corn. (Hear, hear.) Paradoxical as this may sound, it will not appear so outrageous to those present, who know by experience that low prices often leave greater profits than high ones; and let but the farmers produce more at a less cost, and they will get better profits, and depend upon it the landlords will soon get higher rent. They have yet to learn this problem, that in taxing foreign produce they are virtually taxing their own. (Hear, hear.) All trade is barter, if they will not import they cannot export; if they prevent imports, they prevent, *pro tanto*, the export of their own produce which goes in the shape of goods in payment for them, and thereby tax themselves. It is not, however, for me to enter upon this question now. I leave it to abler hands; but I have touched upon it to justify my appearance here this evening, by showing the grounds of my belief that Free Trade will injure no one, but benefit all, and none more than the inhabitants of this borough, over whom I have the honour and pleasure to preside. (Immense applause.)

James Garth Marshall, Esq., in rising to move the first resolution, was most loudly cheered. He said he felt that a very few words only were required from him in introducing the resolution. Its purport was to ask the meeting to record again, and if possible more strongly and decidedly than at any former time, their unqualified condemnation of the unjust and ruinous Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) During the long struggle of five or six years between the antagonist principles of Monopoly and Free Trade which they had witnessed, every year had made deeper and deeper inroads upon the strongholds of monopoly, and, thanks to the exertions of those intrepid advocates of Free Trade whom they this night saw amongst them, fallacy after fallacy had been destroyed, until the principles of Free Trade were becoming popular even amongst the agriculturists themselves. (Loud applause.) Every year made the necessity more urgent of bringing this struggle to a close, and of fixing the commercial system of this country upon some stable basis. (Hear, hear.) If two good harvests had brought a temporary relief to the intense distress of the manufacturing districts, who dare trust to its continuance, when a few short months of unpropitious weather might again at any time bring famine to our doors? (Hear.) And what was now the condition of the agricultural districts? Insurrection, the blazing of incendiary fires, dismay and ruin amongst the farmers, dire want and starvation in the huts of the poor labourers. (Applause.) If China had opened a new market to us, of what avail was it when the pernicious sliding scale had shut us out of larger and main markets, such as those of Brazil and Portugal? (Hear, hear, hear.) But the argument that far above and beyond all others weighed upon his mind was the appalling physical and moral destitution of great numbers of our fellow-countrymen of the working classes, and the threatened dissolution of the ties that bound society together. (Hear, hear.) And what was the real root of this misery wherein it may be found? Want of employment, arising from the denial to the labourer of the right to exchange freely the produce of his labour for his daily food. (Applause.) It was not enough to express horror at their misery, and sympathy with the sufferers; if they were in earnest, they must honestly set about removing the causes of it. Neither could they hope to remove the mental and moral darkness they deplore, unless they first destroyed this great impassable barrier of physical want. (Applause.) Let them not mistake the grave importance of the events that were passing around them. The evil against which they were struggling was one that threatened their very existence, for if they failed now to destroy monopoly, monopoly would very shortly destroy them. (Loud applause.) Happily for them, this monster evil could not long continue to exist if they only put forth a due exercise of courage and will to destroy it. (Hear, hear.) The voice of a united and intelligent people demanding a great practical right never ultimately failed. Now was the time to raise that voice, to execute that will. (Applause.) He would only add that his hearty support to the present move of the Anti-Corn-Law League had been secured by his entire approval of the strictly correct and high moral principle which had guided them in the use they had made of the funds and the influence hitherto entrusted to them, especially in operating upon the electoral body. (Hear, hear.) They appeared to him to be thoroughly worthy of confidence and support, and he hoped that his fellow-townsmen would this night prove that they thought so too. (Loud applause.)

Darnton Lupton, Esq., seconded the resolution.

Henry Ashworth, Esq., of Bolton, on rising to address the meeting, was received with loud cheers. He delivered a very able exposition of the mischievous effects of the Corn Laws upon the industrious classes of the community. Mr. Ashworth concluded by a rapid review of the progress of the League since its commencement, and an earnest appeal to the meeting to come forward in support of its objects. He sat down amidst loud applause.

Mr. Councillor Carbutt proposed the second resolution, which was more especially directed against a fixed duty. He considered, he said, a fixed duty as in principle equally unjust, and in practice, only second in injurious effects to the sliding scale. (Applause.) He would not enter at that time into an explanation of the grounds of objection to a fixed duty or a sliding scale, but leave them to be elucidated by Mr. Cobden and the other gentlemen who had to follow him, who, he had no doubt, would make them abundantly plain. (Applause.) There was one point on which he would address a word or two to them. He thought they were approaching the period when the sliding scale would be no more. (Laughter and applause.) The League had given it a good battering; they had driven it into its last stronghold, and they would by-and-by drive it out of the country. (Laughter and cheers.) Now, what he was afraid of was this, that the friends and supporters of a sliding scale would attempt, when they saw that the sliding scale could be no longer maintained, to foist upon them a scion of the same stock, a bantling of the same breed. (Laughter.) They would attempt to impose upon them a fixed duty. (Hear, hear.) He warned them to be upon their guard. (Hear, hear.) Such tricks had been played upon them before, and to prove that, it was only necessary to remind them of the way in which twenty millions of their money was paid for the emancipation of the slaves. (Applause.) They might depend upon it that whenever the sliding scale was abolished a fixed duty would be proposed; and it was necessary for them to be on their guard, in order that they might not be led by any sophistical arguments to consent to it. (Applause.) He concluded by proposing the resolution.

George Wise, Esq. seconded the resolution.

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., then rose to address the meeting, which for several minutes presented such a spectacle of enthusiasm as we have rarely witnessed; the whole assembly rising and welcoming the great Leaguer with tremendous and reiterated shouts of applause. When these had subsided, Mr. Cobden proceeded to address the meeting, and touched with more than usual novelty of argument and illustration upon the current incidents of the day, in relation to the position and prospects of the Free-Trade question. His speech throughout was received with unbounded applause. He especially addressed the young men of Leeds in a strain of earnestness that seems to have wrought powerfully on the convictions and feelings of the audience. The *Leeds Times* report says, "The honourable gentleman then sat down amidst the loud and protracted shouts of the meeting, which continued for some time, almost without intermission—the whole assembly rising and waving their hats, under the impulse of irrepressible enthusiasm.

Frederick Baines, Esq., rose, amidst applause, to move the third resolution. He said he was sure that every one present must have witnessed with delight the enthusiasm with which the sentiments that had been expressed in the resolutions already proposed had been received (hear, hear); and, encouraged by that enthusiasm, he ventured with confidence to propose the third resolution, which was to convey the practical effect of the former resolution, and to show that the opinions which they entertained were entertained both deeply and sincerely, and that they deeply and sincerely believed Corn Laws to be a giant wrong, and therefore that every means in their power should be used in order to extirpate them. (Applause.) It was always cheering to those who were suffering under dire distress to know that the evil which they suffered was not a necessary one. (Hear, hear.) It was also most desirable and most soothing to feel that there were means for the removal of this evil, that those means were near at hand, and that the agents in whom they put their faith were ready at their side. (Applause.) The Corn Laws were laws inflicted by a powerful few upon the defenceless many. (Hear, hear.) Their abolition was now in their own power, and it was for them to put forth efforts adequate to the occasion and worthy of the cause, and it was secured. (Loud applause.) That there must be sacrifice connected with this subject was a thing which, after the speeches they had already heard, he thought they would expect to hear, for never was anything worth while to obtain, which did not bring with it sacrifice on the part of those who would have it; and still more so must it in a great and glorious object which affected the interest of the whole nation. (Hear, hear.) But let them consider that the sacrifice which they were called upon to make, though it were great in their present circumstances, yet it was temporary, and would produce a lasting advantage. (Hear.) Let them also consider that, although their object would be obtained by individual sacrifices, yet they themselves would be recompensed abundantly in their own affairs, while they would have the satisfaction of knowing that they had materially, most materially, contributed to the welfare of the whole community around them. (Hear, hear.) If they thought of sacrifices, then let them think of the examples which had been set them in other towns, and consider the noble manner in which persons had come forward, even in their own neighbourhood. Let them also consider the noble example of self-denial which had been set by the Anti-Corn-Law League, and by those leaders of that body who were now in their midst. (Loud applause.) His resolution proposed that they should place themselves voluntarily for a time, with their eyes open, in the hands of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Hear, hear.) It proposed subscriptions, and it proposed that the League should guide their efforts; and he was convinced that, if they did but give the League their best efforts; and leave themselves to their guidance, they would carry them along a channel which would land them all at last in signal triumph, not merely in the abolition of the Corn Laws, but in the early and irreversable overthrow of all monopoly. (Loud applause.) Deeply convinced of these things, he had great pleasure in proposing the resolution. (Applause.)

John Wilkinson, Esq., seconded the motion.

Mr. Bright, M.P., was next called upon by the chairman, and his reception was as enthusiastic as that of Mr. Cobden. He then proceeded for upwards of an hour to urge upon the audience every inducement to redouble their exertions at this crisis of the question. Mr. Bright gave some account of the labours of the League during the five years of its existence; and he made a strong appeal to the meeting to aid the League in their future plans and operations. Their Irish population, their Welsh population, their southern county population, and their own population—all these called to them with extended arms. Let them send forth a voice from that meeting which should be one of thunder, that would shake the strongholds of monopoly. (Mr. Bright, in closing his remarks, took his seat amidst the most rapturous applause, which was given by the audience all standing.)

Colonel Thompson followed Mr. Bright in a humorous and logical speech, that was most vociferously responded to throughout. The chief merit of his speech, however, was in the clear manner in which he elucidated the *injustice* of *any* tax on foreign corn, which he briefly characterized in the language of Lord St. Vincent, the eminent naval commander, who, on the occasion of the first imposition of the law against which they were now protesting, said, "These laws are a sacrifice of the public good for the dishonest interests of the members of the two Houses." After a brief appeal to the liberality of the audience on behalf of the League, the gallant colonel took his seat amidst long-continued cheers.

Mr. R. R. R. Moore now came forward for the purpose of collecting in the subscriptions, during which

J. G. Marshall, Esq., whose firm had already subscribed the munificent sum of £500, rose and said, "I have much pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in being able to announce a subscription from a person who is not amongst us at present, but who still regarded all the proceedings of the town, with which he was long and intimately connected, with the greatest interest, and sympathised most warmly with the object which we have this night met to promote, entertaining as he does a very strong opinion of the great importance of the present crisis. I agree with him in thinking that it is one for which we ought to put forth more than usual exertions, and make more than usual sacrifices. I have therefore great pleasure in being authorised on the part of Mr. Marshall, sen., to hand in his subscription of £300 towards the League fund. [The meeting here rose spontaneously and gave three most hearty cheers for Mr. Marshall, to whom, on the proposition of Alderman Lupton, seconded by Alderman Goodman, a vote of thanks was also subsequently given by acclamation.]

Hatton Stansfeld, Esq., in a very cordial manner, proposed a vote of thanks to the deputation from the League, and took the opportunity of declaring that in future he would march under no other banner than that of Free Trade, and would support no parliamentary candidate unless he would not only vote, but heartily and zealously, and with his whole soul, endeavour to carry into practical effect the principles of Free Trade. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Councillor Barrett had great pleasure in seconding the resolution, and he hoped and trusted that they had not only listened to, but had determined to act upon Mr. Cobden's advice, and that henceforward they would away with everything like party, and hoist one pure flag, and on that flag inscribe "Free Trade," and march under it until every monopoly was destroyed. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Cobden acknowledged the compliment, and took occasion again to exhort the men of Leeds to bestir themselves in this great cause. He could not doubt that they were in Leeds entering on a new era, and that from this time the men on this side of Blackstone-edge and on the other would be found working together. He reminded them that in Leeds the circumstances were much more favourable than they were in Manchester when the agitation first began, for here they had the countenance and support of many of their most influential men, and above all that, they had at their head the Prince of Manufacturers—(loud applause)—who, after the splendid proof he and his father had given of their deep interest in this cause, would zealously co-operate in their efforts to emancipate the industry of the country. (Great applause.)

Before the meeting separated it was announced that the total amount subscribed was £2110 6s, the particulars of which are subjoined.

On the proposition of Mr. Bright, a vote of thanks to the Mayor was given by acclamation, for the able and impartial manner in which he had conducted the proceedings of the evening.

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. Marshall and Co.	500	0	0
John Marshall, Esq.	300	0	0
Messrs. Stansfeld, Brown, and Co.	150	0	0
Peter Fairbairn, Esq.	100	0	0
Messrs. J. Wilkinson and Co.	100	0	0
Messrs. Wm. Lupton and Co.	100	0	0
Messrs. Beverley and Simpson	50	0	0
Messrs. E. Baines and Sons	50	0	0
John Waddingham, Esq.	50	0	0
Benj. Walker, Esq.	50	0	0
Geo. Goodman, Esq.	30	0	0
Robert Walker, Esq.	30	0	0
Messrs. Lupton and Luccock	30	0	0
Messrs. Robt. Jowitt and Sons	25	0	0
Messrs. W. B. Holdsworth and Co.	25	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. Jos. and Wm. Walker	25	0	0
Messrs. S. J. Birchall and Co	25	0	0
Newman Cash, Esq.	25	0	0
H. H. Stansfeld, Esq.	20	0	0
John Shephard, Esq.	20	0	0
C. G. Maclea, Esq.	20	0	0
D. Crowther, Esq. (Churwell)	20	0	0
F. Carbutt, Esq.	20	0	0
Messrs Buckton and Sons	20	0	0
Messrs. A. and D. Webster	10	10	0
Messrs. J. Dickinson and Son	10	10	0
Messrs. J. & J. Reffit	10	10	0
Messrs. Croysdale, Brothers	10	10	0
Wm. Hornby, Esq.	10	10	0
Mr. T. George and Sons	10	0	0
Mess. I. Dixon & Sons	10	0	0
Anonymous	10	0	0
42, Mill Hill	10	0	0
Mr. G. Pietsch	10	0	0
Mr. C. Heaps	10	0	0
A Friend, per J. Wilkinson, Esq.	10	0	0
Mr. M. Gaunt	10	0	0
The Misses Stansfeld	10	0	0
Mr. Joseph Gill	10	0	0
Mr. J. N., of Birstall	10	0	0
Mr. James Hotham	10	0	0
Mr. P. Wolff	10	0	0
Mr. Joseph Hirst	10	0	0
Mr. James Ogle	10	0	0
Mr. Thomas Haigh	10	0	0
Messrs. W. and T. Kettlewell	6	6	0
J. L., 3, Park-place	5	5	0
An Advocate of Free Trade	5	0	0
Mr. John Wales Smith	5	0	0
Mr. Jos. Shackleton	5	0	0
Mr. Joseph Roper	5	0	0
Mr. Thos. Ummelly	5	0	0
Mrs. Anth. Titley, jun.	5	0	0
Mr. Anth. Titley, jun.	5	0	0
Mr. John Kenworthy	5	0	0
Mr. R. B. Watson	5	0	0
Mr. Richd. Bayldon	5	0	0
Mr. Henry Robinson	5	0	0
Mr. Joseph Bates	5	0	0
Mrs. H. H. Stansfeld	5	0	0
A Friend	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Jn. Brownridge	5	0	0
Mr. J. Greaves	5	0	0
J. V. of Hunslet	5	0	0
Messrs. R. and B. Wilson	5	0	0
Messrs. Boyle, Gill, and Co.	5	0	0
Rev. C. Wicksteed	5	0	0
Rev. Joseph Fox (second £5)	5	0	0
D. C. B, per John Wilkinson	5	0	0
Mr. W. W. Hewitson	5	0	0
Mr. John Shackleton	5	0	0
No. 3, Albion-street	3	3	0
Mr. T. Laycock	3	3	0
Mr. Arth. Lupton, jn.	4	0	0
Mr. Peter Kettlewell	3	0	0
Mr. John Maude	3	0	0
Messrs. R. and C. Bewley	3	0	0
A Friend	3	0	0
Mr. John Wilson	2	10	0
Mr. Wm. Avens	2	2	0
Mr. Isaac Thompson	2	2	0
Mr. Samuel Carr	2	2	0
Mr. M. Hepworth	2	2	0
Mr. Thos. Dawson	2	2	0
Mr. Alfred Bilbrough	2	2	0
Mr. Wm. Lupton	2	2	0
Mr. Wm. Dennison	2	2	0
Mr. John Wilkinson, Springfield-place	2	2	0
A. per John Wilkinson, Esq.	2	2	0
C. L.	2	2	0
A Friend per ditto	2	2	0
Messrs. R. and J. Harrison	2	2	0
F. B.	2	2	0
Richard Gardner	2	2	0
G. B. Pearson	2	2	0
T. and W.	2	2	0
Mr. H. Marcus	2	0	0
Mr. A. Naylor	2	0	0
Mr John Bilbrough	2	0	0
Mr. Wm. Simpson	2	0	0
A Friend	2	0	0
Mr. Wm. Kemp	2	0	0
Mr. T. Stephens	2	0	0
Mr. T. S. Dickinson	2	0	0
Mr. W. Holroyd	2	0	0
T. H.	2	0	0
Mr. J. Bilbrough	2	0	0
Mr. M. Jarvis	2	0	0
A Friend	2	2	0

Smaller amounts, which we cannot give separately, but which will hereafter appear in our weekly list:—

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Two subscriptions of	1	10	0		3	0	0
Fifty-nine do.	1	1	0		61	19	0
Twenty-two do.	1	0	0		22	0	0
Two do.	0	10	6		1	1	0
Ten do	0	10	0		5	0	0
Sixteen do.	0	5	0		4	0	0
Twenty do.	0	2	6		2	10	0
Sundry small sums					0	12	6

HALIFAX.

The Halifax League meeting took place on Tuesday evening, and proved to be one of the most effective and spirited demonstrations ever witnessed either in that town, or in any part of Yorkshire. Stimulated by the noble example of Huddersfield, the committee exerted themselves manfully, and secured a result which invariably accompanies intelligent and well-directed zeal. The meeting was held in the elegant and spacious theatre of the Odd-Fellows' Hall. About one-third of the room had been set apart for "reserved seats," the tickets for which, admitting a lady and gentleman, were 2s. 6d. each. The tickets for the galleries were 1s. each; and for the remaining portion of the hall, 6d. each. Notwithstanding these rather high charges for admission, by six o'clock the hall was filled, and by the time the speakers arrived, crowded. The audience consisted chiefly of the middle classes, and we should think must have included nearly three-fourths of the electors of the borough. The ladies of the families of the leading merchants attached to the League, besides a great many more of the fair sex, were present, and added much to the animation and beauty of the scene.

The hall was simply but tastefully decorated with festoons of blue, yellow, and white calico, and the four walls exhibited each an appropriate motto; that over the chairman being "The League—a Great Fact!" in front of the orchestra, "£100,000;" in front of the gallery, "Free Trade;" and across the windows, "A Fixed Duty would be a Fixed Injustice."

About half-past six o'clock Jon. Ackroyd, Esq., entered the room, accompanied by Charles Wood, Esq., M.P., R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., H. Ashworth, Esq., R. R. R. Moore, Esq., and J. T. Clay, Esq., and took their places on the platform. In addition we observed W. Morris, J. Baldwin, E. Ackroyd, T. Thorp, two Messrs. Hadwin, two Messrs. Holland, E. Senior (Kibroyd), Simeon Townend (Thornton); Revs. W. Turner, T. Denton, and J. Holt; and in the body of the meeting George Dyson, Esq., and Robert Baldrey, Esq., and many other influential gentlemen of all parties. Colonel Thompson came in a little after the meeting began.

On the motion of Mr. John Baldwin, seconded by Mr. Edwin Senior, of Kibroyd, Jon. Akroyd, Esq., was called to the chair.

The Chairman congratulated the meeting on the progress the cause had made—a short time ago, like the mountain rivulet trickling in a tiny stream down the hill side, but gradually increasing in its onward course, until at length it became, as they had become, the wide-expanded river, rolling on in majesty, bearing down all opposition, and shedding its fertilizing influences on every side. Referring to the presence of the ladies, he said, he hailed the circumstance as one which confirmed the assurance of their speedy and complete success. The Chairman then went on to say, that the opposition of argument to their principle had ceased altogether: the sophistries with which they had once been met were now never uttered. It had been proved that the Corn Laws were opposed to the principle of the Christian religion, which enjoined upon its professors to clothe the naked and feed the hungry; but the Corn Laws denied the force of this obligation, and compelled multitudes, being under their malignant influence, to go both hungry and naked. The Corn Laws were opposed to all sound mercantile principles; they paralysed the trade and commerce of the country, and prevented the people of this country from taking their multiplied productions to different quarters of the globe, and bringing back bread to a population which was wanting. It had frequently happened that in London corn had been loaded up until unfit for use, and then thrown into the river to be destroyed, while the population had been starving, and manufacturers had been storing up goods in their warehouses while other countries had been storing up their corn, which they would willingly have exchanged for those manufactures. This hydra-headed monster had deprived the workpeople of their work, had been lowering their wages, and advancing the price of their provisions, and this was its inevitable tendency. If they turned to the class for whose benefit it was this law was made, the farmers and farm labourers, what was their position? Could the labourer be reduced lower than he was at present, and more deeply sunk in ignorance, vice, and poverty. The tenants and cultivators of the soil, what was their condition? They were trembling under their lords, depending on the caprice, the temper, or despotic spirit in which their landlord happened to be when they paid their rents; and if they looked at the landlord himself, he was extorting a rent which he knew his tenants could not pay. He had heard of a large landowner who made a return of 10 or 15 per cent., to those of his tenants who carried on no trade or business, and from whom he knew he could not get anything; but to those who had any trade or business, he made no return at all. A newspaper never came to hand now, but they had in it accounts of landlords returning a per centage on the rents. And why was this done? Because their consciences told them that though they exacted it their tenants could not make it. The Corn Law did not answer the purposes of the landlords—they were completely defeated by their own obnoxious measure. The opinion had been generally promulgated through the country that the manufacturing interest was one, and the agricultural interest another. It was a falsehood—a mistake; all interests in a country were banded together, and it was a mistake to separate them. The people of England were willing to depend on their own energies and industry. All they wanted was a clear stage and fair play. He was quite sure, if that was only allowed, this country would prosper; the intelligence and industry of Englishmen was such that they had nothing to fear if they had fair play; if they had the high road of the sea; if they were allowed to transport their productions to all parts of the globe, and bring back such things as the people needed. There was a gleam of prosperity just now, but without the Corn Law was repealed we should have a return of the distress. But on looking around and beholding the unanimity which pervaded Halifax and other towns, he was convinced they must succeed in their object. He conjured them by all that was sacred and dear to them as Englishmen—by all that was valuable in promoting the happiness, the well being, and comfort of all that surrounded them—to join their heart and hand in dragging this hydra-headed monster from its place, so that we might once more see peace and plenty covering the face of happy Old England again. The chairman was rapturously cheered in sitting down, and called upon

Charles Wood, Esq., M.P. for Halifax, who was received with great applause. He commenced his speech by expressing the great pleasure which he felt in responding to the invitation of a number of his constituents to attend and express to them his opinion on the subject which now occupied so much attention. He did this because he felt they had a right to call on him for the unrestrained communication of his opinions, and because he was glad to have the opportunity of showing how heartily he concurred in the object which had brought them together, and to advocate to the utmost of his power the abolition of the Corn Law. (Cheers.) He was aware that he had been misunderstood by some among his constituents, but he had nothing further to add then to what he had said the first time he came among them. He spoke as an agriculturist and a landlord, whose every sixpence depended on land; and he said that to any protection whatever they had no right. He had said so on the first occasion on which he had opened his lips in the borough; and though circumstances might, and had, raised up men in the county—men of more ability, and more eminently qualified to advocate those principles than he was—yet there was none among them who had longer entertained the conviction that all protection, but more especially agricultural protection, was no boon to the classes protected, but was an injury in itself. He had said then, and he said now, that he thought the agriculturist had no right to protection; he wished these laws had never been passed, and that they were abolished. (Loud cheers.) He had not, however, held out to them on former times the hope that they were going to be abolished speedily, because he knew the strength of those opposed to their abolition; nor had he ever taken credit for offering to sacrifice his own interest by so abolishing them, because he believed that in giving them up he did not relinquish anything valuable to himself. He concurred in the statement made by the chairman, that the interest of the agriculturist and the manufacturer were the same, and no landlord who lived so near the manufacturing districts as he did could be ignorant of the fact that his own prosperity depended on that of his manufacturing neighbours. It was only last spring, that speaking to a tenant in the East Riding respecting the price of stock, and on asking the reason of its being so low, his answer was, "There was sad bad trade in the west county." He had visited that farmer again subsequently, and he then said things were much better. Why do you think so? he asked. "Because trade is mending," was the reply. Agriculturists in the south of England might harbour doubts on the subject, but he could not see how any landlord living in the manufacturing districts could entertain a doubt that the price of his productions mainly depended on what his neighbours had to give him. Whatever contributed to the prosperity of the manufacturing population, contributed to the prosperity of the agriculturist; and any fancied interest which the latter class might have in that which was pernicious to the former, was an entire mistake. (Cheers.)

Mr. Wood then very shortly referred to three or four points on which the agriculturists had relied as their claim for protection: first, undue taxation, the remedy for which, if it existed, was revision and equalization; secondly, dependence on foreigners, without which, as a commercial nation, we could not exist at all. For the argument—if good for any thing—was just as valid against *dependence* for the *sale* of manufactures as for the *purchase* of food or of raw materials of any description. Then there was a great noise made about "*remunerating prices*." What was a remunerating price? No one had been able to define what a remunerating price was; and in the next place, never yet, under any Corn Law, had those prices been obtained which it was said it would give. If they took the bill of 1815, that was to give 80s. a quarter; the farmer got 70s. The next was to give 70s., and 64s. was obtained; 64s. was the next, and 56s. was the price got; and the present bill, according to Sir Robert Peel, was to afford them 56s., and yet the average price was somewhere between 48s. and 50s. No other tradesmen thought of applying to Parliament for a law to secure a remunerating price for their goods; he should like to see how such an application would be received. Why, they (the Parliament) would laugh in your face. If that were the case, he did not see on what principle the agriculturists could ask that for corn which they would refuse to manufactures. He then referred to the progress of the cause in the agricultural districts, and the great change of opinion that had followed the county meetings held during the last summer and autumn. He had found that amongst his own circle of friends, and through conferences with the farmers, their faith in the efficacy of protection was very generally shaken. Mr. Wood then commented at some length on the importance of the recent declaration of Lord Spencer in favour of a *total* repeal of the Corn Laws. Such opinions from the lips of one of the best landlords and most eminent practical agriculturists in the country could not fail to weaken the reliance of the tenantry on the delusive statements put forth by their "*pretended*" friends, and to diminish their alarm as to the effects of Free Trade on the condition and capital of the farming classes. Mr. Wood concluded his speech by referring to a letter addressed to him in the columns of the *Free Trader* (an unstamped periodical published at Halifax). The letter called upon him to give a pledge as to how he would vote in the next session. He declined to give such a pledge, holding it to be a constitutional right of the representative to go into Parliament unpledged. He had voted with Mr. Villiers in 1842; in 1843 he was prevented by the death of a brother, or he should have voted with him; and if a division were to take place that evening he would vote with him. He would never shrink from doing his duty, but he would do so without pledging himself to any specific course on this or any other question. Mr. Wood was loudly cheered on resuming his seat.

Mr. Edward Ackroyd next rose and said, they were met together for the discussion of no party object, the furtherance of no party designs. The Anti-Corn-Law League contained within its ranks, men of all classes of opinions. The history of this agitation in Halifax was short and simple. From its commencement it had numbered among its ranks the great bulk of the middle classes. It had experienced from a portion of the operatives a severe opposition, from a mistaken idea that its tendency was to reduce wages by reducing the price of food; but the fallacy had been exposed, for the price of food was now actually lower than at the time of the opposition, while wages were higher. There had also been another accusation brought against this body, and that was that the agitation had the effect of injuring trade and unsettling the commerce of the country. If so, perhaps the present improvement was the result of the increase of that agitation, and if that were true he desired more and more of it, so that an end might be put to all fluctuation of trade. There had also been a cry of protection for labour. Let them inquire how far the Legislature was capable of affording that protection. The labourer wanted good and steady labour and wages. What could the poor do if wages were not sufficient? Suppose they applied to Sir R. Peel, he would tell them the Exchequer was almost bankrupt. But suppose that Parliament passed a law that the lowest wages should be 2s. 6d. per day, how would they carry out that law? If they went to the manufacturer, he would say he could not pay those wages, with the price he received for his goods; and he would go to the merchant; and, ultimately, Parliament must be applied to to fix the price of goods. That was impossible—it was an absurdity. But though the manufacturers sought to abolish protection, they had no right to complain of the farmer having protection. They had had it themselves, from the time of Edward III. to 1660. In the reign of Charles II., a law was passed to increase the sale of woollens; and so minute were the provisions of that act in favour of the home manufacture, that it was enacted that every corpse should be buried in a woollen shroud. The protection on the exportation of long wool continued down to 1825; and at that time, when Mr. Huskisson threatened to take it off, Halifax and Bradford were up in arms against him, and they would remember that Mr. Stuart Wortley, now Lord Wharncliffe, took a very active part in it. Mr. Huskisson prevailed against their opposition, and the exportation of our long wools was permitted. What was the result? Why, trade since then had not merely doubled, but trebled. The same had taken place with respect to German wools. The farmers were alarmed at the idea of the competition, but what was the case? The advantage had turned out to be on their side, for manufacturers had not only bought the German wools, but a larger quantity of home produce. Mr. Ackroyd concluded by stating, that their common object was the good of all classes of the community.

Mr. Cobden, M.P., next addressed the meeting in a most effective speech. He exposed the absurdity of protection in all its forms, and commented with much humour upon the miserable fallacies that the fixed duty advocates were driven to in support of their position. He was followed by

Mr. J. T. Clay, of Raistrick, who said he always felt very great pleasure in attending meetings of the League, and when it was in his power to render his feeble assistance to forward the cause. He considered the cause of Free Trade as a great, a holy, and a just cause, and he went as far as any one in regarding it as important in an economical and commercial point of view; but how much more important was it when considered in relation to the happiness or misery of millions of their fellow creatures? Having these opinions, he often regretted that so many of the good and philanthropic in the country had so long kept aloof from it from no other cause than the hateful influence of party spirit. He hoped they would now see that party spirit, so far as regarded the cause of Free Trade, had vanished; he had the utmost pleasure in seeing gentlemen of every party in politics attending that meeting. It was now too late for any

one to say that this was a question merely affecting one portion of the community. It had been said it was a manufacturer's question *only*; he was not going to take up time in proving that it was not so: their member, Mr. Wood, had said enough on that. It was not so, for they found noblemen and gentlemen engaged in agriculture coming in on every hand and giving their opinion in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws, and it was encouraging to see such things, though they might even not see the immediate prospect of their repeal. They might find encouragement to go on in the history of the present century. It was not many years since noblemen and gentlemen in the Houses of Lords and Commons raised up their voices in favour of the slave-trade, but there was not one now to say anything in its favour. The Test and Corporations Acts, which were held to be the very bulwarks of our constitution, were now but matter of history; the Corporations Bill and the Catholic question both had been passed; and when they saw these, let them not be fearful of the future, but look forward with pleasure and hopeful anticipation that they should yet live to receive the full amount of their reward.

Colonel THOMPSON was then called upon, and spoke for a considerable time. The *Bradford Observer* says:—"The veteran repealer spoke with unusual energy and spirit, and produced a remarkable influence on the meeting, which seemed stirred to its soul, and burst out into tumultuous expressions of applause as Colonel Thompson sat down."

Mr. H. ASHWORTH of Bolton spoke very briefly, and urged his hearers to give liberally to the League in aid of its efforts.

Mr. BRIGHT spoke for about twenty minutes with his usual ability and effect. The pressure of matter compels us, however, to notice only the local speeches.

The work of "collecting the rent" began at a quarter before nine o'clock, when William Morris, Esq., read the list of larger contributions, amounting to about £1000.

Mr. MOORE then rose, and after a few preparatory remarks, requested cards might be distributed, and returned to him as quickly as possible. His appeals were cheerfully met by the company, and in about an hour £200 had been gathered. When the sums amounted to £1250, Mr. Moore said, "You have not yet come up to Huddersfield; I should like you to reach the amount contributed there—£80 more will do it." Previously to this allusion, the work of giving appeared to slacken, but it now began again, and in about a quarter of an hour it was announced that the subscriptions exceeded those given at Huddersfield. This was received with thunders of applause, and fresh contributions poured into the treasury. At length they reached £1382, when Mr. Moore observed, "that he would like they should make them £1400, it would be so much easier to say." No sooner said than done; one pound after another came in; the excitement of the meeting was intense; £1400 was no sooner reached than it was passed; and at half-past ten o'clock, when the usual votes of thanks were passed, the subscriptions were announced to amount to—

FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY POUNDS!

SUBSCRIPTIONS ANNOUNCED.

Of £300—James Ackroyd and Sons.

Of £160—Josh. Stocks and Co.; John Crossley and Sons; John Hadwin and Sons.

Of £50—Henry Ambler; Thomas Taylor and Sons; J. T. Clay (in addition to £50 subscribed at Huddersfield).

Of £40—Lister and Morris; William Appleyard and Sons; John Baldwin.

Of £30—J. Whitworth.

Of £20—Josh. Thorp; A Friend; Simeon Townend of Thornton; John Foster; R. Eastburn; Thompson, Oldlane; James Royston and Son.

Of £10—Jos. Chapple; B. Walton; A Friend to Free Trade, and Determined Enemy to a Sliding Scale or Fixed Duty; D. Ramsden; A Friend; A Friend; John Ambler; H. Aked and Co.; Ramsbotham and Co. (£10 10s. 10d.); Atlas; A Friend, £7 10s.

Of £5—James Davy; John Ratcliffe; Mr. Styring; A Friend; G. Henderson; David Binns, £2 to the League, and £3 more to take the scales off Sir R. Peel's eyes; John Barraclough; A Friend; Thomas Fleming; James Firth and Son; A good hint for Guineas, £5 5s.; A Friend; West Parade; Old Market; North Parade—at first £5, but afterwards increased to £6; A Subscriber elsewhere; a Lady, and wellwisher, £5 5s.; Wife and four children, £1 each; William Barraclough; T. S. Woolshops; A Friend.

Of £1—Josh. Blakey; J. Brearley; towards the close of the meeting, a gentleman called out, "Add £1 4s. to Mr. Naylor's subscription," but as there are two of that name, we did not know to which to add it; a Friend, for three sons and one daughter, £1 4s. 4d.

Of £3—G. Gaukroger; W. Waddington, £3 3s.; A Friend; R. Midgley, £3 3s.; Thomas Midgley; three Ladies, £3 3s.; S. H. £2 10s.; Free Trader, £3 3s.

Of £2—A Lover of Justice; H. Spencer; John Law, £2 2s.; Thomas Moorhouse; Broadbent and Watson; S. Blagborough, £2 2s.; M. Naylor; B. Naylor; Thos. Wanhouse, £3 3s.; Lewis Crossley, £2 2s.; A Lady; A number of cards were returned with the word "A Friend"—six in all, for £2 or £2 2s. each, one by B. Walton; John Holt, £2 2s.; Thomas Denton; H. Schofield; A. Hirst; John Hutchinson; R. J. Brook; T. Waterhouse; Joseph Womersley; Rev. William Turner; Mother for two children; One who would give more if he could, £2 2s.

Of £1—One who will never vote for any candidate who will not vote for Free Trade; Thomas Collinson; J. Stead; A Stranger; A Downright Repealer, £1 1s.; Fair Play and no Favour; One who would give more if he could afford it, £1 1s.; R. Davis, £1 1s.; Determined Enemy to Monopoly, Thomas Fleming; J. Bancroft; Two Ladies; Three Friends, £1 1s. each; Two Ladies, £1 1s.; Mr. Jackson, draper (Mr. Moore had been speaking very earnestly and eloquently upon the general question, when Mr. Jackson exclaimed "A guinea for that speech!" The company loudly applauded, and Mr. M. jocosely replied, "A very good fee, Sir.") T. Pearson; 17 cards with the word "Friend," £1 or £1 1s. each; Mr. Simpson; I. Jowett; J. Wilson; T. C.; Two Working Men; W. Smith; Brace of Working Men, £1 1s.; Down with all Protection; A Friend, for his son; Rev. S. Whitewood; Mr. Batty; Good wisher to the good cause; Brookfoot Crane; C. Howard; T. Mills; A Friend in the Distance, and frequently in the mist, £1 1s.—the subscriber was in the gallery at the extremity of the hall, and owing to the crowded state of the room the atmosphere was so thick as to render it difficult for parties so situate to see the platform; For Four Children; "The Way to get up to Huddersfield"—when the subscriptions amounted to £1250, Mr. Moore asked the people to make it up to the sum subscribed at Huddersfield, this was the first response; Mother, for her little girl, £1 1s.; Father, for his little girl; Lester House, £1 1s. 1d.; Mr. Stancliffe; My son John, £1 1s.; A Sister; Mrs. Josh. Appleyard, £1 1s.; Two Ladies, £1 1s.; Two more Ladies, £1 1s.; One who likes to help those who help themselves; One Pound for my good wife; Another for mine, G. Dawson (roars of laughter); One Pound for self and wife, from a corn miller; J. Brook, £1 1s.; Woolstapler; A Few Shopmates; Two Ladies, £1 1s.; Father for his Family; Josh. Hartley, £1 1s.; J. Vickerman; Down with Monopoly.

Small Sums.—Mother, for little girl, 2s. 6d.; Oddfellow, 10s. 6d.; Crabstick, 2s. 6d. (great laughter); A Female Friend for her Son, 10s.; J. Crabtree, 2s. 6d.; For a Wife when I get one, 5s. (peals of laughter); One who works hard, 2s.; John Day, 2s. 6d.; G. Rawnsley, 10s.; James Broadbent, 10s.; Mr. Best, "a little account towards a great account," 5s.; For self, 5s., and for my intended, 5s. (renewed laughter), whereupon Mr. Cobden remarked, "A crown for himself and a crown for his intended wife, and I hope she may prove a crown to him."

HUDDERSFIELD.

The first meeting in Yorkshire in connexion with the stupendous efforts of the National Anti-Corn-Law League, in favour of Free Trade and the destruction of that giant monopoly, the Corn Law, was held at the Philosophical Hall, Huddersfield, on Thursday evening, the 7th inst.

As in the former campaign, Huddersfield has again shown itself worthy of the lead in the mighty movement in this district; the friends of Free Trade manifesting a noble and benevolent zeal to maintain the honourable position the town attained in the League's last campaign, by efforts in the present campaign of twice its predecessor's magnitude. Huddersfield, therefore, on Thursday evening contributed £1322 towards the fund of £100,000!

The proceedings coming under what is denominated a soirée, they were commenced by tea, the tables being most agreeably presided over by the ladies of Huddersfield, who deserve the most honourable mention for the part they took on the occasion.

About 600 individuals sat down to tea, in two successive sets; and, if the room had been large enough, a considerably greater number of tickets would have been issued. After tea, other parties were admitted by tickets; and not less than 700 tickets were thus disposed of. The room was crowded to the full extent of its capacity, and the spectacle was highly interesting and animating.

Altogether the proceedings were of the most lively and enthusiastic character, and were particularly distinguished for the enthusiasm manifested by the densely crowded audience during the able and spirit-stirring addresses of the champions of the League,—Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Moore.

F. Schwann, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair.

Amongst the gentlemen present, besides the deputation from the League, and the Chairman, were Samuel Topp, Esq.; William Sykes, Esq.; William Willans, Esq.; Joseph Kaye, Esq.; Joseph Travis Clay, Esq., of Rastrick; G. Crossland, Esq., of Crossland Moor; Thomas Pearson Crossland, Esq., of Crossland Moor; George Mallinson, Esq.; Thos. Mallinson, Esq.; Foster Shaw, Esq.; Benjamin Robinson, Esq.; Robert Welsh, Esq.; John Wood, Esq., of Dalton; Joseph Batley, Esq.; Thomas Pitt, Esq.; Rev. George Highfield; Rev. John Dyer, Rev. Mr. Mellor; Mr. John Labrey; Mr. Joseph Boothroyd; Mr. Thomas Robinson, solicitor; Mr. John Clay, solicitor; Mr. Joseph Boothroyd, Mr. George Robinson, Mr. George Milner, Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. R. Kell, Mr. Fisher, Mr. W. Shaw, Mr. John Robinson, Mr. Wm. Batley, Mr. Wm. Cooper, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. T. A. Heaps, Mr. Thomas Webb, Mr. Thomas Kilner, Mr. Joseph Shaw, Mr. Joseph Wrigley, Mr. George Norton, Mr. C. H. Jones, Mr. W. Crossland, Mr. R. Roberts, Mr. R. Willett, Mr. James Wrigley, &c. &c.

The tables being removed,

The CHAIRMAN, on rising, was received with loud cheers. He said he felt deeply sensible of their kindness, but at the same time equally sensible of his inability to fill the chair as it ought to be filled. He, therefore, very deeply regretted the absence of Mr. Wm. Brook, who was expected to preside. He then read a letter from Mr. Brook, regretting his inability to be present, and expressing his earnest desire that the success of the cause for which they had assembled might be greatly promoted by the meeting. The Chairman then proceeded to say that it was a great encouragement to them to persevere in the contest in which they were engaged, to consider that their forefathers had triumphantly gone through similar contests. They had in their times conquered feudalism, they had conquered religious despotism, they had conquered military despotism; for though these might not be altogether extinct, yet they were passing rapidly away, and the people were gaining in strength and importance. (Applause.) Each time had its own task allotted. That of the present time was to battle against monopoly. (Loud applause.) True it was, they had not to encounter the violence of former times. Violence had decreased; but cunning had increased. (Applause.) The despotism of monopoly insinuated itself under a softer name, and called itself protection. (Applause.) Protection! Yes, as they protected the bee, by taking its life for the purpose of depriving it of its honey. (Applause.) That was what they called protection. But could the monopolists expect to control that mighty power which had called into existence such hives of intellect, wealth, and intelligence, as Manchester, and Glasgow, and Leeds, and other towns? (Hear, hear, hear.) As well might they expect to stop the mighty waters of Niagara. (Applause.) Did not the people understand the rights of industry? Did they want more argument, did they need more instruction on the subject? Look around them. Was not that meeting a verdict in their favour? (Loud applause.) All Europe was alive to the importance of this subject at the present moment. England looked without envy on the prosperity of other nations, believing it to influence and react upon its own. For why should they claim protection at the expense of their fellow-creatures? All they asked for was justice. Give them a fair field and no favour, with the world for a market, and they were content to rely upon the goodness of God, and their own skill and industry. (Applause.) Thanks to their friends, Cobden and Bright, and their noble colleagues. (Loud applause.) But for them the labourer would still be cheated of his hire, and the poor deluded farmer, instead of trusting to his own energies, and asking for long leases, would still believe in the magic power of protection. (Applause.) He would allow himself ignorantly to be protected into ruinous rents, into servile dependence, and into the dreary prospect of seeing his poor children compelled to seek a distant clime as a new home. (Applause.) He concluded by calling upon Mr. Willans to move the first resolution.

W. WILLANS, Esq., then proposed the first resolution, which denounced all limitations of the food of the people as impolitic and wicked; but said he would not be guilty of the bad taste of keeping the meeting for a single moment from those speakers to whom they would listen with much deeper interest than to anything he could say. He therefore contented himself with merely reading and moving the resolution.

T. P. CROSSLAND, Esq., seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

J. T. CLAY, Esq., of Rastrick, read the next resolution, which contained an expression of gratitude to the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League for their services, and a determination to give all possible assistance to the £100,000 fund. In the course of his observations, Mr. Clay noticed the immense progress which the principles of Free Trade had made since they last met, about a year ago, in that room for a similar object. He attributed this progress to the great exertions of the League, which, though assailed with most unmerited calumny, he looked upon as a confederacy of honest men for a great and patriotic purpose, and as the only body of men who could carry it to a successful conclusion. (Loud applause.) After some further observations, Mr. Clay concluded by proposing the resolution he had read, and sat down amidst loud applause.

GEORGE MALLINSON, Esq., seconded the resolution, which was also carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P., who addressed the meeting for a considerable time, and seems, from the long report in the *Leeds Mercury*, to have been received with the most cordial enthusiasm. He was followed by JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., in an equally spirited and powerful speech, the effect of which upon the meeting was evidenced by constant bursts of cheering throughout its delivery.

R. R. R. MOORE, Esq., next addressed the assembly in a short but most effective appeal; the main reference of which was to the immediate purpose of the meeting—the collection of contributions to the Great League Fund. At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Moore proceeded in his own inimitable and most amusing style, to read aloud the subscriptions as they were handed in from the respective parties.

The following are the names of the principal parties, together with the amounts individually subscribed. Wherever the word *doubled* occurs, it implies that this year's subscription is twice the amount subscribed by the party last year:—

£200—F. Schwann, Esq., (doubled).

£100 each—Messrs. Mallinson and Sons; Messrs. George Crossland and Sons; and Joseph Kaye, Esq. (All doubled.)

£50—Joseph Travis Clay, Esq.

£30—Mr. Wm. Willans; Messrs. J. W. and H. Shaw (threefold).

£21—Mr. Richard Dewhirst. By the men in the employ of F. Schwann, Esq., £2 16s., including the names of Mr. S. C. Kell for £10, Mr. Wm. Hirst for £3, and Mr. R. Kell for £2.

£20—Mr. Joseph Norton; Mr. Foster Shaw (doubled); Mr. George Norton; Messrs. Joshua Wood and Sons (doubled); Mr. Wm. Shaw (doubled); Messrs. Swain and Webb (fourfold); Mr. Thos. Kilner (doubled); Messrs. Joseph Turner and Co. (doubled); Mr. James Wrigley (doubled); Mr. Robert Welsh (doubled); Messrs. Wm. Milner and Co. (doubled); Mr. John Robinson (doubled); Mr. C. H. Jones (doubled); Mr. D. Haigh (fourfold); Mr. John Clay (doubled); Mr. John North (doubled); Messrs. John and Abraham Bennett (doubled); and Mr. Wm. Wrigley.

£10 10s.—Mr. William Learoyd.

£10—Mr. Richard Roberts (doubled); Mr. William Learoyd, senior (doubled); Messrs. Leadbeatter and Son (doubled); Mr. William Crossland; Mr. John Littlewood (doubled); Messrs. Walker, Brothers; Mr. Samuel Routlidge; Mr. Thomas Shann (doubled).

£5 5s.—Mr. Joseph Shaw; Mr. T. G. Lancashire; and Mr. T. A. Heaps.

£5—Mr. Joseph Boothroyd: Mr. Richard Willett; Mr. Law Hepponstall; Mr. William England; Messrs. Carver, Driver, and Co.; Mr. John Labrey (five-fold); "An Old Anti-Corn-Law Agitator;" Mrs. Dewhirst: Mr. William Moore, jun.; Mr. William Haigh; Mr. William Mills; "One who thinks he could not make a better investment;" Messrs. D. Bradshaw and Co.; Mr. John Sutcliff; Mr. John Johnson; "A Hater of Monopoly."

£3 3s.—Mr. Thomas England (threefold); Mr. Wm. Hornblower.

£2 2s.—Mr. Henry Hirst; "A Sympathiser," per Mr. Pitt; Mr. John Frost; Mr. Benjamin Crossland; Mr. Thomas Robinson, solicitor (doubled); Mr. Pitt (doubled); Mr. Benjamin Burdon; Mr. James Burnett; "D. B.;" Miss Kell; Mr. Thomas Walker; Mr. W. Mellor; Mr. Jonathan Shaw; Mr. Joseph Shaw; Mr. Henry Shaw; Messrs. B. and J. Sheard; Mr. R. Porritt; Messrs. J. and E. Tetley (doubled); Mr. Nicholas Roy.

£2.—Mr. Wm. Dyson, Mr. Phineas Armitage, Mr. Thomas Hirst, Mr. Thomas Ibbetson (doubled), Messrs. Joseph Liddell and Brothers, Mr. Jonathan Quarmby.

£1 10s.—Mr. H. Roebuck, Mr. Jno. Henley.

£1 1.—Mr. Walter Hirst, Mr. Andrew Lorrimer, Mr. Benjn. Mellor, Mr. Joseph Bentley, Mr. Joseph Fawcett, Mr. James Hunter (doubled), "No. 4, Albion-street," Mr. Jos. Hanson, Mr. Henry Scott, Mr. Henry Edwards, Mrs. Boothroyd, "D. S.," Mr. H. J. Wilkinson, "A Friend," Mr. Benjamin Thornton, Mrs. Heaps, Mr. Benjamin Armitage, Mr. B. Crooke, Mr. S. Brook, Mr. G. H. Kilner, Mr. W. H. Caton, Mr. Wm. Lombardini, Mr. Josephus H. Roebuck, Mr. James Murgatroyd, Mr. P. Robinson, Mr. Wm. Matthison, Mrs. John Johnson, Mr. Wm. Brayshaw, Mr. Thomas Fisher, "Young Men and

Apprentices," "J. D.," Mr. Wm. Norcliff, Mr. Stephen Weekes, "F. F."

£1.—Mr. W. Froane, Rev. Mr. Trappes (Catholic priest), Rev. S. Smith, Mr. R. Wilkinson, Mr. Godfrey Berry, jun., Mr. Wm. Avison, Mr. Frederick Stables, Mr. Geo. Crossland, jun., Mr. Geo. Carver, Mr. Wm. Brook, Mr. Charles Hudson, "J. C.," Mr. Benjamin Haigh (doubled), Mr. Joseph Mitchell, Mr. J. S. Booth, Mr. Mary Dewhirst, Miss Dewhirst, Miss Ann Dewhirst, "L.," Mr. Jas. Batho, Mr. J. O. Binns, Mr. M. Swallow, Mr. G. Lumb, Mr. Ely Stott, Mr. Richard Brook, Mr. J. Eagleton, "S. W.," "G. H.," Mr. Joseph Quarmby, Mr. J. H. Waddington.

A number of smaller subscriptions were also handed in, including 4s. for "a sleeping draught for Sir Robert Peel."

At the close, the chairman, amidst the most tremendous acclamations, announced the total amount of the subscriptions to be upwards of £1322, being nearly double the sum realized last year.

It is, however, to be added, that in the last year's subscription of about £700 in the meeting, there was a single subscription amounting to £300, from the late Mr. Clay, of Rastrick; so that the amount now raised *from Huddersfield* is much more than double the amount raised from that town at its meeting in 1842.

Before the proceedings terminated, a vote of thanks was awarded to the ladies, and three cheers were given for the chairman, and three cheers for the League.

Holmfirth Free-Trade Demonstration.—This district has again responded to the call of the Anti-Corn-Law League, for pecuniary assistance to carry on the warfare against monopoly and injustice. On Friday last a meeting was held in the Town-hall, when John Bright, Esq., M.P., and Col. T. P. Thompson, attended as a deputation from the League. Last year there was a tea-party in connexion with the meeting, but this was now dispensed with. Notwithstanding a charge of 6d. and 3d. each was made, and a counter-meeting got up by those deluded men the Chartists, the hall was crowded, and there could not have been less than 800 persons present. The proceedings were of the most lively and enthusiastic character, and were particularly distinguished for the enthusiasm manifested by the audience during the able addresses of the champions of the League. John Harpin, Esq., of Birks House, was unanimously called to the chair. The Rev. John Cockin moved the first resolution:—"That this meeting, being convinced that the laws which prohibit the free importation of foreign grain and provisions are unjust and oppressive, and destructive alike of the true interests of agriculture and commerce, repeats its solemn protest against them, and declares its determination never to cease its exertions until these laws are entirely abolished." Mr. Godfrey Mellor seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. John Robinson moved the second resolution:—"That this meeting hereby records its unbounded confidence in the National Anti-Corn-Law League, and its high sense of the invaluable services it has rendered to the cause of Free Trade; that it views with satisfaction the deputation from its Council, and, relying upon the justice of the cause, hail them as the heralds of a speedy triumph." Mr. George Robinson seconded the resolution, which was also carried unanimously. Mr. Isaac Beardsell moved the third resolution, "That a subscription in aid of the great League Fund of £100,000 be now commenced." Mr. John M'Lellan seconded it. Colonel T. P. Thompson and Mr. Bright followed, and were received with tremendous and reiterated cheering. Both delivered most effective speeches, which were received with rapturous applause. The subscription was then commenced, and the following are the names of the parties, together with the amount individually subscribed:—Messrs. Beardsell, £25; Messrs. Mellor, £10 10s.; John Harpin, Esq., £10; Mr. Eli Wimpenny, £6; Mr. Geo. Robinson, £5 5s.; A Friend, per Mr. Pickford, £5 5s.; Messrs. Brooks, £5 5s.; Mr. Thos. Moorhouse, £5; Mr. Chas. Trotter, £4 19s. 11½d.; Mr. Abel Tinker, £3; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Woodhead, £3; Mr. N. Booth, £2 2s.; Mr. Joseph Mellor, jun., £2 2s.; Mr. N. Littlewood, £2; Mr. Samuel Mellor and Mr. Hiram Earnshaw, £1; Mr. John Bower, £1; Rev. Geo. Heap, £1; Mr. and Mrs. A. M'Lellan, £1; Mr. Jas. Holmes and Mr. Abel Hinchliffe, £1; Mr. M. Bower, £1; Messrs. A. and G. Mellor, £1; Mr. Wm. Pickford, £1; Mr. John M'Lellan, £1; Mr. Geo. Fieldend, £1; Mr. Jas. Beardsell and Mr. E. Whitely, £1; Mr. J. T. Battye, and Mr. J. Whitely, £1; Mr. Edwin Barber, £1; Mr. John Roebuck, 10s.; Mr. John Hinchliffe, 5s.; Mr. Henry Bower, 5s.; Mr. Joseph Hawksworth, 5s.; Mr. Joseph Rayner, 5s.; Mr. J. M. Woodhead, 5s.; Mr. John Senior, 2s. 6d.; Mr. James Littlewood, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Lot Allen, 1s.; Mr. Geo. Woodhouse, 1s.; with several other sums, making the amount subscribed in the meeting £105. Votes of thanks having been passed to Col. T. P. Thompson, Mr. Bright, and the Chairman, three cheers were given for the League, and the meeting separated.

Great League Fund Meeting—Wigan, Thursday Night.—(From a Correspondent.)—This evening the Free Traders of this borough have held a tea-party in support of the League Fund, at which Ralph Thicknesse, Esq., son of the late member, presided. I have only a moment before the post leaves to give you the result. After addresses from Mr. Henry Ashworth, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Moore, a subscription was entered into amounting to £356, which, added to £77, previously contributed, amounts to £433. Several of the most influential persons in this borough, known to be favourable to the League, were absent from home, and no doubt is entertained that the subscription will reach £600—double that of last year. A vote of thanks to the deputation was at the conclusion of the meeting moved by Mr. Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Acton, and carried unanimously; after which the company separated, pledged to use every exertion to carry out the objects of the League. I anticipate a new era in Wigan as the result of the stirring and convincing speeches of this evening.

Mitcham Anti-Corn-Law Association.—The monthly meeting of the above Association was held on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., at the Rising Sun Inn, Lower Tooting, which was numerously attended. Mr. Booth in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Aitkin, Hon. Sec., in an address of some length, detailed the progress which the League has made since the last meeting, and congratulated the meeting upon its success and progress in so good and holy a cause, and which, from signs not to be mistaken, must soon be triumphant; but, under any circumstances, they were determined never to relax in their exertions until trade was free. Resolutions were proposed and seconded, that a committee be appointed to aid in this district the collection of the Great League Fund; and that a public meeting be held at Tooting, early in the ensuing year, in furtherance of that object. After Mr. Williamson, Mr. Scott, Mr. Barringer, and other members had expressed their opinions, the resolutions were agreed to unanimously. It was likewise agreed to that deputations from the Association should visit the friends of Free Trade in the adjoining districts, to obtain their aid and co-operation in the destruction of the odious monopolist laws. After thanks to the chairman, the meeting adjourned till Wednesday, January 3, 1844.

Meetings in the Western Counties.—The Anti-Corn-Law agitation in the Western Counties is progressing as auspiciously as rapidly. Mr. Sidney Smith has, since our last publication, lectured to crowded and enthusiastic audiences at Marlborough, Andover, Romsey, Winchester, &c. At Winchester Mr. Smith was aided in his useful labours by Mr. James Acland. Those gentlemen were everywhere well received, and have in each place where they have addressed meetings laid the foundation of a Free-Trade Registration Society.

Success of the League in Bedfordshire.—During the past week Mr. Falvey has delivered lectures at Ampthill, Woburn, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, and Luton. Committees have been formed in the various towns to co-operate with the League, and on Wednesday evening, at the close of Mr. Falvey's lecture, £25 was subscribed in a few minutes in the small town of Luton. The best possible feeling is manifested towards the League throughout the county of Bedford.

Meetings will be held during the ensuing week:—at Todmorden, Warrington, and Eccles, on Monday; at Bradford, Yorkshire, on Tuesday; Barnsley, on Wednesday; Macclesfield, on Thursday; and Accrington, on Friday. All these meetings will be attended by deputations from the Council.

A FIXED DUTY ON CORN FOR REVENUE.

(From the Economist.)

The Corn-Law question is not only now narrowed to one between a small fixed duty and no duty, but it is every day becoming further narrowed—one reason after another in favour even of the former being given up, until now its chief advocates have only one plea left for it—that is, for the purposes of revenue. In this country, where the collection of our revenue is of so varied—so complex—so clumsy a nature, it is not difficult to confuse impositions, the real effect of which is protection to classes, with those for state purposes alone.

It is only a fortnight ago since we remarked, in an article on the *Working of the American Tariff*—"The *Times* says this tariff was a revenue question; *and on the same grounds the Times is making a desperate preparation to work itself into a new reputation among the commercial classes in this country by the same argument—to support protection here on the same pretence;—it will fail.*" Accordingly, on Monday last, a long article appears, in which an attack is made upon the supporters of a Free Trade in corn, and they are charged with endangering the public faith, placing the revenue in danger, and aiming a blow at the very root of all taxation. To the honour of our country, this is a subject on which we are more tenacious than perhaps any other; but Free Trade, properly understood, instead of endangering the revenue, is its greatest security. Free Trade does not seek to interfere with any tax for revenue only—Free Trade desires that taxes and duties should be imposed upon articles in such a way that the whole shall go into the Exchequer, and no part into the pockets of private individuals in the shape of protection—and thus, instead of being an enemy to the revenue, Free Trade is its most jealous friend. In the article alluded to, the *Times*, either intentionally or with an ignorance of the subject which it is difficult to conceive, altogether misrepresents not only the motives, but also the principles of the Free-Trade party.

If we grow more wheat than we consume, then no amount of duty could raise the price, which would in that case be regulated by the markets where the surplus was disposed of. But if we grow less wheat than we consume, the price would rise with a perfectly Free Trade above the level of other markets to that point which would pay the freight and other charges necessary to bring the quantity required; if, however, in addition to those necessary charges there were an import duty also to pay, such duty would act precisely as so much increased expense, and no supply would be obtained until the price here had risen equal to the whole expense of bringing wheat from other markets, *including the duty*. While, therefore, the revenue would derive duty only from the small quantity imported, the price of the whole quantity consumed, including all home-grown wheat, would be raised by the amount of the duty to the consumer.

Thus, supposing the price of wheat in this country to be 45s. per quarter, and the price in Dantzig 35s., and suppose the freight and charges to be 11s., at those relative prices no wheat would come to this market; but if there was a deficiency here, the price would rise, say to 46s., and immediately, with a Free Trade, a supply would begin to come from whatever circle of places could send it, including all charges, at 46s. If enough did not come at that rate, the price would rise to 47s., the circle of supply would be enlarged, and as much would come as could be afforded at that price. If still not enough, the price would rise to 48s.; again, the circle of supply would be extended, and an increased quantity would come exactly in proportion as the price rose, and the distance from which it could be brought extended. But, on the other hand, suppose, instead of a Free Trade, foreign wheat were subject to a duty of 5s. per quarter, and the same circumstances existed,—wheat here worth 45s. per quarter, in Dantzig 35s. per quarter, and the expenses 11s.,—wheat rises to 46s.; no transaction can now take place, because not only must the charge of 11s. be paid, but also the duty of 5s. No additional quantity coming, it rises to 47s., 48s., 49s., 50s., and to 51s.; at this price the bare expense of freight, &c., and duty, are covered, and as much comes at 51s. as with a Free Trade, all other circumstances the same, would come at 46s.; if enough did not come at 51s., the price would rise to 52s., the circle of supply would be enlarged, and as much would come at this price as with a Free Trade would be supplied at 47s.; if the supply is still not enough, the price will rise to 53s., and again the circle of supply would be extended, and an increased quantity would come exactly in proportion as the price rose. But in the case of a Free Trade the quantity which would be commanded at 46s., 47s., and 48s., and so on, would exactly correspond with that which, with a fixed duty of 5s. per quarter, would come at 51s., 52s., 53s., and so on, for the simple reason that in both cases the net price obtained abroad by the producer or merchant (whose prices are regulated by the cost of production, *and by the demand for other markets in other countries as well as this)* would be the same under the two different circumstances at the two scales of prices quoted.

It is, therefore, sufficiently plain, that, in order to derive any supply of foreign wheat and pay a fixed duty, the price of all the wheat in the country must be raised as much above the rate at which that supply could be obtained under a Free Trade as the duty amounts to. And whatever the duty is, to that extent, while operative, would it act in the quality of protection; and it was thus that Sir Robert Peel taunted Lord Palmerston with upholding *protection*, while he professed only to seek revenue.

Now, suppose the consumption of the country to be 20,000,000 quarters, all of which was grown at home, and that the supply was sufficient for the whole consumption of the country at 45s. per quarter. If a deficient crop, or any other circumstance occurred, which reduced the home produce to 18,000,000 quarters, and a foreign supply of 2,000,000 quarters became needful, as was exactly the case in 1837 and 1838, it must be obvious that that quantity would be procured on the same terms, whether it were subject to a duty or not; the foreigner would not sell his wheat any cheaper because it had a duty to pay in England, and competition would prevent them obtaining any higher price if it were free of duty; that which would alone regulate their sales, would be the price they obtained free of all costs. To whatever price, therefore, the deficiency of 2,000,000 quarters raised prices, in order to make up the supply with a Free Trade, that price would be raised just as much higher by any amount of duty chargeable upon its admission. And taking that duty at 5s. per quarter, a revenue of £500,000 would be produced to the State; while, however, an increased price of 5s. per quarter would be entailed on the consumer on the whole 20,000,000 quarters, being equal to an additional cost of £5,000,000, for the sake of raising a revenue of £500,000.

But some strangely enough contend that the amount of the import duty would not enhance the price of the home-grown corn, but would go in reduction of the price received by the foreigner; that the consumer does not, therefore, pay the duty, but the producer; that to forego the duty would only be to put so much more into the pocket of the foreigner. Such men, however, altogether forget that the transactions of the foreigner are regulated, not by what we *chose* to pay him, or by what duties we chose to impose, but by the rate at which he can afford to sell his wheat, and the price he can command in other markets; and at that rate competition compels them to sell, whether we charge his wheat with a duty or not.

We are greatly surprised to find that one who usually entertains such very clear views of our political economy as Lord Monteagle does, should have fallen into this fallacy. In the debate on his motion in March last, he said—

"It had been said that a given amount of duty placed upon a commodity which was partly produced abroad, and partly produced at home, would have the effect of raising the whole price of the commodity in the amount of the duty which was imposed. A more singular mistake, a more totally incorrect application of a scientific principle, it was scarcely possible for any one to encounter. Suppose, for instance, that the quantity of corn annually consumed in this country amounted to 12,000,000 quarters; that of that 12,000,000 quarters 2,000,000 were imported from abroad; that upon the 2,000,000 so imported a duty of 5s. per quarter was levied, the gross amount of revenue so levied would be £500,000. 'But,' said the parties to whose views he was referring, 'you must multiply the 5s. duty, not by the 2,000,000 of quarters, but by the 12,000,000 of quarters; and thus it will be seen that there is a duty imposed upon the corn of this country, not of £500,000, but of £3,000,000 sterling.' It was utterly absurd to suppose that any such result could take place. The consumer could only pay this duty by an increase of price, and such increase of price could only be produced by a limitation of the supply. If the demand and supply remained unaltered, the price would continue the same."

Now, the mistake into which Lord Monteagle here

falls is obvious. He overlooks the fact that, before the time arrived at which he supposes 2,000,000 quarters of foreign wheat to have been supplied, subject to a duty of 5s. per quarter, the very operation which we have described must have taken place; and the more important fact still, that the only reason why that supply of 2,000,000 quarters was not extended to 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 quarters, was the existence of the duty. In the quotation we have made he admits the whole principle while he denies the result: "*The consumer could only pay this duty by an increase of price, and such increase of price could only be produced by a limitation of supply.*" Here is the principle admitted. Will any man contend that the supply of an article is not limited by an import duty, as much as by an expensive freight, or a distant and dear land carriage? If Lord Monteagle's conclusion is right, why not charge 10s., or 15s., or 20s. per quarter, instead of 5s.? The reply would doubtless be that such duties would be prohibitory. True, 20s. may be prohibitory; 15s. might admit a trifle; 10s. might allow more, say 1,000,000 quarters to come; while 5s. admits, according to Lord Monteagle's case, 2,000,000 quarters: but go on; reduce the duty to 2s., the inducement to send, and the wider circle from which we could draw supplies, might increase the supply to 3,000,000 quarters, and the price of all wheat would be lowered. Take away the duty altogether, and it may be increased to 4,000,000 quarters, and the price of all wheat would be further lowered. It is quite clear that at the latter point alone the greatest quantity can come, and that at that point the price of all wheat would be lowest. It is by "*the limitation of supply alone that the whole principle operates.*"

But in the very next passage of his speech Lord Monteagle furnishes us with the very happiest illustration of his fallacy and of our principles:—

"True freedom of trade was also perfectly consistent with any countervailing duty, which was laid on for the purpose of affording protection to any one class that was subject to burthens that did not belong to other classes of the community. The English maltster being subject to a heavy duty upon the article he manufactured, it was perfectly consistent with the principles of Free Trade that foreign malt should not be admitted, except upon the payment of a countervailing duty."

With this we perfectly agree; for if foreign malt were allowed to come in duty free, it would in the market command the same price as the home-made malt paying a tax: the revenue would lose so much, the consumer would not be to the same extent benefited, it might be, not at all; and the difference of the duty would only be so much more paid to the importer of malt than the net price received by the maker of malt here: it is, therefore, perfectly right that an import duty should be placed on foreign malt, to countervail an excise duty charged on home-made malt; thus adopting the real principle contended for by Free Traders, *that the same article, wherever it is produced, should be chargeable with the same duty.* But if an import duty be needful on foreign malt to countervail the excise duty, and thus to protect equally the interests of the consumer and the revenue, on the same reasoning precisely, if an import duty be charged on foreign wheat, should that be countervailed to the revenue and consumer by a similar rate of duty on home-grown wheat. The cases are similar; without the countervailing duty in both cases, the consumer and revenue would be sacrificed, in one case to the benefit of the importer, in the other to that of the home producer. For this reason alone, is an excise duty placed upon beet-root sugar made at home.

It is on this ground that Mr. Cobden, in common with other Free-Trade advocates, argues that, if wheat is to be taxed at all, it should be at the mill; not as the *Times*, apparently ignorant of his meaning and of the whole argument, would appear to understand him, that there is any more charm in the collection of the duty on *foreign* wheat at the mill than at the Custom-house; but because the collection of the duty at the mill, on ALL wheat ground into flour, would include home-grown as well as foreign wheat, and would thus yield a revenue of £5,000,000 per annum in place of £500,000, if in case a 5s. duty was always operative, without any additional charge to the consumer. This proposition has little the appearance of endangering the revenue. By this plan, either this great additional revenue might be collected, or the same revenue of £500,000 might be secured by a charge of only *sixpence* per quarter on *all* wheat in place of *five shillings* on *foreign* wheat only, and the remaining four shillings and sixpence would go in reduction of the price to the consumer.

But on purely revenue considerations there is another great objection to which a fixed duty, as commonly urged, is open; and indeed which is the same with all taxes derived from differential duties. It is, at all times, a mere accident of price whether they yield any revenue or none; although they may, notwithstanding, operate as a considerable tax on the consumer. The duty on foreign sugar is so high that it operates as a prohibition, being 39s. per cwt. above that of colonial. Still its operation has the effect of raising the price of the latter about 15s. per cwt. higher than the former in bond; and thus, while the consumer pays nearly £3,000,000 annually more for the sugar he consumes than if we had a Free Trade, yet the revenue is not enriched one shilling. Then, again, with regard to a duty on the import of corn; in an abundant season, or whenever the price was below the rate at which we could import, paying the duty, it would yield no revenue, and yet the price to the consumer might be 1s., 2s., 3s., or 4s. higher than it would be with a Free Trade; but no importation could take place, and consequently no revenue ensue, until it was 5s. higher, supposing that to be the rate of duty.

Thus, on a mere revenue consideration, a duty on foreign imported corn is open to the two most serious objections to which any tax can be exposed: first, in the language of Adam Smith, "*That it ought to take out and keep out of the pockets of the people as little as possible over and above what it brings into the public treasury;*" and, secondly, that every source of revenue ought to be as certain as possible, and not subject to the mere accident of price; that abundance with low price would yield no revenue, while scarcity with high price alone could be relied upon as productive.

Copy of a Letter from Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., in reply to an application for aid in establishing an Institution for the relief of destitute persons in the Metropolis, and to be called "*The Institution of the Union for Benevolence.*"

To James Luke Hansard, Esq., Hon. Sec.

SIR,—Your letter of the 2nd instant I have this morning received, respecting the destitution of this metropolis.

The state of poverty and wretchedness that everywhere out of the great thoroughfares of the metropolis meets the eye, is calculated to call forth the sympathy and charitable feelings of the humane portion of the community, and to excite an anxious desire to afford relief to our suffering fellow-creatures. We are obliged to the public journals for bringing, in some degree, the extent of that misery before the country; but, unless the causes of that wide-spread distress be examined and removed, all your efforts, and the efforts of all the humane persons in the country, will be thrown away, or afford only a temporary relief, and will ultimately increase the pauperism of the country.

We have poor-law unions for every parish in England and Wales, established to provide for ordinary poverty; and the establishment of any permanent institution, such as is proposed in Resolution No. 1. of the general plans, cannot be required if the poor-laws are properly administered, and if wise and just laws be enacted to protect the industry of the country.

The provision of nightly shelter for the crowds of poor wretches who resort to the metropolis in hopes of that assistance which the great extent of misery in their own parishes, or shame to make their misery known, prevents them from receiving there, is a work of real charity; and whilst affording that temporary relief, the attention of any committee ought to be directed to the removal of the real causes of this extensive distress.

The situation of the working-classes, amongst whom the crowds of paupers are to be found, ought, under a good Government, to be the care of the Ministers of the Crown; as from them, and from them alone, can sufficient and permanent relief proceed.

It is as clear to my mind as anything can be, that the destitution of the metropolis is only a symptom of the general destitution in the country, caused by unjust class legislation, over which the present Government have complete control; and therefore, as an honest man, I must say, that Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues, and the majority of the House of Commons who support them, and their system of monopolies and excessive taxation, are the real and true causes of that destitution, starvation, disease, and death, which are so rapidly thinning the ranks of the honest and industrious classes of this country,

The reports on the condition of the several districts of England and Wales, where inquiry has been made, prove the extent of poverty and wretchedness in the land; and the inquiry in Wales affords equally strong proof of the poverty of that frugal and hard-working portion of the people; and I believe, and have clearly proved before a committee of the House of Commons, by evidence that has not been, and cannot be, contradicted, that the monopolies of food, the laws for excluding provisions, and for diminishing the employment of the people, are the true causes of that extended misery so notorious in London.

I would suggest that your committee should apply to the Queen and her Ministers to repeal those starvation and destitution causing laws, which threaten to pauperise so many of our fellow-men, who could earn food and clothing by their labour, if we had Free Trade and just legislation. The Corn Laws, and other laws which prevent trade and employment, being the true causes of the present general misery, every effort short of removing those causes can only produce momentary alleviation. Apply to the Ministers, as they alone have the power of removing the pestilence, and on them be the responsibility.

Yours, &c.,
(Signed) JOSEPH HUME.

AGRICULTURE.

LANDLORD PHILANTHROPY.

Every one who has lived in any of the agricultural districts of the west of England must be well aware of the destitute and degraded state of a large proportion of the labourers of those districts. We have visited the agricultural labourers of the western counties in their miserable dwellings—we have seen them in their intercourse with their employers, the farmers—we have watched them with a painful interest when amenable to the *justice* of justices of the peace at petty or quarter sessions—and, in every instance, we have regarded their condition with feelings nearly allied to hopeless despondency. Reduced by the excess of their numbers, as compared with the actual, not the possible, means applicable to their employment, to a state, morally and physically, little above that of savage man; constantly oscillating between rough and ill-paid labour and actual destitution; working in many cases, perhaps in most, for over-rented farmers, who exist, as farmers, merely by the sufferance of their landlords; surrounded on all sides by those soul-destroying temptations, game preserves, and visited, when guilty of breaches of the law, with that excessive measure of severity which is ever exercised by judges in their own cause; especially when, as in quarter sessions justice, the judges secretly fear the objects of their vengeance,—we have again and again wondered at the patient endurance which commonly marks the conduct of the peasantry of the west. We had long marked the savage sentences inflicted at quarter sessions; and, having done so, we were at no loss to understand the pusillanimity—the universal pusillanimity—which prevailed amongst the magistrates of the western counties during the Swing riots of 1830. In the early stages of the riots in those districts, not a county magistrate was to be found; and the only effectual stands against the foolish acts of mischief of an ignorant and excited peasantry, previously to the obtainment of government and military aid, were made by farmers or the inhabitants of the towns, the tradesmen and shopkeepers. And it is a noted and notorious fact, that wheresoever a district is exclusively agricultural, or where it "rejoices" in the presence of resident landed proprietors of large estate, there the state of agriculture is low, and the condition of the labourers in husbandry degraded.

Of this Dorsetshire affords a complete illustration. With land of the most exuberant fertility, and a climate of the most favourable character, the husbandry of that county is of the lowest and most backward kind; a by-word of reproach amongst intelligent farmers. It is moreover, *par excellence*, the county of gentlefolks; the county in which, of all others, the condition of the agricultural classes, the tenant-farmers and their labourers, ought to be good, if, as the squires pretend, resident landlords diffuse all manner of good amongst those with whom they dwell.

And what is the actual condition of Dorsetshire labourers? Let the following passages from Lord Ashley's speech at the recent meeting of the *Sturminster Newton Agricultural Society*, answer the question. His lordship said, "Now the county of Dorset is in every man's mouth; every paper, metropolitan and provincial, teems with charges against us; *we are* within an ace of becoming a by-word for poverty and oppression. These charges, *though founded in truth*, have been pushed by other parties than those who first made them, *with woful exaggeration.*" We shall learn presently, on testimony which cannot be excepted to, in what this "exaggeration" consists. Indeed, Lord Ashley says himself, "Nevertheless the statements are weighty, and the period important. *They are made by no nameless or spiteful reporter, but by an officer of the Government, and by a landed proprietor of your own county*—THE LANGUAGE OF MR. AUSTIN AND MR. SHERIDAN MUST NOT BE OVERLOOKED." And after speaking somewhat apologetically of the *necessity* of referring to those statements, his lordship asks, "Do we admit the assertion, that the wages of labour in these parts are scandalously low? *painfully inadequate to the maintenance of the husbandman and his family, and in no proportion to the profits of the soil?*"

Again he says, "Do we deny that the dwellings of the poor are oftentimes *ruinous, filthy, contracted, ill-drained, ill-ventilated, and so situated as to be productive of many forms of disease and immorality?*" And though Lord Ashley put these cases hypothetically, the whole tenour of his speech admits that their denial is no longer possible.

Probably few readers will have forgotten Mr. George Bankes's confident and insolent denial of the statements made by Mr. Cobden in Parliament as to the lamentable condition of the Dorsetshire peasantry; but now these things are proved, demonstrated to the confusion of the landowners themselves. On their own confession their original denials were braggart falsehoods. But then, says Lord Ashley, they have been "wofully exaggerated." Let us see what are the exaggerations, and by whom. We have on a former occasion referred to the angry correspondence in the local papers which Mr. Sheridan's speech at Bridport has excited, but one and all of the parties thereto admit the main facts—of general low wages, and a grievous want of cottages; and the efforts of each are confined to defending his own particular locality, and to imputations on those who have stirred this subject. Thus Mr. Fox, an attorney, of Beaminster, who writes to defend his own landlord patron, Mr. Damer, from the general censure, admits that the wages paid at Milton Abbas are only 8s. and 9s. a week; and he publishes a statement of the present state of some cottages at Hook, which fully bears out the worst that has been said of the dilapidation of the labourers' cottages. For instance:—

"HOOK PARISH—STATE OF COTTAGES.

"In the occupation of James Cole, labourer, with a wife and five children. One room under, about twelve feet square, and one over, no ceiling in either, no outhouse or garden. These premises are in a most ruinous state: *it rained through the roof in many places on Sunday night last, and filled a large hole on the ground floor, which is of earth; the wife was obliged to dry her clothes which were on the bed previous to her putting them on, Monday morning.* No grist allowed, *wages 1s. per day;* the walls and upstairs floor are in pieces. A most miserable hut; two beds in the room. *Turf kept in the bedroom to stop the holes in the floor with.*

"Daniel Forsey, jun., labourer, with a wife and three children; wages 7s. per week, and his grandfather, aged 87, very infirm, confined to his bed; one under room about fourteen feet square, and one over; no floor below but the natural earth or clay. *No ceiling up stairs or down: admittance up stairs by a rung ladder; mud walls, and the bedroom floor all to pieces.* Two bedsteads in the room above stairs, and a dust bed on the floor for the children. It is impossible for any one to stand upright in this room near the bedsteads. *Large apertures through the roof, and one at the end to admit the light, which is stopped up occasionally with a bag of straw.* This house belongs to the overseers.

"Thomas Davey, labourer, with *a wife and six children, wages 1s. per day*, and a quarter of an acre of land for potatoes. One room under and one over, about fourteen feet square; no ceiling in either; *the front wall propped up by two posts, and the back wall also propped by two posts, and two posts on the ground floor under the main beam to prevent the whole fabric from falling down;* a fuel-house and small pantry; *two*

beds only. These premises are in a most shamefully dilapidated state, and the inmates are in danger of being crushed to death every moment. *The roof admits the wind and rain in many places, which runs down into the kitchen.*

"John Forsey, of Kingcombe, in Hook parish, labourer, with a wife and seven children. *Wages 7s. per week*, and two boys at 2s. 6d. per week together. The under room of a good size, one room over, mud floor below, no ceiling above stairs or in the room under. *The roof very bad, the wind and rain entering in many places, and streaming down the walls into the ground floor. Wages stopped in bad weather. The wife of this man is obliged to put all their children to bed whilst she washes their linen, having no changes for them or herself. Her husband has two shirts only.* The thatch almost touches the bedsteads, three beds; *scarcely a pane of glass whole in either of the windows.*"

Another correspondent of the *Dorset County Chronicle* refers to the low rate of wages in the county, and says,

"How are we to increase the rate of wages? I believe that the *improvement and enclosure of the wide extent of waste lands in this county would produce an increased demand for labour, and that too with a fair prospect of ample returns to the owners and occupiers of the same. Improving leases* are therefore to be desired; for no prudent capitalist can be expected to spend his money unless he has an expectation of a suitable interest. Allow me here to add, before I leave this branch of the subject, that the present prices of agricultural produce, and *the present rents in Dorsetshire, will not permit the farmers to pay more for labour than they now do, unless their poor and other rates were lessened. Something might be done if the landowners would consent to an abatement of their rents proportioned to the desired increase of wages.*"

And the same writer says—

"The other evil under which we are labouring in this county is the insufficient accommodation afforded to the poor in their cottages. Perhaps in no county in the kingdom does this evil exist to such a fearful extent. *I am sorry to say the evil is coextensive with our county, with the exception of a few favoured parishes.*"

Here is evidence not to be gainsaid. And Mr. Sheridan, in a letter addressed last week to the *Times* newspaper, states the details of an actual agreement made by a Dorsetshire farmer with his carter—always one of the best paid labourers on a farm—by which the man receives 7s. a week wages besides his house-rent, equal to 1s. a week more, and 10s. at harvest, which, together with some imaginary advantages from a right to purchase half a bushel of *tailing* (refuse) wheat at 2s. 6d., the profits of a potato ground and some bundles of furze, estimated at about 14d. weekly, make his total wages 9s. 7d. This man has a wife and five young children to support on such wages. This is the highest point to which a Dorsetshire labourer in husbandry can aspire.

Another man mentioned by Mr. Sheridan, earns on an average 8s. a week, including piece-work, throughout the year, and he has two boys, who together earn 3s. 6d. weekly. The family consists of ten persons—the man, his wife, and eight children. Their total wages are 11s. 6d. a week; and it is expended thus:—

10 loaves, at 6d.	5s.	0d.
Half a bushel of barley	1	6
Soap and candles	0	10
1lb. suet to mix with potatoes and bread	0	6
House-rent	2	3
	10	1

leaving 1s. 5d. to clothe and supply with other necessaries ten persons. Such are the "domestic comforts" of the Dorsetshire peasant. These are the benefits he has obtained by the monopoly of corn, which the landlords *say* is to be maintained principally for *his* advantage!! Well may the poor labourer complain, as, according to Mr. Sheridan, one of them did say, "It is *an abiding, and not living, on the earth.*"

And how does the philanthropist Lord Ashley propose to remedy these things? for he told his auditors at *Sturminster*, "If we are able to deny these things, we shall also be able to disprove them; let us do so without delay; *but if the reverse, not an hour is to be lost in rolling away the reproach.*" And this is to be done by such homœpathic remedies as the following:—"We have lost much in departing from the primitive simplicity of our forefathers: respect his (the labourer's) feelings; respect his rights; pay him in solid money; I say emphatically, pay him in solid money; pay him in due time; and, *above all*, avoid that monstrous abomination which disgraces *some other counties, but from which, I believe, we are altogether free*—of closing your fields in the time of harvest; *give the gleaner his ancient, his scriptural right; throw open your gates, throw them wide open, to the poor, the fatherless, and the widow.*" It is difficult whether most to admire the feebleness, the logic, or the cant of this frothy bit of declamatory landlord philanthropy. Lord Ashley had a character for benevolence to sustain; he had been seeking for objects to gratify such feelings amidst the busy hives of manufacturing towns; and, now he has far more grievous cases of destitution brought home to his own door, he proposes as a remedy, first, to abandon petty allowances in kind of the value of 12d. or 14d. a week; and, secondly, *above all*, to avoid "an abomination" *practised in other counties, but not in Dorsetshire,*—the problem being how to relieve the depression of the Dorset peasant, — and allow the labourers to glean at harvest time. It is nearly certain that the disuse of these allowances would result in so much loss to the labourer, for the farmer has probably great difficulty in finding "solid money" enough to pay the present money wages. But supposing the 1½d. were given in solid money, is the remedy found? Could his lordship lay the flattering unction to his soul, that he had raised the condition of the labourer by getting rid of a paltry truck? Then the gleaning,—though by his own showing this "ancient and scriptural right" has never been withheld in Dorsetshire—can anything be so puerile? Yet here we have the sum and substance of the best remedies which the foremost philanthropist amongst the landlord class has to offer. It pleases him to forget that the uncertainties born of his own rent-sustaining Corn Law have mainly produced the bad husbandry of Dorsetshire and the degradation of its peasantry, and how much the inability of the farmer to pay high wages is caused by high rents and insecure tenures. Truly hath Colonel Thompson said, "landlords take with the bucket and give with the spoon."

"MUTUAL CONFIDENCE" ILLUSTRATED.

To the Editor *of the* League.

Sir,—The efforts the League, and your pages, being now more particularly devoted to the farmer's interest, I beg to submit the following sketch of facts, as an illustration of the influence of the Corn Laws, the tenant-at-will, and "mutual confidence" systems:—

In either 1806 or 1807, in a beautiful part of Cheshire, a young farmer, whose training and habits of industry were excelled by none, took to himself a wife of exactly the same character. Their parents were not only respectable as farmers, but were able to give them a portion, which, together, amounted to about £1000. Possessing these qualifications, a farm was selected, measuring about 150 statute acres. One-half was soil of a superior quality, but with the other half worn out by bad management and bad farming. The last tenant had been compelled to give it up; the one preceding him had been sold up, a ruined man, and the farm was what may be termed *condemned*, and general was the opinion that these young people had nothing before them but ruin. Such being the state of the farm, and the opinions respecting it so prejudicial, the landlord eagerly seized the opportunity of letting it to so promising a tenant, whose father, being rather a far-seeing man of his day, suggested a lease for 21 years, but which was evaded by the landlord preferring "*mutual* confidence;" and, in order to establish that excellent feeling in the mind of his young tenant, *promised*, nay, *I believe pledged his honour*, that he might consider his holding as good as a term of those years; and further, though he declined the parchment, he would not interfere with him, and whatever improvements he might make he should have the benefit of them. This deliberate assurance inspired and encouraged the young agriculturist, who was so manly [*Quære*, foolish?—Ed. L.] as not to throw the shadow of a doubt on the gentleman's word; so he took the farm, with this understanding, at £300 a year. He entered upon it in due course, not to pass a life of idleness, ease, or luxury, but to rise in the summer season with the lark and the sun; to lead his men with spade or plough, scythe, sickle, or any other implement; and in the winter, from four o'clock of the morning to nine in the evening, to tend his cattle and wield the flail, and to be first and last at everything. And in like manner his wife laboured in the house and the dairy. He had success in cultivating the land, and she acquired reputation for the dairy. He produced good corn, and she perhaps one of the best of Cheshire dairies. In short, they "eat not the bread of idleness;" and, as a reward to their diligence, they rejoiced to see the farm improving every year, the crops and dairy increasing in quantity and quality, and withal, their produce selling well. Conscious they were doing well, at any rate improving, he continued to lay out in manure and other improvements his accruing profits on the faith of Sir R. Peel's eulogized "mutual confidence" system (supposed to exist) between his landlord and himself. But mark! The "mutual confidence" only endured the first seven years; for immediately when the farm was changed from a state in which it had frightened men of ordinary moral courage, industry, and perseverance, to a state which showed its capabilities to remunerate the tenant, a *message* was sent to him by the landlord. The French war was raging, and prices rose to a most unnatural height. This gentleman, whose word was passed for his bond—whose honour was pledged before a witness for twenty-one years—this "mutual-confidence" landlord sent a *message* to his foolish all-confidence tenant that he had had the farm re-valued, and wished to confer with him on the subject! The tenant went to him in amazement, and said he hoped he had not offended him in any way. "Oh no," was the reply, "I am very well satisfied with you, but the farm is worth more money!" "More money!" exclaimed the astonished tenant. "Yes, I must have more rent; so-and-so, the land-agent, has valued the farm to be worth above £100 a year more than you are paying, and I must have it. Your rent will now be £400 a year." "£400 a year!" says the tenant, "£400 a year! Your promise, Sir! Your promise!" "My promise," said the landlord, "I cannot help, but I am assured that the farm will be cheap to you at £400 a year, and I have sent for you to tell you that I must have it." "But," pleaded the tenant, "you promised me that you would not interfere with me so long as I continued to pay you the rent and manage the farm well, and I was to consider my holding as good as a 21 years' lease." "Well," said the gentleman, "I cannot help that; times and circumstances have changed, and my farm is worth the rent, and I must have it." "But," said the farmer, "you are not using me fairly. When I took the farm it was considered to be very dear at £300 a year; and I have invested my money and improved it, calculating on it repaying me in years to come; so, before you should think of raising my rent, you ought to give me a few years' notice." To this the "mutual or self-confidence" landlord, the gentleman, replied, in a positive and angry tone—"Well, I give you notice now, that your rent is £400 a year, and if you don't like to pay it, leave the farm, there are others that will be glad to take it." Thus ended the interview, which showed the extent of the *mutual*, or rather *self*-confidence of the landlord; and at that time commenced the gloom of a foolishly confiding tenant-at-will. "Shall I leave," said he to himself, "or shall I endure this hardship? My money is all sunk in the farm, instead of being invested elsewhere as it ought to have been, under the yearly system. It will ruin me to leave. All my profits would be gathered by another. What must I do? I can raise the rent if any other person can, and as it is doubtful whether I can change for the better at present, I am resolved to stay. The value is in the land, and I will have it out. From this period the course of management changed. The nursing and improving system was succeeded by one adapted to the terms on which the farm was held, namely, to obtain the profits year by year. Notwithstanding, however, the farmer continued on the farm many years afterwards, and found it to be his own interest to keep the land up to the same standard, or better, as he could not any other way than by improved culture, pay the rent, which, being so enormous, he fancied was a better security for permanency of tenure than a landlord's promise. Thus the tenant's improvements were the landlord's profits. These facts, I believe, will speak the experience of thousands of deluded and oppressed farmers. And in conclusion I unhesitatingly declare my conviction that that man, yes, any man, even though he be a prime minister or a duke, is presuming too far on the credulity of his countrymen to indulge the idea, the dream, the mental phantom, the absurd delusion, as to suppose the farmers will develop the capabilities of the soil on so brief, so brittle a tenure as a yearly tenancy, however mutual the confidence subsisting between them and the landlords. I do not think the gentlemen of England so shallow as seriously to believe such an opinion in their hearts. They have other motives.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

December 8, 1843. A Son of the Soil.

THE COMING CHANGES; A CONVERT.

The meeting of the *Taunton Agricultural Association* afforded one of those indications of the instability of the existing Corn Law which have of late become so frequent and significant. We allude to the speech of Mr. Bickham Escott, member for Winchester, who, as an ambitious and active politician of the Ministerial party, naturally shapes his course on the Corn-Law question to that which he knows Sir Robert Peel must soon take. The dinner took place in the assembly-room at Taunton. The room was filled, 210 having dined, the company soon increasing to 250.

The Right. Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., took the chair amid loud applause. He was supported on his right, by F. H. Dickinson, Esq., M.P., T. D. Acland, Esq., M.P., the Rev. E. Sanford, R. King Meade King, Esq., the Rev. C. B. Sweet, Edwards Beadon, Esq., John Halliday, Esq., Nicholas Broadmead, Esq., &c. &c.; and on his left by E. A. Sanford, Esq., Sir T. E. Colebrooke, Bart., M.P., Bickham Escott, Esq., M.P., C. N. Welman, Esq., J. Bunter, Esq., William Blake, Esq., Captain Maher, Dr. Sulley, W. E. Gill, Esq., W. Hole, Esq., Rev. Leigh, Esq., &c. &c. The able and efficient vice-president was Mr. William Blake, of Cutsey, who was supported on either side by an influential body of the West Somerset yeomanry.

On the health of the members for West Somerset having been drunk, Mr. T. D. Acland, M.P., in returning thanks, said—

"He was not practical farmer enough, or possessed of sufficient powers of discernment, to say upon entering into the cattle yard which animals had won the prize, but he never came to a meeting of this kind without enjoying many opportunities for acquiring information, and *hearing many opinions expressed which it was most important for persons of his station to become acquainted with.*" (Cheers.

No doubt it becomes county members to hear what the farmers think of the actual state of the agricultural body; but they must themselves deliver something better than the following twaddle, if they think of turning their interference in agricultural affairs to any useful purpose.

"He did, then, think that the object of meetings like the present was most important. They could not fail of awakening interest both among landlords and tenants—their mutual obligations were better understood, and they were more practically and habitually interested in improving the condition of the labouring man. It was a pleasing characteristic of the age, that whatever changes had taken place in the laws of this country, *which may have been made by stern necessity to wear a somewhat hard aspect within the last few years, there had been a growing tendency to regard the condition of the labouring men.* It was not the simply giving them certain prizes—it was not the giving of £3 to old ploughmen or servant men—for their service was of a hundred times greater value to their employers than any prizes which could be bestowed upon them—*but they were benefited by the interest which was in consequence excited towards them, an interest which taught them to feel that they were objects of consideration, and they carried it home with them, and remembered it in the discharge of their private duties.*" (Cheers.)

This is a pretty well-turned after-dinner speech, and hints at much both landlords and tenants would do well to consider; but it must be dealt with on broader grounds, and touched with a more masculine hand than such politicians as young Mr. Acland deem requisite. The changes in the law made "by stern necessity" have forced upon the attention of the landlords the state of the rural working classes. True; but what a chapter of self-condemnation of his own class does that admission contain!

But landlords must not be satisfied with a "growing tendency to regard the condition of labouring men;" they must force their regard to maturity. They must discharge "their own private duties;" they must no longer sacrifice the labouring peasant, body and soul, to the rage for battue shooting; they must no longer let their farms by tender, or require sureties for payment of rent from reckless or insolvent tenants; they must abandon their own feudal privileges; they must build decent cottages; they must grant leases; and, above all, they must themselves abandon and teach their tenants to abandon a dishonest reliance on monopoly and protecting duties. Let them do these things, and they may offer premiums for good ploughing, or rearing sheep, or for keeping off the parish, or not, as they think fit; such prizes will do as little harm then as they do good now. Neither was he sufficiently out-spoken to the farmers when he said—

"He stood there in the presence of those who were practically engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and whose renown

and *whose success in breeding and in fattening stock were known all over England.*"

After balancing between admiration and doubt as to the benefits of the recent applications of science to agriculture, he said—

"After all, he was afraid they were going into the chemist's shop, when *what was wanted might be found in their own dung-keeping yard.* (Great good had been done by the Royal Agricultural Society in recording the experience of different individuals, and the modes of practice adopted on different soils and in different countries; he was fully sensible of the advantage of this, *but he was anxious to guard himself against being supposed to wish to see theoretic farming superseds and take the place of practical farming.*"

What stuff! What is theory but a plan formed by the careful application of scientific *experiments* in agriculture?

Are the Somersetshire squires afraid lest their tenants should engage an agricultural professor at £500 per annum, like the farmers of Ayrshire, to direct their applications of chemistry to agriculture? Do they fancy scientific farming means emancipated tenants and abolished feudalism? If so, they are not far wrong; and we can understand the gingerly way in which Mr. Acland deals with theoretic farming. Then, as to neglecting the "dung-keeping yard," our readers will recollect the many farmers who have said that the landlords are more to blame on that point than the tenants.

Mr. Dickinson, the other member, said nothing worthy of especial notice, except in reference to the Dorsetshire discussions, he observed:—

"In a neighbouring country a discussion, which had been carried on with some degree of acrimony, had taken place in reference to the condition of the agricultural labourers. *He hoped and believed that that discussion would lead to some good.* In this district, fortunately, the condition of the agricultural labouring population was different; but, speaking for himself individually—and he was sure he might speak also for the landed gentry generally—*both he and they, he was assured, would be anxious to better the position of those whose state called for improvement.*" (Loud cheers.)

We are glad to hear this. But the anxiety of the landlords must be manifested by something more effective than parish soup and ten-shilling prizes. The tone of Mr. Labouchere, the chairman, was more healthy and vigorous, when he said—

"They lived in times when *no one could shut his eyes to the necessity of exertion to carry out improvements;* they lived, indeed, *in a day when everything was advancing* (hear); *improvements had been applied to manufactures to a considerable extent, and improvements must also be applied to the great science of agriculture.* (Cheers.) No one who knew what agriculture was twenty years ago in that county as well as elsewhere, and who looked at its state now, could doubt that the agriculturists had been doing their duty in meeting the spirit of the times. (Loud cheers.) Much had been done, *but much more remained to be done, and he doubted not that in twenty years hence great advances would still be made.* (Hear.) He felt that at such meetings as these it was a great object to avoid everything bordering on party politics, everything that tended to cause a difference of sentiment. It was to be regretted that, *for some years, the subject of agriculture had been discussed in this country with much of the spirit of party, which, he thought, would have been much better avoided.*"

The improvements to which Mr. Labouchere referred, are few and far between; what is wanted is, that they should become universal. On the question of "protection," he observed—

"All he would now say on the subject was, that, in his opinion, *the best protection the landed interest could have, or which could be afforded them, was, the protection of themselves.* (Cheers.) He thought they would all agree, whatever differences of opinion there might be as to the kind of protection, or the degree of protection, required, that there was one competition which they could not avoid, the competition of improvements—*the slothful farmer who lagged behind, would have to compete with the skilful and persevering farmer.*" (Hear, hear.)

Again, he said—

"The interest of the landlord, the tenant, and the labourer, was one (cheers); they were all bound up together, *and there was no pursuit so little selfish as was agriculture, when rightly understood.* The landlord who wished to be exorbitant, to exact more than a fair rent, *took a most erroneous view of his own interest, as well as of his duty (loud cheers);* and, as far as this county was concerned, he believed *the tenantry were most anxious to carry out improvements, as far as they could, but they could not do it of themselves* (HEAR, HEAR); *the landlords must assist them.* (LOUD CHEERS.) He believed that landlords would do more good by encouraging their tenants to make improvements, than by a mere lowering of rent; he would not point out the particular modes of doing this, whether by draining or otherwise; but there was one improvement which he would venture to advert to: *he thought that landlords might do much good by reducing some of their superfluous timber.*" (*Cheers.*)

This needs no comment. We cite it as corroborative evidence of the positions maintained by the League. We shall ere long be admitted on all hands to be the real "farmers' friends." But the event of the evening was Mr. Bickham Escott's speech:—

"It was true, as his hon. friend had stated, that these were times of change and of difficulty, and possibly of danger to the best interests of the community—but, even if they were so, *they were not in his opinion times of fear;* for there was every hope that he who exerted himself in honest industry, and *who added to that industry skill,* would in this free country receive a future reward for himself and dependants. (Hear.) If these were times of danger, *they were only times of danger for the slothful and indolent;* if they were times of hope, they were so to him who added to acquired skill in agriculture those efforts and that industry which should enable him to compete with those around him, and enable him to show that British energy and British skill, grounded upon the free institutions of the British constitution, could carry everything before him. He remembered once being told that John Bull had three daughters—agriculture, trade, and commerce; the only danger which could arise *would be in case of either of the daughters assuming her rights as predominant. The moment that such occurred, the eldest daughter, agriculture, would find that she had injured her best customers, and the younger daughters would find that not only had they injured their best customers, but they had injured also that great interest upon which all were fed, and all were clothed, and from which the stronger of the two had risen up to that great height to which she had attained, and he hoped would continue to preserve.* (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the jealousies and malignant feelings which had arisen between the three great interests of the nation would *subside, and soon be no more known.*" (Cheers.)

After this speech we may claim the member for Winchester as a convert to Free Trade. All we say is, "let neither of the INTERESTS ASSUME HER RIGHTS to be PREDOMINANT."

Mr. Escott is one of those adherents of Sir Robert Peel who acquired the appellation of "pilot balloons," by giving utterance to opinions more in accordance with enlightened legislation than with the desires of their own political party, previously to the changes made in 1842; and we may fairly deem his late speech a heralding of further changes. Looking to the future, he said—

"And if there had been times when, from the frailties of human nature, there had been jealousies and ill feeling between the great interests of agriculture and trade, he sincerely *hoped the time was come when this would cease.* He would tell them—although his opinion might not be considered as worth much—*that, however clouds might have darkened, and might still darken the horizon, he believed there never was a time when brighter prospects were in view for the agriculture, trade, and commerce of this great country.* (Hear.) He had no feeling of apprehension for the future; he knew the character of Englishmen, and he relied upon the energy and perseverance of his countrymen for the preservation of England in that proud position it had long enjoyed as the admiration of foreign nations, the envy of the civilized world." (Loud cheers)

This is a significant speech to those who would still cling to a falling monopoly. The following speech of a tenant-farmer is an illustration of that semi-feudal sentiment of attachment to their landlords which has not altogether ceased to exist amongst farmers in a few remote localities.

Mr. John Wippell of Exminster, in giving thanks as a successful exhibitor of cattle, said:—

"He had won prizes in Devonshire, but he felt more pride and gratification at having won the Acland Cup (loud cheers) than he ever had before at his success in competition. He should not have presumed to come to Taunton to exhibit his stock, but they had done him the honour last year to appoint him one of their judges, and having then heard from Mr. Acland that the hon. member would offer a premium, he was induced to compete for it, and to try to get it, *for he was born and he might say bred (a laugh and cheers) on the estates of Mr. Acland's worthy father,* Sir Thomas (cheers), *and his father and grandfather, together with generations of his family before, had rented under the Aclands.* (Great applause.) *This would sufficiently account for his anxiety to obtain the Acland Cup, and for the pride he felt in having won it.* (Hear, hear.) He should always look upon that handsome cup with pleasure, and would take care to hand it down, as an heirloom, in his family, to succeeding generations." (Great cheering.)

This is an exhibition of the sentiment in its most favourable aspect, and by a successful farmer. How easily it may degenerate into what Lord Ducie has so aptly called "an unwholesome dependence on landlords and agents," the present condition of the tenants of the estates of the majority of the great English landowners plainly tells. After various other toasts and speeches, the "Health of the Umpires" was drunk, when

"Mr. Snow of Dunster returned thanks, but noise and interruption was caused by an observation which fell from him, that the little vale of Dunster produced better fat cattle than the great vale of Taunton. This gave umbrage to the Tauntonians, who did not seem inclined to hear further remarks from Mr. Snow; and various noises were heard, with expressions of 'Happy land, this Dunster.'"

On this act of intolerance, Mr. Sanford subsequently observed:—

"He was rather sorry that they did not hear Mr. Snow, who, *as one of the umpires, had made an observation that they ought to have better stock in the vale of Taunton. Now, what better advice could they have received from their best friend,* for Mr. Snow did not mean to say that the stock they had produced was not good stock, but that, with the advantage of their rich land, they ought to produce better stock." (Hear, hear.)

THE BURGESS OR THE BARON!

OR, COMMON SENSE *v.* ARISTOCRATIC IGNORANCE.

Since the agitation of the question of Free Trade has been transferred to the rural districts, and every farmers' club has become the arena for discussions on the Corn Laws, nothing is more remarkable than the contrast which appears between the sensible observations which fall from the practical men of the middle class, and the oracular dissertations of the landowning classes. This was never more apparent than at the recent meeting of the *Cirencester* (Gloucestershire) Agricultural Society. At that meeting Earl Bathurst, the political patron of the town, presided, and he was supported by Mr. Master, M.P. for Cirencester, the Hon. William Bathurst, the clerk of the Privy Council, and other gentlemen and agriculturists of influence and standing in the neighbourhood. After routine toasts had been disposed of, a farmer present, Mr. John Nicholls, in returning thanks as a successful competitor, touched on Sir Robert Peel's Tamworth speech, his tariff, and income-tax, which gave occasion to Mr. Edward Bowly, of Liddington, a capital farmer, and who was also a successful competitor, to say that—

"*The best politician I think is he who raises the most from the land.* (Cheers.) I feel personally great encouragement from the premiums which I have gained during the past few years, because I was told that the short-horns were such indifferent stock that I would no sooner buy the animal than I would have to buy a shirt for its back. (A laugh.) Mr. Bowly then proceeded to allude to what had been done, or was doing, in the same description of stock by Mr. Stronge and Mr. Wood, and Mr. Slatter, and proceeded to say that he saw no good reason why they should not go on improving the breed—no matter who got the prizes. *He did not see why they should not have as good animals in the south as the breeders had in the north.*" (Cheers.)

This is the right spirit, and invariably leads in farming, as in all other pursuits, to individual success; and the next passage of Mr. Bowly's speech marks strongly his intelligence as a farmer. He said—

"But what afforded him the greatest encouragement was the receiving a premium for Swedes, although it was only a second premium, *because he regarded root-husbandry as the beginning of all things* (cheers), *and unless good crops of roots were raised, they could not expect to rear good crops of corn;* and, therefore, if they would accept of so small a sum, he would gladly appropriate £3 of the sum awarded to him to constitute a fourth prize for next year. (Cheers.) *The competition, he was glad to say, had been remarkably good.*"

And Mr. Bowly said he saw no reason why the farmers in the south should not rival the Scotch farmers. Nor do we, if our landlords will let us; for, as this speaker well said, "Let us do nothing rashly—*let us consider the return before we incur the outlay.*" Now, we can scarcely imagine anything more rash than for a farmer, holding as a yearly tenant, under the restrictions of most English occupations, to incur the outlay necessary to produce good root-crops. He also said—

"I think it worth while also to mention, that all of us who who have got prizes are members of a farmers' club. *What farmers need is information: clubs are calculated to supply it;* and as the expense is only £5 a year, I hope we will receive a large increase to our numbers. It is impossible for men who are animated by the same hopes, and engaged in the same pursuits, to meet together without being benefited. *For my own part, I attribute all the progress I have made to having attended a farmers' club.* That club has done some good, amongst which may be classed the proposal to establish an agricultural school."

This is turning an agricultural meeting to a useful purpose. On the prospects of English farmers he said—

"A year ago it was said that the tariff was a passing cloud, but I believe it is a cloud which will continue to exercise a depressing influence with redoubled power. Only the other week sixty or seventy head of cattle and sheep—the primeat which England could produce—were shipped for Belgium; *and to a certainty the consequence will be a vigorous competition, ere long, in the English market, with the farmers and graziers of that country.* You are aware also of the existence of the Anti-Corn-Law League. You know that it possesses great influence, that it is composed of men who will not be diverted from their purpose, *and to a certainty they will attain their object at one time or another, when the trade will become free. The only way in which such an event can be met, is by increasing the productiveness of the soil.* If manufacturers fail to employ the population depending upon them for their existence, then upon you the landlords must the burden fall,—you the tenants bearing your share. I wish you to consider these things, to take the bull by the horns: *and if you do so, we shall be able successfully to meet the foreigner in the market.*" (Cheers.)

This is a manly way of meeting a change which it is plain Mr. Bowly thinks may impose some difficulties on farmers, and perhaps, considering the prejudices which have been fostered amongst them, and the want of information which prevails with the mass of farmers, this is the most encouraging mode of dealing with the question at agricultural meetings. But, in fact, Free Trade, instead of imposing difficulties on farmers, will show them the way out of all their entanglements: it will teach them to rely on themselves, and will lead to their emancipation from that semi-feudal dependence on landlords and agents, they now groan under, and which, as Lord Ducie observes, has so "demoralized" them. Let our readers note the rational, the business-like treatment the subject of a change in the Corn Laws, now inevitable, receives at the hands of the tenant-farmer. We shall offer a strong contrast presently.

The next speech worth notice was that of the Rev. Mr. Cripps; and it is due to the clergy to say, that from many of them have proceeded some of the most useful remarks which have been made at these agricultural gatherings; and it must be remembered, that to say anything really useful on these occasions requires some moral courage, for such societies are nearly all got up for the glorification of some landlord or clique of landlords, who, however they may smirk and smile at the dinner-table, bear the bitterest hatred and malice in their hearts towards all who venture to point out the *real* deficiencies and requirements of agriculture. Mr. Cripps said:—

"Unless agriculture flourish, the poor are not employed. Now, at the beginning of a long winter, I would really anxiously impress upon you the necessity of rendering assistance to the poor. *You cannot do this better than by employing them; for nothing degrades a man more than the feeling that his work is not worth his wages.* In my parish I know that there are persons out of employment. This is the worst policy which could be adopted; because what you may save by the right hand, must be paid away by the left, in the shape of poors' rates. *I believe at this period of the year that labour is of more value than at any other time of the year.* You have now to get the level of the water, *and can adopt means to get it off the land; and this is the ground-work of all improvement.*

This is far before the mawkish cant we hear from such men as Lord Ashley. The next passage touches a question on which we shall have something to say on another occasion, namely, the allotment of land to labourers:—

"I do not mean to advocate *the small farming system;* it is that which has ruined Ireland, and taken my brother into Wales [Mr. Cripps is one of the Welsh commission]; and the long-headed people of Scotland have taken care to rid themselves of it. *I do not wish you to employ the labourers in spade husbandry, I wish you to employ them through the winter carrying out the improved system.*"

We entirely agree in these sentiments. There is no greater delusion than that the condition of agricultural labourers can be permanently improved either by allotting them land, or by introducing spade husbandry upon farms, on both of which topics we hear a good deal of maudlin sentiment from squires and monopolist politicians. We would gladly see every labourer with a decent cottage, and enough of garden ground for his recreation; but we are convinced that the general introduction of allotments will tend to degrade permanently the condition of the labouring classes, by inducing them to live more and more upon potatoes. No doubt an allotment of an acre or half an acre of land is a cheap way of getting rid of a labourer whom the present slovenly system of farming leaves without employment, and this is its real recommendation in the eyes of the squires; but let those who really desire the elevation and independence of the rural poor consider whether it ultimately will not produce the results we have suggested. A labourer is never engaged so profitably to himself and the community as when working in combination with capital, when, for instance, he is employed on the farm of an improving farmer. To return to the meeting. Mr. Cripps concluded by proposing the health of the Honourable William Bathurst "as a gentleman *acquainted with everything but agriculture.*

Now mark, we have seen what Mr. Bowly and Mr. Cripps, both obviously well acquainted with agriculture, have said; and the impression their speeches have left on the mind is, that of a healthful and hopeful belief in the sense and energy of English agriculturists. Let us see what the aristocratic clerk of the Privy Council, who is *not* "acquainted with agriculture," but *is* probably well versed in that political chicanery of which the English farmers have been made the cat's paws and the victims, says on the prospects of agriculture. After an allusion to Mr. Bowly's speech, he said—

"And here I express a hope that I am not infringing from the rule of non-interference on this occasion with politics, if I allude to the proceedings of parties calling themselves the Anti-Corn-Law League, and who, under the pretence of doing what they undoubtedly have a right to do, namely, to inform the labourers of the nature and tendency of Free Trade, *go farther, and endeavour to set landlord and tenant and labourer at variance.* (Great cheering.) This they have no right to do." (Cheers.)

This is untrue. It is an appeal of passionate prejudice. We have undoubtedly told some of those unpalatable facts which have been in the mouth of every sensible agriculturist long before the Anti-Corn-Law League had been called into existence by the landowners; but so far from endeavouring to set "landlord, tenant, and labourer at variance," we have again and again said that their interests, *when rightly understood,* are identical. What we have protested against, what we have exposed and shall continue to expose, is that vicious system of monopoly and obsolete feudality which degrades the tenant and the labourer, and, in the long run, does not benefit the landlord, for whose peculiar advantage all this wrong is intended. The hon. clerk to the Privy Council—then becoming more eloquent as he

gets deeper into the *only* subject with which, according to Mr. Cripps, he is *not acquainted*—says,—

"They promulgate a maxim to the effect that every country must produce that which its soil and climate particularly adapt it for; and that there should be no protection whatever for agriculture, if it should appear that this country is better adapted for commerce and manufactures *than for agriculture*, and that it ought, in consequence, to be made a manufacturing and commercial country, *and rendered totally and entirely dependent for food upon foreigners*. To this doctrine I can never agree." (Cheers.)

This is not a fallacy, it is falsehood. Nobody says this country ought to be "rendered totally dependent for food on foreigners," and for this simple reason, that we have within our own seas the means of producing, in most years, *nearly* enough food for our consumption, and it is only the comparatively small deficiency we have occasionally to seek from abroad. Fancy the gross ignorance of a man who can assert that Free Trade would render us "entirely dependent" on foreign corn. Imagine the shipping required for importing twenty-five millions of quarters of wheat yearly! We cannot stop to calculate by how much it would exceed the tonnage of all the shipping of the United Kingdom. Thus it is that so many of our aristocrats write themselves down blockheads, and then complain that those who would remove the prejudices their ignorance has produced, seek to set class against class. Let any one who knows the influence of the generality of landlords in the rural districts compare what they are with what they might be, and say whether landowners have any enemies like the landowners themselves.

"I should never wish to see (continued Mr. Bathurst) *the hardy, honest, and industrious agricultural labourers exchanged for the dissipated, wan, and sickly-looking population of the manufacturing districts*. I trust that we shall continue to have a bold peasantry, both for peace *and for war*."

The only excuse which can be made for this passage is Mr. Bathurst's total ignorance of agriculture and its followers. Have any rumours of the state of the west country "hardy, honest, and industrious agricultural labourers" ever penetrated into Mr. Bathurst's snug nook in the Privy Council? Did he ever hear of Dorsetshire and its peasantry? Nor need he go so far for a "sickly looking" population, for at this very meeting

"Mr. Vizard referred to the case of the labourers as a subject which deserves great attention, greater than it receives. I am afraid wages are lower in this part of the country than they are in the north of England, *although the labourers have not the same advantages otherwise*. There the wages are 12s., *but when I came to the south I heard that 7s. was the prevailing allowance*. I confess I was much surprised and vexed to hear of such a difference in the same country. *Provisions, moreover, are cheaper in the north, and fuel may be had for almost nothing*."

And though individual members present stated that they paid higher wages, it seemed to have been admitted that 7s. were in many instances the weekly wages of the Gloucestershire labourer.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

What the Farmers' Organ says.—The following passage, extracted from the leading article of the *Mark-lane Express* of the 4th inst., is a most significant hint to the farmers, that the monopolists are "all at sea" on the sort of opposition they can offer to the progress of Free-Trade opinions. While such discordant notions are entertained by those who would uphold the Corn Laws, does any rational agriculturist imagine that they can maintain those laws against the clear, definite, and coherent views of the Free Traders? Is it not, therefore, better for the tenant-farmers—whatever their own personal wishes on the subject may be—to rise at once and say, that the agitation of a question so injurious to their business shall be settled, in the only way settlement is possible, viz., by a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws?

"'What is to be done to resist the course of the Anti-Corn-Law League?' is a question which we heard put at a market dinner-table a few days since, to which a sort of indirect answer was given in the following terms—'The landlords ought to move, but they will not;' upon which a third speaker, a tenant-farmer, observed—'We should be ready to support them if they would.' We answer, they will not move: no, not even should Sir R. Peel propose a low fixed duty in the very next session. *The utmost the tenants may expect is that another sham-fight will be got up, as we have seen on a former occasion.* But why will they not move? it may be asked. We reply, 'There are three special causes which induce them to remain passive—*politics, competition, and the law of distress for rent*. The majority of the Whig landlords are either advocates for *a total repeal of the Corn Laws* or a low fixed duty. (*See extract from a speech of Earl Spencer below.*) The Conservative landlords would rather take the bitter pill of total repeal from Sir R. Peel than let the Whigs resume office. But it will be observed, 'They will surely protect their own interests, rents must come down, and of course their incomes must be diminished.' *Their protection consists in competition, and distress for rent; the latter will secure their demand upon the existing tenant, and if he is compelled to quit, competition will afford the choice of a dozen others.* That rents ought to be reduced, except in particular cases, there can be no doubt; that they will not upon large estates, we are fully persuaded. *The advice given to the tenant-farmers at almost all our agricultural meetings not only convinces us that there is no intention to reduce rents generally.*

Foreign Competition Bugbear.—One of the topics with which the monopolists endeavour to frighten the farmers, and induce them to throw up their caps for the Corn Laws, is a most absurd exaggeration of the low cost at which corn can be produced on the continent of Europe. Nothing can be more untrue, or more dishonest, than the statements put forth on this subject; some of these it is our intention to deal with as soon as the pressure of subjects for comment shall permit. In the mean time we take the following paragraph from the *Mark-lane Express*:—

"Dantzig, Nov. 23.—A good deal of business has been done here in wheat during the week, some 700 or 800 lasts having changed hands. The activity is attributed to orders from England; *prices have not varied materially, but the tendency has been upwards*, 39*s.* 6*d. per qr.* having been paid for a parcel of fine old high mixed of heavy weight."

Here we find, that in the absence of all demand from this country, except one of the most speculative character, with only a contingent possibility, that some six months hence, if we have then the prospect of an indifferent harvest, an effective market for Dantzig wheat may be found in England, the price of the best wheat at Dantzig is as high, less only the cost of carriage and insurance, as it is here. There is little if any margin for profits. Now, if the trade here was free, little or no wheat could at this moment be profitably imported.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the League of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
Edgeley Working Men's League Rent, per William Leak, 64, Castle-street, Edgeley, Stockport	1	0	0
Wm. Collier, 66, Cheetwood	1	0	0
Thos. Whitehead, Bridge-street, Manchester	1	0	0
W. Steadman, Halshaw Moor, near Bolton	1	0	0
P. Passavant, Clarence-street, Manchester	5	0	0
J. M'Kinnell, 3, George-street, do.	1	1	0
G. L., Brown-street, do.	1	0	0
The Agent to J. Bower and Co., 19, Dale-street, do.	0	2	6
Samuel Pearson, 26, Dale-street, do.	0	2	6
The Bookkeeper at Wheatcroft and Son's, 8, Ducie-street, Manchester	0	1	0
H. W. Ker, Store-street, do.	0	5	0
William Wilson, Store-street Mill, do.	1	1	0
J. Jarvie, Longsight, Manchester	1	1	0
Robert Morris, 39, Sidney-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	0	0
Rev. James Taylor, Dob-lane, Failsworth, near do.	1	0	0
James Ainsworth, 7, Hanging-ditch, do.	1	1	0
Thomas Gadd, Alport Town, Deansgate, do.	1	1	0
William Marsden, jun., 29, Byrom-street, do.	1	1	0
William Nuttall, 235, Deansgate, do.	1	1	0
John Thompson, Hanging-ditch, do.	1	1	0
John Brown, 27, Market-street, do.	1	1	0
A Friend, per W. M'Cartney, do.	5	0	0
John Mellor, Deansgate, do.	2	0	0
A Friend, per J. S. Ormerod, do.	1	0	0
J. Johnson, 48, Pall-mall, do.	1	1	0
John Cooper, 10, Pall-mall, do.	2	0	0
Cureton and Ogden, 23, Pall-mall, do.	1	0	0
William Grundy, Newmarket-lane, do.	0	10	0
James Binns, 3, Duke-street, Hulme, do.	1	0	0
Benj. Hampson, 22, Fountain-street, do.	1	1	0
A. J. Barton, Marsden-street, do.	2	0	0
Christopher Grimshaw, Sussex-street, do.	1	1	0
Joseph Peate, do.	1	0	0
An Enemy to Class Legislation	5	0	0
A Friend, 237, Chapel-street, Salford, do.	0	2	6
J. Moss, 178, Upper Chatham-street, C.-on-M., do.	0	2	6
J. Larkin, 32, Broughton-street, Salford, do.	0	2	6
H. Larkin, do., do., do.	0	2	6
John Burton, Victoria Bridge, do.	0	2	6
L. Kenworthy, 7, Cateaton-street, do.	0	2	6
A Friend, per Mr. Payant, do.	20	0	0
Duxbury, Ingham, and Seaton, Cable-street, do.	3	3	0
James Knight (At Messrs. Duxbury & Co's., Cable-street, do.)	0	5	0
A. Taylor	0	5	0
C. Duncan	0	3	0
J. Bennett	0	2	6
J. Higginbotham	0	2	6
J. Griffiths	0	2	6
J. Higginson	0	2	6
J. Barnes	0	2	6
John Bowers	0	5	0
J. Worsick	0	2	6
J. Consterdine	0	2	6
J. Farrell	0	2	6
Elias Ridgway, 7, Bryden-st., Ardwick, Manchester	1	0	0
John Grierson, 22, Hoyle-street, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Andrews, 122, Newcastle-street, Hulme, do.	1	0	0
J. S., St. Ann's-square, do.	1	1	0
Henry Whittington, Exchange-street, do.	1	1	0
The Workmen of Thos. Hoyle & Sons, Mayfield, do.	6	12	6
A Friend, St. Ann's-square, do.	1	0	0
S. Butterworth, 19, Upper Brook-street, do.	1	0	0
John Thom, 16, Russell-street, do.	1	0	0
T. H. Hawley, Mayfield, do.	1	0	0
M. Nall, 49, Welcomb-street, Hulme, do.	1	0	0
J. Percival, 29, Rutland-street, do.	1	0	0
John Butterworth, 6, Naylor-street, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Wood, 15, Robinson-street, Ardwick, do.	1	0	0
R. T. Grundy, 10, Hilton-street, do.	1	0	0
J. S. Dalglish, 10, do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend, per William Gray, do.	1	10	0
Alexander Grearson, 30, Oak-street, do.	1	1	0
Joseph Hardy, 9, Shude Hill, do.	1	0	0
D. Carnigie, Cannon-court, Cannon-street, do.	1	0	0
D. Gordon, 33, Spear-street, do.	0	10	0
John Bubb, 8, Berwick-street, C.-on-M., do.	0	5	0
W. Lonsdale, 37, London-road, do.	0	5	0
J. Munson, 39, Rusholme-road, do. (2nd subscription)	0	10	0
Joseph Owen, corn factor, Hanging-ditch, do.	10	0	0
Mrs. Dewhurst, Whitehaven Cottage, near Oswestry	1	1	0
A Friend, per R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.	25	0	0
Mathew Brignal, dyer, Mount-street, Manchester	20	0	0
C. Brayshaw, Dent, per John Gadsby, do.	0	3	9
George Jackson, Lancaster	5	0	0
Thomas Johnson, do.	2	0	0
James Thompson, Wray, near do.	5	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, per D. Liddell	7	10	0
Henry Brown, starch manufacturer, South Shields, per D. Liddell	1	0	0
John M'Kie, 5, Riga-street, Manchester	2	2	0
Thomas Mather, Glyn Abbott, Holywell	50	0	0
Benjamin Bacon, Market-place, Cambridge	1	0	0
Rev. Francis Knowles, Park-lane, near Warrington	1	0	0
Some Students at New College, Grosvenor-square, C.-on-M., Manchester	11	0	0
A Friend	1	1	0
Thomas Charles, farmer, Aldbourne, Wilts, per A. Mallinson	1	0	0
Thomas Anger, do., Hinton, do., per do.	0	2	6
Stephen Osbond, do., Ramsbury, do., per do.	0	2	6
Thomas Sadler, do., Shaw, near Swindon, do., per do.	0	2	6
Wm. Plummer, do., Liddiard, near do., per do.	0	5	0
Jos. Cundell, do., Bagshot, near Hungerford, Berks	1	0	0
Mrs. Woodcock, 61, Duke-street, Hulme, Manchester	1	0	0
T., a Friend to Free Trade, do.	2	0	0
Samuel Chapman, 25, Spring-gardens, do.	1	0	0
John Pearson, Egerton-terrace, Longsight, do.	1	1	0
J. S.	1	1	0
John Owen, Chapel-street, Salford, Manchester	1	1	0
Thomas Groome, Regent-road, Salford, do.	1	1	0
Adam Booth, 76, Henry-street, do.	1	1	0
Robert Sutton, 20, Bank-street, Cheetham, do.	1	1	0
James Greenhough, Gore-street, do.	1	0	0
David Hesse, 14, London-road, do.	0	5	0
A Friend, per Samuel Edwards, London-road, do.	0	5	0
Barnabas Pilkington, Leigh-street East, do.	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	6
Small Sums, Manchester	0	3	0
Wm. Collier and Co., Greengate, Salford, do.	10	0	0
Thomas Parsons, St. Ann's-square, do.	1	1	0
Robt. John Stone, St. Ann's Churchyard, do.	5	0	0
A Friend	10	0	0
E. L.	1	1	0
John Parry, 1, Spring-gardens, Manchester	0	10	0
A Friend	0	5	0
Robt. Bamford, 118, Duke-street, Hulme, Manchester	1	0	0
Thos. Collins, 72, Church-street, do.	1	0	0
—— Shatwell, 7, Back-alley, do.	1	0	0
J. D., per R. Bunting, do.	1	0	0
Peter Aldred, 26, Church-street, do.	0	5	0
Thomas Edgley, Charlotte-street, do.	5	0	0
L. C. Callet, do., do.	5	0	0
Geo. Richardson, 18, Lloyd-street, Green Heys, do.	1	0	0
John Appleby, 70, Russell-st., Stretford New Rd., do.	1	0	0
James C. Blythe, 24, Charlotte-street, do.	1	1	0
Atkinson and Bailey, 59, George-street, do.	5	0	0
T. G. Owen, 2, Tivoli-place, Stretford New Road, do.	1	0	0
James Machell, 88, Fountain-street, do.	£0	5	0
S. Parsons, do., do.	0	2	6
Two Friends	5	0	0
Eliza Cox, 153, Chester-road, Hulme, do.	5	0	0
Small Subscriptions	0	4	6
A Friend to the Cause at Stockport, per Mr. Hollins	20	0	0
Roht. Dixon, Lord Nelson, Mather-street, Manchester	0	5	0
J. P. Massey, Frederick-st., Edgbaston, Birmingham	1	0	0
Wm. Moore, jun., Leicester	0	10	0
Thos. Laxton, 33, Great Ducie-street, Strangeways, Manchester	1	0	0
Edward Lombe, Great Melton Hall, Wyemond-lane, near Norwich	100	0	0
Warrington, per George Crosfield	7	13	10
Phillip Berry, Millstone Inn, Thomas-st., Manchester	1	0	0
A Friend, per Benjamin Marler	2	0	0
Wm. Lewis, Patricroft, near Manchester	1	1	0
Rev. William Gaskell, M.A., Upper Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester	2	0	0
Rev. Jas. F. Anderson, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Staleybridge, per Dakin Cheetham	0	10	0
P. H. H.	1	0	0
Workpeople of Dacca Twist Company, Fleet-street Mill, Manchester, per James Kayton	1	0	0
Wm. Colin Mather, Brown-st., Salford, Manchester	10	0	0
Wm. Drinkwater, Dale-street, Salford, do.	1	0	0
Wm. Badelley, White Cross-bank, do., do.	0	5	0
Wm. Lockett, Richmond-hill, do., do.	2	0	0
Chesterfield, per C. Tucker	2	18	0
Wm. Owen, 25, Rusholme-road, Manchester	1	0	0
C. J. Melland, 24, Cannon-street, Manchester	1	0	0
N. M., Manchester, per J. Gadsby	5	0	0
G. B.	1	0	0
W. Shuttleworth, Strangeways, Manchester	2	2	0
Thos. Wilkinson, Red Lion, London-road, do.	1	0	0
Thomas Bird, Three Tons, Smithy-door, do.	1	0	0
Albt. Krachenbule, at Skelton Metha, Birchin-lane, do.	1	0	0
A Friend to Free Trade, per R. Higgin, do.	1	0	0
John Crosland Milner, Thurlston, near Barnsley	1	0	0
Wm. Moorhouse, jun., do., do.	1	0	0
Christopher Smith, Heaton Mills, Northumberland	0	10	0
Thomas Black, Ford Forge, do.	1	0	0
Barnstaple, per W. H. Jones	2	19	0
Joshua Wilson, High-st., Sunderland, per E. Mounsey	1	1	0
Dixon, Phillips, and Co., Sunderland Potteries, do.	5	5	0
A. L. Moore, Bridge-street, Sunderland, do.	5	5	0
Joseph Potts, Frederick-street, do., do.	1	1	0
Henry Binns, High-street, do., do.	1	1	0
Wm. Binns, do., do., do.	1	0	0
Wm. Auster and others, Workmen at Sunderland Potteries, do.	1	3	3
John Ferguson and others, do., do.	1	3	3
U. C. Reed, Fawcett-street, do.	1	0	0
Miss Meadley, High-street, do.	1	1	0
John Sedgwick, do., do.	1	1	0
A Free Trader	1	1	0
S. Mills, North Bridge-street, Sunderland, do.	1	0	0
J. Mounsey, Fawcett-street, do.	1	1	0
A Lady	2	2	0
John Harrison, Strangeways, Manchester	10	0	0
Henry Kelsall, Butts, Rochdale	100	0	0
James Tweedale, Roach-mill, do.	50	0	0
John Petrie, iron founder, do.	50	0	0
Mrs. Wm. Petrie, Whitehall-street, do.	10	10	0
Mrs. John Petrie, Promenade, do.	10	10	0
Pagan, Ogden, and Stuart, do.	30	0	0
John Howarth, Small-bridge, do.	10	0	0
Wm. W. Whitley, Yorkshire-street, do.	6	0	0
Mrs. John Howard, do.	5	0	0
Jones and Croskill, do.	4	4	0
John Wood, do.	4	0	0
Edward Hoyle, Drake-street, do.	2	2	0
George Williamson, Yorkshire-street, do.	2	2	0
Robert Glover, Cheetham-street, do.	2	0	0
Christopher Hyland, West-street, do.	2	0	0
John Ashworth, butcher, do.	0	5	0
Henry Staley, do.	5	0	0
William Roberts, solicitor, do.	2	10	0
John Holgate, solicitor, do.	2	10	0
John Williamson, do.	1	1	0
James Clegg, Whitehall-street, do.	0	2	6
John Butterworth, do., do.	0	2	6
Abel Leach, Hope-street, do.	0	2	6
Edmund Clegg, Rope-street, do.	0	4	0
James Kershaw, Mount-pleasant, do.	1	0	0
John Holt, woollen printer, Drake-street, do.	1	0	0
John Butterworth, Mill-street, do.	1	0	0
Robert Taylor, at Messrs. Briggs and Bright's, do.	1	0	0
R. S. W., do.	1	0	0
John Healey, Drake-street, do.	0	10	0
Samuel Whitehead, Walk, do.	1	1	0
George Hobson, do., do.	0	5	0
Oliver and William Ormerod, Yorkshire-street, do.	20	0	0
J. F. Dutton, Cheetham-hill, Manchester	1	1	0
John Ashworth, 46, Fountain-street, do.	1	0	0
John Paxton, Berwick-on-Tweed, per J. Rothery	1	0	0
Wm. Howell, 53, Gt. Windmill-street, St. James's	1	0	0
John Robins, 14, Opera-arcade	0	5	0
Thomas Bryer, King William-street, City	1	1	0
John King, 1, Ocean row, Stepney	1	0	0
Richard M'Craight, 94, Goswell-street	1	0	0
John Harris, Leadenhall-market	1	1	0
A. B.	1	0	0
J. C. Baxtor, 16, Norfolk-street, Middlesex Hospital	1	0	0
S. May, from the shop of Mr. May, 51, Myddelton-street, Clerkenwell	1	1	0
W. P. Bartlett, Park-place, Camberwell-green	1	1	0
J. Kershaw, 14, South-market, Leeds	1	0	0
John Ingham, grocer, Wiswell, Whalley, near Blackburn	1	0	0
A Friend, per W. G. Westrope	1	0	0
James W. Willis, Rankeillor-street, Edinburgh	1	0	0
Wm. Dyke, 21, Grafton-street, London University	1	0	0
John Land, 66, Judd-street	0	5	0
Richard Tarrant Harrison, 2, Pump-court, Temple	1	0	0
H. Yandall, 105, Strand	1	0	0
John Cumner, 153, High-street, Borough	1	0	0
Porteous and Gregson, 17 and 18, Beckford-row, High-street, Walworth	1	0	0
John Robertson, 15, Saville-row, Burlington-gardens	1	0	0
Hildreth Kay, Upton-place, Commercial-road	1	1	0
Prown and Downes, Glasgow	1	0	0
Wm. Patten, 20, Old Fish-street, Doctors' Commons	1	0	0
Wm. Thorne, 88, High-street, Cheltenham	1	0	0
John Ashby, corn dealer, Northampton	1	0	0
Andrew Hill, 43, Broughton-street, Edinburgh	1	0	0
John Churcher, 12, Oxford-terrace, Camden-town	0	2	6
Richard Mitchell, 94, Oxford-street	1	0	0
John Shewen, Seven Oaks	1	0	0
George Calton, 8, Blomfield-road, Maida-hill	2	0	0
J. T. Stainsby, 6, Russell-street, Chelsea	1	0	0
L. G.	1	1	0
G. R. Feuillade, Charles-street, St. James's-square	1	1	0
Wm. Keep, Newport Pagnell	1	0	0
H. S. Nash, Great George-street, Bristol	1	0	0
William Mewkill, 18, Great Maze-pond, Southwark	0	2	6
Mrs. Mewkill, do.	0	2	0
Fanny Mewkill, do.	0	2	0
Dr. Epps, 89, Great Russell-street	1	0	0
Ebenezer Everett, Lamb-alley, Bermondsey	1	0	0
James Stewart, Fordingbridge, Hants	1	0	0
George Bridger, Endless-street, Salisbury	1	0	0
Francis Cooper, 17, Clapton-square, Hackney	1	0	0
T. North, 284, Strand	0	2	6
John Muddiman, 27, Aske-street, Hoxton	1	1	0
Charles Warwick, 16, Highbury-place	1	1	0
John Balmer, 2, St. John-street-road	1	1	0
James L. Wheeler, Gloucester-place, Kentish-town	1	0	0
Lowe Wheeler, do., do.	1	0	0

		£	s.	d.
Robert Lane, 38, St. Paul's Churchyard		1	0	0
C. A. Windeatt	Gateshead, per G. Crawshay	0	2	6
William Douglas		0	10	0
R. Blagburn, Grey Horse Inn		1	0	0
A Friend, per C. Dunn		1	0	0
William Holmes, Alton, Hants		1	0	0
R. C., by Mr. Monro, Cheltenham		1	0	0
J. Wilson Fletcher, Gray Southern, near	Cockermouth, 2nd remittance.	2	0	0
J. R. Walker, Gilgarrow, near Workington		1	0	0
John Matthews, Old Hall		1	0	0
Wm. Slater, grocer		1	0	0
Richard Bell, surgeon		1	0	0
W. and G. Cape, builders		1	0	0
Jos. Martin, sen., grocer		1	0	0
Isaac Atkinson, tanner		1	0	0
Henry Norman, flour dealer		1	0	0
John Richardson, sen., brewer		1	0	0
John Burnett, blacksmith		1	0	0
Robert Simpson, Sun Inn		1	0	0
John Benn		1	0	0
A Friend, per Jos. Harris		1	0	0
A Friend, per S. Harrison		1	0	0
A Friend, per Jos. Martin, jun.		1	0	0
Joshua Simm		1	0	0
Wm. Slack, Arms Hill		1	0	0
Wm. Alderson, tanner		1	0	0
I. C. Radford, Messrs. Glencross and Co., Devonport		1	0	0
Francis Carr, 52, Division-street, Sheffield		1	1	0
John Cressy Lloyd, Potton, Bedfordshire		1	0	0
Thomas Millie, Path-head, Kirkaldy		1	0	0
Alexander Blyth and Co., St. Clair-town, Kirkaldy		1	0	0
The Workmen of Messrs. J. W. and H. Shaw, Huddersfield		2	0	6
N. Barnsdall, Nottingham		1	0	0
John Hennell, Coventry		1	0	0
Thomas Robertson, Foxbar	Paisley, 3rd remittance.	5	0	0
Ross and Duncan, thread manufacturers		5	0	0
A Friend to Free Trade, per Robt. Walker		3	3	0
Brown and Polson		2	2	0
George Coats, Saucel Bank		1	1	0
Thomas Watson, High-street		1	1	0
Reid and Hanna		1	1	0
A Friend, per Matthew Whitehill		1	1	0
James M'Naughton, Causeyside		1	1	0
Rev. William M'Dougall		1	1	0
Alexander Whitehill, Causeyside		1	1	0
David Wilkie, painter		1	1	0
Hallie Robert Paton		1	1	0
George Houston, Causeyside		1	1	0
Hugh Mair, High-street		1	1	0
Charles Baird, George-street		1	1	0
R. and T. Eaglesine, Cross		1	1	0
Alexander Walker, baker		1	1	0
George Turnbull, baker		1	1	0
David Smith, calenderer, Causeyside		1	1	0
Adam Scott, Causeyside		1	1	0
William Gillespie, slater		1	1	0
Findlay M'Fadyen, Newtown		1	1	0
James Patrick, Causeyside		1	1	0
A Friend, per Hugh M'Farlane, jun.		1	1	0
William Barr, jun., writer		1	1	0
Thomas Duck, Causeyside		1	1	0
Thomas H. M'Farlane		1	1	0
Robert Bissett, manufacturer		1	1	0
Andrew Smith, Saucel		1	1	0
Taylor and Brown, Causeyside		1	1	0
Hugh Stewart, 114, Causeyside		1	1	0
James Hanna, High street		0	10	6
Osburne Hendry, surgeon		0	10	6
A. H. Park, Cross		0	10	6
Alex. Law, pattern drawer		0	10	6
James Aitken, Water Brae		0	10	6
Thomas Boyd, Causeyside		0	10	6
Wm. Buchanan, Son, and Co., Causeyside		0	10	6
Matthew Perry, dyer		0	10	6
David Smith, West Buchanan-street		0	10	6
J. G. Patrick, at Messrs. James Harvey and Co., Saucel		0	10	6
John Mitchell, Commercial Bank		0	5	0
Thomas Robertson Gardiner		0	5	0
James Hope, Causeyside		0	5	0
Wm. Symington, Causeyside		0	5	0
Alex. M'Gilvray, baker, Causeyside		0	5	0
John Cameron, New-street		0	5	0
Jack and M'Nish, Causeyside		0	5	0
John M'Murchy, Causeyside		0	5	0
John Adam, Newtown		0	5	0
Alex. Weddell, Moss-street		0	5	0
Wm. Wallace, calenderer		0	5	0
Charles Wallace, slater		1	1	0
A Friend		10	0	0
A Friend, per R. J.		5	0	0
Philip Quirk, Rock Ferry, near Liverpool		10	0	0
Conservative Free Trader		2	0	0
James Burnett, Hopwood-street, Liverpool		1	1	0
Alexander Hutchison, 70, Boundary street, do.		1	0	0
Hugh Mackay, 21, Bassnett-street, do.		1	1	0
A Foreigner		3	3	0
Charles Robertson, 25, Highfield-street, do.		1	0	0
Charles Cole, 8, Pitt street, do.		1	1	0
William Townley, 14, Finch-street, do.		1	1	0
John J. Jackson, 93, Church-street, do.		2	2	0
Edward Wilson, Elm Farm		100	0	0
W. W.		1	1	0
Andrew Melly, 7, Water-street, Liverpool		25	0	0
Henry Romilly, 7, Water street, do.		25	0	0
William Bolderstone, 2, Upper Stanhope street, do.		5	0	0
Henry Welfare, Mason street Edge hill		1	0	0
Joseph Shepherd, 132, Scotland-road, Liverpool		1	0	0
R. D. Heywood, 3, Abercromby-terrace, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Fisher, 137, Dale-street, do.		1	1	0
H. Nicholson, Sandon street, do.		1	0	0
John Bagshaw, 95, Church street, do.		1	1	0
Benjamin Coleman, 28, Exchange-street East, do.		1	1	0
T. D. Bain, 52, Soho street, do.		1	1	0
D. C. Crombie, 78, Chester-st., Birkenhead, near do.		2	2	0
John Ainsworth, 29, Pleasant street, do.		12	12	0
Thomas English, 18, Great Mersey-street, Kirkdale		1	1	0
James Thornely, 16, Hope street, Liverpool		1	0	0
Thomas Roberts, 87, Dale-street, do.		1	1	0
George Bramwell, 150, Park-lane, do.		1	1	0
Robert Wilson, 11, Queen-street, Edge-hill		1	1	0
Samuel Seward, 19, Upper Stanhope-street, Liverpool		5	0	0
Asher Cohen, 53, South Castle-street, do.		1	1	0
Mrs. Mathews	Wavertree, near do.	5	0	0
Miss Mathews		5	0	0
Miss Bell		1	0	0
John Trumper, sen., Rock Ferry, Cheshire		1	0	0
C. Wilson, Elm Farm, West Derby, near Liverpool		50	0	0
Edward Lane, Chapel Walks, Liverpool		19	10	0
Thomas Morris, 80, Lord street, do.		3	3	0
William Wood, jun., 4, Stanley-terrace, Dalton-st., do.		1	0	0
Richard Dickinson, 41, Cleveland-square, do.		1	0	0
A Mechanic		1	0	0
T. W. Baker, 4, Roe-street, do.		1	0	0
H. Donaldson, 24, Berkely-street, Toxteth-park, do.		1	1	0
Jonathan Roberts, 8, Mill street, do.		1	1	0
Joseph Fry, 4, Lower Castle-street, do.		2	2	0
L. L. Gostenhofer, 4, Lower Castle-street, do.		2	2	0
Mrs. E. Smith, 35, Rodney-street, do.		2	2	0
Thomas Holbert, 8, Temple-court, do.		1	1	0
John Booth, 24, Temple-street, do.		1	1	0
John Hignett, 27, do., do.		1	1	0
Joseph Buden, 27, do., do.		1	1	0
N. C. Bond, 25, do., do.		1	1	0
Morgan Jones, 110, Mill street, do.		2	0	0
Owen Williams, 78, St. James's-road, do.		5	0	0
Mary J. Nicholson, 154, Richmond-row, do.		1	1	0
Joseph Allen, 52, Phythian-street, do.		1	1	0
O. P. Hughes, 146, Bedford-street, Toxteth-park, do.		£1	0	0
Albion Office, Castle-street, do.		5	0	0
James H. Smith, Exchange-alley North, do.		5	0	0
Edmund Smith, at Mr. Collins's, Claughton, Cheshire		1	0	0
A Friend		3	3	0
A Ship Carpenter		1	0	0
Chas. Ed. West, 65, Pembroke-place, do.		1	1	0
John Read, 90, Upper Stanhope-street, do.		1	0	0
Samuel Peck, Ranelagh-street, do.		2	0	0
William Dillon, Virgil-street, do.		1	0	0
T. J.		10	0	0
A. Allan, 4, India-buildings, do.		2	2	0
Dr. C. O. Baylis, 103, Mount Pleasant, do.		1	1	0
John Vickess, 2, Ford-street, do.		1	0	0
Dr. Murphy, 31, Islington, do.		1	1	0
W. Somerville, 10, Edmund-street, Toxteth-park, do.		1	0	0
Rd. Ed. Hodges, Ludlow, Salop		5	5	0
J. J.		3	0	0
Peter Boult, 11, Mason-street, Edge-hill		1	1	0
Edward Tinker, Scotland-road, Liverpool		1	1	0
Fred. Pennington, North John-street, do.		50	0	0
Jas. H. Macrae, Tithe Barn-street, do.		25	0	0
Isaac Cooke, Exchange-buildings, do.		20	0	0
Isaac B. Cooke, Exchange-buildings, do.		50	0	0
Thos. Thornely, Mount-street, do.		100	0	0
William Brown, Richmond-hill, do.		100	0	0
John Dickinson, Tithe Barn-street, do.		20	0	0
Richard Rathbone, Woodcroft, do.		50	0	0
David Lamb, 8, Union-street, do.		5	0	0
Isaac Byland, Church-street, do.		1	1	0
Lloyd Rayner, Soho street, do.		10	0	0
W. Hartshorn, Upper Warwick-st., Toxteth-park, do.		1	0	0
Thirty Cork Cutters in the employ of Mr. M'Eachin, Cooper's-row, do.		2	0	0
W. B. H., Mount-street, do.		1	1	0
W. Cator, Exchange-alley, do.		5	0	0
R. S.		2	0	0
Eyre Evans, Chapel-street, Liverpool		20	0	0
Samuel Roberts, 17, Button-street, do.		1	1	0
P. Chaloner, Aigburth, do.		2	2	0
George Thompson, Church-street, do.		2	2	0
Henry Crompton, Eton House, Wavertree, near Liverpool		10	10	0
Jas. Taylor, 12, Gibraltar-row, Liverpool		1	0	0
Samuel Thornely, Lord-street, do.		10	0	0
Mrs. Denison, Upper Stanhope-street, do.		2	0	0
Edwd. Langsdale, Shaw-street, do.		25	0	0
Thos. Bolton, Brunswick-street, do.		10	0	0
Geo. Mackenzie, 57, Grove-street, do.		1	0	0
John Jones, 13, Price-street, do.		2	2	0
Geo. Crosfield and Co., Temple-place, do.		100	0	0
Mrs. H. Crosfield, Dean-street, Fairfield, do.		5	0	0
A Friend, per H. Crosfield		2	0	0
John Hutton, 39, Grafton-street, Liverpool		2	2	0
T. Waring, 18, Stanhope-street, do.		1	0	0
John Stannanought, 56, Norfolk-street, do.		1	0	0
Henry Martindale, 1, Bold-street, do.		10	0	0
Richard Sharp, Temple-court, do.		10	0	0
Owen Williams, 32, Plumb-street, do.		1	0	0
Wm. Cochran, 2, South John-street, do.		3	3	0
Edward Heath, Commerce-court, do.		5	5	0
John Bennett, 87, Lord-street, do.		1	0	0
Henry Jump, Leeds-street, do.		1	0	0
Jas. Sharp, 18, Temple-court, do.		2	0	0
Martin Bromley, 82, Duke-street, do.		1	0	0
John Walker, 8, Berkeley-street, do.		3	0	0
Wm. Fraser, 27, Hunter-street, do.		1	1	0
Joseph Edwards, 19, Brunswick-road, do.		1	1	0
C. H. M. Lolley, 7, Bute-street, do.		5	0	0
J. D. and R. Mather, 58, Mount Pleasant, do.		100	0	0
Christopher Tennant, 56, James-street, do.		2	2	0
G. J. Longbottom, 113, Great Howard-street, do.		1	1	0
Ed. Storrs, 16, Bold-street, do.		5	0	0
William Hawker, 65, Dale-street, do.		1	1	0
John Mure, 8, Leveson-street, do.		1	1	0
George Atkins, 51, Soho-street, do.		1	0	0
John Lawrie, 1, Ward's-terrace, Parr-street, do.		1	1	0
John Murphy, Seacombe, do.		1	1	0
George Malcolm, India-buildings, do.		2	0	0
Jones W. M'Bride, 6, Water-street, do.		5	0	0
John Tate, 21, Breck-road, Everton, do.		1	0	0
Thomas Wheelhouse, 97, Lord-street, do.		1	1	0
George Ashton, 5, Bedford-street North, do.		10	10	0
George Heyworth, Yew Tree, do.		10	0	0
Dr. Reynolds, Allerton, do.		15	0	0
Thomas Smith, West Derby-street, do.		2	0	0
Rev. Jn. Robberds, 18, Park-street, Toxteth-park, do.		5	0	0
James D. Wood, 15, Old Hall-street, do.		100	0	0
James Duncan, India-buildings, do.		1	0	0
Richard Bright, Bold-street, do.		5	0	0
J. M'George, 1, John-street, St. Domingo-road, Everton, do.		1	1	0
Edward Estill, Oxton, Cheshire		1	0	0
John Greaves, 11, Castle-street, Liverpool		1	1	0
Andrew Kurtz, Upper Stanhope-street, do.		25	0	0
William Gilmore, 37, Seymour-street, do.		3	0	0
William Cooke, 4, Duke-street do.		1	1	0
A Friend, per James Mellor		5	0	0
Alexander Robb, 17, St. Anne-street, Liverpool		1	0	0
Robert Moore, 24, Hunter-street, do.		1	1	0
James Ashton, 13, Lawton-street, do.		0	10	0
Thomas Avison, Cooke street, do.		10	0	0
John Ellacott, 11, St. James's-place, do.		1	0	0
Jeffreys and Morrish, Church-street, do.		10	0	0
Henry Edwards, 58, Bedford-street North, do.		50	0	0
Thomas Barstow, Cropper-street, do.		1	0	0
F. L. Hunsbury, Church-street, do.		10	0	0
J. W.		1	1	0
Thomas Parlay, 117, Copperas-hill, Liverpool		2	0	0
John Woolwright, Bold-street, do.		10	0	0
Richard Adie, do., do.		2	0	0
R. and H. Anderson, do., do.		1	1	0
George Woods, do., do.		1	1	0
Hannah Rickman, do., do.		1	0	0
David Kent, 6, do., do.		1	0	0
Arthur Kerr, 20, Bevington Bush-road, do.		1	1	0
Robert Abbatt, 10, Elliott-street, do.		10	0	0
Peter Eastwood, Royal Hotel, 2, Moorfields, do.		2	2	0
J. B. Johnson, 37, Scotland-road, do.		1	1	0
Wm. Harris, Great George's-st., corner Hardy-st., do.		1	0	0
W. J. Dawber, Bassnett-street, do.		1	1	0
William Philips, 16, Hill-street, do.		2	0	0
William Kerr, 10, Strand-street, do.		1	1	0
T. L. Aspland, Downshire-ter., Up. Parliament-st., do.		2	2	0
James Stewart, 75, Whitechapel, do.		1	0	0
Rees Jeffreys, Price-street, do.		2	2	0
Charles Bazlow, 1, Cleveland-square, do.		1	1	0
Robert Blezard, Bootle Brewery, do.		2	2	0
John D. Thornely, 16, Hope-street, do.		50	0	0
William Thornely, do., do.		5	0	0
Michael R. Bell, 70, Bootle-lane, do.		1	0	0
John Boyd, 23, Cazneau-street, do.		1	0	0
George Law, Holt-hill, Tranmere, do.		10	0	0
Anti-Monopolist		10	0	0
George Paxton, 20, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool		1	0	0
William Rathbone, South Castle-street, do.		100	0	0
James Mulleneux, Dale-street, do.		100	0	0
Wm. Wood, 1, Harrington-street, do.		5	5	0
J. P. G. Smith, Old Hall-street, do.		5	0	0
Thomas Adams, 2, Hope-street, do.		25	0	0
W. F. Sinn, Grange-lane, Birkenhead, do.		20	0	0
J. M'Crum, sen., Bootle-lane, Kirkdale, do.		1	0	0
George Frankland, Old Hall-street, do.		1	0	0
R. R. Rathbone, Woodcroft, do.		5	0	0
W. P. S., 15, Nile-street, do.		0	10	6
J. R., 49, Shaw-street, do.		0	10	6
Thomas Foster, 76, Burlington-street, do.		0	10	0
Ben. Smith, wife, and two sons, Birtles'-place, Great Nelson-street, do.		0	4	0
John Lowe, 4, Argyle-street, do.		£0	2	6
R. M'Gowan, jun., Swift's-court, Castle-street, do.		0	5	0
A Friend, G. B.		0	2	6
Thomas Bartlum, Rupert-street, Liverpool		0	2	6
Robert M'Gowan, 7, Cable-street, do.		0	10	0
Thomas Mathias, 80, Lord-street, do.		0	2	6
Arthur Stephens, 80, do., do.		0	2	6
Hugh Pugh, 80, do., do.		0	2	6
James James, 80, do., do.		0	2	6
John Roberts, 80, do., do.		0	2	6
J. Roberts, 15, St. James-street, do.		0	5	0
Peter Greaves, 53, Ashton-street, do.		0	5	0
Robert Glendening, 18, Lawton-street, do.		0	5	0
Robert Raleigh, 15, Hawke-street, do.		0	10	0
Hard-a-Lee		0	5	0
George Bower, George-street, Liverpool (instalment of £1)		0	10	0
Wm. Bishop, 25, Bedford-street, Toxteth-park, do.		0	10	8
John Underhill, 68, London-road, do.		0	2	6
James Underhill, 6, Dalton-street, do.		0	2	6
L. Holdfield, Queen-square, do.		0	5	0
Mrs. Duncan and Family		0	15	0
A Friend to the Cause		0	5	0
Thomas Carter, Temple-buildings, Liverpool		0	10	0
John Humphreys, Dutton-street, do.		0	2	6
James Hodgson and Co., Great Howard-street, do.		0	10	0
Thomas Jones, 33, Mount-pleasant, do.		0	5	0
James Rouse, 10, Elliott-street, do.		0	5	0
John Lee, 5, Price-street, do.		0	5	0
H. M. Haydock, Goree, do.		0	5	0
John Gas, 27, Hurst-street, do.		0	2	6
Ten Compositors, and others, *Mercury* Office, do.		0	10	6
J. M'Cruver, jun., Bootle-lane, Kirkdale, do.		0	5	0
W. W., 3, Upper Stanhope-street, do.		0	10	6
Thrown from the gallery of Amphitheatre, at Public Meeting		1	0	0
Small sums under 2s. 6d.		1	13	1
Frederick Gilcrist, 49, Great Newton-street, Liverpool		0	5	0
W. B. O'Donnell, 15, Scotland-road, do.		1	0	0
W. Baynes and Son, 17, Pleasant-hill-street, do.		1	1	0
James Crovan, 101, Scotland-road, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Bulley, Catherine-street, do.		5	0	0
R. Y. Ackerley, Prince Edwin-street, do.		1	1	0
John Rogers, 141, St. James's-street, do.		2	0	0
W. Buchanan, Chatham-place, Edge-hill, do.		1	1	0
George M'Connal, 24, Lord Nelson-street, do.		1	1	0
J. S.		0	10	6
Robert Thornton, 53, Stanhope-street, Liverpool		1	1	0
W. Trumble, 27, Canning-place, do.		0	2	6
Thomas Holt, 8, Hope-street, do.		20	0	0
W. Holt, Chapel-walks, do.		20	0	0
R. L. Holt, 8, Hope-street, do.		3	0	0
G. R. H., 27, Pembroke-place, do.		1	1	0
R. M'Gowan, jun., Swift's-court, Castle-street, do.		0	15	0
James Mellor, Exchange-alley North, do.		1	1	0
Mrs. Banks, 18, Holly-street, Queen Anne-street, do.		10	0	0
John Allinson, 94, St. James's-street, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Mucklow, 137, Tithe Barn-street, do.		1	1	0
John Graves, Sweeting-street, do.		2	2	0
Hughes and Ronald, Cook-street, do.		5	0	0
Edward Evans and Co., 65, Church-street		10	10	0
P. E. Weber and Co., Bevington Bush, do.		5	0	0
William Garnett, at P. E. Weber and Co.'s., do., do.		1	0	0
John Henderson, 112, Chatham-street, do.		5	0	0

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A very heavy pressure of other matter prevents us from giving the usual replies to our numerous correspondents this week.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in penny postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, December* 16, 1843

"The great fact" is increasing in its magnitude; the appeal of the League to the confidence of the country has been answered with unexampled enthusiasm. All the great interests of the nation, save those which have been identified by perverse legislation with the corruptions of monopoly, have come forward in the cause of truth and justice, and have declared that, since the principles of Free Trade have been recognised as the principles of common sense, they will not patiently see national prosperity sacrificed to acknowledged folly and confessed absurdity. Commercial Liverpool has taken its place by the side of manufacturing Manchester; the woollen and flax factories of Yorkshire speak as loud as the cotton-mills of Lancashire; the trading capital of Scotland presses forward to aid the trading towns of England; farmers have opened their eyes to their true interests, and have discovered that the Corn Laws were a treacherous excuse for exorbitant rents; and agricultural labourers have learned that monopoly at once diminishes employment and lowers the rate of remuneration. The League has sown the seeds of truth through the length and breadth of the land, and the harvest of sound principle is ripening more rapidly than the most enthusiastic could have anticipated.

The constitutional form in which these declarations have been made is one of the most gratifying circumstances connected with these meetings. We have already directed attention to the manly conduct of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh; he came forward to state that his official position should not check his exertions to remove those fetters which restrict the commerce of the country and take away the means of employment from the operative; and he showed that his magisterial duties were perfectly consistent with his duties to his country and to general humanity. We have this week to record other noble examples of the ancient free spirit of municipal institutions. The chief magistrates of Leeds and Glasgow have taken their proper place at the head of the movement, in their respective locali-

ties, for redressing the grievances of their fellow-citizens and of the industrial classes throughout the country.

The middle classes throughout England are now solemnly banded together to protect the rights of labour, with which monopoly has so long and so mischievously interfered. They are fighting the battle of the employer and the employed—of the merchant who has a right to sell in the dearest and purchase in the cheapest market—of the capitalist who has a right to profit by the accumulations of his intelligence and his industry—but above all and more than all, of the operative who has a right to obtain support from his use of the capital bestowed upon him by his Creator, the power of labouring with his hands. Such is the nature of the contest; and we trust that the increasing signs of approaching triumph will stimulate to fresh exertion, until the victory *for* the people shall be obviously and undeniably a victory won *by* the people.

REVIEW.

Christian Thoughts on Free Trade. By W. J. Shrewsbury, Wesleyan Minister. Bacup: J. Downham. London: Strange.

We are glad to see the ministers of religion coming forward to show the connexion between the equitable principles of commerce and the advancement of religious truth, in our own country, in the colonies, and amid barbarous nations. The gifted and amiable author has been a missionary in South Africa; and now, that he has returned home to labour in England, his earliest attention has been devoted to the enforcing of those everlasting truths which God in his mercy has revealed to his creatures. The propositions which Mr. Shrewsbury has undertaken to demonstrate are thus briefly stated:—

"First: Free Trade is implied in the primeval benediction God pronounced on Man.

"Secondly: Free Trade is sanctioned in sundry other Scriptures of the Old Testament.

"Thirdly: Free Trade is favoured by God's providential arrangements in the government of the world.

"Fourthly: Free Trade accords with the genius of Christianity.

"Fifthly: Free Trade is promoted by Christian Missions: and

"Sixthly: Free Trade will be exemplified when Christianity gains her final triumphs in the conversion of the world."

In addition to what the benevolent writer has stated on the first proposition, we should wish to add that God, "in the midst of judgment remembering mercy," gave forth the *fiat* for Free Trade in food even when sentence of condemnation was pronounced on our First Parents. The form of expression is striking—"In the sweat of thy brow thou *shalt* eat bread." The food is promised at the same moment that the labour is enjoined; and the withholding of any portion of the food which the toil of the operative can purchase, is consequently a violation of the very first principle of that dispensation which Jehovah established for the moral probation of mankind.

Not only is Free Trade sanctioned in sundry other places in the Old Testament, but the artificial increase of the price of food by the corn monopolists of Judea is denounced by the prophets as a sin that was certain to bring down divine vengeance on their class. We learn from the prophet Amos that these monopolists were so intent on their unhallowed gains that they were impatient of the restrictions which the observance of the sabbath and the festival of the new moon imposed upon their traffic. The passage is well worthy of attention:—"Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail, saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the *ephah* small and the *shekel* great, and falsifying the balance by deceit." As the *ephah* was the corn measure, and the *shekel* the weight for the purchase money, we find that the Jewish monopolists had "a sliding scale" of their own, and that, not satisfied with its operation, they in addition used a trick similar to the modern frauds in striking the averages—"they falsified the balances by deceit." The Jewish monopolists thus stated the reasons by which they were influenced:—"That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat." Our modern monopolists have bought the votes of the poor and needy by equally miserable bribes, and have similarly exerted themselves to force a sale of "the refuse of the wheat." But to them as well as to their Jewish predecessors the prophet addresses the awful warning, "The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works." (Amos viii. 4—7.)

The accordance of Free Trade with the genius of Christianity is evident from every page of the New Testament. Christ's injunction, "Feed the hungry, clothe the naked," involves the necessity of allowing the unclothed producer of food to exchange with the unfed producer of clothing. The two miracles of feeding the multitude would in our land have been made the subject of prosecution, unless the food, instead of being given to relieve distress, had been locked up in a bonded warehouse.

The promotion of Free Trade by Christian missions is exemplified in an anecdote related by Mr. Shrewsbury, which is too interesting to be omitted:

"In the year 1827, my missionary brethren, Messrs. William Shaw and Stephen Kay, accompanied me on a journey to Hintsa, the principal Chief of Kafirland, for the purpose of endeavouring to establish a new Wesleyan Mission in the vicinity of his residence. In this we ultimately succeeded; the station called Butterworth was formed, and continues to be a flourishing settlement unto this day. It is distant nearly 200 miles from Graham's Town, the chief town of South-east Africa. At that time the country was but little traversed, and there being no beaten roads, we frequently met with inconveniences and hinderances in travelling with our ox-waggon. We experienced our greatest difficulty in ascending the heights of the Kye River (the Kafirs call the river Inciba), though that part of the journey is now ordinarily accomplished without much toil. When we had succeeded, after hours of labour, in ascending by an untracked route the steep heights of the mountain, and were fairly on the level ground, we rested for the night by a fountain of water. There, while sitting round the fire in the open air with our attendants before evening service, old Plaatje, our Hottentot driver, thus accosted the missionaries with much simple earnestness, his furrowed countenance and a previous sigh betokening at once the depth of his thoughts and emotions:—'Well, Sirs, I formerly thought a waggon could never travel up these mountains; *but I now see the word of God can make a road anywhere.*' We were all struck at the time with the force and beauty of his simple observation; and in fact it appeared to us an illustration of the words of the prophet, as though they were capable of a literal application, as well as figurative of spiritual blessings. I refer to the words of Isaiah:—'The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.' Isaiah, xl. 3—5. In fact that path has since become a highway for missionaries travelling to and from the colony,—'a highway for our God.'

"But the remark of the poor illiterate old Hottentot has a double aspect; for if we do but ponder it we shall see, though nothing was farther from his thoughts, that it contains *the germ* of all that can be advanced in favour of free trade, as the gospel progresses, and civilization advances amongst mankind. 'I see,' said Plaatje, 'the word of God can make a road any where.' True, my old friend, whose memory I revere for your services on that, and on other occasions; but then the road which the gospel makes for the missionary, remains afterwards for the merchant and his merchandise. Indeed this is in substance an argument which is not unfrequently introduced on missionary platforms in this country, to show that even on the low ground of a regard to one's own wordly interests it is fitting that missions be liberally supported by the inhabitants of this kingdom. And it certainly is an argument founded on truth, although an appeal to considerations of this kind should not be too frequently made. It is only the high motive of true Christian principle that will effectually and steadily, apart from all adventitious circumstances, move the minds of men to uphold and extend the blessed missionary cause. Still, however, the fact is so;—the missionary is the merchant's best friend, for while he carries to the heathen true riches, demands for merchandise spring up in every direction. The natural progress of events opens new channels of trade, *and the trade at once is free.*"

We have no doubt that the spread of the gospel will lead to the commercial union of the nations of the earth, and that the universal reign of Christ will rivet every bond of brotherhood which conjoins man to man:—

"Waft, waft, ye winds, His story,
And you, ye oceans, roll,
'Till like a sea of glory
It spreads from pole to pole—
'Till o'er our conquer'd nature
The Lamb for sinners slain—
Redeemer, King, Creator—
Returns in bliss to reign."

CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT.—It appears that a much larger consumption of wheat is going on this year in the manufacturing districts than in the corresponding months of last year, owing to the improved state of trade. This is shown by referring to the sales in some of the chief markets which supply the manufacturing districts. From the 5th of August to the 1st of October, the following quantities were sold in each year in *Leeds* and *Wakefield*:—

Leeds.		*Wakefield.*	
5th. Aug. to Ist. Oct.		5th Aug. to 1st Oct.	
1842.	1843.	1842.	1843.
22,370 qrs.	30,504 qrs.	19,105 qrs.	33,761 qrs.

The *Economist*, reasoning upon these and other data, says it is probable that at least half a million of foreign wheat will be required in addition to our present stock for our consumption before the next harvest, and that the prices of that grain will range according to their present rate at from 5s. to 7s. higher, but that no such additional quantity of foreign grain will be required to be imported as will interfere with the currency or regular course of trade, or create any difficulty in obtaining the supply.—*Leeds Mercury.*

ENGLISH CORN LAWS AND AMERICAN TARIFFS.—While the protectionists of the United States attribute the improving condition of trade and business in this country to the operation of the tariff, the protectionists of England attribute to their prosperity the operation of the Corn Laws. In both cases restrictions upon trade are claimed as the cause of its prosperity. American protectionists can readily see that, so far from the prosperity of England being occasioned by the Corn Laws, it exists in spite of those laws; and British protectionists are equally clear-sighted in regard to the American tariff. Separate men's interests from their judgment, and they are in a condition to form correct conclusions. The fact is, that, after a long period of depression, resulting from a deranged currency, extravagant speculations, high tariffs, or any other cause, a reaction is as much a matter of course as the return of the pendulum from one extreme to the other. During such a period the country becomes bare of goods, both foreign and domestic. Prices are depressed, and there is no encouragement to engage in business of any sort. From this unnatural depression prices must in due time recover; and business done upon a rising market, if the rise be not the result of speculation, is a safe and profitable business. The vacuum created by the short stocks of goods in the interior must be supplied; and this creates a large demand for goods in the marts of business, and sets the manufactories in brisk motion. Such is the state of things at present. We own it was longer in coming than we had anticipated; but its coming was inevitable. Now, to attribute this inevitable result to the operation of the tariff is very ridiculous, and shows how destitute of real argument the advocates of that measure are. In that respect, they stand on a par with the corn monopolists of England. In both cases the system is a system of robbery; but the English protectionists have this in their favour, that the agricultural interest—for whose benefit the whole nation is taxed—is the leading industrial interest of the country; while here the nation is taxed for the benefit of comparatively few. So long have American manufacturers lived upon the public bounty, that they now claim it as a matter of right. So also do the English corn monopolists. It is time for both to be taught to live upon their own earnings, or starve. The public have supported them long enough.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

In the year 1842, more than two hundred persons in Glasgow were driven to crime by inability to find employment. The number of prisoners under seventeen years of age, received into the ten largest prisons during the year, was over 1900; a very large number to be saved, as they might be at comparatively little expense, from the contagion of vicious society.

THE FUNDS.

	SAT. Dec. 9	MON. Dec. 11	TUES. Dec. 12	WED. Dec. 13	THURS. Dec. 14	FRI. Dec. 15
Bank Stock......	182	182¼	181½	182½	182½	183
3 per Ct. Con. dv.	96⅞	96⅞	96⅝	96⅞	—	—
New 3½ per Ct. dv.	102¼			—	—	—
Cons. for Op. ex. dv.	95¾	96⅛	95¾	95⅞	95⅞	96⅛
Long Annuities..	—	12 1-16	12⅛	12 7-16	12 9-16	12⅝
S. Sea Stock ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	—	—	73 pm.	—	75 3 pm.	74 pm.
India Stock......	—	—	—	—	—	
Exchequer Bills..	57 59	57 59	57 59	57 59	57 59	57
Brazilian 5 per Ct.	74		—	71½	73	
Mexican, 1837....	31½	31⅞	31¾	31¾		31½
Portuguese, conv.	44	43⅞	43¾	44	44	—
Spanish 3 per Ct.	30¼	30⅛	30⅜	30⅜	30⅛	30
Chilian 6 p. Ct...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 5 per Cent.	99⅝	99½	99¼	99¼	99¼	99⅜
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	51¾	—	51¾	51¾	51¾	51¾
Columb. 6 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Austrian, 5 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danish			—	—	—	—
Peruvian	22¼	22½	22¾	—	—	—
Belgian 5 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
French 3 p. Cent.		—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Dec. 11.—The continuance of damp weather prevents any improvement in the condition of new Wheat. There was a moderate supply from Essex this morning, and a rather abundant one from Kent. The best samples were taken off early at about the prices of this day week, but inferior qualities were 2s. to 3s. per qr. cheaper, and much remained unsold at the close of the market. Notwithstanding the bad condition of the English Wheat, the demand for Foreign is very limited, at last week's rates. The supply of Barley was large, and last Monday's prices were barely maintained for any but the best malting samples. New Beans and Peas were each 1s. lower. No alteration in Old Beans. Since Friday several cargoes of Oats have arrived from Ireland, and a few small parcels of Scotch. The principal buyers still held off in anticipation of further supplies. The prices of all descriptions remained the same as last week. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 4th to the 9th of Dec. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	7155	10563	1851	1279	1473
Scotch	50	4093	2121	—	—
Irish........	—	900	17888	—	—
Foreign	2214	—	600	—	186

Flour, 7184 sacks. Malt, 7202 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New.. ..	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple........	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk..........	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin......	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting....	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed..	21s — 23s
——, Distilling ..	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato....	23s — 26s
——, Grinding ..	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed....	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New .	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old....	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black....	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old....	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway ..	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old....	32s — 36s		
Peas, White	31s — 32s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
——, Do., Boilers ..	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Dec. 15.—The supplies of Wheat and Barley since Monday have been moderate. There has been a very slow demand for either English or free Foreign Wheat at Monday's prices. There is no alteration in the value of Barley. The demand for Malting and Distilling is scarcely so good, except for very fine parcels for the former purposes. Qualities fit for grinding continue scarce. The arrival of Oats have been rather scanty; but as it is known that rather a large supply is on the way from Ireland, the buyers hold off as much as possible till its arrival. In the mean time full prices are obtained from necessitous buyers. The duty on Barley fell to 6s. yesterday.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 9th to the 13th of December, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat............	4830	—	—
Barley............	9680	—	190
Oats..............	2110	4040	—

Flour 7020 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 9, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages..	109,119	51 0	124,983	31 8	50,351	18 8	9492	32 0
Aggregate Averages..	..	51 5		32 0		18 10		32 0
Duty.....	..	19 0		6 0		8 0		10 6

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Dec. 12, 1843.

	Qrs.	Price.		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat.. ..	4616	52s. 10d.	Rye	181	30s. 4d.
Barley.. ..	9294	33s. 11d.	Beans	1088	31s. 2d.
Oats	14146	19s. 7d.	Peas	1320	33s. 9d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12.

BANKRUPTS.

J. CUNDY, Ranelagh-street, Pimlico, carpenter. [J. and W. Meymott, Blackfriars-road.

J. HARMAN, Whitefriars, London, common brewer. [Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

W. STINTON, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, confectioner. [Cooper, Old Cavendish-street, Oxford-street.

Z. PARKES and R. HENDERSON, Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, carpenters. [Hicks and Brackenridge, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn.

J. JUKES, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, nail manufacturer. [Stubbs and Rollings, Birmingham.

D. ROWLANDS, Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire, dealer in wines. [Toulmin, Liverpool; Norris and Co., Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, London.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 12. G. Cleverley, Calne, Wiltshire, builder—Jan. 4. H. W. Hobhouse, Bath, banker—Jan. 4. J. Phillott, Bath, banker—Jan. 4. C. Lowder, Bath, banker—Jan. 11. W. Nash, Oldbury, Salop, grocer—Jan. 5. W. Cooper, Kidderminster, carpet manufacturer—Jan. 10. G. Harvey, Handsacre, Staffordshire, spirit merchant—Jan. 10. W. Mills, Birmingham, upholsterer.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 2. T. Farris, East-street, Manchester-square, baker—Jan. 2. J. Brooker, Southampton-row, Bloomsbury, carver and gilder—Jan. 2. J. Murray, Liverpool, millwright—Jan. 2. W. Brown, Liverpool, millwright—Jan. 6. R. T. Abbott and A. T. Tebbett, Birminzham, tea dealers—Jan. 2. E. Pritchard, Llanrwst, Denbighshire, shopkeeper—Jan. 2. W. Hoole, Sheffield, leather dresser—Jan. 2. C. Clark, Liverpool, wool dealer—Jan. 2. H. Pearson, York, attorney—Jan. 2. J. Taylor, Middlesborough, Yorkshire, coal fitter—Jan. 2. B. B. Broadbent, Spotland, Lancashire, flannel manufacturer—Jan. 2. J. Hellings, Rugeley, Staffordshire, brewer—Jan. 2. J. and T. Robson, St. Martin's-lane, organ builders—Jan. 2. W. Burton, Hutton, Yorkshire, miller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. WHITE, Peebles, carpenter—J. BISSETT, Inverness, merchant—D. SMITH, Dundee, flaxspinner—J. HENDERSON, Brechin, baker—A. MURRAY, Edinburgh, merchant—P. CRICHTON, Bankfoot, Perthshire, weaver.

BANKRUPTS.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15.

F. THOMPSON, Southampton, tailor. [Davis and Co., Throgmorton street.

H. SOUTHGATE, Fleet-street, auctioneer. [Burrell and Co., White-hart-court.

O. W. THOMAS, Milk-street, Cheapside, silk warehouseman. [Jones, Parliament-street.

W. READ, King-street, Covent-garden, printer. [Kinsey, Bloomsbury-square.

T. GORE, Isle of Thanet, baker. [Davis, Bread-street; Wright, Ramsgate.

R. GRAVES, Edward-street, Portman-square, saddler. [Burkitt, Curriers' hall, London-wall.

G. BULLOCK, Derby, tobacconist. [Scargill, Hatton-garden; Smith, Derby; Motteram, Birmingham.

J. KIDD, Kendal, Westmorland, grocer. [Humphreys, Gray's-inn; Moser, Kendal.

W. HURBUCK, South Shields, pawnbroker. [Crosby and Compton, Church-court, Old Jewry; Hoyle, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

J. SMITH, Stoke-upon-Trent, corn dealer. [Battleston, Birmingham; Young, Longton, Staffordshire.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, for the Week ending Dec. 12, 1843, is 32s. 6½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.—Scotch Seed Cakes, Shortbread, and Buns of the best quality and moderate prices, at J. MINTO'S, Scotch Confectioner, 82, Chiswell-street, Finsbury-square.
N.B. Orders from the Country punctually attended to.

MEMBERS of the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, residing in the Country, can be supplied with the MORNING CHRONICLE, clean and regular, for 11s. per quarter; "Evening Sun" or "Globe," 12s. 6d. per quarter, sent by post to any part of the kingdom free of extra charge. Orders, pre paid, to E. HALL, News Agent, 223, Strand. Agent for THE LEAGUE, &c.

IMPORTANT PATENT IMPROVEMENTS in CHRONOMETERS, WATCHES, and CLOCKS. E. J. DENT, sole patentee, has OPENED his West-end PREMISES, 33, Cockspur-street, Charing cross, in addition to 82, Strand, with an entirely new stock of Watches and Clocks. Lady's Gold Watches, 8 guineas each. Gentlemen's ditto, 10 guineas and Silver Levers at 6 guineas each.—A new edition of Dent's Lectures, price 1s., but to customers gratis.

PATENT FLANNEL.—MESSRS. ROGERS and CO. having retired from manufacturing the above well known and much approved article, the Patent has in consequence been renewed by Samuel Archer, and the flannels will in future be made by him and called ARCHER'S ROYAL PATENT FLANNEL, WARRANTED NOT TO SHRINK.

S. A. begs respectfully to acquaint the public that his Royal Patent Flannel is sold by all Principal Hosiers and Drapers in town and country, and to be obtained wholesale no where but in London, at Messrs. J. B. and W. Nevill and Co's, 11, Maiden lane, Post-office, and Messrs. Ward, Sturt, Sharp, and Ward's, 89, Wood street.

HENRY PENNY'S PATENT METALLIC MEMORANDUM BOOKS, ruled or plain, in great variety of sizes and bindings. The advantages of this invention are, that, with pencil and paper prepared in a peculiar manner, the writer obtains all the effect of ink. The paper presents a beautiful glossy surface, over which the pencil glides without any difficulty, and the marks made by it are indelible. To be had at the Manufactory, 8, and 9, OLD BAILEY, LONDON, and of all the principal Stationers in town and country. The trade supplied direct, or through any wholesale stationer.

CAUTION.—In order to protect the public from imitations, the name, "H. Penny's Improved Patent," with the number of the book, is marked on the back of each.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES, at 263, HIGH STREET, BOROUGH, between Town-hall and London bridge, in consequence of expiration of lease.—Wellington Boots, 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., and 13s. 6d.; Clarence or Cloth Boots, 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 9s. 6d.; Bluchers, 4s. 11d. to 6s. 10d.; Calf Shoes, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 9d.; Walking Pumps or Dress Shoes, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; Morning Slippers, 1s. 4d., Ladies' Shoes, 1s. 3d. to 3s.; French Clogs, best, 1s. 6½d. per pair.

The above are good things, not made up to deceive the unwary and inexperienced. All orders from the country, containing a remittance or Post-office order, despatched the same day. Captains, Merchants, and Wholesale Dealers should call, as we are determined to sell. Observe, 263, High-street, Borough.

JOHN HEARDEN, Proprietor.

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

In the press, and will be published in a few days, in a thick pamphlet, price One Shilling,

A NARRATIVE of the REMARKABLE PERSECUTION of certain TENANTS in the County of KILKENNY, with Names, Dates, and Legal Documents.

Forrester, No. 1, Catherine-street, Strand. Immediate orders are requested.

TO DECORATIVE AND ORNAMENTAL DESIGNERS.—Considerable attention will be directed in future numbers of THE ART-UNION, Monthly Journal of the Fine Arts, to the intimate relations which exist between "the Fine Arts" and the "Arts Decorative and Ornamental," in order to bring the one to bear practically upon improvements in the latter. Thus, the number for January will contain suggestions concerning designs in Calico Printing, a subject of immense interest and importance to the most extensive branch of British manufacture.

Art-Union Office, 132, Fleet-street.

PUNCH'S ALMANAC!

MR. PUNCH will have the pleasure of laying before his Friends, on the 30th inst.,

HIS ALMANAC FOR THE NEW YEAR,

wherein the events of each Month will be graphically illustrated in PUNCH'S most approved fashion.

The whole of the jokes—several hundreds—are reared by the same hands as those which obtain every week the silver and copper medals from the public, who are always the best judges of a good thing, but of whose discrimination it is not for Mr. PUNCH to speak. The Cuts, which are of a kind to invite the public to come again (and again) are by Messrs. LEECH, MEADOWS, HAMERTON, &c.

Published at the Office, 196, Strand. Price 3d.; and Stamped, to go by Post, 4d. The new Volume will be ready in time for Christmas.

DISEASED AND HEALTHY LIVES ASSURED.

MEDICAL, INVALID, AND GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25, Pall Mall, London. CAPITAL, £500,000.

This Office is provided with very accurately constructed Tables, by which it can ASSURE DISEASED LIVES on Equitable Terms.

The Extra Premium discontinued on restoration of the Assured to permanent health.

INCREASED ANNUITIES granted on UNSOUND Lives, the amount varying with the particular disease.

Members of CONSUMPTIVE FAMILIES assured at Equitable Rates.

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YORK and LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, King William-street, London. Empowered by Act of Parliament.

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The superiority of the system of Assurance adopted by this Company will be found in the fact that the premium required by a bonus office to assure £1000 on the life of a person in the 20th year of his age would in this office insure £1291 7s. 6d.

Assurances at other ages are effected on equally favourable terms, and thus the assured has an immediate bonus instead of a chance dependent upon legevity and the profits of an office. In cases of assurance for a limited number of years, the advantage offered by this Company is still greater, no part of the profits of a bonus office being ever allotted to such assurances. Prospectuses, containing tables framed to meet the circumstances of all who desire to provide for themselves or those who may survive them, by assurance either of fixed sums or annuities, may be had at the office as above, or of the agents.

JOHN RENDISH, Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
1, Princes-street, Bank, London.
Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic., cap. 9.

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This Institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to Policy-holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies.

Assurances may either be effected by parties on their own lives, or by parties interested therein on the lives of others.

The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of £5 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience—he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

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Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Annual Premiums payable during 1st Five Years.	2nd Five Years.	3rd Five Years.	4th Five Years.	Remainder of life.
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20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 1	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 1	2 4 4	2 14 6	3 7 3	4 3 4
50	2 16 7	3 9 4	4 5 5	5 6 3	6 13 7

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained at the Office.

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

A Board of Directors attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

THE WATER RAM will raise water thirty times the height of the fall from which it is fixed—no manual labour required. There are upwards of 300 fixed; one on the premises for inspection. Estimates and Particulars sent, upon application to F. ROE, 70, STRAND, Fountain Maker, &c. Engines for deep wells, &c.

PATRONIZED AND SANCTIONED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT, THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND THE SEVERAL COURTS OF EUROPE.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, for the Growth and for Preserving and Beautifying the Human Hair. Price 3s. 6d.—7s. Family Bottles (equal to 4 small) 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s.

CAUTION.—SPURIOUS COMPOSITIONS are frequently offered for sale under a FICTITIOUS name or the word "GENUINE." It is therefore imperative on purchasers to see that the words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" are on the Wrapper of each bottle, and on the back of the wrapper nearly 1500 times, containing 29,028 letters. All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS. The principle on which "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" is prepared, is confined solely to the knowledge and practice of A. ROWLAND and SON, who are still at an immense expense in completing its preparation, and the amalgamation of its PURELY VEGETABLE MATERIALS renders abortive any attempt to discover its component parts.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR, for Improving and Beautifying the Skin and Complexion. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, renders the Teeth beautifully White and preserves the Gums. Price 2s. 9d. per box, duty included.

CAUTION.—It is imperative on purchasers to see that the word "ROWLAND'S" is on the Wrapper of each article. For the protection of the Public from fraud and imposition, the Honourable Commissioners of Her Majesty's Stamps have authorised the Proprietors' Signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus, A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, Hatton-garden, which is affixed to the Kalydor and Odonto. Sold by them and by Chemists and Perfumers.

*** All others are SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!!!

CABINET FURNITURE, Carpets, and Upholstery.—THOMAS PAUL and CO. inform the nobility and gentlemen furnishing, that their CABINET STOCK comprises every kind of furniture, calculated for any description of residence, from the cottage to the mansion, and will be found 50 per cent. cheaper than at any other house in London. Independent of the great saving that will be effected by purchasing at their establishment, and selecting from one of the most choice and varied stocks in the metropolis, Thomas Paul and Co. point out that among other advantages consists the very important one, that of every article being of their own manufacture, and of the most seasoned and sound materials, so that strength and durability can be guaranteed without putting purchasers to the inconvenience either of repair or exchange. Parties furnishing for a foreign climate are particularly invited to an inspection of the solidity as well as the superior manufacture and finish of their goods. Their stock of Brussels carpets consists of a splendid variety, commencing at the extraordinary low price of 2s. 3d. per yard, and those of new and elegant designs from 3s. per yard. Feather beds, horsehair, flock, and other mattresses and paillasses of every description, at the lowest possible prices. Thomas Paul and Co., cabinetmakers, upholsterers, and carpet manufacturers, opposite the Mansion House, City.

MACINTOSHES SUPERSEDED.—Important to all classes exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather.—The NEW BRITISH WATERPROOFING COMPANY render goods of every fabric, either in the piece or made-up garments, thoroughly impervious to the most drenching rains, and yet the escape of perspiration remains unimpeded. Books of Testimonials, with list of prices, may be had gratis, at their offices, 15, Skinner-street, Snow-hill (late 343, Strand).

TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 23, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. ROWAN."

N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

COMPOSITION FOR WRITING WITH STEEL PENS.

STEPHENS' WRITING FLUID.—These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of the STEEL PEN, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary Ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of—

A BLUE FLUID, changing to an intense Black colour. PATENT UNCHANGEABLE BLUE FLUIDS, remaining a deep Blue colour.—A SUPERIOR BLACK INK, of the common character, but more fluid.—A SUPERIOR CARMINE RED, for Contrast Writing.—A CARBONACEOUS RECORD INK, which writes instantly black, and, being proof against Chemical Agents, is most valuable in the prevention of frauds.

Also a new kind of MARKING INK for Linen; and Inkholders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

Bottles at 3d. each convenient for writing from, are prepared, which will enable those who may wish to try either of these articles to do so at a small expense.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, the Inventor, 54 Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, London.

Sold in bottles, at 3d., 6d., 1s. and 3s. each.

Be sure to ask for Stephens' Writing Fluid.

N.B. These unchangeable Blue Fluids are patent articles; the Public are therefore cautioned against imitations, which are infringements, to sell or use which is illegal.

STEPHENS' SELECT STEEL PENS.

The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the highest finish, they can be confidently recommended both for flexibility and durability.

A BRONZE SCROLL FENDER for 15s.—RIPPON and BURTON are now offering the most extensive assortment of FENDERS in London, embracing every possible variety, at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Iron fenders, 3 feet long, from 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, 3 feet, from 6s.; 3 feet 6, 7s.; 4 feet, 8s.; rich scroll fenders bronzed, from 15s.; or with steel rod and moulding, from 21s.; polished steel and ormolu mounted fenders at proportionate prices. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; ditto steel ditto, from 3s. 6d.; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. 6d.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE ONLY SAFE AND HEALTHY STOVES.

THE PATENT CHUNK and VESTA STOVES are the only ones recommended by the faculty for the bedrooms of invalids, and other places where a genial warmth is requisite. They are without doors, from which, in Arnott's (whether improved or not) and all others, the impure gases escape; consequently, the evils attendant upon such escapes, as headache, dizziness, &c., as well as fatal explosions, cannot occur in the use of them. These stoves having stood the test of five years, during which time upwards of five thousand have been fixed in chapels, shops, halls, forcing pits, nurseries, &c., they are most confidently offered to the public. They have been found to combine, in an extraordinary degree, great simplicity of use and certainty of action, with perfect safety, at an almost incredible small cost for fuel (coke or cinders). Chunk, 60s. each; Vesta, 80s. each.

THE PYRIDON STOVE (also a patent) has most of the advantages of the Chunk and Vesta, with the extremely novel one of showing the fire (as in a register stove) in one moment; it is eminently a ventilating stove, and will be found invaluable where any prejudice exists against a close stove; price 60s. Full particulars, with engravings and testimonials, post free.

RIPPON and BURTON, Proprietors.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The material RIPPON and BURTON offer to the public has for the last eight years been found equal to silver in appearance and sweetness, and superior to it in durability. Of the prices of tea-sets, waiters, candlesticks, and all articles hitherto made in silver, a detailed catalogue, with engravings, will be sent (gratis) post-free.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Threaded Pattern.	VICTORIA Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	28s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto ..	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	25s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto ..	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Established 1829.—Catalogues gratis.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, continue to restore DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache, and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth £0 10 0
A Set 5 5 0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 60, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

LOWDEN'S CELEBRATED COUGH PILLS, a safe and effectual cure for Coughs, Colds, Shortness of Breath, Asthma, &c. &c. They promote free expectoration, and hence prevent that accumulation of phlegm which causes a sense of choking; allay irritability, tickling in the throat, and relieve that sense of oppression, fulness, and difficulty of breathing, which nightly deprives the patient of rest.

In Asthma and Coughs of long standing they are invaluable, and universally admitted to be the best known Medicine; in any case where they do not effect a perfect cure they afford such relief to the sufferer during the paroxysms or fits as to induce him henceforth never to be without them.

Sold by Mr. Lowden, Chemist, 205, Fleet-street, London, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.; also by one or more respectable Medicine Venders in each town in the United Kingdom.

A LITTLE WATER applied with DR. SCOTT'S APERITIVE VASE instantly procures an evacuation from the bowels, and has lately been adopted by Royalty, many of the Nobility, and numerous Families, who find it to be a very agreeable substitute for physic. Persons who are in the habit of drugging their stomachs for the relief of costiveness, indigestion, bilious disorders, liver diseases, &c., would for ever abandon that pernicious practice if they once experienced the comfort resulting from this miniature fountain, which the most nervous lady may use, without the aid or knowledge of any one. It possesses every requisite for privacy and convenience: you fill it from the toilet jug—carry it in your pocket to the closet—place it as directed—press a little ivory knob—and from first to last not more than a minute is occupied.—To be procured only of Mr. W. PINE, Superintendent of Dr. Scott's Medical Repository, 369, Strand (three doors from Exeter Hall), where may be also had SONIFERE that assist the hearing of deaf persons, without being held to the ear. Descriptions sent post free.

London: Printed (at the office of Palmer and Clayton, Crane-court, Fleet-street) by A. W. PAULTON, of Barton-on-Irwell, Lancashire, and 67, Fleet-street; and published by him at THE LEAGUE Office, 67, Fleet-street.—Saturday, December 16, 1843.

THE LEAGUE.

No. 13.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1843. [3*d.*

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, *will be entitled to, and receive a copy, weekly, of this publication for twelve months from the date of their subscription.*

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, *containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their* addresses *as well as their names, to the Offices of* THE LEAGUE, *67, Fleet-street, London; or to Newall's-buildings, Manchester.*

The Council would respectfully suggest to those subscribers who may not wish to file their LEAGUE *newspapers, the propriety of forwarding them to parties whom they know to be either indifferent, or hostile to, the principles of Free Trade.*

N.B. *As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to* THE LEAGUE FUND, *or subscriptions for* The League Newspaper, *are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders, or by orders on houses in London.*

MEET AND SUBSCRIBE!

As Parliament will assemble for the despatch of business on the 1st of February, it is desirable that the movement of the friends of Free Trade should be expedited accordingly. By that time we hope there will be but little of the Hundred Thousand Pound Fund left to collect. Our anti-monopolist members will thus be enabled to present themselves to the House as men whose purposes have been backed by the public to the fullest extent that could reasonably be required. Their position, and the confidence with which they will be entitled to speak and act in the House, are evidently contingent on what is done out of the House. The realization of the fund makes them the representatives, not only of Wolverhampton and Stockport, of Durham and Kendal, and other towns by which they have been returned; including the metropolis itself; but also of that popular power which is evinced by contributions without a parallel for any analogous purpose, and which invests them with national authority for demanding the redress of a national grievance. The majority of the Legislature denies that representation is either personal or numerical; it claims, whether rightly or wrongfully, that property be a preponderating element. Well, then, let Messrs. Cobden, Villiers, Bright, Pattison, and their coadjutors, appear as the representatives and organs of that mass of property, of all kinds and in all localities throughout the country, which spontaneously paid last year the premium of fifty thousand pounds for ensuring a commercial reform; which this year doubles the amount; and which pledges itself to the support of its Parliamentary advocates with liberality unexhausted, zeal unabated, and a perseverance that will be found indomitable.

Now is the time for the people everywhere to put on record their abhorrence of monopoly. The effect of their meetings, and even of their subscriptions, sinks in public importance on the assembling of Parliament. Debates will then fill the newspapers. Other topics, perhaps comparatively trifling, perhaps introduced and rendered prominent for the very purpose of effecting a diversion from the one great question of public interest and legislative duty, may then overshadow the expression of popular feeling. The state of the agitation at the opening of the session will be assumed as its state all through the session. To hold their meetings forthwith, and forthwith to record their opinons by their subscriptions, is manifestly the work of the present season. Postponement is a damage which scarcely any subsequent efforts will be able wholly to repair. Instead of a triumph on the non-completion of the League fund, the monopolist majority should only be left to the appalling knowledge of its existence, and the anxious dread of its expenditure. Good soldiers load, and stand to their guns, before the enemy actually make their onset. Our troops should be enabled to await the signal in full preparedness.

There should be no delaying for deputations. To meet half the wishes for a deputation from the council is physically impossible. Messrs. Bright and Cobden are not ubiquitous, however nearly they may sometimes seem to approximate towards it. The merciful emperor's day without a good deed was less memorable than any day of theirs without speaking at a public meeting. But the first of February is coming quickly. Their presence will then be required in Parliament. Before that day, they have Scotland to traverse. And this visit to Scotland, for which the arrangements, as we understand, are made or making, will require no small portion of the interval. It is, also, of very considerable importance. The intelligence and experience, especially of the Scotch agriculturists, give peculiar weight to the sympathy of opinion and purpose, the expression of which will, we have no doubt, be elicited by the intended mission. We repeat, then, let there be no waiting for deputations. And why should there? What locality has not been supplied with information on this great question? If any want more, the application is easily made, and will be promptly answered. We keep open office to meet such inquiries, and nobody is condemned to involuntary and inevitable ignorance. As for speakers, only let the man who has felt the pernicious pressure of the Corn Laws and other commercial restrictions on his own business; or he who has watched, with aching heart, how they aggravate the privations and sufferings of the industrious poor in his own neighbourhood, tell out, in simplest words, that which they see, know, and feel, and we will answer for their eloquence. They will not only draw cheers but tears; and not only tears but subscriptions. The struggles of the middle classes, and the miseries of the poorer, are "no fabled tortures quaint and tame." They are strong and stern realities. A plain appeal to just principle and impressive facts goes to all hearts. "There needs no ghost from the grave to tell us this." No, nor deputation from Manchester either. Let the people move everywhere in their own competency. It is an act of justice to themselves. Their resolutions will bear the honourable stamp of their own unprompted judgment, and their unasked contributions will be the unquestionable testimony of their earnestness in this righteous cause.

To the Council of the League such spontaneous movements are peculiarly acceptable. They are amongst the best pledges that the labour of past years has not been, and cannot be, in vain. They are the up-sprung and growing fruit of the seed which has been sown by continuous toil, and for a long time with little co-operation. Every instance in which a town or district convenes its own meeting, forms its arrangements for rendering efficient aid to the League, collects its contributions, and holds itself on the alert, to act in accordance with others as future exigencies may require, is welcome to the Council as a reward for which they have laboured; a needful step in the progress of the question. Evidence is thus afforded of the depth to which Free Trade principles have struck root in the land. The present extent and future triumph of those principles are certified by this independence of spirit, and power of self-action. The effect is everywhere inspiriting. Such action reacts on the whole mass of fellow-labourers. It shows that the League, or its Council rather, is not a central power moving an inert body. There is life in every limb. It proves that our local co-operators do not merely respond, but are ready to originate; and that, if it were morally possible for its present conductors to discontinue the agitation, there is many a town, and many an agricultural district also, in which it would be immediately, spontaneously, and energetically revived.

A good example has been given to the great towns by Glasgow. The recent meeting there was perfectly spontaneous. The Lord Provost fulfilled one of the noblest functions of his high civic office by presiding The citizens felt their full competency to deliberate and act upon this great question. Their arrangements were admirably made; and the subscription of £2600 during the meeting attested the earnestness of their minds and the efficiency of their plans. In some towns, corporate officers may be less alive to their duties. But the people always have their remedy. They can ensure a meeting which shall evidently speak the sense of the locality, though shorn of some of those forms of municipal dignity to which it is entitled. Nor is it merely to the wealth and the masses of cities and large towns that we look. Our weekly subscription list affords most gratifying indications of what may be done, and of what is actually doing, in other quarters. The reader will find there long lists of contributors from Cockermouth, Alnwick, Horsham, and other rural towns. The sums thus sent are as valuable to our cause as if they were multiplied by hundreds. They mark the advance towards a universality which no previous movement has ever attained. We seek FOR ALL the greatest good that a nation can derive from its rulers; and let all who can, assist in the achievement. The shilling which the labourer spares may be the seal of a "charter of rejoicing" to his more fortunate sons; and the widow's mite may become the orphan's blessing. Remember, the controversy is now reduced to this: logic and statistics, facts and reasonings, have done their work; the only remaining arguments that will avail are the possession of the requisite funds, and their application in the mode described by the Council; the cordial union of immense numbers, of all classes and parties; and the overwhelming proof, thus exhibited, that repeal of the food monopoly is the deliberate and resistless will of the British people.

Of London we have not spoken, relying upon a spirit in its citizens that will need no suggestion or stimulus, when the time shall come, as to the position which it befits the metropolis of the kingdom, commercially not less than politically, to occupy in this national movement, and in furnishing the means for securing its triumphant progress and happy termination.

NEW "STANDARD" TRAGEDIES.

Since the days of Castles and Oliver, the editor of the *Standard* has had a monopoly of the manufacture of plots; week after week he has announced some new tragedy to frighten the isle from its propriety; and never did "parturient mountain" produce such "muscipular abortions" as the miserable farces which he brought before the public. No one has exhibited such dexterity in the management of incongruous materials. In 1829 he published a pamphlet bearing a Hebrew signature, which intimated that he was "a servant of the King of the king," calling upon George IV. to awake and rally his people around his throne, because that the Duke of Wellington meditated a *coup d'état*, by which, either the crown would be transferred to his own brow, or, at least, he might become lieutenant-general of the kingdom. The means by which the duke was said to have prepared for the assumption of this royalty, or viceroyalty, was simply the Irish papists in the new police force, whose gratitude for pay and emancipation was declared to be a sufficient motive to engage them in the most daring treason. Wellington's own disloyalty was assumed as self-evident, and his dangerous designs were declared to be obvious to all but the wilfully blind or the most helpless of idiots. The changes on these imaginary treasons were rung with a tolerable amount of variations through some twenty or thirty pages, and the whole concluded with the solemn appeal, "King George the Fourth, awake, in the name of the Eternal God!" To the great astonishment of this new incarnation of Titus Oates, his tragic tale was received with one general shout of laughter from Caithness to Cornwall; George the Fourth slept as soundly as ever; and the Attorney-General received no orders for the prosecution of the Duke of Wellington on a charge of constructive treason, in spite of the long array of overt acts collected by the Hebrew-Irish informer.

The materials of this precious drama appeared to the author too good to be lost; and he has this week put them together with new names and colouring stuff, selecting for his hero the League *vice* Wellington superseded, and taken into the confidence of the *Standard*. The contrivances of the plot, originally clumsy, are palpably absurd in their new application; the unfortunate manufacturer of plots has been driven to invent falsehoods "gross as a mountain, open, palpable;" and where his own imagination is at fault, he has borrowed the stale and refuted calumnies of his monopolist compeers, after they had laid them aside in very shame.

The first ground of imputation is the murder of the late Mr. Drummond, which the editor of the *Standard* declares to have been the result of some deep-laid and mysterious conspiracy. As the published trial proves that the murderer was a maniac, and that he had no connexion with any body of men in the empire, this charge rests precisely on the same evidence as the treasonable designs imputed to the Duke of Wellington—"Did not the man with the bag make affidavy that you were a wagram?" As the authority of the editor of the *Standard* is of about the same weight as Smollett's "man with the bag," we shall neither answer the imputation of treason against the duke, nor of complicity in murder against the League. Turn we now to the first point of evidence on the new charge of incendiarism. The first witness called by the *Standard* is Mr. Joshua Hobson, described as "an alderman of Leeds and a Liberal," and insinuated to be a friend to the League. Mr. Hobson is a fellow-labourer with the editor of the *Standard*; he is the publisher of the *Northern Star*,

and as bitter an enemy to the League as any other trader on passion and prejudice, on ignorance and vanity, on false pretences and shameless assertions. The *Morning Chronicle* gives the following history of the statement which the editor of the *Standard* describes as "plain, manly, and distinct:—"

"The publisher of the *Northern Star* is a member of the municipal council of Leeds, and some time ago he made a speech, containing a charge against an alderman of Leeds, of which the following is the substance. He charged this alderman (whom he did not name, but marked out as having been on the watch committee) with having been cognisant of the great strike or turn-out of 1842, a fortnight before it took place, and as having been in communication with an individual, in order to get the turn-out workmen to 'draw the plugs' and 'blow up the boilers' throughout Leeds. Of the truth of this charge the publisher of the *Northern Star* declared that he had in his own possession full and ample proof—*written proof*. The only alderman who had been on the watch committee in 1842, naturally feeling that he must be the individual aimed at, promptly applied to his accuser, offering in any way to shelter him from all legal consequences, provided the slander were thoroughly probed, and the slanderer got at. But, no; after the usual amount of shuffling and evasion, the courageous Chartist sneaked out of the matter by a sulky refusal to give the slightest explanation or satisfaction. The correspondence appeared in the *Leeds Mercury*, yet the *Standard*, with a parade of accuracy, copies and repeats the slanderous accusation, without the slightest notice of the ample refutation and exposure which it had received. Nor is it altogether unworthy of notice that, in order to hide from its own readers the fact that it was drawing from the muddy fountain of the *Northern Star*, it elevates the publisher of O'Connor's paper to the post of alderman, terms his accusation 'manly, plain, and distinct,' and assures its readers that '*no attempt has been made to contradict it by the parties interested.*'".

So much for the "plainness and manliness" of the worthy Mr. Hobson. But the editor of the *Standard* has forgotten that even this statement referred to the strike in the manufacturing districts last year, and as this was a strike for wages, his accusation was, that the manufacturers had combined to lose the interest of their invested capital during the period of the strike, and to be forced into the payment of higher wages afterwards! The contriver of plots must have been at a sad loss for materials when he adopted this monstrous absurdity, even on the authority of the "plain and manly" publisher of the *Star*. Mr. Hobson has addressed a letter to the *Morning Chronicle*, shifting the responsibility of his statement to the anonymous correspondent of an anonymous member of Parliament. It was the common custom of that infamous paper, the *Hibernian Journal*, to deal in these tricks of anonymous reference; and the publisher of the *Star* and the editor of the *Standard* are only bad imitators of a bad precedent; but the trick is now stale and no longer requires exposure.

The next trick of the plot-manufacturer is characteristic: he quotes an ironical sentence from a speech of Mr. George Wilson, and, by the simple expedient of omitting the context, puts it forward as a serious assertion of fact. The monopolists had pointed to the strike in the desperate hope that the dispute between the masters and men might divert the attention of both from the iniquity of the Corn Laws; and the Chairman of the League announced not only that their hope had failed, but that the advocates for Free Trade were prepared to enter the agricultural districts, and show that the injustice of class-legislation pressed as heavily on the farmer and the farm-labourer as it did on the spinner or the weaver.

The speech, from which the editor of the *Standard* pretends to make a long extract, happens not to be Mr. Bright's, but Mr. Cobden's. In his fury, the concoctor of plots mistakes the persons of his drama, and gives his favourite hero all the parts of the other actors. But from the sentiments and statements of the extract so invidiously given, neither Mr. Bright nor any of his colleagues will shrink. The plainest proof was given in the speech referred to, that the farm-labourers of England are reduced to such misery and desperation as renders them reckless of themselves and perilous to the community; but it is rather strange logic to hold a historian responsible for the events which he records. This is a stale artifice of faction; and the editor of the *Standard* must have been reduced to his last shift when he adopted the Orange trick of representing a describer of the cause of outrage as an instigator to its perpetration. Men are not gratuitously wicked, least of all the peasantry of England: agitators and demagogues would appeal to them in vain if they were well paid, fed, clothed, and housed. Their outrages are but the outward and visible signs of the misery, oppression, and famine which reign in the wretched hovels that can scarcely be called their homes.

The plot-manufacturer is not a little perplexed by the inconvenient fact, that these incendiary fires are no novelty, that they were even more rife than at present before the League had existence. To evade this damning refutation of his laboured calumny, he hints that the fires of twelve years ago may be attributed to the Radicals of that day: he has forgotten the small fact that these fires were kindled in the districts of England which are deemed pre-eminently Conservative, and especially in the archiepiscopal county of Kent.

We have seen that our plot-manufacturer has just brought together the materials of his old dramas, and when he hoped to construct a tragedy has only put together a miserable farce. We know not whether Mr. Bright will be flattered at having superseded the Duke of Wellington in a *Standard* tragedy, but we trust that he will escape from the nauseous flattery with which the manufacturer of plots is accustomed, after failure, to make atonement to the objects of his imbecile vituperation.

MR. FERRAND AT MANCHESTER.

On the evening of the last great League meeting in Manchester, whilst six thousand persons, composed of the middle and working classes, were assembled in the Free-Trade Hall, Mr. Ferrand addressed an assembly in the Corn Exchange in behalf of his friend Mr. Oastler. The character of his audience may be well conceived from that of the men who surrounded him on the platform. There was the *Reverend* Mr. Stephens, of Ashton notoriety, side by side with the editor of the high-church organ; there were ex-Chartist leaders, the worn-out tools of O'Connor, cheek by jowl with Tories of the ancient Jacobite school; there were, in a word, Eldonites, Cobbettites, O'Connorites, Stephenites, Oastlerites; in fact there were men of every kind excepting the rational party of Free-Traders, and, as a matter of course, the League was the object of their especial detestation. We mention this not merely as a matter of fact, but adduce it as an evidence to character; for so long as these muddle-headed dupes, and their knavish or crack-brained leaders, abuse the Leaguers, we are entitled to claim at least this negative merit at the hands of intelligent people, that we have no sympathy or support from anarchists or lunatics, by whatever name they may call themselves.

Our object in alluding to this meeting is briefly to contradict the statements made by Mr. Ferrand respecting Mr. Cobden and Mr. Brooks. Of the former gentleman, he asserted that he subscribed to the testimonial given by the calico-printers of Manchester to Mr. Emerson Tennant for procuring a copyright of designs bill to protect original patterns from piracy; and he argued, to the satisfaction of his hearers, from this *fact*, that Mr. Cobden was a monopolist when it suited his convenience. That this statement is a falsehood without the least shadow of foundation is proveable by reference to Mr. Tennant himself and the subscribers to his testimonial. His next statement was that Mr. Brooks called upon him, and asked him to vote against the reduction of duty on coffee. This is not merely false, but a double falsehood. Mr. Brooks's complaint was that *the duty on Brazilian coffee was not reduced enough*. Mr. Ferrand's character is so well known that we should not have thought it worth while to notice his assertions, had not the *Times* thought proper to found an article upon them to discredit the League. The *Times* is wise in abandoning the field of argument after its last most impotent and ignorant effort to justify a fixed duty; but what character beyond that of the *John Bull* or *Satirist* can the *leading journal* hope to acquire with the truth-loving public, by raking up personalities against respectable men out of the Knaresborough kennel, and giving them to the world in all the pomp of leading articles in its columns? The following letter has been forwarded by Mr. Brooks to the *Times*:—

To the EDITORS *of the* TIMES.

GENTLEMEN,—My attention has been drawn to an article in your paper of Monday last, containing some comments on my conduct as one of a deputation on the subject of a proposed alteration of the coffee duties during the session of 1842; and as such comments are founded on a statement by Mr. B. Ferrand, made at a public meeting in Manchester, which statement is not true, and which, as appears by your own report of that meeting I then, although hastily called upon, and without notice, contradicted; I beg you will do me the justice to publish in your columns this my contradiction and explanation. I state then most positively, and after mature reflection, that I did not make the remarks attributed to me by Mr. Ferrand at that meeting, and I am prepared to repeat this denial to his face. Such observations would have been utterly inconsistent with the object my colleagues and I had in view. We were appointed a deputation, not to oppose the reduction of duty on foreign coffee, but to procure a greater reduction than that proposed by the Government on all the foreign coffee then in bond. Under the then existing law, colonial coffee paid a duty of 6d. per pound; foreign coffee, when naturalized, 9d.; by the then proposed alteration of the tariff, the duty on colonial coffee was reduced to 4d., and foreign only to 8d. per pound: thus effecting a reduction of one-third of the duty per pound on colonial, and only one-ninth on foreign coffee, and thereby altering their relative position 2d. per pound; and thus reducing the value of foreign, and at once adding largely to that of the colonial coffee, whilst at the same time raising the differential duty from 50 to 100 per cent.

In consequence of the injustice of this proposal, deputations from Manchester, Liverpool, and other places, of parties holding stocks of naturalized foreign coffee, were appointed to wait on the Government and members of Parliament, and explain the effect of the proposed alteration; and our object of course was to get a reduction of the proposed duty, not an increase.

In confirmation of this I now refer you to the proceedings of the deputation, printed and published at the time, with their case and arguments, all of which are at present in existence.

I remain, your very obedient servant,
Manchester, Dec. 19, 1843. JOHN BROOKS.

MEETINGS.

WIGAN TEA PARTY IN AID OF THE LEAGUE FUND.

On Thursday evening, the 14th inst., a tea party was held in the Commercial Hall, Wigan, when a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, consisting of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Ashworth, and Mr. Moore, attended, and addressed the meeting in favour of the total and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws, and in aid of the great League Fund of £100,000. Mr. Ashworth attended in lieu of Colonel Thompson, who was at the meeting at Manchester. About 250 sat down to tea at six o'clock, and at seven the deputation entered the hall, amidst the warmest acclamations. Amongst the gentlemen present were R. Thicknesse, Esq., Joseph Acton, Esq., Thomas Taylor, Esq., W. Johnson, Esq., H. Woods, Esq., R. Leigh, Esq., E. Hilton, Esq., John Woodcock, Esq., Edward Woodcock, Esq., John Acton, Esq., T. C. Riley, Esq., Rev. W. Roaf, Rev. W. Marshall, and many others of the most respectable inhabitants, amongst whom were a few Conservatives. On the entrance of the deputation, R. A. Thicknesse, Esq., took the chair, and immediately commenced the business of the evening.

The CHAIRMAN adverted to the progress the League had made since he last had the honour of presiding over them, when they met to consider the question of a total repeal of the Corn Laws. They were now assembled to receive a deputation from the League, who attended for the purpose of laying their future plans before the people of Wigan, and of inviting an earnest and zealous co-operation in the furtherance of their most impartial objects. The gentlemen comprising the deputation had long fought the battle of truth and justice in opposition to calumny, ignorance, and misrepresentation; and he thought the best token of gratitude from the meeting would be a liberal subscription to the proposed League fund of £100,000. They would thus show their confidence in that body; and, although it was not likely that a large amount would be obtained in Wigan, he trusted that all would subscribe to the extent of their means. The Chairman then introduced Mr. Ashworth to the meeting.

Mr. ASHWORTH, in commencing his address, said, it was an unexpected circumstance that brought him there, yet he was highly gratified at the opportunity thus afforded of addressing the inhabitants of Wigan on the important subject they were met to discuss. He then entered into a history of the passing of the Corn Laws in 1815, and of the means taken to ascertain and suppress the obnoxious feeling of the people against them; he also alluded to the pretended reasons assigned for their existence and continuance. The Corn Laws were passed, said the landlords, that they might be enabled to bear the enormous burthens upon land; but an inquiry had been moved for by Mr. Ward, to ascertain what such burthens were; and, although these laws had been in existence 28 years, they could not prove the existence of burthens that did not fall on other people also. Mr. Ashworth next considered the question as it affected farm labourers; and mentioned the means taken by the League to enlighten them, and the good this brought about. Mr. Ashworth concluded a very able address by calling upon the people of Wigan to assist the League in its gigantic undertaking. They appealed to Wigan as they had done to Manchester, Liverpool, Halifax, Leeds, and other places, and he trusted they would judge for themselves, and give their assistance cheerfully.

Mr. COBDEN, on being called on, was received with several rounds of applause. After making some observations on what had been told him as to the apathy of Wigan on this all-important subject, he said he hoped and thought, from the enthusiasm and respectability of that meeting, that he had been misinformed. He was extremely happy to see so many ladies present. This was a household question, and not one of party or politics. He stood before them with clear hands as to party, and disclaimed all connection with Whig, Tory, Radical, or Chartist. Above all things he should be happy to find Conservatives divesting themselves of party prejudice, and declaring themselves, as he was convinced many of them were in reality, Free Traders. Only let a Conservative declare himself a Free Trader, and, if he (Mr. Cobden) did not support him, he would forfeit his claim to disinterestedness. He then proceeded to the consideration of the question of the evening; and in his address, which occupied nearly an hour in delivery, he was more than usually interesting and much applauded. Mr. Cobden alluded to the taunt of the Monopolists, that the manufacturing boroughs were yet divided on the question of Free Trade. He called upon the people of Wigan, the young men in particular, to form themselves into an anti-monopoly association, and rid the town of the odium that it was indifferent to the shackles which fettered its industry. On this part of his subject he was particularly urgent: he also advised the taking in of the LEAGUE newspaper, and every other available method of diffusing information on the subject of Free Trade.

Mr. Moore stated, that the great object of their visit was to call upon the inhabitants of Wigan, if they reposed confidence in the League, to assist that body in collecting the £100,000 subscription; and in an eloquent address, which had a great effect on those present, called upon the people of Wigan to do their duty. After speaking some time, he announced that he should be happy to receive subscriptions; and he continued, during the collecting and handing up of the various sums, to incite them to renewed and redoubled exertions.

The following are some of the principal subscriptions:—R. Thicknesse, Esq., £160; Joseph Acton, Esq., £50; Messrs. Thomas Taylor and Brother, £50; T. C. Riley, Esq., £15; J. Whaley, Esq., £10; John Acton, Esq., £10; Richard Smith, Esq., £10. The total amount, including the Wigan subscriptions previously received in Manchester, was £434 15s. 6d. Almost all the subscriptions are double the amounts given last year. Each sum, as handed up to the platform, was announced by Mr. Moore, and hailed with loud cheers. Several liberal friends were unavoidably absent, amongst whom we may notice R. Bevan, Esq., E. Evans, Esq., and T. Cook,

Esq. Their respective subscriptions have not yet been announced.

A resolution, expressive of confidence in the League, was proposed by Thomas Taylor, Esq., seconded by Joseph Acton, Esq., and passed unanimously.—A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by R. R. R. Moore, Esq., and seconded by R. Cobden, Esq., who took the opportunity of complimenting that gentleman on his very handsome subscription. The meeting then terminated.

A little more than £300 was contributed from Wigan to the League fund last year, and we feel little doubt that this year the amount will be doubled.

THE GREAT LEAGUE FUND.

TRIUMPHANT MEETING AT BRADFORD.

BRADFORD (YORKSHIRE), Wednesday Morning.

An exceedingly interesting and most important meeting of the friends of Free Trade was held here last night, for the purpose of aiding the subscription to the great fund of £100,000. The meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Leeds-road, and notwithstanding the admission was by tickets, on which a charge was made, both the body and the gallery of the hall were exceedingly crowded.

But the most important feature of this meeting lies not in the fact of great numbers being present to countenance its object, for the cause of Free Trade has long been sure enough to command audiences; not in the amount of the subscriptions, which has on this occasion trebled the sum raised at last year's meeting; *but in the manifestation given by the attendance at it that this question is no longer to be considered as one of party politics.* It is well known that the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League have been long and arduously struggling to break down this barrier, which they have not unwisely been accustomed to regard as one of the main obstacles to their success; and now, as at one meeting after another, the ice has begun to give way, the experience of almost every day seems to bring them nearer to the realization of their wishes. In this respect, indeed, the example of last night's meeting may be regarded as a sort of breaking up of the frost: for not only had it the countenance of many respectable and wealthy gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood who had hitherto been considered amongst the foremost supporters of monopoly, but it was presided over by one of the wealthiest Conservative manufacturers and landowners amongst them. William Rand, Esq., is known as belonging to one of the most influential and one of the oldest Conservative families in the West Riding of Yorkshire, having been for many years included in the commission of the peace for the county; and his name will be at once recognised by all who have been conversant with West Riding politics during the last thirty years, as having been at all times at the very head of his party in those great election struggles for which Yorkshire has, during that long period, been so preeminently remarkable. His speech in opening the proceedings, which will be found reported very fully below, will be read with interest throughout the country; and in this neighbourhood, as coming from a gentleman of his well-known political bias and consistency, will have a very powerful influence. Among the other leading and influential gentlemen of the neighbourhood who took a prominent part in the proceedings, were Henry Forbes, Esq., Henry Leah, Esq., Robert Milligan, Esq., John Russell, Esq., Samuel Smith, Esq., George Oxley, Esq., William Ackroyd, Esq., Samuel Smith, Esq., Samuel Clapham, Esq. (Keighley), Samuel Laycock, Esq., Wm. Murgatroyd, Esq., Robert Milligan, Esq. (of Harven), S. and J. Bateman, Esqrs., Titus Salt, Esq., Holland Buck, Esq., James Cousin, Esq., and Wm. Briggs, Esq.

A deputation from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League attended the meeting, including Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., Colonel Thompson, Henry Ashworth (of Bolton), and R. R. R. Moore, Esqrs. At half-past seven o'clock,

Mr. GEORGE OXLEY rose and said:—As the time has now arrived for the proceedings to commence, in order to show that we have no party object to serve, and that we are not biassed by any political prejudices in the advocacy of this question, I rise to move that our highly-respected and esteemed Conservative friend, William Rand, Esq., be requested to take the chair.

Mr. FORBES seconded the motion, which was carried with great applause.

Mr. RAND then took the chair, and on rising to address the meeting was received with loud demonstrations of applause, which lasted several minutes, but which were followed by an ineffectual attempt on the part of a handful of Chartists in the gallery at opposition. These parties, however, were soon silenced, and the chairman then said:—It may peradventure excite some surprise that an individual of Conservative politics should occupy the chair at a public meeting convened for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League; but that surprise will only exist in the minds of those who take a very limited view of the question of the Corn Laws. (Hear.) The truth is, that the question of the Corn Laws is not a party one, either as regards their continuance, their modification, or their repeal—they form a national question, in the proper settlement of which all parties in the State are alike interested. (Loud cheers.) Permit me, then, with the utmost frankness, to declare that I once considered a protecting duty on corn necessary to secure the proper cultivation of our own soil. I thought it would secure it. I knew that our large population justly demanded such a cultivation; I thought that England would become a perfect garden under its influence; and that such would be the abundance of our food, let our numbers increase as they might, we should all have bread enough and to spare. But, gentlemen, passing events have dispelled their bright illusions from my mind (hear); passing events have taught me a different opinion. I have learned another lesson. I know not when I got my first lesson, but I received the most impressive one in an agricultural school—the very university of agriculture—at a meeting of the British Agricultural Society. ("Hear," and applause.) My head master was a noble lord who attended that meeting—one of my own political party—a man of talent, rank, and station—an advocate of protection—a cabinet minister. (Applause.) At that meeting, about two years ago, Lord Stanley declared, in the presence of 3000 of the most eminent and extensive agriculturists in the country, that the state of drainage, as regards the lands of this country already under cultivation, was a national disgrace (hear), and not one gentleman present ventured to contradict him. (Hear.) And his lordship further added, that the capital expended in this object alone would be attended with a larger profit than working all the minerals of the kingdom. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, that declaration, coming from such a quarter, absolutely astonished me, and gave me a greater insight into the merits of this question than any other circumstance which ever came under my observation; and I felt a conviction then, which has grown upon me ever since, and which every subsequent investigation into the subject has only tended to confirm, that improvement is not to be effected by a system of protection, but by open, honourable, and unrestricted competition. (Tremendous cheering.) And I ask myself can such a state of things be right? I was led to think upon this subject with far more interest than ever I had felt before. I knew that, in consequence of this protecting duty, the price of food was much higher in this country than elsewhere; and I was surprised to find that that had not acted as a great stimulus to improvements. I asked in many quarters, why do not the occupiers of the soil expend capital in draining? And I learned that they generally held their lands only from year to year, and, consequently, could not be expected to invest capital in any such permanent improvements. (Loud cheers.) My next inquiry was, why have not the proprietors, then, expended capital in improvements, seeing such an ample profit as Lord Stanley had described would be the result? I was informed that many of them were not in a position to do it, and that others were unwilling to apply those funds which they were saving for the younger branches of their families, in improvements which only tended to enrich the eldest child. ("Hear, hear;" and a voice, "Primogeniture.") My next inquiry was, why then do they not enable their tenants to effect those improvements by granting them leases? And I was informed that it could only be accounted for on the ground that leases would tend to abridge the political influence of the landlords over their tenants. (Loud cheers.) Now, abstractedly speaking, I freely admit that we have no right to inquire how, and in what way, the landlords of the country let their lands, nor under what system they are cultivated; but when a law exists in any country limiting, or tending to limit, the supply of food to what the country itself produces, then I say it is not only the right, but the duty, of the country to inquire into these matters, for in that case the people are as much concerned in the proper cultivation of the soil as the proprietor himself. (Loud cheers.) Such a law exists in the country; and it undoubtedly imposes upon the landed proprietors the reciprocal obligation of providing as much food for its inhabitants as the best mode of cultivation will enable them to produce; and I would willingly rest the issue of the whole question upon this position. If the landed proprietors of this country will not improve their estates so as to produce an ample abundance of food for every one of its inhabitants, and refuse to adopt a system which would enable their tenantry so to improve them, they have not the slightest right to impose any obstacles to other countries supplying us. (Cheers.) It is impossible to deny that a system of cultivating the land under occupations from year to year, in this country, where the population is so much on the increase, is quite incompatible with its just and necessary requirements: its effect is to incapacitate the tenantry from embarking in those undertakings, and laying out that capital which would give additional employment to the labourers, and increase the produce of the soil. It tends, then, to make labour cheap, and food comparatively dear. No one can shut his eyes to the fact that the agricultural population are, by this very system, compelled to seek employment and existence in our manufacturing districts, or to emigrate to distant countries, carrying along with them their arts and habits of industry (hear, hear, hear), which might have enriched their own. (Loud cheers.) Such is the policy pursued in the agricultural districts. And yet, passing strange, the proprietors build few additional dwellings; and that portion of the press which is more particularly in their interest deprecates the enlargement of our manufacturing towns. (Hear.) That portion of the press charges us with over-production. (Hear.) We are guilty of employing too many people. ("Hear," and laughter.) So that, in point of fact, refusing on their part to build dwellings for their increasing numbers, they condemn us for building them (hear, hear); and while pursuing on their part a system of cultivation which prevents the employment of the people in their own districts, they condemn us for giving them employment in ours; and yet, passing strange, they call themselves the "protectors of native industry." (Cheers and laughter.) They have yet to learn the lesson that there is no protection for industry apart from employing it. (Loud cheers.) It is matter of deep regret that there appears to be springing up in this country a bitter and almost hostile feeling between the agricultural and commercial interests; and I do not think the tone of the public journals in the respective interests is calculated to allay it. (Hear.) As a millowner, I belong to that class which the *Standard* not a month ago designated as the only class which has a direct but temporary interest in the destruction of other classes: yet I can truly affirm that I have no desire to seek the aggrandisement of commerce at the expense of agriculture; and I am bound to say that I have never seen the evidence of any such desire on the part of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Great cheering.) Most deeply do I regret the use of such language as this. Can the *Standard*, consistently with this belief, explain how it is that the tide of internal emigration has always been from the rural districts into the dens of these destroyers (hear); and how it is they would rather bear any privation here, in hopes of improving times, than return back again? (Cheers.) The *Standard* and other papers of that character are perpetually holding up the enormities of our factory system to public indignation and odium. I acknowledge it to be a stain upon us; most gladly would I see its evils removed, and my efforts have not been wanting in that respect: but I beg to inform the *Standard* that the millowners of all shades of politics are far more ready to acquiesce in a just limitation of the hours of labour than the Conservative Cabinet. (Hear, hear.)) They are the parties who resist such a measure. (Cheers.) I speak from knowledge when I say so; and the *Standard* will more effectually remedy this evil by attempting to convince the Cabinet, than by abusing and vilifying the millowners (hear, hear); most gladly should I see this feeling of jealousy allayed by each occupying ourselves in improvements tending to our mutual advantage, each cheerfully removing every obstacle that stands in the way. I am deeply sensible of the importance which the two interests bear towards each other; I am sure the prosperity of agriculture, that is, its fertile state and largely-employed population, is of infinite moment to our manufacturing districts. Our home trade I regard as far the most important branch of our commerce (cheers), and all my anxiety is to strengthen and increase it; but I would put it to the good sense of the landlords themselves, whether real agricultural prosperity be compatible with soils wanting draining—occupations from year to year preventing improvements—and a population sent from their soils for want of employment, or immured in the workhouses? (Hear.) But I am perfectly convinced that we shall never have true agricultural prosperity until a system is adopted which shall effectually drain the lands of this country and give employment to the hundreds of thousands who have nothing to do. There is unemployed capital and labour in this country adequate to the emergency (hear, hear); but the proprietors will not do it, and the tenant-at-will neither can nor ought to do it. (Hear.) Nothing can effect it but long leases in the hands of a tenantry possessing skill, capital, and enterprise—and even that will not be equal to the emergency, lessen the influence of open and unrestricted competition urge them on to the improvements; but that will secure all we want. Leases in proper hands are, in fact, as necessary to the improvement of landed property as laws are to its security. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Why then are they not granted? It is no use blinking the matter. The retention of political control lies at the root of it. Political control may gratify the vanity of a weak man, or the pride of an ambitious one; but it is at variance with the just rights of enfranchisment. Most gratefully do I acknowledge, that amongst our aristocracy are many men of noble minds and fine feelings—men whose worth of character, whose kindness and urbanity, will always secure to them universal esteem and a vast amount of political influence; and, so far as regards the mere rental of land, I believe the English aristocracy are benevolent and moderate men. But moderate rents and yearly occupations will not improve the land. Rents even higher than now exist, accompanied by long leases, would be found far more beneficial to the country. It is the necessity for exertion that leads to improvement, together with the security of long reaping the advantage of them; and I am fully persuaded that, if rents were even altogether abolished, it would only lead, under yearly occupations, to a worse cultivation of the soil than at present exists. (Hear.) But, I believe, there is not the least intention to sacrifice this control by granting leases. If there were, we should find the aristocracy earnestly recommending them at the great agricultural meetings; as it is, the word "lease" is hardly to be found in all their proceedings, nor ever will it be till the Corn Laws are repealed. (Great cheering.) We shall find it then. I believe the repeal of these laws would lead to a right system of agriculture in this country. We should see practical, intelligent farmers encouraged by long leases; we should see improvements undertaken upon a scale worthy of the country; we should see the land drained and the public health improved, and the average of human life prolonged by making the climate drier; we should employ countless thousands who have nothing to do, and scarcely anything to eat; we should raise abundance of food—yes, and at a price at which foreign corn, with all its concurrent expenses, could not come here to pay; we should extend our home trade far beyond all former precedent; and the labourers throughout the whole length and breadth of the empire would receive higher wages, and enjoy the comforts of life to an extent utterly unknown in the best days of their forefathers. (Loud cheers.) Now, gentlemen, it is my pride and pleasure to introduce to you one who has marked out to himself a noble and illustrious career—who has undertaken a work of no common difficulty—a work from which an ordinary mind would have shrunk with dismay (cheers)—the attempt to convince a nation that its true policy is not to be found in a system of restriction and protection, but of free and unrestricted trade; one who, uninfluenced by party spirit, has pursued this career with honour and integrity, and with a perseverance unexampled in any age or country. (Loud cheers.) I will only add that I trust success may soon crown all his exertions, and that he may long be spared to witness and experience the solid advantages of the policy he recommends. (Cheers.) I beg to introduce Richard Cobden, Esq. (Great and long-continued cheering.)

Mr. COBDEN then stood forward, and was received with great applause. The Chartist opposition was here renewed with the view of preventing a fair hearing, but the attempt was speedily silenced by the great body of the meeting. The few words that fell from the Chartist leader, however, embracing the old cry of machinery, furnished a text for Mr. Cobden's address, and he applied himself to the exposure of this fallacy with a power of argument and happiness of illustration that brought down repeated and loud plaudits from the whole audience.

He was followed by Colonel THOMPSON, who spoke for nearly half-an-hour, and whose address was well received.

Mr. R. R. R. MOORE delivered a short but eloquent address, after which the subscription was opened, and he announced the following sums: C. H. Dawson, Esq., £200; Milligan, Forbes, and Co., £200; H. Leah, £100. These gentlemen, said Mr. Moore, have each more than doubled their subscription of last year. Miligan, Jowett, and Co., have given £25; and John Russell £50, being more than double his last subscription; Titus Salt has given £100, being double his subscription; and so we go on doubling our subscriptions, showing a double determination to accomplish our object. (Cheers.) R. and J. Garrett double theirs, and give £100; Craven and Harrop give double, being £20; E. Ripley and Son have doubled, and give £100; S. Smith and Brothers give £100, being more than double their last subscription. William Murgatroyd gives £20, being another double; D. Bateman and Sons have doubled, giving £50; and William Rand, Esq., our excellent chairman, gives £50 (loud cheers), which is a new subscription, and is better than a double one. (Laughter and applause.) Now this makes your chairman a member of the Council of the League, and I hope he will come and attend its meetings, that he and you may be convinced that politics form no part of our proceedings. (Great applause.) George Oxley gives double his subscription, being £30; Hill and Smith give £10; W. and J. Cockshot, £5; Isaac Wright gives £20, which is double his last subscription; H. Brown doubles his last contribution, giving £10; the Rev. W. Scott, president of Airedalle College, gives £3, being a new subscription; Rev. James Ackworth, president, Horton

College, gives £3, being double his last subscription. Saml. Field, Putsey, £50; Edward Allen, £2 2s.; Dr. Caton (trebled), £3; B. Harrison (doubled), £10; G. B. Ripley, £5; John Smith, £20; T. D., £1 1s.; B. Bury and Sons, £10; Billingsley, Tankard, and Son, £10; William George, £2 2s.; Samuel Bottomley, Horton, £5; Rev. C. Stowell, Horton, £1; William Wilkinson, £5; George Bottomley, £1; R. Allen (new subscription), £2 2s.; John Smith and Co., £5; Smith, Tetley, and Co., £5; John Ramsden, jun., £5; Rev. Jos. Laycock, curate of Airedaile, £1. This last subscription, now, I like very much, because it is a pledge to us—when such men as the clergy, and such as your chairman, who is a Conservative, join us—that people are beginning to sink political distinctions; and when they once do that, the repeal of the Corn Laws will be carried. (Loud cheers.) Joshua Bates, £2; J. Woodhead, jun., £1; Henry Wilson, £1 1s.; E. H. Parratt, £1; John Dale (who has quadrupled his subscription), £1 1s. (Applause.) I have rather wondered that you have not cheered some of the smaller subscriptions (hear, hear); for my part, I like to see these sums of £1, and even smaller ones, because, when we collect a large amount of such sums, it shows that we have a great body of public feeling with us. (Loud cheers.) Illingworth and Kenyon, £3; Jos. Oxley, £1; M. and S. Smith, Little Horton (new subscription), £5 5s.; H. Clough, £1; W. Stead, £5; P. Kenyon, £5; G. Rogers, 25 guineas; Thomas Threlfall (double subscription), £10; James Waldie, Liverpool, 5s.; George Townend and Brother, £50, being five times the amount of what they gave last year. (Applause.) J. Proctor, £1; Thomas Greenlay, £1 (double); J. Hepper (double), £5; Thomas Aiked, (double) £10; John Carter (double), £2; James Cochrane, Westbrook-place, £10; S. Hutchinson, £1; John Sharpe, one guinea; S. Baines, Horton, £2; Wm. Hurton, £1; Henry Farrar, £1; Thomas Stead, £1; Wm. Hunter and Wm. Abbs, £1; J. Bottomley (quadrupled), £1 8s.; John Reid Wagstaff, one guinea; D. Illingworth (double), £10; Clapham and Whitaker (new), three guineas; Christopher Wilkinson (double), 10s.; James Wade, Son, and Co., £30 (being nearly double); Jonas Ackroyd, £1; Jos. Crowler, £1; Richard Pollard, £1; George Richards, £1; S. Harrison, £1; Rev. Thomas Pottinger, 10s. 6d.; William Clough, £1; "I would give more if I could afford," 1s.; John Cooper, £1 (new); William German, one guinea; George Armitage and Co. (double), £20; Wm. Denby (Shipley), £5 (new sub.); D. Abercrombie, one guinea (quadrupled); Wm. Watson, £1; I. Phillip, one guinea (new sub.); Edward Prince, £1; Miles Illingworth, Horton (quadrupled), £50; Wm. Crook, 10s.; Rev. P. Scott, 10s.; Jos. Webster, £1; R. Paterson and Co., £1; Rev. M. Sandars, £1; Rev. Henry Dowson, one guinea; D. Ramsden, one guinea; William Harker, £3; Mons. Cronau, one guinea; Bernard Liebert, £5 5s.; John Brown, half-a-crown—here's rhyme and reason for you (laughter); Wm. Shepherd, £1; Miss A. West, £1 (applause); Miss C. Bennett, £1; Jos. Smith, land-agent, £5, and Mrs. Smith, £5 (applause); W. F., 10s.; S. and E. Sichell, £2 2s.; B. Wild, £1 5s; J. Turner (new), 2s. 6d.; Wm. Wood, Tyrrell-street, £1 1s.; Jos. Greenough, £1 (double); Jos. Kitchen, 5s; H. Topham, £1 1s.; Jonathan Coulters (Chapel-street), £1 1s.; A Siberian Crab for Lord Tamboff, £1 1s. (much laughter); Miss Holdsworth, £1; Jos. Farrar, £2 2s.; Wm. Brooksbank, 10s.; J. Corrie, £1; —— paid, 1s.; A Lady, £1; the Misses Holgate and Crossley, Snowhill, £1 1s.; Jno. Morrell, £1; W. H. Woodhead, £1 1s.; A Good Wife, 5s.; Josh. Sharp, 5s.; Benj. Tetley, 5s.; Wm. Greenwood, £5; A Cabinet Maker, £1 1s. (A voice, "I wish we had a fresh Cabinet.) (Great applause.)

No more subscriptions being in readiness,

Mr. A. Ackroyd said he would now move a vote of thanks to the League.

Mr. Forbes seconded the vote, and it was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Moore explained that any of the contributors of £1 and upwards, on the payment of their contribution, would be entitled to a copy of the League newspaper for one year; and he also said that the contributors of small sums, by uniting together, could have a paper sent them; for instance, four subscribers of 5s. could have one copy of the paper sent to any address they liked, and could thus have the advantage of reading it in succession. (Applause.)

Henry Ashworth, Esq., of Turton, acknowledged the compliment paid the League in the resolution just passed, after which,

Mr. R. R. R. Moore announced that the entire amount of the subscriptions had reached SEVENTEEN HUNDRED AND NINE POUNDS, TEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE!

The announcement was received with great and protracted cheering.

Mr. Cobden moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, who, in acknowledging it, briefly alluded to the slight interruption attempted by the Chartists, and said it had been but like a barrier in the channel of a mighty river: the waters might be impeded for an instant, but the next they washed over it with double impetuosity. (Cheers.)

The meeting, which during the collection of subscriptions presented one of the most animated and spirit-stirring scenes perhaps ever witnessed, did not terminate till nearly twelve o'clock.

Subscriptions were subsequently received making the aggregate TWO THOUSAND AND TWO POUNDS, ELEVEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE up to Thursday evening.

FREE TRADE MEETING IN BARNSLEY.

(From the Sheffield Independent.)

A crowded and enthusiastic Free Trade meeting was held on Wednesday evening, in the Theatre at Barnsley, to receive a deputation from the League, and aid in raising the £100,000. John Bright, Esq., M.P., and that fine old veteran, Colonel Thompson, had engaged to attend; but severe indisposition, the consequence of over-exertion and exposure, having confined Mr. Bright under medical care, R. R. R. Moore, Esq., took his place.

On the motion of William Harvey, Esq., James Russell, Esq., of Hoyland, took the chair, and said he was anxious to do anything in his power to improve the trade of the country, which, according to his view, was dreadfully depressed by monopolies. He should be glad to do all in his power to promote the repeal of the Corn Laws, and Free Trade in everything. Free Trade was likely to be good trade, and would enable them to till the land at least as well as now, and to get as valuable a consideration for its produce. (Cheers.) He was glad to be able to introduce two gentlemen who would far more ably than himself advocate these views. The indisposition of Mr. Bright had prevented his attendance, and Mr. R. R. R. Moore had attended in his place. Mr. W. Harvey read Mr. Bright's note, stating that cold and excessive speaking had compelled him to lay by for a week under medical treatment.

The first resolution was moved by the Rev. Mr. Beddowe, denouncing the Corn Law as vicious in principle and practice, diminishing trade and the demand for labour, and oppressing the labouring classes by increasing the cost of subsistence. They had talked much lately of the education of the people by compulsory or by persuasive means. But both these modes were obstructed by the evils produced by the present law. Talk to a poor man of the education of his children, and he would say, let them enable him himself to provide the means, and he would send his children to school without asking. (Cheers.) They found the poor man idle in his cottage—fireless, perhaps, and his children half clad and half fed—who would say that, as things were, he was obliged, so soon as his child was able to do anything, to send it to work rather than to school. In the same way the religious improvement of the poor was prevented. Let the evils spoken of by this resolution be removed, and they would get rid of great difficulties opposing both education and religion. These things made religious teachers think of the subject; for, if a man was not fed, he was not free; and if not free, he was not ready to appreciate the freedom offered by religion. (Loud cheers.) He now came forward for the first time, simply because he had not previously had an opportunity. There was a certain party who made objection to the meddling of ministers of religion on this subject. But the same party in this objection made an admission which at another time they refused. They were accustomed to dispute the title of Dissenting teachers to be considered ministers of religion; but when they hoped they might cast a slur upon them, then they said that being ministers of religion they should not interfere. (Cheers.) To-night, therefore, he should probably obtain the admission of some that he was a minister of religion; and he trusted he should also show himself a man, a patriot, and a Christian. (Cheers.)

Mr. Shackleton, of Benistone, seconded the resolution; and traced the wealth and greatness of the country to its commerce, which the aristocracy did their utmost to destroy. He went on to urge that Free Trade, far from realising the apprehensions of its opponents, would be replete with manifold advantages. (Cheers.)

A person in the gallery claimed to speak in opposition, and move an amendment; but the chairman declined to hear him, and put the resolution, which was carried by a general show of hands, there being only three or four against it.

The Chairman called upon Col. Thompson, who spoke at some length in his peculiarly happy style of argument and illustration. (The colonel resumed his seat amid reiterated and enthusiastic applause.)

Mr. E. Parker moved the second resolution, which was to the effect that the meeting viewed with great satisfaction the progress in public opinion of the question of the repeal of the Corn Laws; and approving of the conduct of the council of the League, and their judicious use of the £50,000 fund placed last year at their disposal, resolved forthwith to originate a subscription in aid of the £100,000 fund now called for, and appointed a committee to collect subscriptions. He highly eulogised the labours of Colonel Thompson in the cause; and then went on to argue that the Corn Law was contrary not only to all the principles of political philosophy, but to the common sense of mankind in all ages, for never was such a thing heard of as a law to keep down the supply of food to the people. (Cheers.) He declared that he would support any man, Tory, Whig, or Radical, who would support Free Trade, and would vote for no man who would not support it, for he considered all other questions trifling in comparison. (Cheers.) He was greatly encouraged by the comparison of this meeting with the best they had had before, which removed from his mind the last shadow of a doubt as to their success (loud cheers), and he was satisfied they should soon meet to rejoice in the unrestrained freedom of trade. (Cheers.)

W. Harvey, Esq., seconded the motion. He had always taken a strong interest in politics, and had supported what were called Liberal politics; but he was sorry to say, that many of the Liberal party had hung back on the question of the Corn Laws. Though there was no immediate prospect of an election, they might have one ere long; and it was the determination of himself and his brothers to vote for no man but a Free Trader, by which he meant a friend to the total repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.)

The resolution was put, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Moore next rose, and was received with cheers. After an eloquent address, which was repeatedly cheered, he requested that the cards distributed through the meeting should be handed in, with the name of each person (or, if anonymous, to be accompanied with the name, for the purpose of collection), and the amount he was willing to contribute. The cards soon began to come in, Mr. Moore announcing each subscription, which was greeted with loud applause. The first announced was that of Messrs. Harvey and Co., £50; their last year's subscription having been £20. (Loud cheers.) Then came promiscuously, and in quick succession, the following subscriptions:—

Of Five Pounds.—James Russell, Nether Hoyland; a Landowner, per Harvey and Co.; John Clark, Kenforth Hall; Edward Parker, Starfoot; T. Richardson, Longcar House; J. S. Parkinson, Young and Shaw, Mr. Geuder; Friend, by Harvey and Co.; William Taylor, Red Brook; Russell, Ward, and Co., flax-mill; T. M. Carter, George Allotson (guineas); Jon. Carnelly, and Jonathan Twibell.

Of Two Guineas.—John Neel, jun., Robert Craig, Geo. Allotson, jun., Seth Cross, George Jackson (pounds); S. D., per Harvey and Co. (pounds); and E. Brady.

Of £1 18s. 6d. (being called for to make up the even sum of £180).—A Friend.

Of One Guinea.—John Ogden and friends, A Friend to Free Trade, James Hirdle and friend; Mrs. Craig, for her Sons; An Enemy to Monopoly, Edward Dale, Matthew Sykes; A. B. C., per C. Harvey; and William Park.

Of One Pound.—J. Buckley, Royal Oak; John Austlik; J. Wood, Worsborough; George Shaw, Badworth; John Ryecroft, X. Y. Z., William Lewis, Saville and Son; Jos. Ray and Co., Odd Fellows' Arms; Mark Walker and Son, William Myers; Sykes, Vickers, and Co., increased from 5s.; E. B., John Bateman, Levi and Oliver, B. Bailey and friends, John Oldham, W. Goodworth and Brothers; James Wood, Worsborough-dale; A Friend, James Sykes, James Steel, Thomas Wilson and friend, Thomas Tee, Robert Cook, John Carr, A. Brown, and A Friend.

These, with a number of smaller subscriptions, made up, at the close of the meeting, about eleven o'clock, the handsome subscription of £183 (the whole of last year's subscription for the town of Barnsley having been £41). The announcement of the subscription was hailed with loud applause.

After a reply to a question, put by a gentleman, to Colonel Thompson and Mr. Moore, the latter moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried by acclamation; and the meeting separated, highly delighted with the result of the evening's proceedings.

MEETING AT WARRINGTON.

On Tuesday evening a numerous and spirited meeting of the friends of Free Trade was held at Warrington, in aid of the great League Fund, when a deputation from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, consisting of Mr. Bright, M.P., and Colonel Thompson, were present. Some difficulty and disappointment had been experienced in obtaining a suitable room in which to hold the meeting, the Reformers' Hall, as it is called, the building in which the meeting took place, being far too limited in size to accommodate one-half the friends of Free Trade who were desirous of being present. It is one of the curses of monopoly, at Warrington, however, that the only buildings of magnitude are under its control; and there was no alternative. The Reformers' Hall is capable of seating from four to five hundred persons, perhaps; and with a view to limiting the assemblage to those only who are *stanch* repealers, instead of making the admission a matter of accident or favouritism, a small charge was made on the tickets. The hall, notwithstanding, was crowded to overflowing, and the best feeling prevailed. Wm. Allcard, Esq., took the chair; and among the leading gentlemen on the platform, in addition to Mr. Bright and Colonel Thompson, were—Mr. John Rylands, Mr. Jos. Crosfield, Mr. George Crosfield, Mr. Peter Rylands, Mr. Richard Allen, Mr. John Rylands, jun., Mr. Benj. Cooke, Mr. G. W. Hardy, Mr. Edward West, Mr. Wm. Fell, the Rev. Mr. Massey of Newton, and the Rev. F. Bishop.

In opening the proceedings, Mr. Allcard said it afforded him great pleasure to preside over a meeting assembled on an occasion like this, and it was the more gratifying to his feelings to perceive that it was so well attended. He was particularly glad to see so many of the operative classes there; he rejoiced in this the more especially, because so many attempts had been made to persuade them that their interests lay in the contrary direction. (Hear, hear.) It was a remarkable feature in the history of this agitation, however, that, owing to the slight revival of trade which had taken place, it had spread over a period of time which had literally proved the truth of Free-Trade arguments; for with the increased demand for labour had come an increase in the rate of wages, proving, as had always been asserted by Free Traders, that the monopolists' doctrine of wages falling with the price of food was wrong, and that wages depended on supply and demand. (Applause.)

Colonel Thompson was then called upon, and was received by the meeting in a most gratifying manner. His speech was, like most of his addresses elsewhere, full of quaint truths, sound argument, and humorous illustration.

Mr. Bright, M.P., was next called upon, and was received with protracted shouts of applause. Though suffering from very severe indisposition, he nevertheless spoke with great effect for upwards of an hour. His speech was full of sterling argument, with much original matter in the illustrations; but we have not room even for an outline.

Subscription cards were then distributed amongst the audience, and in the course of about half an hour the following contributions to the great League Fund were made in the room:—

	£	s.		£	s.
Messrs. J. and R. Allen	75	0	Boulton Molineux ..	10	0
William Allcard ..	50	0	Thomas Hurst ..	5	0
Joseph Crosfield ..	50	0	William Milner ..	5	0
George Crosfield ..	25	0	George Fell	2	2
J. D. Gaskell ..	25	0	Rev. F. Bishop ..	2	2
Richard Evans ..	20	0	Wm. Fell, Sankey-street	2	2
Mrs. Allcard ..	10	0	P. Cooke	2	2
J. C. M'Minnies ..	10	0	Edward Robinson ..	2	2
Rylands, Brothers ..	10	0			

To these subscriptions followed 14 of a guinea; 16 of £1; 3 of 10s.; and some smaller sums, making a total of £340.

Mr. Joseph Crosfield then moved—

"That this meeting expresses its gratitude to John Bright, Esq., M.P., and Colonel Thompson, for their eloquent addresses this evening, and to the Council of the League, for their strenuous and persevering exertions in the cause of Free Trade." (Cheers.)

Mr. B. Molineux seconded the resolution.

The Rev. Mr. Massey, of Newton, was glad to support the motion. They read of Israel battling in the plain, and of Moses and Aaron, on the hill, making intercession to the God of Heaven, to aid those that were in the conflict below. It was his duty and privilege and prayer, consistently, he thought, with Christianity, to wish God-speed, health and happiness and success, to those men—philanthropic and blessed men—who were engaged in the conflict for the abolition of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously, and with applause.

Mr. J. Rylands, jun., moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, cordially approving of the plan of raising £100,000, appoint the following gentlemen as a committee for collecting subscriptions in aid of the fund:—Messrs. Allcard, Allen, R. Allen, Crosfield, T. D. Gaskell, S. Gaskell, Robert Gaskell, Hurst, Hardy, M'Minnies (treasurer), B. Molineux, J. Rylands, jun., West, J. Ashton, James Edleston, the Rev. F. Bishop, and the secretaries."

Mr. Rylands said, that last year the committee appointed called on almost every person in the middle classes, and, though it was considerable trouble, those engaged in the work did not regret the trouble. His friend, Mr. George Crosfield, would bear him out when he said that, although they called on all parties, even the

supporters of the monopolists, they found scarcely a single individual that defended the present Corn Law.

Mr. John M'Minnies seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Colonel Thompson briefly returned thanks for the compliment which had been paid to him and Mr. Bright, and concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his able conduct in presiding over the meeting.

Mr. Bright seconded the motion, which was carried, and the meeting then separated.

Free-Trade Meeting at Todmorden.—On Monday evening, a meeting was held in the Wesleyan Association Chapel, Todmorden, for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions to the great League fund. Seven o'clock was the time appointed for the commencement of business, and shortly afterwards the commodious and spacious chapel was filled with an assemblage of persons of every class, but the greater part of them were operatives. At half-past seven o'clock the deputation from the League, consisting of Messrs. Cobden and Moore, entered the chapel and were most tremendously cheered. Mr. J. Vevers was called to the chair, and briefly explained the object of the meeting in a very appropriate speech. He concluded by calling upon Mr. William Helliwell to move the first resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. Mr. Stephens.—R. Cobden, Esq., was then called upon to address the meeting, and was received with loud and continued cheering. The general tenor of his observations was, that the Corn Laws were originally enacted for the benefit of a few, and that their continuance was owing to their not being generally understood. They were founded in ignorance, and he looked to the growing intelligence of the people for their total repeal.—The motion having been put, and carried unanimously, the Chairman called upon Mr. Peter Ormerod to move the second resolution, which was seconded by Mr. William Howorth. Mr. Moore next addressed the meeting at considerable length, on the evils of the Corn Laws. The motion, which was to the effect that a subscription towards the League fund be commenced immediately, was unanimously carried amidst loud cheers. Mr. Moore then commenced reading the names of the subscribers, as they were handed in to him; the following were the principal contributors:—Mr. William Helliwell, £100; Mr. J. B. Fielden, £100; Messrs. Firth and Howorth, £100; Ormerod, Brothers, £100; Mr. J. Vevers, £20; Mr. William Soyer, £10; Mr. Lawrence Wilson, ten guineas; and Lord, Brothers, ten guineas. The number of contributors was 100, and the amount subscribed in the room £563 15s. 6d., which is somewhat less than double the whole amount subscribed last year. It is expected, however, that the amount will be considerably swelled, as many of the great guns did not come forward on Monday evening.

Anti-Corn-Law Meeting at Eccles.—On Monday evening a crowded meeting was held in the spacious room occupied as an infants' school, in Barton-lane, Eccles. The chair was occupied by James Chadwick, Esq., a subscriber of £500 to the £100,000 League fund. The meeting was addressed by Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Brotherton, M.P., Mr. A. Prentice, the Rev. Dr. Harrison of Chowbent, Mr. P. Walker of Patricroft, Mr. Gaskell of Patricroft, and the Rev. Mr. Smith of Patricroft. The speakers were loudly cheered throughout, and a resolution against monopolies was carried unanimously.

The League at Macclesfield.—The friends of Free Trade at Macclesfield held their meeting on Thursday evening, and it went off in every respect in the most satisfactory manner. The mayor having refused the use of the Town-hall, Mr. Heapy, a stanch Free-Trader, at once offered one of the large rooms of his new silk-mill, in which to hold the meeting. A handsome platform was erected, and the room was tastefully decorated with evergreens. Though 1s. 6d. was charged for admission, there were present about one thousand persons, among whom were a number of ladies. About seven o'clock, the hour of meeting, Richard Cobden, Esq., and R. R. R. Moore, Esq., accompanied by Messrs. Richard Hine, Samuel Jasper; James Rathbone, of Macclesfield; James Broadhurst, Esq., mayor of Congleton; and John Johnson, Esq., of Congleton, entered the room, and were received with great cheering. Mr. R. Hine was called to the chair. Mr. Richard Wilson, secretary of the Free-Trade Association, read letters of apology from the Hon. E. J. Stanley; Samuel Greg, Esq.; E. D. Davenport, Esq., of Capethorne; and John Brocklehurst, Esq., M.P. for the borough. Mr. Davenport's letter contained a bold denunciation of the Corn Laws. Mr. Brockehurst's letter also condemned the Bread-Tax, but pleaded for protection to silk. After the reading of the letters Mr. Cobden was introduced to the meeting, when he was received with several rounds of hearty cheers. He delivered a most effective speech suited to the meridian of Macclesfield, which was received in a manner which left no doubt as to the convincing effect it produced. During Mr. Cobden's speech Colonel Thompson entered the room, when he was most enthusiastically received. The gallant colonel delivered an energetic speech, which was frequently and loudly cheered. Mr. Moore followed in a speech full of appropriate statistics regarding the silk trade, by which he showed that protection had been an injury instead of a benefit to Macclesfield. The subscription commenced about ten o'clock, and though the largest sum given did not exceed £10, it ultimately reached £131 2s. 6d.; and this, considering the amount last year realized was only £28, shows a satisfactory progress of Free-Trade feeling in the borough. The spirit displayed during the subscription was admirable, about sixty or seventy people subscribing a pound each.

Plymouth Free Trade Association.—On Friday evening, the 8th instant, George Leach, Esq., of Stoke, read a paper at the Mechanics' Institute, on the existing Corn Laws. The building was crowded in every part, and the statements of the respected lecturer were listened to with the greatest attention. The President was supported by the whole of the Vice-presidents, and a large body of the Council; besides whom we observed Sir A. Buller, Colonel Campbell, Captain Thurtell, Dr. Butter, Admiral Phillips, Christopher Harris, Thomas Woollcombe, W. Prance, G. W. Soltau, B. Parham, W. Norman, J. Lindon, W. H. Evens, W. Burnell, C. Tanner, C. Fox, and — Radcliffe, Esqrs. C. B. Calmady, Esq., presided, and after a few preliminary observations, introduced Mr. Leach, a landed proprietor and a practical farmer, who then read a paper of considerable length, embracing a great variety of lucidly arranged details, solid arguments, and forcible observations, all tending to show the advantages of Free Trade and the evils of the Corn Monopoly. The lecturer concluded amidst loud and long-continued cheering. A vote of thanks was proposed and unanimously given to Mr. Leach for his able and eloquent lecture. Some confusion was caused by the conduct of a Chartist, named Blackmore, attempting to broach topics of an irrelevant character: he was put down, however, by the unanimous voice of the meeting.

Gateshead Free-Trade Society.—The last fortnightly meeting was held on Monday evening at Mrs. Calvert's, the Half-moon inn. The chair was occupied by the president, Mr. Alderman Brockett; who briefly addressed the meeting, and was followed by Mr. G. Crawshay, jun., and other gentlemen. Mr. J. G. Abbot, and several other Gatesiders, were then admitted to membership.—The president stated to the meeting that Messrs. Cobden and Bright had accepted the invitation to address a public meeting in Gateshead; whereupon it was arranged that they should be received at a *soirée*.—The secretary was instructed to procure a copy of the Parliamentary Register of the Gateshead electors, with a view to a canvass of the constituency on the question of the Corn Laws.—Mr. T. Pringle, at the call of the secretary, "reported progress" on the subject of the Young Men's Free-Trade Society. Twenty-one members, he stated, had been enrolled, and there was every prospect the institution would prosper.—Mr. Fawcett moved:—

"That we have heard with much satisfaction of the establishment of a Young Men's Free-Trade Society in Gateshead, and of its prosperous beginning; and that, at all our future meetings, we shall be most happy to have the attendance of its members."

This motion was seconded by Mr. James Clephan, and unanimously passed.—Mr. J. Robson, referring to what had passed at a former meeting, wished to know if it were an undoubted fact that Mr. Hutt had expressed his intention to vote with Mr. Villiers in the ensuing session. The president replied in the affirmative.—*Gateshead Observer.*

The *Anti-Monopolist*, a new advocate of "Civil, Commercial, and Religious Freedom," will make its first appearance, we understand, on the 1st of January, 1844 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—*Ibid.*

Free-Trade Association.—We are glad to learn that our suggestion to the Free Traders of Southampton, to form themselves into an association, is now in the course of being carried into effect. A preliminary meeting was held on Tuesday evening last, when the gentlemen present resolved unanimously to form a Free-Trade Association, auxiliary to the Anti-Corn-Law League, of which every person subscribing one shilling or upwards to the funds, should be a registered member. A provisional committee and officers were appointed to organize the association, and another meeting will be held on Thursday evening next. As soon as it is established on a permanent and business-like footing, an aggregate meeting of the members will be held, at which some eminent members of the League are expected to attend.—*Hampshire Independent.*

Anti-Corn-Law Movement.—We are glad to find that this great port is at last about to rouse itself from its slumbers, and speak out in the cause of Free Trade. Mr. John Foster, secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, at the request of the leading opponents of monopoly in this town, has written to Mr. Cobden, to know whether he and Mr. Bright will come if invited, and when they can make it convenient to be here.—*Hull Rockingham.*

The Newcastle Anti-Corn-Law Association has procured subscriptions to a considerable amount towards the £100,000 League Fund. A deputation from the League, including Messrs. Cobden and Bright, will visit this town on the 22nd January, on which occasion there will probably be a *soirée* on an extensive scale.—*Tyne Mercury.*

The League Fund.—Liverpool, Tuesday Evening.—The Liverpool subscriptions to the great League fund are still upon the increase; and sanguine hopes are entertained that the sum to be transmitted from this town will eventually amount to at least £6000. At six o'clock this evening it had reached £5746 18s.

League Fund, Wigan.—The Wigan subscription to the fund has been progressing satisfactorily since the meeting on Thursday. "A friend," who had before the attendance of the deputation doubled his subscription of £5 for last year, after retiring from the meeting doubled the £10, which he had given for this year; and several other subscriptions, of smaller amount, have been again doubled since Thursday evening.

The League in Scotland.—We understand that a deputation of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League is to be in Scotland on the 10th January next, and to remain till the 20th, visiting as many towns as the time will permit, with the view of diffusing information regarding the objects of the League, and promoting subscriptions in aid of the fund of £100,000. The deputation is to consist of Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Col. Thompson, and Mr. Moore. Meetings are definitely fixed for Glasgow on the 10th, and Edinburgh on the 11th January. The Edinburgh meeting is to be held in the New Music Hall, the Lord Provost in the chair. We have no doubt it will be one of the largest and most influential meetings ever held in this city. The arrangements for meetings in the other towns are in progress of being made by the Edinburgh committee, as authorized by the Council of the League, but are not yet definitively fixed.—*Scotsman.*

Progress of Free Trade.—At the Hailsham cattle show dinner last Wednesday, a discussion on the Corn Laws took place between Mr. G. Darby, M.P. for East Sussex, and Mr. H. B. Curteis, M.P. for Rye. The former declared his opinion unaltered; but Mr. Curteis appeared to have become almost, if not quite, a Free Trader. He canvassed Rye previous to the last election as an advocate for a fixed duty of 10s., but he believed that even the strong advocates of protection would now jump at a fixed duty of 10s. At all events, he, as a landlord, would. He was an advocate for a fixed duty; but he had not made up his mind what the amount should be. When, however, he saw such a man as Lord Spencer, who had now ceased to be a party politician, and devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits, who had been the first president of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and was now president of the Smithfield Cattle Club, and whose property was entirely agricultural—when he heard such a man declare his belief that agriculture was not benefited by a protecting duty, he confessed that his own opinions, even on the subject of a fixed duty, were somewhat staggered.—*Globe.*

Liverpool.—(From a Correspondent.)—The Council of the Anti-Monopoly Association of this town have adopted a new and apparently very successful method of agitating the question of Free Trade amongst the Parliamentary electors, namely, by holding sectional meetings, convened by circulars addressed to every voter on the registry within the district; already five such meetings have taken place, at which resolutions in favour of the abolition of all monopolies have been passed, after lectures delivered by Mr. John Murray, assisted by a deputation from the Council. It is intended to visit the remaining districts of the town without delay.

Liskeard.—On Wednesday the 13th instant, at a numerous and respectable meeting, held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, King's Arms Hotel, a resolution was unanimously passed, pledging all present to assist in the movement against monopoly of every description. The meeting was called by public placard, and addressed by Messrs. Cooke and Bulley, of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, and Mr. John Murray, of Manchester. The greatest attention was given to the speakers, and a vote of thanks passed to them for their attendance.

Northampton.—On Tuesday evening last a general meeting of the friends to Free Trade was held in the large room at the Peacock Hotel; there were nearly 400 registered members of the League present, amongst whom was W. Bird, Esq., who presided; Alderman Cotton; Councillors W. D. Borton and E. Cook; J. Horwood, Esq., surgeon; Revs. John Bennett and J. Jarran; Messrs. J. Edens; G. Moore and J. Lee, wholesale boot and shoe manufacturers; R. Bartram, hosier; G. Hester, grocer; J. Ashby, corn-factor; G. Jeffrey, malster; J. Robinson, and several other influential and active friends to the cause. Resolutions were adopted, first, agreeing to form a Northampton Anti-Corn-Law Association; secondly, the appointment of a committee to be added to the general committee to superintend the collection of the League fund; thirdly, to get up a requisition to the council for a deputation from that body to attend a public town and county meeting, to be held in Northampton. A lively interest in this great movement was evinced amongst the audience, who listened with earnest attention to the various speakers, and carried the various resolutions with frequent bursts of acclamation and energetic feeling, displaying a fervent anxiety to unite their exertions to put down the base, cruel, and impious Corn Laws.

Taunton.—A meeting of the Anti-Corn-Law Association of this town, established in 1839, when abolition of the Corn Laws was treated by your self-styled practical men as the mere dream of visionary minds, was held at the Temperance Hall, in St. James's-street, on Tuesday last, to take into consideration the most advisable mode of attaining subscriptions in aid of the Great League Fund of £100,000. A deputation was appointed, consisting of W. Beadon, Esq., and R. Ham, Esq., who consented to wait upon the inhabitants and solicit subscriptions. Though the individual subscriptions will be comparatively small, yet the total seems likely to treble the amount hitherto collected in Taunton.

Salisbury, Thursday.—A grand assemblage of Free Traders took place at the Saracen's Head Inn in this city, on Wednesday evening last. Mr. Giles Cookman took the chair; on which occasion Mr. E. Vandenhoff addressed the meeting at great length. In the course of his speech he eloquently pointed out the curse of all monopoly; the progress of reform; the powerful opposition made by the monopolists to every measure calculated to benefit the masses of the people, and the contemptible means now employed by them in this city to oppress the Free-Trade voters by their abominable system of exclusive dealing. "But," said Mr. Vandenhoff, "I laugh at their puny efforts—the majority of the people are on our side, by a proportion of at least 3 to 1. They have at length unwillingly driven us to the defensive principle. Now, then, be united and our cause is certain. (Cheers.) I do not blame our open enemies for the result of the late contested election so much as I do those voters who had no minds of their own—who were, in the first instance, so silly as to be tampered with, and then wicked enough to betray their trust. (Cheers.) Yes, the majestic voice of the non-electors can and will prevail, if unity and determination of purpose be their plan; and the consequence will evetually be that our ancient city will be represented by *two* Free Traders." On the motion of Mr. George

Forder it was unanimously resolved, "That weekly meetings be held for the purpose of carrying out the object of the meeting." The next meeting will be held at the Globe Inn, Gigand-street, on Wednesday next.

Free Trade Registration Societies.—Mr. Sidney Smith has returned to the metropolis, after completing a tour of Anti-Corn-Law agitation through some of the western counties of England. Since our last notice of this trip, Mr. Smith delivered addresses to crowded and enthusiastic meetings at Wilton, Shaftesbury, Westbury, Frome, Warminster, Trowbridge, &c., and it is gratifying to observe that the Free Trade principles which he was engaged in the diffusion of were everywhere responded to by the masses who pressed to hear his lectures, the meetings generally resolving themselves into "Free Trade Registration Societies." Mr. Smith, who was nearly a month occupied in this tour, lecturing at one place or another every working day, has been succeeded in "the good work" by Mr. Falvey, a talented fellow-labourer, who will not fail to push the Free Trade cause into other fields of the western district.

Stockport.—Mr. Ferrand and his Dupes.—On Monday evening last this gentleman, accompanied by several others, visited this borough, and addressed a public meeting in the Socialists' Hall of Science. The ostensible object of the meeting was to commence a subscription in aid of the Ostler fund, but, judging from the character of the parties having the management of the concern, the number of operative and other monopolists, and the tone of the speeches, and especially that of Mr. Ferrand, it appeared as if the real one was to attack the Free Traders, and to kick up such a dust about the Factory and new Poor-Law Bills as to blind the working classes in this part of the kingdom to the importance of the Anti-Corn-League and its amazing progress, and to the immense good which would accrue to them from the abolition of monopoly. Four working men, Chartists, proposed and seconded the two resolutions. Mr. Ferrand spoke upon the second, and in the course of his speech indulged in a rambling rigmarole about the hollow hypocrisy of the Leaguers; the kidnapping of agricultural labourers' families, for the use of the manufacturers; the necessity of protection to the labourer as well as to all other classes; the abridgment of labour by the machinery of the manufacturers (as if nobody else used it); the necessity of opening the eyes of the working classes to the designs of the conspirators for pulling down wages; and, above all, to the wonderful things which he means to do on the reassembling of Parliament. The principal circumstances, however, connected with this visit of Mr. Ferrand is the extreme mortification of the Stockport monopolists. Prior to the meeting two Chartists and two operative monopolists were employed to obtain signatures to a requisition to the Mayor, requesting him to convene a public meeting of the inhabitants in the Court-house; and he refusing, some of the managing parties took upon themselves, without consulting the requisitionists, to convene it in the Socialists' Hall. When the placards appeared some of the requisitionists were absolutely frantic with rage, to reflect that they had been made instrumental in calling a meeting in a place which they held in abhorrence, and the greater was their vexation on knowing that the proprietors of the monopolists' paper, whose names were the fourth on the list of requisitionists, were the printers of the bill. The consequence was, that other bills were issued, and, wherever practicable, pasted over the former ones; but too much publicity had been given, and the parties to blame must get out of it as well as they can. But the above is only a small portion of the mortification which the monopolists were doomed to experience; for, notwithstanding the trick which had been played them by the fag-end of their party, many of them attended the Hall for the first time in their lives, for misfortune makes one acquainted with strange bed-fellows, in the hope of meeting with some consolation in the shape of a tremendous volley of abuse of Cobden, his cause, and friends. But, alas! the blustering member for Knaresborough durst not utter one single word in the slightest degree disparaging to that gentleman, and the spiteful were doomed to a bitter disappointment. Mr. Ferrand saw from the composition of the meeting that a large number took no part or interest in its proceedings, and he very prudently refrained from any attack upon one whom he guessed had too many friends in the meeting to allow any improper liberty with his name and conduct. About 1000 persons were present, and about £2 was collected.

The following, which we extract from the *Northampton Herald*, is earnestly recommended to the attention of our readers. It is worthy of the example of all local associations:—"National Anti-Corn-Law League. Register! register! register! A general meeting of the members of the League will be held in the large room at the Peacock Inn, Northampton, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, at half-past seven o'clock. It is highly important that all friends should register forthwith, as no one will be admitted but those producing their card of membership. The registration of each name must be accompanied by a small fee of not less than one penny, nor more than one shilling, to be applied in diffusing information amongst the people, and in maintaining the struggle for Free Trade. Each person that signs will receive an engraved card certifying that he is a member of the League.

"*** Registration Sheets and Cards lay at the following places for the enrolment of members:—Mr. Jee's, Boot and Shoe Manufactory, Wellington-street; Mr. Cook's Manufactory, St. John's-lane; Messrs. Gray Hester, Grocer, Bridge-street; J. Wells, corn-factor, South Quarter; Mr. Robinson, pawnbroker, North End; Mr. Codgbrook, bookseller, Horsemarket; Mr. Ashby, grocer, Sheep street; and at Mr. J. Jones's, the secretary, Bearward-street. By order of the Provisional Committee of the Northampton Anti-Corn-Law Association,

"Joseph Jones.

"N.B. All friends in the county desirous of receiving information or assistance to form branch associations, or tracts for distribution, may obtain the same on application to the secretary.

To prove that the monopolists do not monopolize all the agricultural talent, the *Aylesbury News* mentions the singular fact that on Wednesday last, at the annual meeting of the Tring Agricultural Association, the prize of a silver cup to the occupier of the best cultivated farm was awarded to a Mr. Daw, a stanch Free-Trader, the tenant and relative of Roger Lee, Esq., one of the warmest advocates for Free Trade, and most unflinching of our adherents. It is certainly something in our favour that the farm adjudged to be the best cultivated among the clever farmers of Hertfordshire should be the property of a member of the Anti-Corn-Law League.

On Saturday week 1500 copies of Earl Spencer's speech, delivered at the mayor's dinner, Northampton, in favour of Free Trade, were distributed amongst the agriculturists and farmers attending Doncaster market.

IRELAND AS SHE IS IN 1843.

WRITTEN FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION.

Chapter IX.

The persecution of J—— R—— by the Landlord, reported from the Brief of the Counsellor who pleaded for plaintiff.—The verdict.—A letter from J—— R—— to a gentleman in London.

The persecution of J—— R—— has been incidentally alluded to in preceding chapters. The following is the case as put in the brief from which counsel pleaded at the trial of the suit which he brought against the landlord at the assizes in July, 1843. This brief was fully substantiated by evidence at the trial.

"Case.

"The plaintiff in this case is a farmer, and resides at B—— C——, in the county of Kilkenny, as tenant to the defendant. Plaintiff was also an extensive road-contractor.

"The defendant is a gentleman possessed of an estate in the neighbourhood of B—— B——, in the county of Kilkenny, producing a rental of about £2000 annually, and is celebrated for harsh and oppressive conduct towards his tenantry.

"This action has been brought to recover compensation from the defendant for having caused the plaintiff to be imprisoned under the following circumstances:

"In the early part of 1840, J—— S——, Esq., barrister-at-law, brother of the defendant, intended building a mansion-house at B—— B——, upon a portion of the estate of his brother, and for that purpose employed the plaintiff to purchase timber and slates in Ross, in the county of Wexford, which the plaintiff did, and had them conveyed to the site where Mr. S—— intended to erect the mansion-house.

"At this time the defendant was in Cork, at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. J—— C——, and, upon his return, refused to allow his brother to build the mansion-house; in consequence of which Mr. J—— S—— gave to the plaintiff R—— a portion of the timber and slates, of the value of £10, for which the plaintiff passed his I. O. U. to Mr. J—— S——. The residue of the timber and slates was taken by the defendant, and converted to his own use; for the recovery of which Mr. J—— S—— afterwards took some proceedings, which are now pending against the defendant.

"On the 17th day of December, 1841, a civil bill was issued, and afterwards served upon the plaintiff, *purporting to be at the suit of Mr. J—— S——*, as it will subsequently appear, without any authority from him for the purpose.

"County of Kilkenny, and division of Kilkenny, to wit.

"J—— S——, of No. —, D——street, in the city of Dublin, Esq., plaintiff.

"J—— R——, of B—— C——, in the county of Kilkenny, farmer, defendant.

"By the Assistant Barrister at the sessions for said county.

"The defendant is hereby required personally to appear before the said Assistant Barrister, at Callan, in said county, on the 10th day day of January next, to answer the plaintiff's bill in an action for the sum of twenty pounds sterling, due for timber and slates *sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendant*, commencing in the month of January, 1841, and ending March, 1841, which sum defendant promised to pay; and other twenty pounds sterling due on the foot of an account stated and settled by and between plaintiff and defendant in the month of March, 1841, which sum defendant promised to pay; or, in default thereof, the said Assistant Barrister shall proceed as to justice shall appertain. Dated this 17th day of December, 1841. Signed, on behalf of the plaintiff, M—— H——.

"To this civil bill the defendant took defence by his attorney, Mr. L——; but he was decreed for the sum of £10, with 6s. 11d. costs, notwithstanding his attorney having stated (he was so instructed, and made it part of his defence) that Mr. H—— had no authority whatever from Mr. J—— S—— to proceed with the action."

It would appear by this that, though the jury (or the assistant barrister) believed that Mr. R—— S—— was acting by his brother's authority, they did not believe his allegation as to the worth of the slates and timber. They declared £10 to be the value of the articles. No doubt, if £40 had been decreed for, the ruin of R—— would have seemed in the eyes of his landlord a surer object. There is a considerable difference between £10 and £40; but those who fraudulently prosecuted for the one sum thought there could be no harm in making a farther stretch—no harm, in fact, in pursuing R—— for slates and timber which R—— S—— had *himself taken*, and for which his brother James was prosecuting him!

The decree was put in execution on the 29th of January, while R—— was in the town of Kilkenny; and, unfortunately, he listened to the advice of those who alleged it to be illegal. He ran away from the officers.

On the 5th February he was again arrested and conveyed to gaol. On the 5th April following he was liberated from gaol, as far as the decree went, by the Insolvent Court; but his personal rescue from the officers stood against him. For his appearance to be tried on this charge he gave bail. When the trial for the rescue came on, says the *brief*, "J—— H——, clerk to Mr. H——, attorney, was examined as one of the witnesses for the prosecution. He stated that Mr. R—— S—— (the landlord of R——), the brother of Counsellor J—— S——, gave directions to him to issue a process against R——; and had shown him two letters which he alleged were from his *mother*, authorizing him to proceed for the sum of £10 for slates sold and delivered to the traverser R——, the proceedings to be taken either in her own name or in that of Mr. J—— S——, whom Mr. R—— S—— alleged was of unsound mind.

"Counsellor J—— S—— was examined for the defence, and proved that Mr. H——, the attorney, had no authority to take proceedings against R——, *who is the last man he would proceed against, and that, if he did, Mr. H—— was the last man he would employ.*

"The jury found R—— guilty of the rescue, but not of the assault charged, with a strong recommendation to mercy; and the Recorder, Counsellor Bracken, discharged him forthwith."

Previous to being heard in the Insolvent Court, R—— was served with a notice, signed "M—— H——, attorney," stating that his discharge would be opposed by Mr. J—— S——. "This notice is in the handwriting of Mr. H——'s clerk," says the brief. And, "Mr. J—— S—— having himself appeared personally, and declared that he never gave any authority whatsoever in issuing a process, in obtaining the civil bill decree against R——, nor for his arrest, and that R—— was the last man he would think of having arrested, *the notice of opposition was produced to him, but he disavowed having given any authority for the purpose.*"

The brief subsequently sets forth that—

"The plaintiff cannot suggest any reason why the defendant has pursued him with such relentless persecution, but probably from a desire to drive plaintiff to the necessity of surrendering to him his lands; from which, if he succeeded in driving him out, he would receive a considerable fine from the incoming tenant for a new lease."

The attorney who drew up the brief might have added, "and an increase of rent." As it is, this document proceeds to say—"But the plaintiff's is not a singular case. Since the defendant came into possession of his estate, his conduct towards all his tenants has been marked with the most oppressive and tyrannical acts. * * * There is not a more oppressed and distressed tenantry anywhere. If an unfortunate tenant is not prepared with his rent on the day it falls due, it not unfrequently happens that seven or eight bailiffs are sent to his or her miserable cabin the day following, to drive the tenant to destruction and beggary. He writes letters without limitation, boasting of these acts; and has adopted the petty tyranny of *distraining different articles at different times, which might have been all distrained together for the one rent.* For instance, in this case of R——, he made five distresses between the 4th March and latter end of June, 1842, for £23, the half-year's rent, due 25th March, 1842—namely, 4th April, a large heap of dung, and one cart."

We here beg the recollection of the reader to the fact that R——, at this time, was in prison, and had been so since 5th February; that his contract for the roads, and all his business, were unperformed; that he had no means of meeting his rent-day. And, again, that to seize a large heap of dung, and the cart that would carry dung to the field about to be planted with potatoes, was the surest means of making the ensuing crop a poor one; the surest means of ruining R——, and starving his family. The same thing was done that same spring with P—— R——; the landlord, in both cases, taking the dung to his own farm-yard. The brief continues:—

"13th April—A few trifling articles of furniture.

"30th—A plough and harrow.

"19th May—Three cows, mare and foal.

"29th June. Three horses; one cock of hay.

"All these notices are in the handwriting of, and signed by, plaintiff. But it is only a trifling instance of the vicious persecution which he inflicts on his tenantry, hoping to ruin them by the expenses. He is a * * * *. It would be a considerate man's pride to make them comfortable and happy; but he has made them the most wretched people on the face of the earth. One of his boasts is, 'I will conquer them as Nero conquered Rome.' A better description of himself and them could not be given than that indicated in this expression."

It would be a useless extension of this narrative to give the evidence in proof of the foregoing statements, seeing that a verdict for R—— shows the statements to have been proved, were it not that the witnesses know more of the case and of the landlord's conduct than is here set forth. Mr. J—— C—— proved that defendant, Mr. R—— S——, gave him directions to have the process issued in the first instance against R—— in the name of J—— S—— for the slates and timber; that J—— S—— took proceedings against R—— for the residue of the slates; that for three years he has known them to be on the worst of terms; that J—— S—— gave directions that R—— should get the timber and slates; that defendant, R—— S——, made several declarations, in conversation with witness, that he'd forfeit his existence or turn R—— out of the land and break him; that he also on several occasions used the words, "I'll ruin him!" that when R—— was taking the slates he was stopped by the landlord, R—— S——; and that R—— wrote to Dublin to J—— S——, and got a letter back authorising him to take the timber and slates; that R—— S——, the landlord, then

said to R——, "I'll make you pay dear for that!" Was sent by R — S—— to get process issued against R — in J——S —'s name. Was afterwards sent to Dublin to get J—— S — to acknowledge the proceedings. Dined with him; and after dinner broached the subject. J—— S — said it was against his wish that R—— was prosecuted; and that he would play the devil with H——, the attorney, for using his name, no matter who gave him directions. Said that he had received a letter from Mr. L——, R —'s attorney, stating that proceedings had been taken against R——, but that he believed it to be a hoax: never could have believed it to be true. J—— S — also told witness that R—— had always been a confidential man in the family, and he never intended to seek payment from him for the timber and slates. R — used the materials in building a barn on his farm. Was present in H——'s house when the bailiffs came and complained of the rescue. R—— S—— was present, and gave them money on account: said if they'd prosecute R—— for the rescue he'd pay them well.

The evidence of M —— D—— is thus set down:—"Was steward one year and a half for defendant, R—— S——, and very much in his confidence. Also acted in the same capacity for his brother, J—— S——, in his lifetime. R—— got the slates and timber from witness by J—— S——'s order. When witness had given the timber, defendant, R—— S——, prevented him giving the slates. That J—— sent to have the slates given to R——. That plaintiff stated to witness, after the slates and timber had been given to R——, that he had received a letter from his mother, who was then in his confidence, reprimanding him for his treatment of the tenantry, and particularly of R——, who was always a trustworthy man in the family; and saying that he, defendant R — S——, was 'pulling his father's bones out of the grave.' Defendant said it was R—— who had done this; and added, 'I'll cant him [sell him off] and recant him; and, damn me, if I'll leave a beast with him. I'll break him out of the land.' And he frequently said he'd transport R——, or any man else that would be against him."

The case was tried at the Kilkenny assizes on the 28th of July, 1843. The judge gave the defendant a severe rebuke in summing up to the jury. The jury gave a verdict for plaintiff £100 damages. And the audience in the court-house (says the *Kilkenny Journal*) gave vent to their loud applause on hearing the verdict.

Mr. S —— has appealed against this verdict; and, as a matter of course, R—— has not got the award of £100. But, even if the landlord had paid it, R —— has mortgaged it in raising money to defend himself, and in getting a portion of his land sown in 1843 with a crop. Moreover, if this had been all paid to R—— it would have barely amounted to the actual loss which he sustained in hard cash, laid out, and not again received, in his contract for the roads. On that point the following is the evidence on the trial:—

"S—— C——, Esq., county surveyor, proved that plaintiff whilst in gaol lost his contract; that the amount was stopped and placed to the credit of the barony." That is, the payment for work done, for work half done, as well as for work not done at the time of R —— being thrown into gaol, was stopped, because the contract was not completed. The £100 damages does not cover all R —'s losses, to say nothing of making him and his family amends for their sufferings. Yet, even insufficient as it is, it does not come his way.

The following are extracts from a letter to a gentleman in London:—

"B—— C——, near B—— B——,
"4th December, 1843.

* * * *

"I hand you a statement of my case with my landlord. I hold a farm of 29 acres, 2 roods, and 10 perches, at the yearly rent of £1 12s., late currency, payable on every 25th of March and 29th of September. And for some reason unknown to me, I am made the poorest farmer in Ireland by the severity of my landlord, lawsuits," &c.

* * * *

[He here goes over the seizures already spoken of, and his troubles up to 1843.]

"He had me served with a law process out of the superior courts for rent due 25th of March, 1843. He commenced this proceeding the 1st of April, 1843. He seized on the 7th of October, 1843; and on the 20th of October, 1843, he also seized and sold my property of every description for £25 0s. ½d., not even leaving me one potato for myself, wife, and six children, the eldest of whom is only twelve years of age. He has left me in a miserable state, and the property he sold was worth at least £65. Now, I am unable to buy seed wheat to sow my land, and which is owing to all my crop being sold by my landlord. And I am sued by the labourers for their wages before the magistrates at petty sessions. So late as last Saturday I was summoned, and immediately decreed. And there is scarcely a petty sessions' day at Kilkenny but I am summoned by Mr. S—— under the pretext of having charges against me; but he is defeated every day. But he is not to be stopped by any failure. And I am sure he ought to give up harassing me after his failure at last assizes, when he prosecuted me for a conspiracy to shoot him; but I was acquitted; and he had my servant-man found guilty, who was transported; and after the assizes, the person who prosecuted for Mr. S—— came forward and had his declaration written fully exculpating me and my servant-man from the charge, and that he was obliged to give false evidence against myself and my servant-man at the assizes. But though he went to several magistrates, none of them would take his declaration."

* * * *

[This was enclosed in the letter. It is a singular document; and whether its allegations be true or false, it is illustrative of Ireland as she now is. But, from collateral evidence—from other persons and evidence produced at the assizes by the Crown—we know some of its allegations to be true, namely, that witnesses are put in prison, and there trained for the pending trials. The document will be printed hereafter.]

The letter continues:—

"And I had a civil suit against Mr. S—— at last assizes, when I got a verdict for £100 and costs; but this he is making every effort to upset, and it is not decided in court as yet [the appeal from the verdict is here meant]; costs are nothing to him. Now, from the way I am persecuted, I am in the utmost possible penury. I hope to hear from you in a few days, and that you may be able to send me a remittance, if possible, to relieve me. Now, all depends on you. If I do not hear from you shortly, I cannot sow a crop this year, and then, of course, Mr. S—— will eject me for non-payment of rent, which I hope you will prevent. And I assure you the above statement can be verified on oath if you require it. Waiting for your kind answer,

"I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,
"J—— R— ."

In relation to the request for pecuniary assistance, it is necessary to observe that this is made because the gentleman to whom the letter is addressed had, to the extent of a very limited ability, assisted some of the others whom this landlord's persecution had plunged into misery. Perhaps, seeing them as he did in such a deplorable state of suffering,—prostrated by persecution such as he never believed a human being capable of inflicting—suffering under the heavy blows inflicted by that savage human being, and the no less barbarous laws which such an evil-minded man wielded as a scorpion whip,—coming suddenly, I say, on such scenes of misery—on creatures so helpless themselves and unhelped by others—he may, from an impulsive feeling, have done that for one which makes others think he can assist all. But this is utterly beyond his power, whatever his inclination might be. He allows the matter to be alluded to here, in order to explain R——'s letter; and that is printed in the hope that some of those who are able, as well as willing, will be induced to step forward in this great emergency, and by assisting such a man to keep possession of his land, which is but moderately rented, give a blow to the terrible iniquity that has brought him and his family to what they are.

TRAVELS OF ADAM BROWN.

A Scotch Farmer in Search of an English Farm.

SEVENTH LETTER.

[This letter was omitted in its proper place; it was written previous to Mr. Brown's visit to Wiltshire. In this he has something to say on the comparative merits of English and Scotch cooking. He also speaks of Miss Mitford and "Our Village" in Berkshire; of the English and Scottish Sundays; of the causes which deteriorate the morality of the English labourers; and concludes with a notice of Mr. Walter and the *Times* newspaper.]

LONDON (where I was staying before).

MY DEAR COUSIN ANDREW,—I got your letter giving us an account of Falkirk tryst, for which I thank you. Mary is to send you the natural history of English apple dumplings; and also of roast goose with the right kind of stuffing. She says they do those things better here than she ever did them or saw them done in Scotland. I agree with her; but she also says, and I agree with her there too, that they have no notion whatever of the way to make kail. You would laugh to see what bleary broo they make in England, and call it broth and soup; that is, you would laugh if you did not depend on it for a dinner.

I was coming along one of the London streets, this day eight days I think it was; Mary was with me, and we were speaking of how tired we were of the dinners we had gotten—roasted flesh for everlasting, and never no kail. So we saw in the window of a hotel, a first-rate sort of place it seemed, a ticket with several things mentioned, and among the rest "mutton broth."

"Mutton broth," says I. "O, I would like some good mutton broth," says Mary. "Well then," says I, "let us go in." So we went in, and told the man that waited to give us some mutton broth. He did not keep us long before he brought us two basinfuls of something, but it was absolutely nothing but hot water a little discoloured. It might have been mere dish-washings for anything we could see. There was a bit of thyme in them, like a sprig of heather, and that was all; not a morsel of greens nor cabbage, nor a bit of turnip nor carrot, and not a grain of barley. "What!" says I to the man, "do you call these broth?" "Yes, Sir," he answered. "Then," says I, "you may take them away again; I was never used to sup wishy-washy broo of that kind."

Whereupon he said in the politest way possible—and all the English waiters are so polite, that one cannot turn ill-natured at them, no matter how one may be disposed to find fault—he said, as politely as could be, "Would you choose soup instead of broth? Gravy soup, ox-tail, or mock-turtle?" "Perhaps we will," says I, "but what is the difference between soup and broth? In my country we call broth, soup; and soup, broth; and we sometimes call both of them kail; and sometimes we call kail cockaleekie. But let us have some of your soup, and let us try what they are made of."

"Which will you take, Sir?" he says again, as politely as before. "Do you choose gravy, ox-tail, or mock-turtle?" "We shall have no mock-turtle," say I; "we have had mock mutton broth, and I do not think much of them; but you may bring us whatever you think is best of the soup kind; only let them be genuine." So, he says again, "Gravy or ox-tail will you take?" And I says to Mary, "I think them made of the ox-tail should not be amiss, if there be anything worth while in them to thicken them." And he brought us ox-tail soup accordingly. But they were nothing but a sort of hash. I told him we did not think much of the soup, although we had supped them; and I asked what they made of gravy were. He brought a basinful to let us see; but they were as thin as the mutton broth, not a particle of turnips nor greens nor barley in them.

So, Andrew, you will see that, however grand a place London is, and however rich England is, they cannot make kail of any kind that are worth supping; but I am bound to say that they beat us out and out at all the nick-nacks of a dinner—the dumplings, and the pies, and the like. Their way of roasting flesh I like very well, only it is left rather raw in the heart. But they are so very kind and polite, that they will cut from any part of the outside, where it is well roasted, to please us, if they get the least inkling that we do not like the half-raw parts.

You would be surprised, Andrew, to see what great quantities of fish come to London; they are sold in shops by men called fishmongers, and every dinner that has any pretensions to gentility is partly made up of fish. The greens and turnips, and all the vegetables, are sold in shops also, by men who are called green-grocers. But the most extraordinary thing to be seen in London, in connection with eating, are the dinners carried along the streets on a Sunday. The piece of flesh is put in an earthenware dish, like one of your milk dishes; or, sometimes, it is put in a flat tin dish, and potatoes, or some sort of thin pudding stuff, are put beneath the flesh, and this is taken to a baker's. The bakers' shops are very numerous about London, and each will have twenty or thirty, and occasionally as many as fifty dinners, in the oven. The people who take them to the baker's get each a ticket, with a number, which they take with them when they go for the dish. A corresponding ticket has been fastened to it by the baker, and thus each party get their own; but sometimes there are ludicrous and melancholy mistakes made. Sometimes the mistakes are wilfully roguish. Three-halfpence or two-pence are paid for each dish; and thus some bakers make a good addition to their ordinary business by the dinners.

The public-houses are opened for the first time on Sunday at one o'clock; at which hour beer in pewter pots and in jugs and cans is being carried about in every direction, from the public to the private houses. At this time, also, the dinners are carried from the bakehouses to the people who are to eat them, and the scene becomes exceedingly comic to a stranger. Windows are thrown up, and people who are waiting for their dinner look out to see if it is coming. Children climb up on chairs and look out, and clap their hands, and cry "Oh! see, there it comes!"

In my last, which gave some account of my visit to Berkshire, I promised to resume the subject, and to say something of "Our Village" and Miss Mitford, whose charming volumes you recollect we read two or three years ago. Also I mentioned Bearwood, and John Walter, Esq.

There is nothing remarkable about either place; but the personages are noticeable, and they are respectively associated in my mind with the habits, customs, and condition of the English rural population. Of this population it is my desire to be informed correctly; and I know it is your wish, as it is mine, that I should communicate to you by letter the information which I gather by observation.

"Our Village" is hardly entitled to be so called in regard of its extent. It is comprised of between twenty and thirty houses, scattered on each side of that road which, you will see by the map, runs from Reading to Basingstoke. It is three miles from Reading; and, though descriptively poetical in the pages of its fair chronicler, it bears the hard matter-of-fact name of Three-Mile-Cross.

Though we see that Miss Mitford beautifies her village and its inhabitants, we still feel, in reading, that we read real life. And when we are there, though it is by no means so lovely as in our imagination, we are unable to say that it differs from what it is in the pages of her book. The "tall, lean house," and the smithy, and the wheelwright's shop, the latter with the daubs of red and blue paint on the door, are exactly as she describes them. So is every other house, her own not excepted. How, then, is it we see such a difference—that we see everything so tame and prosaic when we leave the book and look at the place itself? The cause is this. In the book we see everything with Miss Mitford's eyes. We are, for the moment, like her, affectionate, partial, and enthusiastic; looking only at the bright side of mankind, and the flowery side of the hedgerows. But when we look with our own eyes, we see all that she has depicted, and something more. The first thing I saw, on my approach, was a crowd of poor people round the door of a public-house, some of whom were on crutches, some of whom sat on the roadside because they could not stand, and others stood leaning against the wall; none of them wearing the appearance of people who had been drinking, nor who could at any time afford to drink. I asked what they were, and was told they were parish paupers, and that they were waiting on the relieving-officer, who was giving those who got out-door relief their little pittance, and examining into the necessities of others who were to go before the board of guardians to apply for admission into the workhouse.

You will remember the grand cricket match in which the credit of the village was so much at stake, and in which the authoress is enthusiastically interested. The young blacksmith who disappointed them so, by going to see his sweetheart in another parish, instead of coming to uphold the credit of his own village at cricket, is now landlord of the public-house where the paupers were standing, and he is overseer, or relieving-officer of the poor. He is now a middle-aged man, but an athletic, clever fellow, realizing entirely our ideas of the cricket hero of "Our Village."

He is married; and who do you think is his wife? Not the one who drew him from the cricket match by the letter which is so ungraciously published in the book, and is so absurdly ill-spelt by the writer. Who then, of all the interesting heroines of "Our Village," do you think "Jem" the blacksmith has got for a wife? Why, none other but that picture of innocence and affection, the shoemaker's lovely daughter.

Miss Mitford's house is so accurately described in her sketches that I needed no telling as to which was it. The flowers without the window-glass and within; the brief retirement of the house a few paces from the road; and the "tall, lean house" near by; with the stable-yard and gate, at once remind the visitor that he has seen them in the descriptive sketches of the village.

Miss Mitford's father died lately. He was an aged man, above eighty I am told. He had been a medical gentleman in his earlier days, and up to the time of his death was a county magistrate, familiarly and widely known as Dr. Mitford. His daughter was an only child, and had long been the sole member of his family, her mother dying when she was young. Her devotion to her father, up to the hour of his death, was more than usually strong and affectionate. * * * * * You will recol-

lest that we looked on Miss Mitford's volumes as exemplifying features in English society which we in Scotland were wholly unacquainted with. The playing of cricket on Sunday afternoons was one of them. I am told that after coming from church, and dining, Dr. Mitford and his daughter journeyed to the common, about half-a-mile off, got a couple of chairs, and there sat down, watching with intense interest for several hours the various games and competitors that celebrated the Sunday afternoon and evening. In Scotland we consider such games a desecration of the Lord's-day; but in all the southern and western counties of England such Sunday pastime is quite common.

It is at the present time a question of great interest, independent of its religious bearings. Let us ask whether a severe observance of outward religious conformity, together with the solemn thoughts engendered by religious observances with us, make our labourers happier and more contented with their condition of life, than they would be if they left behind them, and again looked forward to, a joyous pastime when at their daily labour? Let us ask what influence the joyous and the solemn Sundays have severally on the morals of the people? What the morals of the people have to do with the value of agricultural property; and how far a moral people, as our Lothian hinds are, raise the value of land by protecting and preserving its produce; while those of the south of England are at continual war with property and its owners?

You will probably suppose that, in putting such queries into such an arrangement, I am, in accordance with my partiality for the Scotch church and creed and religious customs, about to decide in favour of those to the condemnation of the English Sunday cricketers. But I am not. Religiously viewed, you will not need to be told what side I incline to. But as regards the influence of the one Sunday and of the other on the moral character, and through the moral character on the tractableness of the population and the safety of property, I believe the cricket playing of the one, and the no-cricket playing of the other, have but a very remote influence on the moral character of the people, if any at all.

While we see the lads of "Our Village" on the common, on a Sunday evening, bowling and stopping, and running and shouting, we know they are not engaged in a religious exercise. A stranger passing along the highway can see that; but the same stranger, when he passes along one of our highways and sees that our hinds are all within doors, or, if without, that they are sitting gravely on the ditch-bank, or the trees which the carpenter has laid up against the wall, must not think that because they are not at cricket or football they are at religion. A thousand to one they are speculating on next Friday's market; or how many pecks of meal the oats will give a boll; on the merits of a cow or a horse, or the coming crop of potatoes.

That our Lothian hinds take more interest in church questions than the Berkshire ploughmen is true; but church government is their subject of discussion, and they discuss that because the constitution of their church recognises their voice less or more, as they may be communicants or not, churchmen or dissenters. On the other hand, the Berkshire ploughman has just as much to do with the secrets of the Privy Council as with the government of the English church. It never occurred to him that he had anything to do with the church. He lifts his hat to the clergyman, says amen as a parrot would to the church prayers, shouts when the fox-hounds and the fox, and the parson of the parish after them, scamper through the meadows; or, mayhap, he gives a full round curse to the parson, and all other magistrates, when the reverend gentleman sentences him and some half-dozen poachers to the treadmill; but beyond this the Berkshire ploughman takes no note of, nor feels any interest in, the clergy or the church. He cannot read, or, if he can, his reading is never on church history. But the Scotch hind can read; and of all reading he is most versant with church history and religious controversy. And from whence is his interest in such subjects? It is from the fact that he is a member of a church that recognises him as one of its constituent elements. If, therefore, the religious reputation of the Scotch hinds is to have anything to do with their superior character as ploughmen, I say it is not that they are more solemn and less worldly on the Lord's day, for they are not; but that they have a popular church and some education; and that this enables them to find intellectual recreation where the English peasant finds none.

But, from what I see and read and hear in England, I trace the difference between the Scotch and the English labourers to other causes than any question of religion whatever. I have only brought religion forward, because most writers have done so when comparing the Scottish and the English peasantry. I set it entirely aside as regards the influence it may be supposed to have on their social wellbeing, and the more especially when I see so many other causes actively at work to produce the results erroneously attributed to a difference in religion.

First. There is the superabundance of population in the rural districts of England, which makes full and constant employment unattainable to more than one-half of the adult population. This, again, produces poachers and thieves and paupers, and subverts, in all its victims, the social virtue and comfort of a family fireside.

Second. The superabundance of population arises from various causes, the chief of which has been the old English poor-law, which induced people, for the sake of a parish settlement, to remain in their native village to get relief as paupers, rather than seek employment in distant towns and counties as workmen independent of parish pay.

Third. Another cause of the English labourer's inferior condition, through superabundance of numbers, has been caused by the utter subversion of his independence, he being paid as a pauper though working as an able and indispensable farm servant; he being paid, not according to his capacity as a workman, but according to his necessities as a pauper; he being paid less if unmarried than if married, less without a family than if with a family; he being thus induced by the bounty of the poor law to make himself a pauper as early in life as possible; and when a pauper, as helpless and burdensome as he could contrive to be. Thus in every way losing his independence, and turning his back on those wholesome rules of social economy which produce that social comfort at the peasant's own fireside, without which good morality is impracticable.

Fourth. Another cause of the superabundance of the English rural population has been the delusive Corn Law, which has acted in several ways to produce results so pernicious to the peasantry. It has restricted our manufacturing power, and thereby made the migration of the rural population to the towns much less than it would have been. It has made the farmers rely on promised prices never realized, by which they have been subject to panics and disappointments, and therefore unable to employ a sufficiency of men on their farms with the requisite foresight and regularity. It has made the farmers more dependent on the landlords than they should be, and the landlords more eager to control the farmers in order to keep up Parliamentary influence, and thereby Parliamentary prices. And to perpetuate and make this control practicable, the landlords have made the farmers tenants-at-will. And as such the farmers have been, and ever will be, unable to employ a sufficiency of labour and capital in the proper cultivation of their land. Over many miles of country, to be numbered only by hundreds in length and breadth, the land would yield a double increase if double the labourers and four times the capital were employed on it that now are. Thus, in addition to all the foregoing calamities, the produce of the land is scarcer, and, being scarcer, is dearer, while the labourer has less money to purchase that portion of it which is his food.

There are other contingent circumstances which operate against the morality and respectability of the English labourers. Want of employment prompts them to infringe the game laws, and the rigorous administration of those laws makes the offenders acquainted with prisons and the vices learned there. They associate on returning to liberty with other idlers, some of whom may be voluntary, but many of whom are unable to obtain employment; and all of them, hungry with nothing to do, learn from the liberated prisoner that even in gaol their stomachs are better filled than in their own houses.

Their inability to read makes them seek amusement anywhere but in intellectual recreation. Their inability to understand when they hear anything read makes them the victims of the most fatal prejudices. They congregate in and around the beershops to pass the time, even though penniless; and there the prejudices of their class feed and increase on ignorance. Incendiary fires, and other outrages on property, are the result. Increased taxes for insurance, for the maintenance of prisons and rural police, are added to the farmer's ordinary burdens. The landlord cannot let his land at its just value, because men, such as myself for instance, will not sink capital on it amid such a population; and the owner at last pays an enormous penalty for having this ignorant and unemployed, this depraved and dangerous, population on his estate.

You will, of course, see the *Times* newspaper as usual. You know its poor-law politics were always a mystery to us, we being unacquainted with the peculiar condition of the poor in England. I have never been able to understand whether it would restore the old poor law with all its defects, or whether it only condemns the practices of the new law which it considers to be defects. I believe there are many cruel hardships inflicted under the new law, but I shall perhaps recur to them in a letter to-morrow, if I have time to write one. I have promised you some account of the residence and reputation of John Walter, Esq., whose connexion with the *Times* makes him an interesting personage; and whose connexion with Berkshire, and opposition to the new poor law, point him out as an immediate subject of my correspondence with you. But all I can say in this letter, already too long, is, that if the sympathy for the poor, and the benevolence of the *Times*, be as real as are those excellent qualities in the person of Mr. Walter, it is a paper well deserving its position as prime minister of the world of literature.

I might have added two or three more sheets to this packet, and gone into this subject of the poor law at once; but we are invited to pass this night, and see a great coursing match to-morrow, near Epsom, in Surrey, and the coach we go by is within half an hour of starting. If I see anything remarkable about Epsom, or anything peculiar in English coursing, I shall let you know.

Mary desires me to say she has got a new beaver and a shawl, the latter of the same pattern as one worn by the Queen last week, when out in her carriage.

Yours, faithfully,

ADAM BROWN.

AGRICULTURE.

CATTLE SHOWS AND FARMERS' CLUBS.

Useful as the meeting of agricultural societies have lately proved in some places, nothing can be more interested than the purposes for which most of them have been formed and are supported. In most cases they have been established under the patronage and to maintain the influence of a great landlord or of a clique of landlords in the locality. They are often, as in Somersetshire, under the especial protection and guidance of the monopolist county members, who there assemble their adherents, and give, or try to give the political tone to the tenant-farmers. Previously to 1841, and the general election of that year, the societies were openly used for advocating the maintenance of the corn monopoly; now they have suddenly become non-political. That is, everything which is unpleasant to the landlord ear is to be carefully excluded. Thus in many places, as in Hertfordshire, the question of leases is political, and is tabooed accordingly; and in all of them the subject which is exciting every farmer's attention, and quailing every monopolist landlord's heart, is peremptorily forbidden. They talk about the improvement of stock, they descant on the benefits of draining and permanently ameliorating the soil by manures and dressings, they urge the use of new and approved implements, they preach the fullest employment of labourers at the best possible wages, but they rigidly exclude the discussion of that question which must be settled before any of these improvements—valuable and necessary as we admit them to be—can in practice come into general use. Moreover, no one could be aware, by anything which falls from the landlords, that such a thing as rent exists. The words Rent, Corn Laws, and Free Trade are not to be breathed at these meetings. The squires were not so mealy-mouthed three years ago. Whence comes this change? The explanation is one over which it is essential every tenant-farmer should well ponder; the political party to which the landlords chiefly belong is established in power, their own purpose has been served, and their only object now is to prevent their tenants from fully considering the Free-Trade question, and the scarcely less tender topics, game and leases. The skill with which the squires contrive to talk by the half-hour together without saying anything about the subjects with which their minds and the minds of their auditors are exclusively occupied, does more credit to their ingenuity than to their candour; proves their heads are better than their hearts. In nearly every instance where anything useful is said at an agricultural meeting, it proceeds from a tenant-farmer. In most districts there are a few men of capital, spirit, and enterprise, who take a pleasure in the exhibition of their stock, and from these men the landlords have within the last eight months heard not a few home truths. But the great portion of the attendants at these meetings consist of squires and and little gentlefolks, who are delighted to hobnob with "my lord" and the county members in the face of the farmers, who, perhaps, do not usually exhibit any great degree of respect for the gentility of this supplemental aristocracy. Then there are clergymen, beneficed and expectant—those grateful for past and these for future favours; naval and military officers, active and passive; lawyers, land-agents, auctioneers, land-bailiffs, and other nameless hangers-on of the landed gentry; political adherents; the tradesmen who serve the "great house;" and lastly, a certain number of dependent farmers, whose presence is as much expected at these gatherings as at the rent-table. Here we have the composition of the majority of the parties at the *Agricultural Society* dinners. The great body of the independent tenantry of the district keep aloof. They either regard them as "humbug," or, like the Devonshire yeoman, as affording "the landlords the means of diving into their tenants affairs," and increasing his rent, if he should appear to be making a living profit.

And, notwithstanding the laboured eulogies with which the grandees invariably urge the objects of the association, no one can read the reports of such meetings without detecting symptoms of constitutional weakness, of their forced and artificial existence. Most of them are prefaced with lamentations at the deficiency of funds, and those present are besought to procure new subscribers; not unfrequently the society is only relieved from debt and rescued from extinction by a whip amongst the squires; a munificent subscriber is almost deified; beyond his subscription, every landlord of any mark offers his own peculiar prize to foster his own pet production; and the subscriptions are always in arrear. In a word, everything denotes the unnatural means by which these societies are kept on foot: there is little spontaneous, at all events amongst the tenant-farmers, in the support afforded them. They are in fact landlords' clubs to catch farmers; they are not really farmers' clubs. A farmers' club, when established and conducted solely by tenant-farmers, from which landlords are practically if not expressly excluded, is, and may be made, a very useful institution. So may a district agricultural show be made the means of enabling farmers to compare their stock and their systems with the stock and systems of others at a distance, though such a show, to be useful, should embrace a very wide circle; for it must not be forgotten that markets and fairs really afford the farmer a practical and business-like means of testing the value of his stock and his produce. For our own part we have learnt more at one fair than at twenty cattle shows: there the price offered by the dealers marks the decision of judges from whom there is no appeal, and who cannot be partial or mistaken. There is the test of profitable feeding, there the best evidence of skilful breeding. Societies doubtless may be useful, but they must have a wide basis and be well managed; they must not be landlord ridden, they must be strictly directed to the improvement of husbandry and the investigation of *all the causes* which retard its advancement. All the questions which bear on agriculture should form especial subjects of discussion; local and party politics ought to be excluded unless they directly affect agriculture, then they ought to be dealt with. What purpose can such shows as that of *Glastonbury* (Somerset) serve, where one speaker said "There was no disguise in the matter, for their show of fat cattle had become an absurdity," except for the self-glorification or more sinister purpose of political landowners. Even the Royal Agricultural Society of England—in many respects a useful association—shows a sign of unnatural growth in the fact that its subscriptions, to the amount of £5000, are in arrear. Men do not forget to pay their yearly 20s. for an object in which they feel a deep interest. Such being the state and objects of these societies, we deem it right to place them in their true character before the farmers and the public; as advocates of Free Trade we have every reason to

rejoice in their multiplicatiou; for, in spite of the squires, every meeting becomes incidentally an Anti-Corn-Law lecture. This arises from the circumstance that, move whichever way he may, the intelligent farmer finds himself hampered and injured by the restrictive system, of which the Corn Laws form the corner-stone. Despite of frowning squires, these truths will come out.

A GENUINE MONOPOLIST.

At the half-yearly audit of the Marquis of Salisbury, at Hatfield, which took place last week,—and at which it was the subject of remark, *that scarcely half the tenants attended*,—his Lordship addressed them for three quarters of an hour on the present aspect of the times. Now, as the Marquis is a bitter monopolist, a preserver of game, one who binds his tenants by the most burthensome restrictions, and grants no leases;—in fact, the very exemplar of a monopolist, semi-feudal landlord;—we had some curiosity to learn the topics of which the oration consisted.

We find that his lordship put a bold face upon the matter, and roundly declared that the Corn Laws formed *exclusively a tenants' question*, that it was *not a landlords' question at all;* propositions it must have required no slight degree of hardihood to maintain, even before his own dependent tenants. But then, showing practically that he did not expect his tenants to believe such outrageous assertions, he distinctly told them that, come what would, he should make no abatements of rent; that they had contracted to pay the existing rents, and that, as he granted no leases, any of his tenants who were dissatisfied could quit their farms by giving six months' notice. Here we have a beautiful illustration of the *advantages* of "mutual confidence" tenures. A change is anticipated which,—rigtly or wrongly,—landlords and tenants suppose will entirely alter the condition of the farmer; and the half-ruined dupes of the game-preserver of Hatfield are coolly told that, if dissatisfied with the enforcement of contracts made under a mistake, they may leave their farms. What sort of an option this is, the following passage from the letter of Mr. Shaw Lefevre (the Speaker of the House of Commons) to his constituents, in the year 1836, will make abundantly plain. "It has generally been supposed that excessive rents" [and Lord Salisbury takes as certain that in the event of a repeal of the Corn Laws his rents must become excessive] "are only injurious to tenants under lease; but a moment's reflection will show that a *tenant-at-will, who, owing to a fall in prices, cannot realize the same amount for his stock as when he entered upon his farm, is quite as dependent upon his landlord as a tenant on lease*, and he will rather submit to the payment of too high a rent, in the hope of a recurrence of high prices, than hazard the loss of a considerable portion of his capital by a sale." Now, this the Marquis of Salisbury well understands, and he thinks by broadly telling his dependent tenantry that, "happen what may you shall pay the uttermost farthing—that he would not abate an atom of his pound of flesh—that he can induce them to stick by him and his brother landlords in opposing Free Trade. He induces a belief that there must be a great fall in prices, and he presents to his tenants the alternative of losing "a considerable portion of their capital by sales," or of paying it to the landlord "in the hope of a recurrence of high prices." The boldness of this manœuvre is somewhat more conspicuous than its honesty. This really explains how the Corn Laws have enabled the landlords to plunder their yearly tenants. Rents are fixed according to the act of parliament price, and when such price is obtained the tenant is no better off than he expected to be always; but when prices fell below the act of parliament price, he "submits to the payment of too high a rent, in the hope of a recurrence of high prices:" and thus the landlord gets his monopoly rent for two years out of four, *from the capital of the farmer*. We do not say, we do not believe, that there would be any such fall of prices from Free Trade as the monopolist landowners pretend; but prices would be natural and steady, and the farmers would only pay rents according to actual prices. Now, half their time the rents come out of their capital. If they would secure themselves against this evil, they must join heart and hand in demanding an absolutely Free Trade in Corn.

MONOPOLIST EVIDENCE AGAINST MONOPOLY.

The Essex landlorls and land-agents have got together a few farmers to form a society for the dissemination of cheap tracts in *favour of monopoly*, and they hope the landowners and farmers at large will subscribe liberally towards that object. We say without irony, "We wish they may get" the utmost sum their most sanguine hopes may promise, for such a society would be a most useful auxiliary to the *League*. Like the conflicts of advocates in courts of justice, such a society, could it really be established—a most improbable hypothesis—combating the arguments of the Free-Traders, would bring the questions to a point, and assist that eventually accurate judge—the public—to form a speedy and a just conclusion; we have no fear of the result. In truth, some of the most conclusive evidence against the Corn Laws we meet with is to be found in the writings and speeches of the monopolists themselves. This is indeed only a proof that truth will out, though ever so studiously concealed. Take, for instance, the following agricultural report of the *Berkshire Chronicle*, a furious monopolist organ:—

"We know the renting-farmers, at the present time, are generally in a most deplorable state, and many of them, as it were, *are struggling for existence, and can scarcely make a sufficiency of their produce to pay their labour, rates, taxes, and other regular expenses;* but there *is rent, tithes, and Christmas bills to be met*, and how this is to be done we cannot conceive."

Now this is the state of things under a law passed, as the squires allege, for the "protection" of the tenant-farmer, when not a bushel of foreign grain can be imported—the duty being absolutely prohibitory! This result of landlord "protection," reminds of an instance of another kind of protection which lately came under our notice. Going with a friend to look at a farm for which he was in treaty, we saw spacious and well-arranged buildings in a deplorable state of dilapidation; a beautiful and naturally fertile tract of land, with ditches and water-courses filled up and diverted, grass growing on the arable and weeds on the pasture land, hedges spreading in rank luxuriance, and the whole rapidly passing into that mixture of wood and morass in which it existed some centuries ago; and we inquired with some interest what was the cause of such a lamentable waste of property? "Oh," says our friend, "it has been for twenty years under the 'protection' of the Court of Chancery." And this is the sort of protection landlords have afforded to their tenants by the Corn Laws.

Again, the *Morning Herald*, speaking of the supply of tallow, says:—

"Necessity, which is the *parent of invention, is also the stimulator of enterprise*. The depression of agricultural as well as trading industry in New South Wales had led, according to late advices, among other schemes for bettering the condition of affairs, *to projects for turning sheep farms to account in the production of tallow*. The extent to which the experiments were carried has already materially affected, by reducing, the prices of tallow."

Why cannot the British farmer turn tallow to some account? Why is necessity with him *not* the parent of invention and enterprise? Solely because he has no security of tenure which could justify any system of farming but that of farming from hand to mouth.

A correspondent of the *Mark-lane Express*, in a long letter, urgently advocates "protection" to agriculture, calls upon farmers to petition, and, in so doing, says:—

"The opening of another parliamentary session is fast approaching. The Leaguers are prepared with the munitions of instant warfare. Their 'tons of tracts' are dispersed in flights more multitudinous than the locust-swarms of Egypt; *and wherever they alight they leave their marks of devastation on the healthy freshness of the public mind*. Their false arguments, though a thousand times refuted, *create a doubt, and indifference will supervene. This has been the experience of many a farmer*. But from this apathy it is the duty of all who have the needful influence, to arouse him; to inspire him with a sense of his present jeopardy; and to spur him into action. Let us, therefore, learn how invaluable is the passing hour. Let us be prepared to meet the foe on the threshold of the senate at the moment its doors shall be thrown open to our representatives. LET US PETITION!"

What an admission of the power of simple truth is here made. Wherever the tracts alight they leave their marks on the "healthy freshness," which means the ignorant prejudices of the public mind; they create doubts, and induce apathy in the farmer's mind towards those unjust laws, for the maintenance of which he moved heaven and earth at the election of 1841. And to whom is he to petition! Why, to his own pledged representatives, who have thrown him and their own pledges overboard, the moment the exigencies of their party interests made such *trivial* sacrifices necessary. Can the "Leaguers" say anything more decisively condemnatory of the system and its supporters than are to be found in the above passages from the written arguments of the monopolists?

WE'LL BE DUPES NO LONGER.

Amongst the signs of the times is the fact that the tenant-farmers are beginning to act in public upon the opinion now almost universal amongst them, that they have been made the dupes of the landlords long enough. They are everywhere setting up for themselves, and the "soft sawder" of fluent squires has of late had marvellous little effect upon the hard-headed yeomen, who are led by feelings of restlessness and uncertainty to attend agricultural meetings.

A notable instance of this sort presents itself in the recent meeting held at Totness, in Devonshire, for the purpose of establishing an *Agricultural Association for South Devon*.

"The meeting consisted of a few of the neighbouring landowners and clergy, with some leading farmers of the district. *Several of the most influential of the latter, and of the agriculturists of the neighbourhood, appeared opposed to the project*, on grounds which will be seen in the report of the proceedings. Among those present were Stanley Carey, Esq., — Mallock, Esq., — Belfield, Esq., — Champernowne, Esq., — Studdy, Esq.; J. Clarke, Esq., High Sheriff; Rev. Messrs. Allen, Swete, and Johnson; Dr. Barry; P. and — Moysey, — Phillips, T. Michelmore, Charles Michelmore, James Elliott, John Harris, William Harris (of Aller), Charles Edwards, John Skinner, Richard Watson, — Bowden, — Thuell, and — White, Esqrs.

A squire, Mr. Stanley Carey, was of course voted into the chair.

Mr. Belfield introduced the subject with the usual topics. He referred to the ready access to the metropolitan markets which improvement in the means of communication had given to the producers of South Devon; to the reputed backwardness of Devonshire farming, and the great advantages such associations as that proposed to be established had afforded to agriculture. On these, and similar generalities, he relied for inducing those present to establish the association. He said:—

"*There were differences of opinion as to the degree of support likely to be given*. He had been in communication *with landowners;* he held in his hand six or seven letters, and he would briefly say that, with one exception, *he had met with universal and unqualified approbation of the project*."

Of course the approbation of the landowners is "universal and unqualified," for they are hugging the notion that, by urging their tenants to become good farmers, reductions of rent will be avoided. And the speaker betrayed how much he partook of the "demoralizing influence" exercised by landlords on farmers when he observed:—

"He did say, when landowners would come forward to unite with them, *the opportunity should not be lost*."

As if the landowners ever do come forward except when they are sure to obtain four-fifths of the advantages of any object for which they and the tenant-farmers co-operate.

Mr. Cornish seconded the resolution to form a society, and in so doing dwelt upon the merits of the South Devon cattle and sheep, and urged attention to their improvement. He said:—

"As these were times of agricultural depression—*a mere puff, however, which he hoped would soon blow over*—he thought it especially right to commence this work, and hoped there would not be one dissentient voice among them."

It is all very well for squires, or the creatures of squires, to talk of the existing depression of tenant-farmers as "a mere puff," and with some well-turned sentences on the advantages of improved husbandry to try to persuade them that "it will soon blow over;" but that tale has been told too often. Farmers believe it no longer. On the contrary, many of them are disposed to indulge in those gloomy views of the future which the landlords have hitherto preached as the means of frightening the farmers from a calm consideration of the Free-Trade question. After touching on the rewards to labourers, and inferring that many labourers were discharged from their employments "in the short days," which called forth a contradiction from a farmer present, he said—

"He would go to the next branch of the subject—the general advancement of agriculture—it was a bright theme. At the last meeting at which he had the honour of attending in that room, some gentlemen talked of a lecture being delivered to diffuse among them the knowledge of chemistry, philosophy, and things of that sort. His opinion was, that the only effective principle on which agriculture could be promoted—

"Mr. Hopping: *By dropping the rents 25 per cent.* ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.)

"Mr. Cornish would like to talk to that gentleman; but did not know who he was.

"Mr. Hopping: My name is Hopping. ('*Well done, Hopping; that is the best speech—I'll warrant it.*' *Cheers.*)

"Mr. Cornish could not say he had not anticipated some observations of that kind; but hoped they would come more courteously, and in a more decorous manner. It did no credit to a man to stand against the chimney, popping down his head when called on, and saying, 'My name is Hopping.' But they were talking of the subject of agriculture, *and any diversion from that subject, in talking of reduction of rents, was a departure from the business of the meeting*."

To be sure it was a departure from the business of the meeting to talk of "reduction of rents." Its object was just the other way. But the farmers were too much for the speaker, for, according to the local reporter, it soon became difficult "to catch his arguments, the word rent having excited much feeling in the lower part of the room;" when—

"The Chairman said to Mr. Hopping: I think you deviated from the argument. I do not think *we are met here to discuss the question of rents*.

"Mr. Cornish did not wish to blink any question. He was quite ready to give that answer in which he thought they would concur. If Mr. Hopping would show that if he had been reduced 25 per cent. *he would have spent it all in the improvement of agriculture, he would have made out a case.* ('Hear, hear,' *and disapprobation.*) Then he would have some claims on his landlord. But if his estate had turned out to be worth twenty-five per cent. beyond his contract, *would he go to his landlord, as a liberal man, and say he was ready to advance the rent?* (Hear). He granted this distinction: the landlord, generally speaking, was able to have commiseration with his tenants, *though he could not get it from the tenants in return, if the estate gave an increased profit*.

"Mr. Hopping: I am a landowner, and do not rent.

"Mr. Cornish: Perhaps, if Mr. Hopping does not rent, he might have an estate out at rent, which alters the case with him. *Gentlemen, I have no more to say.* I believe this project will lead to the advancement of agriculture. (Hear.) He concluded by moving the resolution."

In this passage we have a fallacy commonly used by the landlords, viz., that if prices rise, tenants won't volunteer more rent, and therefore when prices fall, landlords cannot be expected to reduce rents. This might be all very well if the terms of the bargain had been fair and equal, but are they so? Has not the tenant been induced by a landlord-made law to promise a rent founded upon the expectation of higher prices than he actually obtains? Is he not constantly subjected to the screw of competition? Is he not by the want of a lease absolutely precluded from farming in the most profitable manner? After the Duke of Somerset's steward had bestowed some vague eulogies on such societies, the Rev. C. Johnson complained of the "backwardness with which the farmers came forward," and in endeavouring to defend the landlords against the imputations of sinister motives in forming these associations, offered a very striking illustration of the way in which the farmers regarded that part of the subject. He said:—

"The landlords ought not to be suspected, in aiding and abetting an association of this kind, of having sinister motives. (*Cheers and disapprobation.*) He knew it had been though that landlords were ready to avail themselves of such associations, on account of the opportunity it afforded them for diving into their tenants' affairs, and opening their eyes. (Hear.) An instance of this occurred to him at a recent ploughing-match, where he met a respectable agriculturist whom he well knew, and asked him if he was going to it. He said no, "Why?" Because he did not approve of such things. This why produced another why. And the man gave a reason why. Suppose he sent a plough and man, with two superior horses, the landlord at once would say, '*This man is doing too well on my estate,' and increase the rent.*'" (Hear.)

Now, no man can venture to say there is not much colour for such suspicions. Neither were the farmers willing to listen to lectures on improvement with quite their usual apathy; for Mr. Phillips was much interrupted, when he said,—

"He would merely advert to one subject not adverted to by any gentleman present. They had seen an advertisement with with respect to draining. (A voice, 'We shall be pretty well drained before long.' Cheers, clamour, and laughter.) He begged to assure gentlemen present, that he was not going to give a lecture on draining; though he would say, *if proper attention were given to draining*—(*Interruption.*) ('*Take care they don't drain the pockets of the tenant.*')"

But the most strenuous opponent was Mr. Watson, of whom the first speaker had said,—

"He could only say that his friend, Mr. Watson, was the perfection of a Devonshire farmer. He would do justice to every man—Mr. Watson's farm was a pattern farm—Mr. Watson, he was sure, would pardon him when he knew what was said in his absence—the Lothians of Scotland never produced a better."

Now, Mr. Watson, who afterwards came into the room, seems to be an advocate of protection. He feels strongly that farmers have been induced to promise higher rents in consequence of the Corn Laws than they would have otherwise done; and with such opinions he fairly enough calls on landlords to redeem their pledge to the farmers, by securing higher prices through legislative enactments.

They not doing this, and being utterly unable to do so, he loudly calls for a reduction of rents.

"Mr. Watson said his only object in objecting to his name being inserted was, that he thought the association which had been formed *was not of much service to renting farmers.* It might be asked, 'Why does Watson, a large renting farmer, not allow his name to be on the committee?' (Hear.) If it would give protection to their interests, *some legislative measure to secure prices equal to rents*, he should most gladly give it; but he asked, had they not within the last two years been regularly robbed of 25 per cent., and on what was left, had the income tax to pay? *(Great cheering.) Thus he was led to think that these gentlemen coming forward to improve agriculture, without giving some measure of protection, was a mere bubble.*"

This is the demand which will soon become universal upon landlords; and as "protection" they cannot give, inasmuch as they cannot "secure prices equal to rents," as they promised to do, they must adapt their rents to the altered scale of prices. Let them hear Mr. Watson.

"He had no objection to the improvement of agriculture: quite the reverse. All he had to say was this—such institutions were not going the right way to protect the renting farmers. He had heard what these institutions were doing for the farmers of England, *but, amid all they had heard coming from them, they had never heard one little word—that was* RENT. (GREAT CHEERING.) He wished gentlemen and landowners would consider the situation of the renting farmer. He could not at the present prices meet the landlord. That was why he objected to the institution; it did not go the right way to work. He wanted such legislative enactment as would enable them to meet the landlords, and enable the landlords to say to a man who did his best, 'you are an honest farmer, and I will meet you.' (*Great cheering.*) But he heard none of that. Was ever such a thing known as *that a tenant, owing every shilling he possessed for rent, should be called on to improve his land.* How could he do it? It was impossible."

Neither could the tenant improve under existing tenures:—

"But before he was asked to improve his land, he (Mr. Watson) said, *give him a better holding;* do not let advantage be taken of that improvement. *It was impossible that any man, without he had a little extra capital, could talk of draining land. How could he embark his capital without security, that he would be able to remain long enough to see the return?*"

Here we quickly come upon one of the main grievances of English farmers, insecure tenures. And in answer to a charge of introducing politics, Mr. Watson said:—

"He did not mean to introduce Whig, Tory, or Radical politics, *but only to see such measures discussed as chiefly affected existing contracts between landlord and tenant.*"

Afterwards Mr. Helmore said:—

"As to what had fallen from Mr. Cornish with respect to rents—if a man made a contract with his landlord, he thought he ought not to be bound to the letter, when circumstances had changed. As a practical farmer, *he thought they ought to state facts, and express their opinions in public.* He was ready to go into figures to show that *no man renting an estate taken at average prices a short time ago, could possibly make a return.*"

Here we have the most direct and practical evidence of injury the Corn Laws, and the fluctuating prices they cause have inflicted upon the tenant-farmers. But farmers are beginning to understand the subject; and not a few of the speeches at agricultural clubs tell the landlords in terms scarcely to be mistaken, that the tenant-farmers of England ARE THEIR DUPES NO LONGER.

HINTS FROM AGRICULTURISTS.

MONOPOLY NOT ALWAYS PROFIT. In the review of the corn-trade of the *Mark-lane Express* of the past week, we meet with these passages:—

"Our own millers have, however, from time to time, taken small quantities for mixing, principally good Baltic red and Danzig, the lower descriptions having been quite neglected.

* * * * * * * *

The deterioration which the condition of English wheat has lately undergone, owing to the damp state of the atmosphere, and the consequent reduction in prices, must shortly tell on the averages; and in a few weeks we shall probably see the duty at the maximum point."

Here we find the low price of wheat arising from the inferior quality of our home-grown corn operating to raise the duties, and so completely to exclude foreign corn, some portions of which may be wanted for mixing with our own damp corn. Thus, a great injury is inflicted on our customers, the consumers, without the slightest gain to the producers of grain. Can the narrowest selfishness long continue to maintain such a system? But for past experience we, should have said it is impossible.

AN OWER TALE TALE.—The following is taken from the letter of a correspondent of the *Mark-lane Express*, and it speaks the universal opinion of farmers:—

"There is another crying evil, which has been slightly touched on by some of your correspondents—that is, game. Is it to be endured that a respectable yeomanry will be denied the right of killing the vermin on their farms, I mean rabbits and hares? Can it be supposed in these enlightened times, that a man of good property will take a farm and be denied those privileges? *My feelings were roused this day on passing over a farm, where a keeper and half a dozen of his associates, of the lowest grade, were hallooing and shouting, to the great annoyance of the respectable tenant, who was not allowed even to kill a rabbit.* I say, then do away with the expense of gamekeepers, the annoyance of the farmer, and let him and his sons kill the vermin on the farm; and if any landlord refuses to do that, let him keep the farm in his own hands."

Now, farmers may doubt about leases, or differ as to Corn Laws, but on one topic there is a general consent amongst them. They one and all abhor, detest, and abjure game and the Game Laws.

EFFECTS OF FAMINE.—Formerly Lincolnshire produced little but oats, now wheat is its great produce.

"As a considerable portion of the weekly supply of the metropolis *has of late been drawn from the coast of Lincolnshire*, the fluctuations in prices at the principal markets in that direction have more or less influence on quotations at Mark-lane." *Mark-lane Express.*

How has this change been effected? Chiefly by dressing the fen land heavily with clay, which, at a cost of about 54s. an acre, converts very bad into very good land; and as Mr. Pusey, in an excellent article of the "Journal of the English Agricultural Society," asks—Why, then, are not these improvements universally carried out upon every acre of suitable land, and furnishes the following answer:—"This is a difficult question to answer. *In some degree none of us carry out all that is in our power; but want of capital, or* WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE TENURE OF FARMS, are, I suppose, the two principal causes of this omission." Why is this able agriculturist found in the ranks of the monopolists? We fear there is no other explanation to be given but that of the poet,

"He to party gives up what was meant for mankind."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1843.

N.B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
Scio cui Confido, Manchester	£2	2	0
A Friend, per Wm. Wood	0	5	0
Alexander Ireland, 2, London-road, do.	3	2	0
— Hague, 5, Bridge-street, do.	1	0	0
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Samuel Gill, 25, New Richmond, do., do.	0	2	6
James Barnett, Pendleton, Manchester	0	5	0
Small Sums in Salford, do.	0	4	0
James Hanagan, Green-gate, Salford, do.	0	2	6
John Marsden, carrier, Dale-street, do.	1	1	0
Jas. and Thomas Horner, 27, Hanging-ditch, do.	1	1	0
Robt. Brown, Market-street, do.	1	1	0
George Sutcliffe, 49, Thomas-street, do.	1	0	0
A Friend, per Wm. Bickham, do.	5	0	0
A Friend, per John Cawthra, 13, Hanging-ditch, do.	1	0	0
W. Wright, 79, St. Stephen's-street, Salford, do.	0	5	0
J. Bryden, 4, Byrom-street, do.	1	1	0
James Entwistle, 2, New Cannon street, do.	1	0	0
—— Fleming, 5, New Cannon-street-buildings, do.	0	2	6
A Friend, per Mr. M'Call	1	1	0
Joseph Bowker, 9, Green-street, do.	1	0	0
Collier and Phythian, Whell-street, do.	10	0	0
John Spencer, 10, Mosley-street, do.	20	0	0
James Chorley, 27, Smithy-door, do.	1	1	0
John Whitlow, 78, Deans Gate, do.	0	10	0
Samuel Lowndes, 118, do., do.	1	0	0
Wm. Ward, 172, do., do.	0	2	6
A Conservative	1	0	0
B. C. C., per John Marshall, Manchester	0	10	0
A Friend, per Wm. M'Cartney, do.	1	0	0
Stretford New-road, do.	0	10	0
John M'Kie, 5, Riga street, do.	1	1	0
A Friend to the Cause, per James Aspell	1	0	0
Wm. Houston, 44, Thomas-street, Manchester	1	0	0
David Miller, 1, Rook-street, do.	2	2	0
James Wolfenden, 8, New York-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	1	0
John Taylor, 3, Princess-street, do.	1	0	0
Leach Tweedale and Co., Healey Hall, Rochdale, per S. Heap	100	0	0
Small Sums	0	3	0
John Haworth, Bath House, Infirmary, Manchester	3	0	0
Alfred Binyon, Mayfield, do.	100	0	0
J. Jessop, Stephenson-square, do.	5	0	0
Thomas Sykes, 34, Bloom-street, do.	1	1	0
Dyhrenfurth, Brothers, and Co., 85, High-street, do.	21	0	0
Argenti Sechiari, 11, Aytoun-street, do.	5	0	0
Armitage and Ward, 40, Cannon-street, do.	20	0	0
A Free Trader, per Sir Thomas Potter, do.	30	0	0
Wm. Simpson, Ducie-place, do.	5	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Gray	1	0	0
—— Jones, 1, Newton-terrace, Longsight, Manchester	1	0	0
Luke Parkinson, 165, Oxford-road, do.	1	1	0
Henry O'Neil, 52, Downing-street, do.	0	2	6
Charles Greaves, David-street, do.	1	0	0
George Cheadle, 7, Oxford-road, do.	0	2	6
Robt. Poole, 5 do, do.	0	2	6
James Twisse, 3, do, do.	0	2	6
John Greenhalgh, 39, do., do.	1	1	0
H. E. Jones, 135, do., do.	1	0	0
James Gray, 25, do., do.	0	2	6
J. Clarke, 149, do., do.	0	2	6
George Cooper, 12, do., do.	0	2	6
R. and E. Potter, 10, do., do.	0	5	0
Thomas Marsden, 22, Oldham-street, do.	0	2	6
Robt. Duncan, 7, Grosvenor-street, C.-on-M., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Wm. Phillips, Hyde-road, Ardwick, do.	5	0	0
Thos. Leech, Urmston Cottage, near Stretford, do.	5	0	0
Small Sums, do.	0	9	0
John Mallinson 82, George-street, Hulme, do.	2	0	0
Samuel Greenleaves, 12, Dale-street, do., do.	0	2	6
Stanley Mills Association, Stanley, Gloucestershire, (fourth donation) per George Dangerfield	5	0	0
Newcastle upon-Tyne, per J. D. Weatherley	2	1	6
Thos. Turner, Townhead, Rochdale	25	0	0
Jos. Sugden, Cheetham-street, do.	10	0	0
James Gibson, Drake-street, do.	5	5	0
John Gibson, do., do.	1	0	0
Mrs. Gibson, do., do.	2	2	0
Miss Ann Gibson, do., do.	1	0	0
Miss Emma Gibson, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Southworth, Old Market-place, do.	5	0	0
Mrs. Wm. Cross, Small-bridge, do.	3	0	0
George Ashworth, Holland-street, do.	50	0	0
James Ashworth, do., do.	2	10	0
George L. Ashworth, do., do.	2	10	0
John Turley, Cheetham-street, do.	2	2	0
Levi Lumb and Son, do.	5	0	0
Wm. M. Dunhill, South Parade, do.	1	0	0
Benj. Butterworth, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Chadwick, Drake street, do.	15	0	0
James Booth, Yorkshire-street, do.	30	0	0
Wm. Holt and Son, do.	30	0	0
Thos. B. Stephens, do.	2	2	0
Joseph Sleath, do.	20	0	0
Thos. Robinson, Water-street, do.	3	0	0
Geo. Mansell, Yorkshire-street, do.	2	2	0
Messrs. Bright's Out door Labourers, per S. Fielder, Field House, Rochdale	2	0	0
The Hands of Messrs. Procters, per Thos. Clegg, Field House, Rochdale	1	0	0
The Warehousemen and Wrappers, per Jos. Wood, Field Head, Rochdale	3	0	0
The Weavers of Messrs. John Bright and Brothers, per J. Brierley, Whitworth, New-road, Rochdale	4	0	0
Per Benj. Walsden, Field Head, do.	1	0	0
Robt. Crewdson, Dacca Mill, Fleet-st., Manchester	25	0	0
Wm. Johnson, Hyde-road, Ardwick, do.	1	0	0
John Harland, *Guardian Office*, do.	5	0	0
N. Irving, Browhouses, near Annan, N.B.	2	0	0
H. Davenport, 17, Welcomb-st., Hulme, Manchester	1	0	0
Defeat at Salisbury, per C. O.	0	5	0
Wm. Baxter, Dundee, N.B.	50	0	0
Edwd. Baxter, do., do.	50	0	0
David Baxter, do., do	50	0	0
Wm. G. Baxter, do., do.	50	0	0
John G. Baxter, do, do.	50	0	0
J. and W. Brown, do., do.	20	0	0
John Brown, do., do.	20	0	0
Alex. Pirie and Son, do., do.	10	0	0
T. W. Milne, do, do.	10	0	0
J. Lowson and Son, do., do.	6	0	0
John Sheil, do, do.	5	0	0
David Small, do., do.	5	0	0
Peter Carmichael, do., do.	£5	0	0
Henry Walker, do., do.	5	0	0
J. Walker, do., do.	5	0	0
Nelson and Co.	5	0	0
Alex. Low, do., do.	5	0	0
Thomas Neish, do., do.	5	0	0
Wm. Wallace, do., do.	5	0	0
Jas. Westland, do., do.	2	2	0
W. B. Baxter, do., do.	2	2	0
Moon and Langlands, do., do.	2	2	0
John Mitchell, do, do.	2	2	0
David Kieth, do., do.	2	2	0
Archibald Crichton, do., do.	2	2	0
Henry Blyth, do., do.	2	0	0
Wm. Johnston, do., do.	2	0	0
John Sharp, do., do.	2	0	0
John Moir, do., do.	2	0	0
Henry Smith, do., do.	1	1	0
James Neish, do., do.	2	0	0
G. Nicholl, do., do.	1	1	0
John Ewan, do., do.	1	1	0
Wm. Shaw and Son, do., do.	1	1	0
Joseph Cable, do., do.	1	0	0
Thomas Bell, jun., do., do.	1	1	0
J. Horsburgh, do., do.	1	1	0
Wm. Morris, do., do.	1	1	0
J. Ramsay, do., do.	1	0	0
A Free Trader	1	0	0
A do.,	1	0	0
Alex. Moncur, Dundee, N.B.	1	0	0
E. Urquhart, do., do.	1	0	0
Alex. Lawson, do, do.	1	0	0
P. Dawson, do., do.	1	0	0
R. and D. Russel, do., do.	1	0	0
R. Nicholl, do., do.	1	0	0
George Rough, do, do.	0	10	0
J. Denham, do., do.	0	10	0
Wm. Laing, do., do.	0	10	0
James Mills, do., do.	0	10	0
J. Murray, do., do.	0	7	6
George Scott, do., do.	0	5	0
J. M'Ewan, do, do.	0	5	0
Wm. Middleton, do., do.	0	5	0
D. Croll, do., do.	0	5	0
P. Smith, do., do.	0	5	0
G. J. Smith, do., do.	0	5	0
A. Martin, jun., do.	0	5	0
G. Cumming, do., do.	0	5	0
J. Souter, do., do.	0	5	0
W. Fovar, do., do.	0	5	0
A. P. Reid, do., do.	0	5	0
J. and J. Millar, do., do.	0	5	0
Robertson and Brown, do., do.	0	5	0
W. Millar, do, do.	0	2	6
J. Currie, do., do.	0	2	6
W. Thomson, do., do.	0	2	6
J. Hutchison, do., do.	0	2	6
G. Balsillie, do, do.	0	2	6
D. Anderson, do., do.	0	2	6
J. Millar, do., do.	0	2	6
T. Crook, 8, New Cannon-st.-buildings, Manchester	1	0	0
A Friend	1	1	0
Wm. Strachan, Hilton of Fearn, by Brechin, N.B., per John Gadsby	5	0	0
James Ellison, 26, Arlington-street, Salford	0	2	6
Wm. Brereton, 28, do., do.	0	2	6
Richd. Parry, Irwell-street, do.	1	0	0
Thomas M'Guire, Springfield-lane, do.	5	0	0
Richd. Heyworth, Water, Newchurch, near Rochdale	1	0	0
John Howarth, Shaw Clough, do., do.	1	0	0
James Hall, Whitewell Bottom, do., do.	1	0	0
James Moorhouse, Bridleway, do., do.	1	0	0
Richard Pickup, do., do., do.	0	5	0
James Nuttall, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Woodhead, do., do.	0	5	0
James Ashworth, innkeeper, do., do.	0	5	0
William Bradshaw, Hareholme, do., do.	1	0	0
John Nuttall, Booth-fold, do., do.	0	10	0
John Whittaker, Bridge End, do., do.	1	0	0
George Ashworth, Waterfoot, do., do.	1	0	0
John Ashworth, do., do., do.	1	0	0
James Ashworth, Mill End, do., do.	1	0	0
James Holt, do, do., do.	1	0	0
John Barcroft, Waterfoot, do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Travis, do., do., do.	1	0	0
John Filling, do., do., do.	1	0	0
John Filling, do., do., do.	1	0	0
John Law, do., do.	2	0	0
John Wood, Waterfoot, do., do.	0	7	0
James Duckworth, do., do., do.	0	2	6
Abraham Cropper, Booth-fold, do., do.	0	2	6
Small Sums, do, do.	0	4	0
Sam. Murphy, 18, Mount-st., C.-on-M., Manchester	0	5	0
Sam. Newton, Chowbent, Atherton, near Bolton	20	0	0
C. E. Hanford, Woolas Hill, Pershore	5	0	0
Hebden-bridge, Small Sums, per John Riley	3	15	6
Stanton and Sons' Workpeople at Stafford Mills, near Stroud, per T. D. Hill, 1st subscription	6	17	3
Briggs and Bright, Rochdale	55	0	
W. T. and E. Platt, Hadfield-lodge, Glossop, near Manchester	10	0	0
Thomas Woolfenden, Royton, Oldham	1	0	0
T. Dodd, Chartreux-près-Rouen, Normandy, France	1	0	0
Wm. P. Wakeham, 6, Ebrington-street, Plymouth	1	0	0
John Comfort, Belfast, Ireland	1	0	0
The Workmen of Hy. and Edm. Ashworth, New Edgley Mills, Turton, near Bolton.			
Ralph Reeve	2	0	0
Chr. Thistlethwaite	2	0	0
Benjamin Ashworth	1	0	0
John Ashworth	1	0	0
James Whittaker	1	0	0
William Nordham	1	0	0
Isaac Entwistle	1	0	0
Chr. Mayole	1	0	6
James Thornley	1	0	0
James Andrews	0	2	6
Joseph Cheetham	0	2	6
John Booth	0	2	6
Thomas Fielding	0	2	6
James Entwistle	0	2	6
Daniel Booth	0	2	6
Richard Thornley	0	2	6
William Newhouse	0	2	6
John Hall	0	2	6
James Haworth	0	2	6
Sundry persons, small sums	1	13	6
J. Thomas, 35, Hardman-st., Travis-st., Manchester	0	2	6
John Booth, 33, London-road, do.	0	2	6
Thomas M'Conkey, Charlotte-street, do.	1	1	0
Ashton Hine, Princess-street, Bury, Lancashire	1	1	0
A Friend	1	0	0
Joseph Shimwell, Oxford-street, Manchester	0	5	0
Michael Peacock and Son, St. Mary's-gate, do.	1	0	0
J. L.	1	0	0
Samuel Seed, 29, Brown-street, Manchester	5	0	0
James Holland, King-street, Salford, do	1	0	0
John Watson, 40, Moreton-street, Strangeways, do.	2	0	0
A Friend	1	1	0
J. and W. Nuttall, 73, Cannon-street, Manchester	1	1	0
Thomas Crone, 47, Deansgate, do.	0	5	0
John Crone, 47, do., do.	0	10	0
G. H. Heywood, 59, do., do.	2	2	0
W. W. Kent, 63, do, do.	0	5	0
H. Holme, 69, do., do.	2	2	0
Small sum, do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend	1	0	0
J. and E. Hodgson, 62, King-street Manchester	1	0	0
William Parry, 102, do., do.	1	0	0
Thos. Rigby, 33, North-st., Red-bank, Cheetham, do.	1	0	0
Benjamin Syddall, do.	20	0	0

Name	Remarks	£	s.	d.
Anthony Harvey Carrington, near Nottingham		£20	2	6
Thomas Hunter, Moss side, Hulme, Manchester		50	0	0
Mrs. Ashworth Clegg, 8, St. John-street, do.		5	0	0
Wm. Austin, 79, South Audley-street		5	0	0
Wm. M'Call, 65, King-street, Manchester		10	10	0
Mrs. M'Call, Hyde Vale, Greenwich		10	10	0
John M'Call, do., do.		10	10	0
Miss M'Call, do., do.		5	5	0
Miss Mary Donaldson, Holy Island, Belford, Northumberland		1	0	0
John Walker, Mountville, York		5	0	0
W. D. Saull, 15, Aldersgate-street		1	0	0
W. D. Saull and Co., do.		1	0	0
C. Brewerton, Forest Vale, Sydenham		1	0	0
Mrs. Michie, 13, Trinity-row, Islington		0	5	0
Thomas Pickering, Royston	Per Cowden Clarke.	1	0	0
Geo Rivers Higgins, do.		1	0	0
A Mite towards the mighty result, from M. V. C.		0	2	6
G D		1	0	0
R. Deavin, 3, St. Thomas's-place, near Albany-road, Old Kent-road		1	1	0
Charles Rosser, Blakeney, Gloucestershire		1	0	0
Alex Sealey, Three Horseshoe Inn, Cirencester		1	0	0
George Izat, Kincardine, N.B.		1	0	0
W. Pearson, Low House, Bowness, Westmorland		1	0	0
John Bartlett, Longham, near Wimborne, Dorset		1	0	0
Thomas Giles, Nelson-street, London-road, Leicester		1	0	0
John Deacon, Russell Tavern, do.		1	0	0
T. P. Hull, Belvoir-street, do.		1	0	0
Robert Taylor, 2, Park-place, Monk-gate, York		1	1	0
A Friend, per do.		0	10	0
J. G. Abbott	Gateshead, per G. Crawshay.	1	1	0
J. Hewett		0	5	0
A Free Trader		1	0	0
Wills and Stanworth, ship builders, Poole		1	0	0
H. C. Bardwell and Co., Holborn-hill		10	0	0
John Ball, 24, George-street, Foley-place		0	2	6
Fowler and Swift, 73, St. John street, Clerkenwell		1	0	0
W. Ellis, Champion-hill, per R. D. Cumming		5	0	0
W. E. D. Cumming, Middleton-cottage, Ball's-pond-road		5	0	0
W. Jones, 19, Skinner-street, Snow-hill		1	0	0
William Robinson, Peckham		2	2	0
A Free Trader		0	2	6
A Friend, per Samuel Lucas		1	0	0
H. Ilsley, 82, Theobald's-road		1	1	0
George Philo, Hagbush-lane, Finsbury		0	2	6
James Philo, 12, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell		0	2	6
Mrs. Lawrence, 9, Corporation-lane, Clerkenwell		0	2	6
Joseph Rogers, 11, Clerkenwell-green		0	2	6
Wm. Hutchinson, 2, Upper Rosoman-st., Clerkenwell		0	2	6
J. J. Oliver, 45, New Gloucester-street, Hoxton		0	2	6
C. H. Lattimore (2nd sub.)	Wheathampstead, Herts, per C. H. Lattimore.	1	0	0
Wm. Lattimore		1	0	0
W. A. Hewson		1	0	0
Anne Dalby		1	0	0
Gertrude Mary Dalby		0	5	0
Edward Bruton, sen.		0	10	0
Edward Bruton, jun.		0	10	0
Pro Bono Publico		0	10	0
A Working Man		0	5	0
A Working Man		0	5	0
A Well Wisher		0	10	0
"Come it shall for a'that"		0	5	0
John Pearman		0	5	0
C. Franklin		0	5	0
N. Thrale		1	0	0
John Gregory		0	10	0
Rev. Thomas Gilbert		0	5	0
John Jackson, Deanscale, near Cockermouth		1	1	0
Michael Sheard	Batley, near Dewsbury.	5	0	0
Samuel Burnley		2	0	0
Jacob Burnley		1	0	0
Miss Crick	Maldon, Essex.	0	2	6
Miss Elizabeth M. Crick		0	5	0
Wm. Crick, solicitor		1	0	0
William Watson, jun., tea dealer, 32, Bridge-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne		2	2	0
S. E. Toomer, Preston-court, near Wingham, Kent		1	0	0
For Suppression of Bribery	Newcastle-on-Tyne, per M. Priestman	10	0	0
Joshua Watson, jun., Newgate-street		1	1	0
Wm Wailes, Sandhill		1	0	0
Chas. Bragg, Summer-hill		1	0	0
E. Richardson, 6, Summer-hill-grove		1	0	0
A. M. P., Summerhill		0	10	0
Mary P., do.		0	10	0
M. Priestman, do.		1	0	0
Balance per M. Priestman		4	12	0
Wm. Philips, 4, Military-road, Dover		0	10	0
G. Groves, grocer, High-street, West Bromwich, per Jabez Rubery		1	0	0
Samuel Mills, King-street	Darlaston, near Birmingham, per G. W. Green	2	0	0
Charles Welton, Bell-street		2	0	0
G. W. Green, Church-street		2	0	0
Wm. Carter, Great Croft-street		1	0	0
Jabez Rubery, do.		1	0	0
Richard Bills, Church-street		1	0	0
Chas. Green, jun., do.		1	0	0
Chas. Moore, Pinfold-street		1	0	0
Thos. Cresswell, do.		1	0	0
Thos. Wells, Moxley		1	0	0
S. White, grocer, King-street		0	10	0
Jabez Bill, Pinfold-street		0	10	0
Samuel Meeson, New-street		0	10	0
J. Thompson, King-street		0	5	0
Wm. Parker, do.		0	5	0
James Jones, do		0	5	0
Wm Maddock, do.		0	5	0
Job Wilkes, Bilston-street		0	5	0
Thomas Hughes, do.		0	5	0
An Enemy to Monopoly		0	5	0
W. Arrowsmith, Eldon-street		0	5	0
Samuel Gill, Cock-street		0	5	0
Miss Hemingsley, New-street		0	5	0
Wm. Booth, do.		0	5	0
John Corbett, Pinfold-street		0	5	0
John Grinsell, do.		0	5	0
Alexr. Cotterill, Butcroft		0	5	0
Samuel Rubery, Blockhall		0	5	0
Joseph Yates, do.		0	5	0
Archibald Carter, Pinfold-street		0	4	0
A Fling at Monopoly		0	3	6
Asher Butler, Bell-street		0	3	0
David Bowen, Leys		0	2	6
Jabez Howl, Church-street		0	2	6
Joseph Wood, do.		0	2	6
Richard Harper, do.		0	2	6
Thomas Jackson, Blockhall		0	2	6
Obadiah Howl, do.		0	2	6
Edward Garrett, Pinfold-street		0	2	6
Joseph Yardley, do.		0	2	6
Obadiah Yates, do.		0	2	6
John Griffiths, do.		0	2	6
Enoch Haynes, the Green		0	2	6
Wm. Shingleton, do.		0	2	6
Thomas Wilkes, do.		0	2	6
James Butler, do.		0	2	6
A Friend		0	2	6
John Bruerton, New-street		0	2	6
Wm. Duffield, King-street		0	2	6
Thos. Partridge, Catherine's-cross		0	2	6
Thos. Robinson, do.		0	2	6
John Rubery, Great Croft-street		0	2	6
George Wilkes, do.		0	2	6
A Friend		0	2	6
David's Pebble		0	2	6
Subscriptions under half-a-crown		1	10	6

Name	Remarks	£	s.	d.
J. Blake, Isleworth	Second remittance from Brentford, per W. Hammond	£1	0	0
T. Jennings, 131, Rotherhithe-street		1	0	0
A. Wood, sen.		1	0	0
Jasper Henge		0	2	6
John Thornton		0	2	6
—— Kayes		0	2	6
—— Saunders		0	2	6
—— Burness		0	2	6
John Warne		0	2	6
C. Mann		0	2	6
G. Stephenson, sen.		0	10	0
—— Upjohn		0	5	0
W. Sheldon		0	5	0
W. Skirrer		0	1	0
—— Pearce		0	1	0
James Bridle, timber merchant, Old-street		1	0	0
John How, 21, Newcastle-street, Bethnal Green		1	0	0
Benj. Rawson, 3, Hawley-terrace, Camden-town		2	0	0
Joseph Diggle, Gosport		1	0	0
A few Friends from Chester, per E. Acton		1	0	0
Robert Michell	Truro, per J. Latimer	1	1	0
Edward Michell		1	0	0
A Friend to the Cause		1	0	0
Jeremiah Reynolds		1	0	0
Mrs. Tregelles		1	0	0
H. Williams, Newham		1	0	0
D. Williams		0	2	6
T. Boyle		0	2	6
J. C. Edwards		0	2	6
J. Randall		0	2	6
A Friend		0	2	6
J. C. Isaacs		0	2	6
E. S. Davey		0	2	6
Mr. Dunn		0	2	6
W. Hunt & Sons, Brade's Iron Works, n. Birmingham		1	1	0
S. Gawthorp, 48, Charles-street, Westminster		1	1	0
The Company frequenting the Hope Tavern, Pollard's-row, Bethnal Green, per James Goodwin		1	0	0
Philip Lee, 165, Oxford-street		0	5	0
Charles Stevens, Holywell, Flintshire		1	0	0
Messengers' fee for carriage of an answer from Manchester to London, per Samuel Lees		1	1	0
Wm. Rogers, Horse and Groom, No. 8, John-street, Edgware-road		1	1	0
Thomas Dowling, 24, Panton-street, Haymarket		1	0	0
James Winter, 101, Warner-street, Clerkenwell		1	0	0
—— Pringle, 105, St. Martin's-lane		0	2	6
George Harrison, jun., Frederick-st.	Sunderland, per Edw. Mounsey	1	1	0
John Murray, Market Tavern		1	1	0
William Muschamp, Sunniside		1	1	0
J. Mounsey, jun., District Bank		1	1	0
Joseph Acton, Standishgate	Wigan, per Thos. Acton	50	0	0
Richard Smith, grocer, Market-place		10	0	0
A Friend of the right sort (2nd don.)		10	0	0
James Alexander, Queen-street		5	0	0
Rs. Leigh, solicitor, Standishgate		5	0	0
Thomas Bigham, Queen-street		5	0	0
Robert Waddington, Black Horse		5	0	0
Anti-Monopolist		3	0	0
Mrs. William Johnson		3	0	0
Miss Johnson		2	0	0
Miss Elizabeth Johnson		2	0	0
Miss Ellen Johnson		1	0	0
Miss Alice Johnson		1	0	0
W. Johnson, jun.		1	0	0
William Waddington, Standishgate		2	2	0
John Lea, painter, Chapel-lane		2	0	0
W. Corless, Queen's Head		2	0	0
W. Raincars, druggist, Market place		2	0	0
James M'Muldrow, Queen-street		2	0	0
B. W.		2	0	0
E. Alston, Market-place		2	0	0
James Fairclough, Rodney-street		2	0	0
Caleb Hilton, solicitor		2	0	0
Thomas Collison, pawnbroker		2	0	0
E. H. Barnish, druggist		1	1	0
William Acton, Standishgate		1	1	0
Rev. W. Roaf, do.		1	1	0
Joseph Coop, linendraper, Market-pl.		1	1	0
Mrs. Coop		0	10	6
A Cob for Cobden		1	1	0
R. Christopher, Kirkless, near		1	1	0
Rd. Atherton, provision-dealer		1	0	0
W. F. Brand, Market-place		1	1	0
J. Pendlebury, grocer, &c., Aspull, nr.		1	0	0
Ellis Morris, Haigh Foundry, near		1	0	0
R. and V., do.		1	0	0
Stuart Slaney, do.		1	0	0
Daniel Ainscow, smith, do.		1	0	0
William Melling, do.		1	0	0
Thomas Frost, do.		1	0	0
Wm. Melling, New Lodge, Wigan-lane		1	0	0
Thomas Wall, printer, Market-place		1	0	0
M. Law, Rawdenswood, Todmorden, near Rochdale		1	1	0
W. Marshall, Brook-street	do., do.	1	0	0
W. Foster, Rodwell Head	do., do.	1	1	0
R. L.	do., do.	1	0	0
M. and S. Jackson, Old Shop	do., do.	0	5	0
James Hargreaves	do., do.	0	5	0
James Law, near York Tavern	do., do.	0	2	6
Henry Sutcliffe, Causeywood	do., do.	0	2	6
Mary Taylor, Peckswood	do., do.	0	2	6
John Sutcliffe, Bottoms	do., do.	0	2	6
Francis Swain, do.	do., do.	0	2	6
Samuel Law, Hallroyde	do., do.	0	2	6
James Barker, Square	do., do.	0	3	6
A Free Trader	do., do.	0	2	6
A Free Trader	do., do.	0	2	6
No Monopolist	do., do.	0	2	6
A Radical Free Trader	do., do.	0	2	0
Abraham Crossley, Shade	do., do.	0	2	0
A Workman	do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend	do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend, Firth's-buildings	do., do.	0	2	0
An Old Radical	do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend	do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend	do., do.	0	1	0
J. Dawson	do., do.	0	1	0
James Fielden, Frith's	do., do.	0	2	0
—— Barker	do., do.	0	1	0
A Friend	do., do.	0	1	0
A Child	do., do.	0	0	4
Henry Metcalfe, York-street	do., do.	1	0	0
Joseph Camm, Hanningditch,	do., do.	1	0	0
John Taylor, Peckswood	do., do.	1	0	0
John Butterworth	do., do.	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander M'Clellan	Holmfirth, near Huddersfield. First remittance.	1	0	0
Jonas Beardsell, New Mill, near		1	0	0
Mrs. Moorhouse, Downshutt House		1	0	0
Hezekiah Haigh, Scholes		1	0	0
Jonathan and John Thorp, Stake-lane		1	0	0
James Pollitt, Gully		1	0	0
Joseph Kenyon, Hinchliff Mill		2	0	0
James Carter, do.		1	0	0
Seth Beardsell, Holme		1	0	0
David Armitage, Holme-banks		1	0	0
Andw. and Geo. Mellor, Bridge Mill		1	0	0
Jonathan Greaves, New Mill		0	2	6
Samuel Fawcett, Tottles		0	1	0
Jonas Jubb, Scholes		0	2	6
George Waites, linendraper		0	10	0
John Hargraves, shoemaker		0	5	0
James Haigh, innkeeper		0	5	0
Edwin Oldfield, Hinchliff Mill		0	5	0
John Mellor, Call Well		0	1	0
James Crosland, Royd, Meltham		0	1	0
John Hinchliff, Holme-lane, near		0	5	6
Jabez Beardsell, Holme		0	5	0
John Hinchliff, Bradshaw		0	5	0

Name	Remarks	£	s.	d.
Friends at the King's Head, Museum-street		£1	0	0
Rev. John Pain, Horncastle, Lincolnshire		0	2	6
Edward Doubleday, Epping		1	1	0
George Whiteley, Halifax		20	0	0
George Naylor, do.		20	0	0
Denn son and Son, do.		20	0	0
Robert Eastburn, do.		20	0	0
James Aked and Sons, near do.		20	0	0
Haigh and Smith, do.		15	0	0
W. Ramsbottom and Co., do.		10	10	10
W. Barraclough and Son, do.		10	0	0
Joseph Chappell, do.		10	0	0
William Baldwin, do.		5	0	0
John Tillotson, corndealer, do.		5	5	0
James Davy, do.		5	0	0
Joshua Blakey, do.		5	0	0
W. Illingworth, do.		5	5	0
A Subscriber elsewhere		5	5	0
A Friend		5	0	0
Old Market		5	0	0
George Henderson, do.		5	0	0
James Brierley, do.		4	0	0
A Friend, for Three Sons and Daughter, do.		4	4	0
W. Waddington, do.		3	3	0
Thomas Midgley, do.		3	0	0
G. Gaukroger, Brunswick-street, do.		3	0	0
George Horsfall, do.		2	2	0
Thomas Denton, do.		2	2	0
John Jackson, draper, do.		2	2	0
A. Hurst, Catherine-house, near do.		2	2	0
Thomas Wainhouse, do.		2	2	0
Edmund Priestley, do.		2	2	0
A Friend, do.		2	0	0
Mrs. James Davy, do.		2	0	0
Bethel Naylor, do.		2	0	0
Thomas Moorhouse, do.		2	0	0
Rev. W. Turner, do.		2	0	0
A Lover of Justice, do.		2	2	0
Robert Brooke, do.		2	2	0
Henry Spencer, do.		2	0	0
Matthew Naylor, do.		2	0	0
A Friend, do.		2	0	0
A Lady, do.		2	2	0
Samuel Blagbrough, do.		2	2	0
A Friend, do.		2	0	0
James Wild, Winding-road, do.		1	10	0
William Jennings, do.		1	1	0
Lester House, do.		1	1	1
Richard Davies, do.		1	1	0
A Friend, for his Son, do.		1	1	0
James Bancroft, New-bank, do.		1	0	0
John Stancliffe, Woolshops, do.		1	0	0
One who will never Vote for a Candidate unless he be a Free Trader, do.		1	0	0
James Stead, do.		1	0	0
T. Collinson, do.		1	0	0
S. Asquith, do.		1	0	0
Fair Play and no more Excuses, do.		1	0	0
Samuel Battye, do.		1	1	0
Joseph Garside, do.		1	0	0
Down with Monopoly, do.		1	0	0
Two Working Men, do.		1	1	0
A Downright Repealer, do.		1	0	0
For the League Paper, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Simpson, Broad-street, do.		1	1	0
Two Ladies, do.		1	1	0
S. T. Crook, do.		1	1	0
Charles Howarth, do.		1	1	0
John Hartley, Bedford-street, do.		1	1	0
A Friend, do.		1	0	0
W. M'Clellan, do.		1	0	0
T. W. Nicholson, do.		1	0	0
A Few Shopmates, do.		1	0	0
A Good Wisher to the Good Cause, do.		1	0	0
John Riley, do.		1	0	0
A Father for his Son, do.		1	0	0
A Friend, do.		1	0	0
A Friend, do.		1	0	0
A Friend, do.		1	0	0
Thomas Spencer, do.		1	0	0
Two Ladies, do.		1	1	0
Thackrah Mills, New Bank, do.		1	1	0
A Friend in the Distance, and frequently in the Mist		1	1	0
For my son John, do.		1	1	0
Thomas Pearson, do.		1	1	0
A Friend, do.		1	0	0
A brace of Working Men, do.		1	1	0
A Woolstapler, do.		1	0	0
A determined Enemy to Monopoly, do.		1	1	0
Two Friends, do.		1	0	0
Rev. S. Whitewood, do.		1	0	0
One who would give more if he could afford, do.		1	4	0
A Female Friend, for her Son, do.		0	10	0
Miss Taylor, do.		0	10	6
A Sister, do.		0	10	0
An Odd Fellow, do.		0	10	6
George Rawnsley, Paradise-street, do.		0	10	0
A Scarborough Free Trader, transplanted to Halifax, 5s., and for his Intended, 5s., do.		0	10	0
John Best, at Mr. Davy's, draper, do.		0	5	0
Joseph Naylor, do		0	5	0
Frederick Smith, do.		0	5	0
Thomas Smith, do.		0	5	0
For a Wife, when I get one, do.		0	5	0
One who works hard, do.		0	2	0
John Davy, do.		0	2	6
J. Crabtree, do.		0	2	6
James Roberts, do.		0	2	6
Crabstick, do.		0	2	6
Peter Houlgrave, 11, North-st., Toxteth-park	Liverpool Second Subscription.	1	1	0
William Okell, 17, Paradise-street		2	2	0
Watson Peck, 14, Ranelagh-street		3	0	0
Robt. Richardson, 77, Lord-street		1	0	0
A Conservative Free-Trader		1	0	0
Sarah Taylor, 80, Gilbert-street		1	0	0
H. W.		0	2	6
Daniel Simmins, Cleveland-square		1	0	0
James Seel, 2, Price-street		1	1	0
James Peck, 14, Ranelagh-street		1	0	0
Joseph Peck, do		1	0	0
Two Sons of a Cheshire Farmer		2	2	0
John Holme, 99, Lord street		1	0	0
E. S. Tuton, 62, Lord street		1	0	0
Joseph Sillitoe, 35, St. Anne-street		1	0	0
John Priestley, Adelaide-buildgs., Chapel-st.		20	0	0
Matthew Russell, Woodside		0	2	0
A. R.		25	0	6
Edward Pilcher, 7, North John-street,		1	0	0
D. M'Andrew, 7, do.		5	0	0
James Smith, 19, Seton-street		5	5	0
John J. Hamilton, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight		100	0	0
Wm. Mountfield, Brick-street		5	0	0
F. R. Grote, Church-st., Egremont, Cheshire		5	10	0
Samuel Tomkinson, 7, Exchange Chambers		2	10	0
Christopher Dugdale and Co., 2, Tempest Hey		5	0	0
Wm. McGowan, 65, Byrom-street		0	5	0
Sykes, Schwabe, and Co., Exchange-buildings		20	0	0
Thomas Urquhart, 13, Bold-street		1	1	0
John Maxwell, Much Woolton, near Liverpl.		2	0	0
A Friend		1	1	0
George and J. Hill, 6, Berkely-street		1	1	0
Edward Jones, 87, Duke-street		1	1	0
William Cotter, 12, Park-street		1	0	0
George Bispham, 14, Pitt-street		1	1	0
James Richardson, 11, Rodney-street		1	0	0
A Friend		1	0	0
A. B. C.		0	2	6
Henry Wood, 4, Goree Piazzas		5	0	0
A Friend, per D. M'Clellan, 5, Price's-street		1	0	0

Liverpool Second Subscription.

	£	s.	d.
Peter Macintyre, M.D., Slater-street	£1	1	0
James Macintyre, Washington-street	1	1	0
Louis H. Macintyre, Great George-square	1	1	0
T. R. Estlin, 21, Vauxhall-road	1	1	0
Benjamin Frankland, Oldhall-street	1	1	0
Alfred King, 61, Pembroke place	10	0	0
Richard Munday, Messrs. Boutcher, Mortimore, and Co.'s 19, Brunswick-street,	1	0	0
Thomas Owen, 68, Byrom-street	1	0	0
Edward Brodribb, 29, North John-street	20	0	0
A few Friends, including a Farmer	1	18	6
John Hammond, 8, Adlington-street	0	2	6
Rev. James Martineau, Mason-street, Edgehill	3	0	0
John Samuel, 14, Byrom-street	1	1	0
Henry Danson, 55, Dale-street	1	0	0
John Birkett, 2, Washington-street, Everton	1	1	0
George Birkett, 2, do	1	1	0
Christopher Rawdon, 6, Oldhall-street	100	0	0
William M'George, 70, Lime street	1	0	0
James Burgess, Sir Thomas's-buildings	1	0	0
John Tunnicliffe, 15, Clare street	0	1	0
James Stitt, Son, and Co., 15, Water-street	50	0	0
John Gordon, 22, Water-street	1	1	0
Hugh Craig, 6, King-street	5	0	0
James Ryder, 115, Mount pleasant	50	0	0
G. Williams, Little Woolton, near Liverpool	1	0	0
A. M.	1	0	0
Thomas Harris, 2, Stanhope street	1	1	0
Allan Stone, 14, Price's-street	1	0	0
Isaac Henderson, 6, Price's-street	1	0	0
John Schofield	0	2	6
A Friend, per Mr. Stone, 14, Price's-street	0	2	6
John Burbie, 28, Lord Nelson-street	1	1	0
Miss J. T.	0	5	0
Richard Nicholson, 3, Queen's Dock Piazza	1	0	0
Peter Woodnorth, 22, Mount-pleasant	1	0	0
R. B. Harvey, 28, Cheapside	50	0	0
A Juvenile Free Trader	0	0	6
William Higgins, Messrs. Corrie and Co.'s, 4, Rumford-place	2	0	0
Geo. Bower, 11, George-street (2nd instalment)	0	10	0
Geo. Rawson, 117, Scotland-road	2	0	0
Thomas Baker, Lower Frammere, Cheshire	1	0	0
Thomas Fazakerley, 2, School-lane	0	5	0
G. J. Everest, M.D., 53, St. Anne-street	2	2	0
A. B. C., per Charles Holland	5	0	0
J. P.	0	2	6
B. Crook, 9, Harford street	0	10	0
K. Zimmerman	0	10	0
Thomas Lowe, 10, Prussia-street	0	5	0
L. Golay, Gloucester-street	0	5	0
A Friend	0	2	6
John Chambers, Arley-street	0	5	0
John Ripley, 23, Canning-street	10	0	0
R. J. Houlgrave, 11, High Park-street	1	0	0
Thomas Lloyd, 8, Chester-street	2	0	0
R. Abraham, Stanfield, Crosby, near Liverpool	1	0	0
Christ. Wade, Preeson's row	1	0	0
Thomas Smith, 1, Ranelagh-place	2	0	0
M. M'Eachan, Cooper's row	2	2	0
R. W. Cain, 115, Chatham street	5	0	0
John Woodcock, 58, Upper Pitt-street	1	0	0
Thomas Woodcock, 103, Duke-street	1	0	0
John Taylor Crook, 13, Goree Piazzas	25	0	0
Robert Williamson, 37, Hurst-street	0	2	6
J. P. Logan, 42, Falkner-street	1	0	0
Robert Jones and Sons, 2, Castle-street	10	0	0
Thomas Evans, 7, Park-lane	1	0	0
Wm. Frankland, 34, Sussex-street	0	10	0
James Butler, 62, Dale-street	3	0	0
Tennants, Clow, and Co., 20, Redcross-street	50	0	0
J. W.	10	0	0
Philip Simcock, 5, Oxford-street	1	1	0
E. P.	15	0	0
James Heaton, Breck-road, Everton	1	0	0
F. W.	2	2	0
A Friend, per S. Stitt	1	1	0
William Dodd, Cheapside	5	0	0
Arthur Stephens, 80, Lord-street	0	5	0
Thomas Millar, 78, Chester-street, Birkenhead	2	2	0
Joseph Hughes, 18, Gill-street	1	1	0
Michael M'Divitt, 13, Cable-street	1	0	0
W. M. Bate, 53, Tithebarn street	1	1	0
Thomas Thompson, 12, Church-street	5	0	0
H. Y. Z.	2	2	0
Peter M'Muldrow, 5, Hunter-street	1	1	0
Edward Hampson, 29, Vine-street	0	5	0
George Watson, 27, King street	3	0	0
J. H.	2	0	0
Thomas Blackburn, M.D., 6, Camden street	25	0	0
Baynes, Hodgson and Co., Great Howard-st.	10	0	0
James Logan, 67, Naylor-street	1	1	0
Victor Pontz, 9, Rumford place	100	0	0
Joseph Fernihough, 2, Parr street	2	2	0
J. C. Fernihough, 2, do.	1	1	0
William Roberts, 44, Mill-street	0	5	0
T. Rogers, 8, do.	0	5	0
John Dorning, Wavertree, near Liverpool	1	0	0
James Parker, 14, Cable street	0	10	0
Joshua Hrap, 35, North John-street	10	0	0
W. A.	1	1	0
H. A.	1	1	0
Joseph Hindmarsh, 5, Tarleton-street	1	0	0
William Liversidge, 62, Burlington street	1	1	0
William Richards, 14, Bath-street	1	1	0
H. Haworth, 13, Brownlow hill	0	10	0
William Pitt, 2, Strand-street	0	10	0
John O'Neill, 67, Cable-street	0	2	6
Joseph Ridgway, 34, Everton-village	10	10	0
Anti-Monopolist, per H. J.	0	5	0
David Priest, St. James's-place	1	1	0
Hugh Owen, 51, St. James's-street	0	2	6
George Holden, 7, Blackburn-street	1	1	0
William England, druggist, Huddersfield	5	0	0
A Friend, by John Barlow	1	1	0
L. in Honley, near Huddersfield	1	0	0
A Small Beginning	0	2	6
John Hartley, Huddersfield	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	6
Stephen Weekes, 64, Suffolk-road, in Sheffield	1	0	0
Mary Ann Johnson, Huddersfield	0	5	0
A Friend and Corn-Law Repealer	0	1	0
Wm. Hird, Huddersfield	0	1	0
John Thornton, do	0	1	0
George Briggs, do	0	2	6
William Storer, do	0	0	3
W. B.	0	5	0
A Friend, by John Barlow	0	5	0
Mrs. Raper, Huddersfield	0	5	0
A Teetotaller	0	10	0
W. S. Brook, Huddersfield	1	1	0
A Lady	0	1	0
Chadwick	0	6	0
A Sleeping Draught	0	4	0
Thos. Pitt, King-street, Huddersfield	2	2	0
A Sympathiser, by Thos. Pitt	2	2	0
C. Sykes and Son, Lindley, near Huddersfield	20	0	0
William Newton, do.	0	10	0
George Armitage, fine drawer, Huddersfield	0	5	0
John T. Beggs, do.	0	5	0
H. Buckler, do.	0	10	0
Robt. Keel, at F. Schwann's, do.	5	0	0
Abel Mitchell, do.	0	5	0
Saml. Holroyd, do.	0	5	0
Thomas Beaumont, do.	0	5	0
Henry Lister, do.	0	5	0
Samuel Riley, do.	0	5	0
Henry Sharp, do.	0	5	0
John Wild, do.	0	5	0
John Crosland, do.	0	5	0
A. Bell, do.	£0	1	0
Hy. Brook, do.	0	1	0
Thomas Earnshaw, do.	0	0	3
Thomas Carter, do.	0	1	0
Beaumont Taylor, Moldgreen, near do.	10	0	0
Jos. Walker and Sons, Lindley, near do.	10	0	0
S. C. Kell, at Fr. Schwann's, do.	10	0	0
Miss Kell, do.	2	2	0
A Friend to the Cause, do.	1	0	0
William Haigh, South-street, do.	5	0	0
J. Edw. Schischker, Dyke-end, do.	1	0	0
Charles Weber, Spring-street, do.	1	0	0
Jos. Johnson, Wellington Inn, do.	1	10	0
Mrs. Johnson, do.	0	10	0
Jos. Johnson, jun., do.	0	10	0
Richard Brook, Buxton-road, do.	1	0	0
Jos. Bottomley, Cherry Tree Inn, do.	2	0	0
James Waller, Wool-street, do.	2	0	0
Jos. Turner Sloper, Lockwood, near do.	1	0	0
Jos. Robinson, grocer, do.	1	1	0
Hy. Moor, Crosland Moor, near do.	1	0	0
James Sugden, do., do.	1	0	0
Edw. Harling, do., do.	1	0	0
James Shaw, do., do.	1	0	0
John Mellor, do., do.	1	0	0
John Labrey, Market-place, do.	5	0	0
Thomas Robinson, solicitor, do.	2	2	0
A Tory Friend, do.	0	1	0
Jos. Bower, Paddock, near do.	1	0	0
Hy. Macauley, Upperhead-row, do.	5	0	0
Hy. Edward, Temperance Hotel, do.	1	1	0
James Burnett, Mold-green, near do.	2	2	0
John Hirst, Thomas-street, do.	1	1	0
Hy. Crosswell, do.	1	0	0
John Wale, do.	1	1	0
David Crowthie, do.	1	1	0
Phineas Armitage, do.	2	0	0
M. Haigh, Marsh, near do.	5	0	0
D. S., per Robert Welsh, do.	1	1	0
—— Bowes, draper, do.	1	1	0
John Wilkinson, New-street, do.	1	1	0
L. Walker, do. do.	1	1	0
George Hall, druggist, do.	1	1	0
—— Routledge, draper, do.	0	2	6
John Dyson, Albion-street, do.	1	1	0
Jabez Brook, Waterworks, do.	1	1	0
Jonas Jagger, East Parade, ditto	1	1	0
George Ogley, do.	0	1	0
A Friend	0	1	0
James Warburton, Market-place, do.	1	0	0
—— Murgatroyd, at Cliffe and Bootbroyd's, do.	1	1	0
Thomas Robson, King-street, do.	1	1	0
J. D. Boothroyd, do.	0	10	6
David Marsden, Huddersfield Bank	1	1	0
C. W. Sykes, do., do.	1	1	0
Wm. Hornblower, Huddersfield	3	3	0
John Tattersall, Carr-house, do.	1	0	0
George Broughton, Sheepridge, near do.	0	5	0
George Hopkinson, Deighton, near do.	0	5	0
Walter Lockwood, do.	0	5	0
Simon Tobias, do.	2	0	0
Thomas Nicholson, Lockwood, near do.	0	5	0
J. and T. C. Wrigley, do.	10	0	0
Mrs. Layton, cotton-dyer, do.	0	10	0
Wm. Avison, Crossland Moor, near do.	1	0	0
Wm. Brayshaw, Coach and Horses Inn, Linthwaite, near do.	1	1	0
A Repealer from Paddock, do.	10	0	0
Shott, Eyson, and Co., do.	5	0	0
Thomas England, solicitor, do.	3	3	0
Wm. Shaw and Sons, Golcar, near do.	20	0	0
George Norton, Clayton West, near do.	20	0	0
Richard Wilkinson, at R. Welsh's, do.	1	0	0
Jonathan Quarmby, Clayhouse, Golcar, near do.	2	0	0
Charles Hanson, Priory-place, Doncaster	1	0	0
H. Wilkinson, Manchester-road, Huddersfield	1	1	0
W. S. Thornton, Buxton-road, do.	1	10	0
Harris and Appleton, King-street, do.	1	1	0
W. S., at Isaac Robson's, do., do.	1	0	0
Jos. Bentley, Buxton-road, do.	1	1	0
Andrew Lorimer, Albion-street, do.	1	1	0
Mrs. Lorimer, do. do.	0	10	6
Benj. Crook, currier, Westgate, do.	1	1	0
Jabez Todd, Upperhead-row, do.	1	1	0
Owen Moran, Swallow-street, do.	1	0	0
Jos. Jagger, Roebuck, Manchester-road, do.	1	1	0
Abr. Walker, Upperhead-row, do.	1	1	0
Benj. Thornton, Henry-street, do.	1	1	1
Sarah Walker, Macauley-street, do.	0	2	0
Joseph Mapleston, Engine Bridge, do.	1	0	0
Walter Hirst, King-street, do.	1	1	0
Wm. Norcliffe, Kirkgate, do.	1	1	0
Johnson North, Horseshoe Inn, do.	1	1	0
John Carr, Market place, do.	1	0	0
John Eagleton, Cross Church-street, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Cliffe, Aspley, near do.	1	0	0

Extract from a letter of Captain Duberly, Gaines, St. Neots:—"I have long said that you are right in steering clear of party. I take the LEAGUE from the newsman; but I have never seen any mention of *your* London banker for whose name to cross a draft. Instead of £30 I intended, I shall give you £50 next year."

The following extract from the letter of an agricultural labourer in the south of Devon needs no comments at our hands. The munificent donations made by the wealthy or great are trifles compared with the generous self-devotion of this humble man:—"I am a labouring man, with 9s. per week for the support of a wife and seven children; and I solemnly protest before God, that I would most gladly and willingly go with two meals a day for the next seven years, provided it would enable me to contribute my mite in so righteous a cause as the total abolition of those unrighteous enactments; feeling as I do that it would be far less grievious for me to suffer from the want of food, in my own person, than to witness the direful distress, *occasioned by those unholy and cruel laws*, of my famishing children.

"Therefore, believing the cause which you advocate to be the cause of truth and justice, and consequently the cause of God, as well as the cause of man, I would humbly implore Him 'whose I am and whom I serve' to sanction your proceedings with His approbation, and enable you to prosecute, with all the legal and constitutional powers which you possess, this so righteous and so glorious a cause.

"To Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.

"P.S. I herewith transmit to you the trifling sum of £1 in furtherance of the £100,000, as the only compensation I can make you, *with my numerous family*, for your incessant and untiring exertions on behalf of the labouring population of this great country.

"W. P. W."

Bunowen Castle, Clifden, Ireland.

MY DEAR SIR,—

* * * * * I am a landed proprietor and depend solely on my tenantry for every comfort I possess. It is my opinion that the interests of those persons will not be infringed, (and they grow a good deal of corn) nor my own interests be compromised, by a repeal of the Corn Laws. But even were the former to be the result in a slight degree, and the latter in a greater, still I cannot, as a Christian or as a man, desire to preserve either in their perfect integrity at the expense of depriving my fellow-creatures of a facility to obtain the necessaries of life.

Will you, then, do me the honour to propose me as a member of the Anti-Corn-Law League?

And believe me, my dear Sir,

With respect and esteem, very faithfully yours,

JOHN A. O'NEILL.

To the Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.

Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, Dec. 11, 1843.

DEAR SIR,—To fight the good fight, which, when won, will do more to feed the hungry and clothe the naked than all the efforts of private benevolence, laudable though they be, I will thank you to add my name for one hundred pounds to the list of your contributors to the Great League Fund.

And as "bis dat, qui cito dat," I have this day directed the Liverpool Union Bank to honour your check for the amount.

That Liverpool should have come out so nobly on the occasion is, indeed, worthy of special congratulation.

With ardent wishes for the early attainment of what you are so manfully contending for,

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

JOHN J. HAMILTON,

Of the late Firm of Hamilton, Jackson, and Co., of Liverpool.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"N. F."—We have seen the article in the *John Bull*. During the palmy days of that paper no one noticed it on account of its notorious mendacity; and it now obtains impunity on account of its equally notorious mendicity.

"S. S. W."—The point of the lines is not sufficiently obvious to general readers.

"O. P. Q.'s" Sonnet is under consideration.

"R. G." will be attended to.

"Anglo-Scotus."—A ship freighted with British manufactures has to bear the expense of a double voyage when fiscal laws prohibit the import of the articles which are paid for those manufactures. This uncertainty of imports necessarily raises the expense of exports, and compels the British shipowner to charge a higher freight than would remunerate him if trade were free.

"Hibernus."—We should be very glad to receive an abstract of Professor Lawson's valuable lectures. We are always eager to give currency to the sound principles of economic science, even when they do not directly bear on the great object of our attention.

"G. W. G."—Were we to give insertion to all the cases of special suffering from class-legislation which are sent us, we should require to enlarge our paper at least tenfold.

"A Constant Reader" is too angry with Mr. Thomas Baring; so far from wishing the would-be representative to keep silence, we heartily pray that he may continue his amusing orations—

"And when he next does spout abroad,
May we be there to hear."

"A Leaguer in Stockport."—What is abstractedly right, is not always practicable.

"J. M."—Lord Ashburton is doing all that he can to destroy the reputation of Alexander Baring, as Lord Brougham is that of Henry Brougham. When men are at war with their former selves, it would be a pity to interfere—"the quarrel is a very pretty quarrel as it stands."

"Mr. Charles Enderby."—The principle of Free Trade is universally applicable.

"A Subscriber."—The Bribery Act is not suited to our columns.

"B." will find that the subject has not escaped notice.

"R."—The Mahratta prince, who preferred arbitrary exaction to a fixed revenue of black-mail, had no claim to either. His determination to have "a hand in every man's dish," is a proverbial phrase in India, and finds its parallel in the resolution of the monopolist to have his hand in every man's pocket.

"G. H.'s favour is declined with thanks.

"An Essex Seed-farmer" will find that his suggestions have not been thrown away.

"B. B."—It passes our calculating powers to estimate the value of a "lie." The *Times*, as a great commercial paper, evidently rates falsehood at the highest price of position and type; for Ferrand's falsehood was in large print and leading article, but Brooks's decisive refutation in the smallest type, and most obscure column. The attack on Mr. Cobden, to which he specially refers, had the great merit of being supremely ridiculous, and, to those who love a laugh, its absurdity almost redeemed its falsehood.

"Mr. Tite" shall receive early attention.

"J. A." is thanked.

"The Leaguer of Finsbury" shall receive attention.

"W. L. P."—Declined, with thanks.

Fifteen "Members of the League" will find their hints not thrown away.

"A hearty Leaguer" has anticipated our objections.

To many correspondents in the agricultural districts we have to say generally, that the details sent us of the misery of the agricultural labourers, and of the injustice with which farmers are treated, may hereafter furnish themes for a general article, in which each will find that his information has been made available.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in penny postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The COUNCIL of the LEAGUE, to prevent disappointment, respectfully announce that the AGGREGATE MEETING of the LEAGUE in COVENT GARDEN THEATRE, heretofore held on the last Thursday of each Month, will NOT TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK, as their original agreement with the Proprietors specially reserves the occupancy of the Theatre during the whole of the Christmas Vacation.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, December* 23, 1843.

The cry of destitution is ringing through the metropolis, and advertisements swarm in the newspapers of refuges for the destitute, shelters for the house-

less, and similar establishments, each of which loudly proclaims its own insufficiency, while the press proclaims the insufficiency of them all. The *Times* justly declares it vain to expect that, "by such barriers as these, the progress of want and misery can be finally arrested." Indeed, the local pressure seems to be stimulated. Reports of sleeping-room under cover, and a ration of bread, have passed into the agricultural districts, and brought up competitive candidates from "distant parts of the country." We subjoin the comment on this fact from yesterday's *Times* :—

"What a picture does this present to the mind's eye; Destitution in London! Destitution in the country! The poverty of the country jostling the poverty of the metropolis in its scramble for nightly shelter and morning bread! Men, women, and children wandering wearily to London to snatch the morsel from the jaws of the metropolitan poor! 6681 souls relieved at one asylum in Playhouse-yard, by casual charity, independent of local and poor-law assistance, and this found to be mockingly insufficient! Another rises to co-operate—both still unequal to the weight of indigence—and now a third is created in the west."

And let another, and another, be created, until they mark every point of the compass, what will it avail? Nothing, but to show the folly and wickedness of a system that first pauperises a people, and then affects to combat starvation by almsgiving. With all this appalling mass of misery staring them in the face, two sections of the ruling class are discussing whether the tax on bread should be levied by means of a fixed duty or a sliding scale!

A new charitable society has been recently formed, which includes in its commission the Bishop of London, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, Sir R. Inglis, and Lord Ashley. In its circular is this remarkable sentence:—"Mere liberality in almsgiving, unaccompanied by an endeavour to remove the causes of that destitution which calls it forth, will not answer the requirements of Christian charity."

Most true and undeniable. Stick there, my lords and gentlemen, lay and clerical. Let not this be an "abstract" proposition. Discharge the duty you confess. The League has done its part. You have described our work. These "causes" we have traced, and find them mainly contingent on the taxation of the people's food. Our agitation is a continued endeavour to remove them. Can you, after this, for very shame, continue to afford Monopoly your Parliamentary support, and even to oppose inquiry and investigation?

Whatever be your course, we proceed in ours, and with abundant encouragement. The subscription that hastens the repeal of the Corn Laws will feed and lodge a hundredfold more than all your alms; and will associate the relief, not with beggary, but with honest independence. Your own principle concedes to such endeavour the palm of charity. Our friends in Yorkshire have done much in the last week to win and wear it. We need only mention the names of Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield; and to these we now add Bradford with peculiar satisfaction, not only for having trebled its last year's contribution, and subscribed £1700 in the room during the proceedings, but also because its chairman was an illustration of the extent to which political party is now merged in the growing demand for justice towards the industrious. W. Rand, Esq., is well known as a leading and influential Conservative. He is one of those who think that the diminution of trade, the infliction of wrong, and the production of misery, are not Conservative principles. May the eyes of many Tories soon be opened to the same great truth. We earnestly recommend to our readers the perusal of his admirable speech. It is clear, cogent, and manly. We thank Lord Stanley for the conversion of this gentleman, of which, as our readers will see, his lordship was the unconscious but efficient instrument. What can be said for "protection" after Lord Stanley's showing that adequate capital expended in drainage "would be attended with a larger profit than working all the minerals in the kingdom?" Both protectionists and almsgivers may well learn from Mr. Rand that "there is no protection to industry apart from employing it." That is the best, and the only real help. We cannot, therefore, take Mr. Baring's recommendation in his late condolatory and consolatory speech, to bestow the League fund in donations to paupers. The honesty of the recommendation sorts not with our notions of duty towards the subscribers. But we reserve it for a deadlier blow at pauperism than all the eleemosynary institutions in the country, with their united force a thousand times multiplied, can ever hope to inflict. And as that blow will strike down monopoly also, we do not wonder that Mr. Baring should desire, though at the expense of all trustworthiness, to see the League fund prematurely and inefficiently expended.

SQUARE OF LAND MEASURE.—Land measure varies very materially, not according to the distance, but to the mode of travelling. A mile and a half on foot will be upwards of two miles if you take a cab and don't make a bargain before getting into it. One league is three miles; but there is a league called the Anti-Corn-Law League, which goes such extraordinary lengths that it is impossible to ascertain its limits.—*Punch.*

REVIEW.

Passages in the Life of a Radical. By Samuel Bamford. Published by the author at Blackley, near Manchester.

In our late review of Samuel Bamford's poetry we promised to take an early opportunity of noticing his "Passages in the Life of a Radical;" and the curiosity of many correspondents, excited by the intellectual power and the moral strength which his lyrics display, induces us to fulfil our engagement rather earlier than we originally intended. In these days of sickly sentimentality and effeminate conventionalism, it seems like a restoration to boyhood's happiest hours to meet a work which deserves to be regarded as the Lancashire "Robinson Crusoe," with the additional merit of being a conscientious record of facts. Like De Foe, of whom he has been the unconscious imitator, Bamford sets before us every adventure through which he passed, every scene which he witnessed, and every personage with whom he was brought in contact so truthfully, so vigorously, and so minutely, that we feel as if we were rather reviving remembrances of our own than reading the recollections of another.

To a mind cast originally in one of Nature's favoured poetic moulds, Bamford owes much,—to the self-dependence, formed in early life, he owes more,—but the chief source of his power is his honest love of truth, and his keen perception that the strength of the injustice which oppressed himself and his order, lay, principally if not solely, in the power of falsehood. By a sad abuse of words the moral qualities of "honour and gentility" are associated with the material facts of "being clothed in purple and fine linen, and faring sumptuously every day." How Bamford's body may be clothed we know not, but we do know that it encloses as "pure a soul of honour" as that of Bayard; and whether his fare be sumptuous or moderate, he is "a gentleman of God's own making."

Bamford's lot was cast upon evil times. From the time of Napoleon's flight from Russia to his imprisonment at St. Helena, the influential classes in England were in a state of feverish excitement, which might almost be termed national intoxication. They were like the spendthrift, who, after a long run of ill luck, is taught that the dice have taken a turn, and who then mortgages his estates more deeply than ever, lives for a dozen months in the midst of luxury and enjoyment, but finds at the end that there is a long account to settle, which must cripple all his pleasures for the future.

Those who had involved the nation in war, to avert some imaginary danger which they believed to menace landed property, had pledged themselves to support the war "with their lives and fortunes." They fulfilled the pledge by imposing the support of the war on the lives of the laborious class, and the fortunes of the trading community; and by the increased rent of their lands they contrived to make a very handsome profit by this trade in substitution. This source of gain was cut away by the peace; and a system of monopoly was devised, in order that an idle oligarchy should be enabled to continue its revelling on the spoils of honest industry, "reaping where it had not sown, and gathering where it had not strawed." The Corn Laws, when first imposed, pressed upon industry with a weight of severity to which they never reached a second time, because, by a wise law of nature, "backs became fitted to burthens," and, by a beneficent ordinance of Providence, "the wind is tempered to the shorn lamb." It is easy for us, who have profited by the errors and the example of those who maintained a hopeless struggle against the wrong which we now assail with full assurance of victory, to laugh at the want of tactics displayed by "a forlorn hope," which tried to take the fortress of monopoly by storm, before a breach was made even in the outworks; but it is wiser to study their example as a guide for the course in a regular and scientific siege; and it is generous to bestow our sympathies on

> "Some village Hampden, who, with dauntless breast,
> The little tyrant of his fields withstood;"

for we may be assured that, in the wider field of more civil, and therefore, more rational exertion, we shall find such a man a truly conscientious voter, an incorruptible and independent elector.

There was so much of self-seeking, of vanity, of corrupt ambition, and of motives still more mean and mercenary, in those who took a lead in the popular movements between 1815 and 1821, that the great bulk of the nation became disgusted with the cause, and that even now a very scant measure of justice is meted out to those who maintained a fearless and honourable struggle for principle in defiance of all the resources of organized power from without, and the still greater disadvantages of conceited folly and pensioned treachery from within. Bamford's simple account of the honest section of the Reformers is really something cheering to our nature: it all but leads us to forget the tricks of Hunt, the blunders of Cobbett, and the change of the "Pride of Westminster" into "the disgrace of Wiltshire."

Bamford commences his reminiscences with the formation of the Hampden clubs in 1816; it was the misfortune of these institutions that they seemed to grow out of the preceding riots, and that they were therefore viewed with suspicion by the timid, and open to the arts of those who are ever ready to foster fraud by practising on fear. Some justification for such fear might be found in the conduct of too many who placed themselves in the van as leaders. Indeed, when Bamford came as a delegate to London, he seems to have found no one in whose wisdom and integrity he could repose confidence except the venerable Major Cartwright. His portraiture of that true patriot, whose virtues have never been fairly appreciated, deserves to be extracted:—

"With the picture of that venerable patriot in my recollection, let me pause, and render the tribute due to integrity and benevolence. He was far in years—I should suppose about seventy; rather above the common stature; straight for his age; thin, pale, and with an expression of countenance in which firmness and benignity were most predominant. I see him, as it were, in his long brown surtout and plain brown wig, walking up the room, and seating himself placidly in the head seat. A mild smile played on his features, as a simultaneous cheer burst from the meeting. Cobbett stood near his right hand; I had not seen him before. Had I met him anywhere save in that room and on that occasion, I should have taken him for a gentleman farming his own broad estate. He seemed to have that kind of self-possession and ease about him, together with a certain bantering jollity, which are so natural to fast-handed and well-housed lords of the soil. He was, I should suppose, not less than six feet in height; portly, with a fresh, clear, and round cheek, and a small grey eye, twinkling with good-humoured archness. He was dressed in a blue coat, yellow swansdown waistcoat, drab kersey small-clothes, and top boots. His hair was grey, and his cravat and linen were fine, and very white. In short, he was the perfect representation of what he always wished to be—an English gentleman farmer."

As a contrast to this picture we shall give our author's first impressions of Sir Francis Burdett. Though the demagogue was stamped with baronetage, Bamford's Lancashire shrewdness detected that there was something unsound in the ring of the patriotic metal, and that the coin eventually would cease to pass current:—

"A number of us went one morning to visit Sir Francis Burdett at his house in Park-place. The outside was but of ordinary appearance; and the inside was not much better, so far as we were admitted. To me it seemed like a cold, gloomy, barely furnished house; which I accounted for by supposing that it was perhaps the style of all great mansions. We were shown into a large room, the only remarkable thing in which was a bust of John Horne Tooke. Sir Francis came to us in a loose grey vest coat, which reached far towards his ankles. He had not a cravat on his neck; his feet were in slippers; and a pair of wide cotton stockings hung in wrinkles on his long spare legs, which he kept alternately throwing across his knees, and rubbing down with his hands, as if he suffered, or recently had, some pain in those limbs. He was a fine-looking man on the whole, of lofty stature, with a proud but not forbidding carriage of the head. His manner was dignified and civilly familiar; submitting to, rather than seeking conversation with men of our class. He, however, discussed with us some points of the intended Bill for Reform, candidly and freely, and concluded with promising to support universal suffrage, though he was not sanguine of much co-operation in the House. Under these circumstances we left Sir Francis, approving of much that we found in and about him, and excusing much of what we could not approve. He was one of our idols, and we were loath to give him up."

The description of two other persons, whose names have found a place in the history of the period, may interest our readers:—

"The door opens, and two persons of middle stature enter; the uproar is changed to applause, and a round of huzzas welcome the new comers. A stranger like myself inquiring who he is, the foremost and better dressed one? would be answered, 'that gentleman is Mr Watson the elder, who was lately charged with high treason, and is now under bail to answer an indictment for a misdemeanour in consequence of his connexion with the late meeting at Spafields.' The person spoken of would be supposed to be about fifty years of age, with somewhat of a polish in his gait and manner, and a degree of respectability and neatness in his dress. He was educated for a genteel profession—that of a surgeon; had practised it, and had in consequence moved in a sphere more high than his present one. He had probably a better heart than head; the latter had failed to bear him up in his station, and the ardour of the former had just before hurried him into transactions, from the consequences of which he has not yet escaped. His son at this time was concealed in London, a large reward having been offered for his apprehension. The other man was Preston, a co-operator with Watson, Hooper, and others, in the late riots. He was about middle age; of ordinary appearance; dressed as an operative; and walked with the help of a stick. I could not but entertain a slightful opinion of the intellect and trust-worthiness of these two men, when, on a morning or two afterwards, at breakfast with me and Mitchell, they narrated with seeming pride and satisfaction their several parts during the riots. Preston had mounted a wall of the Tower, and summoned the guard to surrender. The men gazed at him—laughed; no one fired a shot—and soon after he fell down, or was pulled off by his companions, who thought (no doubt) he had acted fool long enough."

Some interesting particulars of the early operations of the spy-system are incidentally mentioned. One of the fraternity was introduced to Bamford by Healey, a self-elected doctor, whose eccentricities will remind the reader of some of Smollett's best comic scenes. Precedence must be given to the spy, on account of his official character as a Government agent:—

"At dusk on the evening of Tuesday, the 11th of March, the day after the blanket meeting, a man, dressed much like a dyer, was brought to my residence by Joseph Healey,

who had found him inquiring for me in the lower part of the town. The stranger said he had something of a private and important nature to communicate, in consequence of which I and the stranger and Healey went to the sign of the Trumpeter, where we were accommodated with a private room. The man now told us that he was deputed by some persons at Manchester to propose that, in consequence of the treatment which the blanketeers had received at the meeting and afterwards, 'a Moscow of Manchester' should take place that very night. The man paused and looked at us severally. I intimated that I knew what he meant, and desired him to go on. He said it would entirely depend on the co-operation or otherwise of the country people; that other messengers had been sent to every reform society within twenty miles of the town; that if the answers were favourable to the project, the light of the conflagration was to be the signal for the country people to come in; and, in such case, the Middleton people were requested to take their station on St. George's Field."

Bamford's strong sense saved him from engaging in any project so palpably absurd; but he deemed it right that he and Healey should spend the night in some place where they could bring evidence to prove their absence from the expected conflagration. During the night a very comic incident occurred, which Bamford has related with Doric simplicity, but at the same time with the most exquisite humour:—

"We retired to rest and lay talking this strange matter over until sleep overtook us. I was first to awake, and seeing a brightness behind the curtain, I stepped to the window, and sure enough beheld in the southern sky, a stream of light which I thought must be that of a distant fire. It was a fine crisped morning, and as I looked, a piece of a moon came wandering to the west from behind some masses of cloud. Now she would be entirely obscured; then streaks of her pale beams would be seen breaking on the edges of the vapours; then a broader gleam would come; then again it would be pale and receding: but the clouds were so connected that the fair traveller had seldom a space for showing her unveiled horn. I saw how it was; my conflagration had dwindled to a moonbeam, and as I stood with the frost tingling at my toes 'an unlucky thought' (as we say, when excusing our own sins we impute them to a much-abused sable personage) came into my head, to have a small joke at the doctor's expense; and as it was a mode of amusement to which I must confess I was rather prone, I immediately began to carry it into effect. I gave a loud cough or two; the doctor thereupon grunted and turned over in bed; when, in the very break of his sleep, I said aloud, as I crept beneath the bed-clothes, 'there's a fine leet i'th welkin, as th' witch o' Brandwood sed when the devil wur ridin' o'er Rossenda.' 'Leet,' said the doctor; 'a fine leet, weer? weer?' 'Why go to th' windo' an' look.' That instant my sanguine friend was out of bed and at the window, his head stuck behind the curtain. 'There's a great leet,' he said, 'to'rd Manchester.' 'There is indeed,' I replied, 'it's mitch but weary wark is gooin' on omung you foke.' 'It's awful,' said the doctor; 'thei'r agate as sure as we're heer.' 'I think there's summut up,' I said. I was now snugly rolled in the clothes, and perceived, at the same time, that the doctor was getting into a kind of dancing shiver, and my object being to keep him in his shirt till he was cooled and undeceived, and consequently a little sprung in temper, I asked, 'dun yo really think then ot th' teawn's o' foyer?' 'Foyer,' he replied; 'there's no deawt on't.' 'Con yo see th' flames, doctor?' 'Nowe, I connoʼ see th' flames, but I con see th' leet ut coms fro' em.' 'That's awful,' I ejaculated. 'Ay, it's awful,' he said; 'come an' see for yorsel.' 'Nowe, I'd reyther not,' I answered; 'I dunno' like such sects; it's lucky ut we're here they connoʼ say ut we'n had owt to do wi' it, at ony rate, con they doctor?' 'Nowe,' he said, 'they connoʼ.' 'It keeps changin',' he said. 'Con yo' yer owt?' I asked. 'Nowe, I connoʼ yer nowt,' he said. I, however, heard his teeth hacking in his head, and stuffed the sheet into my mouth to prevent my laughter from being noticed. 'Ar yo' sure, doctor?' I asked. No reply. 'Is it blazin' up?' I said. 'Blazin' be hanged!' was the answer. 'Wot dun yo' myen, doctor is it gwon owt then?' 'Gullook!' he said, 'it's nobbut th' moon, an' yo' knewn it o' th' while.' A loud burst of laughter followed, which I enjoyed till the bed shook; my companion muttering imprecations and sundry devil's prayers against all 'moon doggs an' welkin lookers,' by which terms I knew he meant myself for one."

The description of the moon in the preceding extract shows that Bamford has a poet's eye for observing nature, and a painter's power in delineating her beauties. We are tempted to quote his vivid description of the Lancashire moors on a fine morning in spring:—

"How delicious was the air, wafting breezy and free over the budding woods! now sweeping up the hollows, now coming through the dew pearls and shaking the hazel bloom now bearing towards us the bold note of the throstle anon receding to nestle softly in the dingles with the melody of the blackbird! How happy were those simple children of nature; happy in their loves, in their rude nests; in their offspring, and in their unconsciousness of danger! The lapwing's plaintive cry as it wheeled above, was in unison with our feelings—the bird also seemed like ourselves to have no resting-place; whilst the conyʼ, frisking before us, and disappearing, showed us he too had a home. But the bracing air, the warm life-giving sun, the glorious beings of nature around and above us, whilst they excited our attention, gradually dispelled the gloom of our feelings, and we also began to be cheerful if not happy remembering that there is no hill without its vale, no storm without its calm, no shadow without its sun. So we went on now climbing a hedge, now leaping a rindle, now starting a hare or springing a woodcock, now treading a bit of swamp, now up a knoll through the gorses, then by the skirt of a meadow, and round to the hill foot, by the music of a stream, where

'Spring moves on as glad we gaze,
Calling the flowers wherever she strays,
Come from the earth, ye dwellers there,
To the blessed light, and the living air:
For the snowdrop hath warmed the drift away;
And the crocus awaiteth your company;
And the bud of the thorn is beginning to swell;
And the waters have broken their bonds in the dell.
And are not the hazel, and slender bine,
Blending their boughs where the sun doth shine?
And the willow is bringing its downy palm,
Garland for days that are bright and calm;
And the lady-flower waves on its slender stem;
And the primrose peeps like a starry gem.'"

Passing over the circumstances of Bamford's arrest and the vagaries of Nadin, who appears to have been a capital Manchester *Dogberry*, we quote a significant incident which occurred when the state prisoners were brought into Manchester:—

"A stream of people followed the coach and dragoons through the streets of Manchester; and on approaching the Exchange, down Market-street, the 'Merchant Princes' crowded the steps, and welcomed the poor captives with loud huzzas!"

These sapient merchants little knew at the time that they were cheering the Government onward in a system which necessarily led to the long years of suffering, anxiety, and commercial depression which they have since experienced; that they were rejoicing in the prospect of their own bankruptcy, and exulting in the approach of their own ruin. Manchester has since learned a better lesson, but it has purchased the improvement by a heavy price of bitter experience.

Bamford and his companions were sent to London where they were examined before the Privy Council. That most puzzle-pated of statesmen, Lord Sidmouth, was quite perplexed by the simple honesty of the Lancashire radicals. One highly ludicrous circumstance occurred during the examination; but Bamford has lost the point from not knowing that poor Sidmouth had been nicknamed "the Doctor" by the wicked wit of Canning.

"On the doctor being asked how he spelled his surname? he answered in broad Lancashire; 'Haitch, hay, haa, l, hay, y:' (H, e, a, l, e, y); but the pronunciation of the e and a being different in London, there was some boggling about reducing the name to writing, and a pen and paper were handed to him. The doctor knew that his *forte* lay not in feats of penmanship any more than in spelling; and to obviate any small embarrassment on that account, he pulled out an old pocket-book, and took from it one of his prescription labels, on which the figures of a pestle and mortar were imposed from a rudely engraved plate; and these words, 'JOSEPH HEALEY, SURGEON, MIDDLETON. PLASE TAKE——TABLE SPOONFULS OF THIS MIXTURE EACH——HOURS.' This he handed to Lord Sidmouth, who, as may be supposed received it graciously, looked it carefully over, smiled, and read it again; and passed it round the council table. Presently they were all tittering, and the doctor stood quite delighted at finding them such a set of merry gentlemen."

After a short detention, Bamford was liberated; but Sidmouth, not being yet screened by an "indemnity act," extorted from him a bond, binding him in a penalty not to bring an action for false imprisonment! This requires no comment.

Soon after Bamford's liberation, Hunt held his memorable meeting at Peterloo, then a waste outskirt of Manchester. We have a very vivid description of the gatherings of the operatives in the adjoining towns to attend this meeting; their peaceful and orderly processions, their march to the field, and the general tranquillity which prevailed when the yeomanry commenced their unprovoked massacre. The conclusion of this scene of wanton carnage is one of the most powerful and pathetic specimens of picture-writing with which we are acquainted.

"On the breaking of the crowd, the yeomanry wheeled; and dashing wherever there was an opening, they followed, pressing and wounding. Many females appeared as the crowd opened; and striplings or mere youths also were found. Their cries were piteous and heart-rending; and would, one might have supposed, have disarmed any human resentment; but here their appeals were vain. Women, white-vested maids, and tender youths, were indiscriminately sabred or trampled; and we have reason for believing, that few were the instances in which that forbearance was vouchsafed which they so earnestly implored.

"In ten minutes from the commencement of the havoc, the field was an open and almost deserted space. The sun looked down through a sultry and motionless air. The curtains and blinds of the windows within view were all closed. A gentleman or two might occasionally be seen looking out from one of the new houses before mentioned, near the door of which a group of persons (special constables) were collected, and apparently in conversation; others were assisting the wounded, or carrying off the dead. The hustings remained, with a few broken and hewed flagstaves erect, and a torn and gashed banner or two drooping; whilst over the whole field were strewed caps, bonnets, hats, shawls, and shoes, and other parts of male and female dress, trampled, torn, and bloody. The yeomanry had dismounted: some were easing their horses' girths, others adjusting their accoutrements, and some were wiping their sabres. Several mounds of human beings still remained where they had fallen, crushed down and smothered. Some of these were still groaning; others, with staring eyes, were gasping for breath; and others would never breathe more. All was silent save those low sounds, and the occasional snorting and pawing of steeds. Persons might sometimes be noticed peeping from attics and over the tall ridgings of houses, but they quickly withdrew, as if fearful of being observed, or unable to sustain the full gaze of a scene so hideous and abhorrent."

We wish not to revive the discussion of the many painful results of the Manchester massacre; it has now taken its place in history as one of the most dastardly outrages ever perpetrated on an unarmed and unprepared multitude. The stamp of universal reprobation is branded upon it indelibly and for ever: the votes of corrupt parliaments and the verdicts of packed juries have failed to silence the solemn voice of truth; and those who were its foremost authors, and who for a brief season exulted in the sunshine of ministerial favour and the glow of imaginary triumph, hang the head in shame when any allusion to the outrage is made in their presence. Hunt's extravagant vanity gave the crown lawyers a decided advantage, when the Reformers were tried at York on a charge of conspiracy; and but for his aberrations it is doubtful whether the "select" jury could have ventured on a verdict of guilty, for the vindictive evidence given by one Hulton, a Lancashire magistrate, was refuted even by the evidence for the prosecution. Bamford's account of the trial, and of his subsequent journey to London to receive his sentence, is full of interest, but it is far too long for extract. In the end he was sentenced to a year's imprisonment in Lincoln Gaol. The details of his captivity need not detain us; he was liberated at the end of his term, and returned to his home as unbroken in spirit as he was unblemished in character. Since that period he has preserved the same manly independence and upright course which won him in early life the confidence of his order; he has also seen the triumph of the cause for which he suffered in evil times: Reform is the law of the land, and the doom of the Corn Laws is dated. The little volumes which we have reviewed are as valuable to the politician as they are interesting to the general reader; but they labour under the disadvantage of being published in a provincial town, and being excluded from the lists of Paternoster-row; we trust, however, that this notice will have the effect of calling attention to their worth: for we who have come in to complete the work at the eleventh hour should never forget the debt of gratitude we owe to those who have borne the labour and fatigue of the day.

An Appeal to Manufacturers on the Removal of the Restrictions from the Exportation of Machinery. By J. D. Fernley, Manufacturer, Stockport. J. Gadsby, Manchester.

The progress of Free-Trade principles has doubtless been greatly obstructed by this question, having been regarded, like most others, as one of party politics. Men have so long been accustomed to ally themselves with party, that measures have been judged of more by the political opinions of those who brought them before the public than by their own intrinsic merits. It is one of the most hopeful signs of the times that sounder and juster views of great public questions are beginning to prevail: men are breaking through the trammels of party, and looking rather at the practical bearing and utility of measures than at the politicians who advocate or oppose them more with the view to gain power and place than to advance the public welfare. This change has been induced partly by the Anti-Corn-Law agitation, but chiefly by the last six years of suffering and bad trade, which have led the most thinking men of every party to inquire into the causes of the evils which have brought ruin and distress upon Whigs, Tories, and Radicals, without distinction. The discussions on Free Trade, and the able publications disseminated by the League, have furnished such abundant facts and arguments as to leave no doubt in the minds of sincere inquirers after truth, of the causes and the remedy for the disease which prostrates the energies of the country. Free-Trade principles are evidently taking deep root in the public mind; and the support which the League is daily receiving from men of *all* political parties, who have hitherto stood aloof, augurs well for the near approach of our deliverance from all the impolitic and unjust restrictions on our industry.

During the last session of Parliament the only remaining restraint upon exports was removed from our statute-book: cotton, flax, silk, and every other kind of machinery, of which foreigners were until then unable to avail themselves, may now be freely exported. The protection which English manufacturers have hitherto enjoyed has been withdrawn, and henceforth they will have to compete with foreign manufacturers, possessing equal advantages with English manufacturers in the most important elements of production. It is not surprising that a measure of such importance should have excited the attention of our manufacturers, and called forth the able and unanswerable appeal of one of their body, a Conservative manufacturer of Stockport.

Mr. Fernley is a Free-Trader to the fullest extent: he does not *object* to the repeal of the restrictions on the export of machinery; on the contrary, he thinks the measure highly creditable to the Government which brought it forward; but he very sensibly observes, "*If the principle upon which they have acted be a sound one, it may reasonably be inquired, whether it might not be more extensively acted upon with advantage to the country.*" He proceeds:—

"Mr. Gladstone, in moving the second reading of the bill, defended it on the grounds,—first, of justice to the machine-makers; secondly, of the importance of the ma-

chine-making trade to the country; and thirdly, of the justification afforded by the prohibition to foreign Governments for imposing prohibitory duties on our manufactures. On these grounds he proposed the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the prohibitory law.

"We may ask—

"1. If justice to the machine-makers demanded the removal of the protection which was afforded, at their expense, to the manufacturers, does not justice to the manufacturers demand the removal of the protection which other interests enjoy at *their* expense? The law prohibiting the export of machinery was passed for the purpose of protecting the manufacturers; the law which restricts the importation of food was passed for the purpose of protecting the owners of land. *The former having been repealed, can any good reason be shown why the latter should be continued.'* If continental manufacturers are to have free access to our markets for machinery, ought we not to have free access to their markets to supply the wants of our own population?"

These are very puzzling and embarrassing questions to Mr. Gladstone, and, mystify them as he may, it will be difficult for him to answer them to the satisfaction of unsophisticated minds if he continue to support monopolies. Mr. Fernley further asks:—

"2. If the workpeople of the Continent are to have the advantage of our machinery, does not justice to our *own* workpeople demand that no restriction be placed on the supply of their food?

"3. If the importance of the machine-making trade demanded the removal of the restrictions imposed upon it, does not the importance of other branches of manufacturing industry demand the removal of the restraints which limit their growth, and obstruct their progress? The cotton manufacture supports nearly 2,000,000 of the population, and yields, directly or indirectly, a great proportion of the national revenue. It finds freight for our ships, business for our merchants, employment for our capital, and the means of subsistence to thousands not directly engaged in it. More than six-sevenths of the cotton imported is exported in the shape of yarn or manufactured goods. Surely it is of importance to the country that so great a trade should not be crippled and fettered by restrictive laws. Yet what is the fact? The Corn Laws more effectually limit the exportation of cotton goods than the law which has just been repealed ever restricted the exportation of machinery. The extent of our exports is measured by, and limited to, the extent of our imports. Whatever, therefore, operates as a bar to our imports, operates as a bar to our exports; and our refusal to take the produce of other countries is tantamount to a refusal to sell them our goods.

"There exists, within a fortnight's sail of us, a population of 15,000,000, of the same tastes and habits, speaking the same language, and actuated by the same commercial spirit as ourselves. They are the best customers we have. They need a greater supply of our goods; we need a greater supply of their produce. Each would benefit by supplying the other's wants. How is it that the interchange is not effected? What is it that prevents the business being done? It is our refusal to take what they offer, and they have nothing else to give us. *Protection to the landed interest* steps in, and, by forbidding the importation of corn, and such other articles as are produced by them, prevents the exchange.

"4. If foreign governments have urged the prohibition to export machinery, as a justification of their prohibitory duties on our manufactures, how much more frequently have they urged the restrictions imposed on the importation of their produce into this country?"

Mr. Fernley laughs at the danger of dependence on foreigners for corn, which grows in *five hundred parts* of the world, whilst manufacturers venture their capital in mills and machinery, and are mainly dependent on *one* country for their supplies of cotton, without which their mills would be worthless:—

"Do not," says he, "be led away by any of the mere absurdities which are brought forward in defence of the food monopoly; such as the danger of being dependent upon foreigners, &c. Do manufacturers hesitate to lay out their capital in mills and machinery because they are mainly dependent upon America for cotton? Every country in the world produces grain; but we are almost entirely dependent upon one country for an article, upon the regular supply of which depend the greatest trade in the kingdom, and the subsistence of tens of thousands of the population. We do not refuse to take from foreigners tea, coffee, sugar, rice, spices, wines, and other articles to the extent of £50,000,000 worth per annum; we do not refuse to sell them goods to the same amount; we do not hesitate, after a deficient harvest, to come upon them suddenly for two or three million quarters of wheat; yet we are told that we must not be dependent upon foreigners! If we are to be independent of them, we must close our ports, destroy our ships, resign our commerce, shut up our mills, let half the population starve, and prepare for a national bankruptcy.'

Mr. Fernley expresses his surprise that manufacturers and merchants do not unite in support of justice and their own interests, and appeals to them to lay aside party political differences until the Free-Trade question be settled:—

"We cannot wonder," says he, "at those who have been so long accustomed to regard their interests as identified with agricultural protection continuing to support it; though, among the class for whose benefit it is maintained, there are many distinguished instances to the contrary; and the progress of more enlightened views affords ground for hope that its advocacy will soon be confined to the men who cling to it as the only means of retaining their encumbered estates, and keeping up appearances. But that manufacturers and merchants, men whose estate is their business, and whose only hope of success in life is in the exercise of their industry, should suffer a day to pass without unanimously protesting against it, is as remarkable an instance of tame submission to a grievous wrong as ever existed among a free people. The future historian of these times will regard it as the result of some strange and mysterious influence that for twenty-eight years the inhabitants of the manufacturing districts suffered their means to be taxed, and their energies to be cramped, for selfish purposes, without making one united effort against it. Can we not unite to maintain our own cause? Dissever the question from party considerations, and let it be answered on its own merits—*If protection be right, why has it been taken from us? if it be wrong, why is it given to others?* Lay aside your political differences till this question is settled. Party warfare will be carried on without your aid. Now is the time for united action. Your principles should be the principles of self-defence; your policy the practical good of the country."

Appeals like these from a plain, sensible manufacturer to his fellow-manufacturers cannot fail to make a deep impression. Mr. Fernley's pamphlet, however, will repay the perusal of any reader: it is evidently the production of a thoughtful, intelligent man.

THE SONG OF THE SHIRT!

(From Punch.)

With fingers weary and worn,
With eyelids heavy and red,
A woman sat, in unwomanly rags,
Plying her needle and thread—
Stitch—stitch—stitch!
In poverty, hunger, and dirt,
And still with a voice of dolorous pitch
She sang the "Song of the Shirt."

"Work—work—work!
While the cock is crowing aloof;
And work—work—work,
Till the stars shine through the roof.
It's Oh! to be a slave
Along with the barbarous Turk,
Where woman has never a soul to save,
If this is Christian work!

"Work—work—work
Till the brain begins to swim;
Work—work—work
Till the eyes are heavy and dim!
Seam, and gusset, and band,
Band, and gusset, and seam;
Till over the buttons I fall asleep,
And sew them on in a dream!

"O! men, with sisters dear!
O! men, with mothers and wives!
It is not linen you're wearing out,
But human creatures' lives!
Stitch—stitch—stitch,
In poverty, hunger, and dirt,
Sewing at once, with a double thread,
A shroud as well as a shirt.

"But why do I talk of Death?
That phantom of grisly bone;
I hardly fear his terrible shape,
It seems so like my own—
It seems so like my own,
Because of the fasts I keep:
Oh! God! that bread should be so dear,
And flesh and blood so cheap!

"Work—work—work!
My labour never flags;
And what are its wages? A bed of straw,
A crust of bread, and rags.
That shatter'd roof, and this naked floor—
A table—a broken chair—
A wall so blank, my shadow I thank
For sometimes falling there!

"Work—work—work!
From weary chime to chime,
Work—work—work—
As prisoners work for crime!
Band, and gusset, and seam,
Seam, and gusset, and band,
Till the heart is sick, and the brain benumb'd,
As well as the weary hand.

"Work—work—work,
In the dull December light,
And work—work—work,
When the weather is warm and bright—
While underneath the eaves
The brooding swallows cling,
As if to show me their sunny backs
And twit me with the spring.

"Oh! but to breathe the breath
Of the cowslip and primrose sweet—
With the sky above my head,
And the grass beneath my feet,
For only one short hour
To feel as I used to feel,
Before I knew the woes of want
And the walk that costs a meal!

"Oh, but for one short hour!
A respite, however brief!
No blessed leisure for Love or Hope,
But only time for grief!
A little weeping would ease my heart,
But in their briny bed
My tears must stop, for every drop
Hinders needle and thread!"

With fingers weary and worn,
With eyelids heavy and red,
A woman sate in unwomanly rags,
Plying her needle and thread—
Stitch! stitch! stitch!
In poverty, hunger, and dirt,
And still with a voice of dolorous pitch,
Would that its tone could reach the rich!
She sang this "Song of the Shirt!"

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND THEIR FRIENDS.—Mr. Samuel Wells, of Sergeants' Inn, in a letter which appears in the *Sun* of Monday evening, says, it was at the late dinner of the Smithfield Cattle Club the noble president gave as a toast, "Prosperity to the agricultural labourers." Nearly forty years since he was very reluctantly permitted to give that toast at the same club, because he at the same time predicted that if something was not done to preserve the independence of the labourer, by giving him ample but just reward for his labour, retribution would follow; and now the fulfilment of his prophecy is, he fears, too near realisation.

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Dec 16	Mon. Dec. 18	Tues. Dec. 19	Wed. Dec. 20	Thurs Dec. 21	Fri. Dec. 22
Bank Stock	—	183	183	181½	183½	—
3 per Ct. Con. dv.	—	—	—	97	—	—
New 3½ per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Consols for Opg.	95½	95½	96	96	96	—
Lg. Ans. Exp. 1860	12 9-16	—	12⅞	13⅛	12 9-16	12 11-16
S. Sea Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ind.Bds.and.1000*l.*	75 3 pm.	—	—	75 6 pm.	75 pm.	—
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	57 9 pm.	57 9 pm.	58 60	58 60	58 pm.	60 pm.
Brazilian 5 per Ct.	74½		73½	—	—	—
Mexican, 1837	—	31⅛	—	31½	31½	31⅛
Portuguese, conv.	44	44½	44	43⅞	42⅞	—
Spanish 3 per Ct.	30	30⅛	30⅛	31	30⅞	30⅞
Chilian 6 p. Ct.	—		—	99½	100	—
Russian	—	115	—	—	—	116
Dutch 5 per Cent.	99½	99⅞	99⅞	99⅞	99½	99⅞
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	55	55½	55½	55⅝	55⅞	55⅞
Columb. 6 p.Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Austrian,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belgian	—	103	103½	—	—	—
French 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Dec. 18.—The supply of English Wheat this morning was equal to this day week, and with scarcely any improvement in the condition. Dry samples sold readily at last week's rates, but there was more difficulty in effecting sales of out-of-condition parcels. There was a steady sale for old Foreign Wheat at former rates. The supply of Barley was large; there was, however, a good demand for all descriptions, and prices were maintained. New Beans and Peas were each 1s. lower. No alteration in Old Beans. About half a dozen vessels arrived from Ireland with Oats since Friday; but though the demand was not brisk, the supply was barely equal to it, and last week's prices were fully supported. As next Monday is Christmas day, there will, of course, be no market held here. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 11th to the 16th of Dec. 1843, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	6542	116 4	1668	1128	1648
Scotch	214	1086	1796	100	—
Irish	600	210	13200	—	—
Foreign	3661	126	—	130	970

Flour, 7974 sacks, 2045 bls. Malt, 7542 qrs.

Currency per imperial measure.

Wheat, English, White New	46s to 60s	Peas, Grey	30s to 32s
——, Do., do., Old	60s — 64s	——, Maple	33s — 35s
——, Do. Red, New	42s — 55s	Malt, Pale Suffolk and Norfolk	54s — 57s
——, Do. do., Old	50s — 61s	——, Chevalier	60s — 63s
——, Dantzig	57s — 63s	Oats, English Feed	20s — 22s
——, Stettin	50s — 57s	——, Do. Short	21s — 23s
Barley, Malting	32s — 34s	——, Scotch Feed	21s — 23s
——, Distilling	30s — 32s	——, Do. Potato	23s — 26s
——, Grinding	26s — 30s	——, Irish Feed	17s — 18s
Beans, Tick, New	26s — 28s	——, Do. Short	19s — 20s
——, Do., Old	28s — 30s	——, Do. do., New	19s — 21s
——, Harrow, New	28s — 30s	——, Do. Black	17s — 18s
——, Do., Old	30s — 32s	——, Do. Galway	16s — 17s
——, Pigeon, New	29s — 31s	Flour, town made and best country marks	45s — 50s
——, Do., Old	32s — 36s	——, Norfolk and Suffolk	40s — 42s
Peas, White	31s — 32s		
——, Do., boilers	34s — 36s		

MARK-LANE, Friday, Dec. 22.—The supplies of Wheat and Barley this week are moderate; the expected large supply of Irish Oats arrives only by degrees, and, in consequence, makes no impression on prices: there is a fair supply of English and Scotch since Monday. There is seldom much activity in the trade at this season of the year, and the present is by no means an exception to the rule. In consequence of there being no market on Monday next, we had rather expected that more business would have been doing to-day; this, however, is not the case, and we have to report the trade in all Grain slow at the same prices as Monday. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 16th to the 22nd of December, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	5530	—	—
Barley	7900	410	150
Oats	4960	15150	—

Flour 4810 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 16, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	116,293	50 9	134,096	32 0	41,610	18 6	10517	31 6
Aggregate Averages	..	51 3		32 0		18 10		32 0
Duty	..	19 0		6 0		8 0		19 0

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Dec. 19, 1843.

	Qrs.	Price		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	5186	51s. 8d.	Rye	52	29s. 6d.
Barley	8434	31s 3d.	Beans	1132	31s. 4d.
Oats	20754	19s. 5d.	Peas	1571	31s. 10d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

BANKRUPTS.

R. CHAMPION, Friday-street, carrier. [Wood and Co., Corbet-court, Gracechurch-street.

F. BARRY, Rye, Sussex, miller. [M'Leod and Co., London-street, Fenchurch-street.

T. TRAPP and T. P. TRAPP, Church-street, Southwark, tallow chandlers. [Holmer, Bridge-street, Southwark.

R. HEFFER, St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, draper. [Reed and Co., Friday-street, Cheapside.

J. FLINT, Lewes, Sussex, linen draper. [Sole and Co., Aldermanbury.

J. E. BUNKER, Lower Shadwell, merchant. [Buchanan, Basinghall-street.

J. PEARSON, Darlaston, Staffordshire, cut nail manufacturer. [Harrison, Birmingham; Woodward, Wednesbury.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 16. E. Austen, Walmer, Kent, grocer—Jan. 8. W. Norton and F. Jackson, Cateaton-street, City, warehousemen—Jan. 11. A. Lesur and W. Smith, St. Dunstan's-hill, merchants—Jan. 11. C. Papp, Wigmore-street, St. Marylebone, coachmaker—Jan. 9. G. Winning, Dover-street, Piccadilly, upholsterer—Jan. 11. S. Phillips, Brook-street, Hanover-square, carpet warehouseman—Jan. 11. J. Atkins, Shoreditch, tobacconist—Jan. 11. W. Banks, Rochford, Essex, draper—Jan. 11. J. Smith, Hoxton Old town, linendraper—Jan. 11. J. Ivory, Meppershall, Bedfordshire, farmer—Jan. 11. E. Conden, Milton-street, Dorset-square, builder—Jan. 9. H. Fletcher, sen., and H. Fletcher, jun., Eastington, Gloucestershire, clothiers—Jan. 9. G. Bonnor, Bermondsey-wall, rag merchant—Jan. 12. R. Watson, York, silk mercer—Jan. 12. P. Sowerby, Liverpool, provision dealer—Jan. 23. R. Woodward, Liverpool, merchant—Jan. 16. J. Fell, Liverpool, merchant—Jan. 15. J. Buxton, Manchester,

builder—Jan. 15. H. A. Jameson, North Shields, linendraper—Jan. 17. I. Ward, Devizes, house decorator—Jan. 17. W. Perkins, St. Wollos, Monmouthshire, shipbuilder.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 9. D. Frazer, Little Tower-street, shipowner—Jan. 9. J. Prior, Bedford, statuary—Jan. 17. J. Ivory, Meppershall, Bedfordshire, farmer—Jan. 10. G. Lawes, Southampton, tailor—Jan. 15. T. Waters, Christchurch, Monmouthshire, cattle salesman.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

C. SMITH, Dundee, merchant—A. OGILVIE, Dundee, merchant.

FRIDAY, DEC. 22.

BANKRUPTS.

W. CARPENTER, Southampton, stationer. [Parker, St. Paul's Churchyard.

J. BALLARD, Kent, brazier. [Hicks and Co., Bartlett's-buildings; Case, Maidstone.

E. MUNN, Stanhope terrace, Hyde-park, corn chandler. [Fatham, Throgmorton-street.

M. HADLEY, Walsall, Staffordshire, chemist. [Price, Deacon, and Dent, Wolverhampton.

J. WHITLEY, Liverpool, surgeon. [Vincent and Co., Temple Birket and Foster, Liverpool.

J. LAWRENCE, Birmingham, spirit merchant. [Knight, Worcester; Harrison, Birmingham.

RETURN OF BANK-NOTE CIRCULATION FROM LAST NIGHT'S *Gazette*.—Return of the average circulation of Bank-notes throughout the United Kingdom, and the average amount of Bullion in the Bank of England, during the four weeks ending Dec. 9, 1843.

ENGLAND.	
Bank of England	£18,791,000
Private Banks	4,534,048
Joint Stock Banks	3,161,034
SCOTLAND.	
Chartered, Private, and Joint Stock Banks	3,166,920
IRELAND.	
Bank of Ireland	3,502,475
Private and Joint Stock Banks	2,379,676
Total	£36,531,152
Bullion in the Bank of Englan	£12,996,000

HENRY L. WICKHAM.

Stamps and Taxes, Dec. 22, 1843.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Dec. 19, 1843, is 33s. 6¼d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 14.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1843. [3*d*.

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ON THE PROGRESS OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW AGITATION DURING THE YEAR NOW CLOSING.

A new year will have dawned upon our readers before we again address them. Amongst the many thoughts suggested by the change, one will probably be, How stands the Anti-Corn-Law contest? What has been the progress of the agitation? What are its prospects? They must have been very sanguine, at the commencement of the present year, to whom these inquiries occur unaccompanied by satisfactory and encouraging answers.

The strength of the League has increased, we might also say, incalculably. It has multiplied its numbers, enlarged its resources, extended its influence, and gained the prestige of a series of successes. In the words of the *Times* newspaper, "these are facts important and worthy of consideration. No moralist can disregard them—no politician can sneer at them—no statesman can undervalue them. He who collects opinions must chronicle them. He who frames laws must, to some extent, consult them." Thus it is that during the year now about to close, the "GREAT FACT" has made itself recognised. The League is become a power in the country; a power created for a specific object, and well fitted for the attainment of that object. In this specialty is one assurance of success. The League-bond is a defined principle. Its powers cannot be perverted for party purposes or personal ambition. For these, the League is nothing; and therefore, for its own object, it is everything. It will destroy the food monopoly, because only with the food monopoly does it interfere. Its failure would be an anomaly in the history of society.

Within the last twelve months how many points of startling contrast might be selected, most of which will probably present themselves to the recollection of our readers, and all bearing in the same direction.

In the last weeks of last year, it was very much questioned whether a fund of £50,000 could be raised; it has been raised and expended; and now the realization of a fund of £100,000 is every day rendered more obviously unquestionable.

Not a single election had, at that time, turned upon the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. Within the present year, this principle has been brought to issue in four contested elections. In three out of the four, triumphantly; one of the three being the city of London; and the exception, that of Salisbury, being a staggering blow to agricultural monopoly in one of its own strongholds.

At that time, not a single county had been invited to declare its opinion, or even to discuss the subject. Those indefatigable members of the Council, Messrs. Cobden and Bright, had only begun to think of endeavouring to obtain a hearing. Now, the Free-Trade principle has been sanctioned by the resolutions of about thirty county meetings, fairly held, and publicly convened by ample notice.

Then, the men of mark for ample wealth or high rank, who associated themselves with the League, or who became publicly pledged to its principle, were few indeed. The scruples which kept them aloof have been removed. The example of Mr. Jones Loyd has had its effect on the capitalists. Earl Fitzwilliam has strengthened the impression previously made by Lord Radnor. And the late avowal of Earl Spencer shows that even the notion of an Anti-Corn-Law Cabinet is not so utterly preposterous and chimerical as some had represented.

And if, last year, the distinguished few were yet holding back, neither had the numerous classes given more than a fraction of that general and hearty co-operation which they have since afforded. Chartist traitors were still able to earn the wages of corruption by the disturbance of public meetings. Now, their occupation's gone; or, at any rate, their employers must be easily satisfied if they think they get money's worth out of such agencies. The working people are instructed. They have risen into a perception of their real interests. The fallacy of dear bread and high wages is exploded. Anti-Corn-Law meetings, in populous places, are not merely secure from interruption, they are sure of enthusiasm. In the metropolis the League, as a distinct and organised body, scarcely showed its face till the present year. It chiefly appeared as merged in the annual Anti-Corn-Law Conference. The series of meetings at the great theatres is wholly unprecedented. They are an event in the record of demonstrations of public opinion.

Agricultural meetings have taken a new character. Landlords suggest improvements, and tenants hint at rents. Protection is no longer the infallible panacea, and duties are coming down to a discount. The note of warning and preparation is everywhere sounded. Farmers more than half suspect that they have been taken in, and begin to run restive. A noble chairman is occasionally pelted with awkward questions from remote corners of the room. Successful candidates at cattle shows turn bitter on Sir Robert Peel, and grow ironical on "the best bull in Birmingham market." They reckon it no better than an Irish bull. "Adjustment of rents" is gaining currency as a phrase, and coupled with the repeal of the Corn Laws.

Amongst the most marked features of the change which has taken place, is the complete subsidence of discussion about the merits of the sliding scale. Nobody talks of it; nobody seems to think of it. The time for praising it has entirely gone by. It is *hors de combât*. Controversy has shifted its ground. Even Mr. Baring, when standing for the City as a Peelite, and supported by all the influence of the Government, hinted his preference of a fixed duty. And thus it is that the battle of argument now rages, so far as there is any such battle, between a fixed duty and total abolition. The present system is contemptuously passed over with tacit condemnation. Approaching change is taken for granted. But we cannot believe that the imposition of a fixed duty is at all the nearer on that account. What farmer will have faith in it? Who will speculate on its permanence? Where are the converts to it? Converts *from* it are all of which we have any intelligence. It would satisfy no party. In the last session of Parliament, Lord John Russell's motion for considering the Corn Laws, with the view of substituting a fixed duty, was supported by just twenty members more than voted for Mr. C. Villiers' motion for such consideration with a view to total repeal. And it was so framed as to allow the total repealers to vote for it. The parliamentary strength of a fixed-duty party (regarded exclusively) we take to be little more than this increment of twenty. Out of the House, the proportion is much smaller. We scarcely know where to find it at all. Total repeal is the principle of the agitation; and the present argument of its advocates is mainly against a fixed duty as the only other alternative to the present system.

Hopefully, then, shall we enter on the new year. Hopefully; and yet with saddened feelings that justice, however certain in the end, is still delayed. For, as the old proverb has it, "while the grass is growing, the steed starves." Every month of delay is the prolongation of indescribable wretchedness. We begin another year of multiplying bankruptcies and blighted hopes; of terrible sufferings and terrible crimes; of overflowing workhouses and blazing barns. Rest the responsibility where it may, it is an awful one. The greater be our exertions. Lancashire and Yorkshire have evinced their zeal nobly. We shall soon have to record the emulation which they excite. The last forlorn hope of monopoly has failed, in the failure of the partial revival of trade, through the comparative cheapness of food, to distract the attention, mystify the minds, or abate the earnestness of Corn-Law repealers. The League has wintered and summered it, ever making progress. And now for one great effort more, to vindicate the rights of industry, lessen the burdens of poverty, and secure the just recompense of honest labour. Heaven crown it with success!

FREE TRADE ASSOCIATIONS.

The Anti-Corn-Law agitation has brought to light throughout the country an amount of intelligence and talent which was not previously known to exist, and which we hail as the sure harbinger of the downfall of monopoly. The Free-Trade Associations established at Liverpool, Gateshead, and other places, with so much success, are the offspring of the Anti-Corn-Law League; and although their exertions are directed to the abolition of *all* restrictions on trade, they labour in unison with the League in their efforts to destroy the monster monopoly which sustains the whole fabric.

We have frequently had the gratification of referring to the earnest zeal of the Liverpool Free-Trade Association in the delivery of lectures and addresses, not only in their own town but in the surrounding district; and now we have to record the encouraging result of the information they have circulated in the subscription of £6000 to the funds of the League, from a town which may be considered one of the strongest holds of monopoly in the kingdom. We have the further pleasure of calling attention to the labours of a Free-Trade Association in the southern extremity of the country, which bids fair to rival any other in zeal and talent, viz., the one established at Plymouth. Although, like Liverpool, at first its exertions were not appreciated, yet, owing to the delivery by its members of able lectures on Free-Trade subjects monthly, a degree of interest has been excited, which is most encouraging. We have lying before us the *Plymouth Journal*, containing the report of an admirable lecture delivered at the Mechanics' Institution, on the *corn monopoly*, by George Leach, Esq., *a landowner, who stated that he had farmed his own estate for more than twenty years.* "The building (says the report) was crowded in every part, numbers were unable to obtain admission, and the statements of the respected lecturer were listened to with the greatest attention."

We regret that our limits will not allow us to give the lecture entire; but our readers will be able to judge of the soundness of its reasoning and conclusions by the few extracts we are enabled to give. Mr. Leach, after a brief account of our Corn-Law legislation from the beginning to the present time, adds:—

"This hasty sketch of the history of the Corn Laws will show that the object of our legislators has always been, by means of bounties and restrictions, to enhance the price of corn with a view to their own interest; and the landowners, having enjoyed a great preponderance in the two Houses of Legislature, have always been able to effect their purposes. The two great parties in the state are agreed on the propriety of protective duties on corn, but they differ as to the mode of protection, one party advocating a graduated scale of duties, and the other a fixed duty. The evils arising from the former of these modes have been numerous and ruinous in their effects. It has wholly failed to secure its professed object, viz., *steadiness of price*. It has encouraged a fatal system of gambling among our merchants. It has prevented us in the time of need from drawing our supplies from America or any distant market. It has occasioned sudden drains of bullion from England which have actually endangered the stability of the national bank, and occasioned the deepest monetary and commercial embarrassment. It has frequently had the effect of keeping back supplies of corn when they were needed, and pouring them out just when the home grower was getting in his harvest. It cannot even be relied on as a source of revenue, for it is impossible for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to foresee whether corn will be taken out of bond on payment of £1 or 1s. a quarter. The evils occasioned by this law, in short, have been so numerous and so severely felt, that few persons can now be found to defend it, and a general feeling prevails that it must soon be abandoned."

The cheat of a fixed duty is thus exposed:—

"Suppose 18 millions of quarters of wheat to be consumed annually in Great Britain, of which 16 millons are produced at home, and the remaining 2 millions imported at a duty of 10s. The revenue would clearly gain a million sterling, but the price of the 16 millions of home-grown wheat would be raised 10s. a quarter, and thus the people of England would pay a tax of 9 millions, of which the revenue would gain one only. Of the remaining 8 millions about one quarter in the shape of increased rent would go into the pockets of the landholders, and the rest would, as far as the public interest is concerned, be utterly lost and thrown away. Taking all sorts of grain into the account, the Corn Laws impose a tax on the people of at least 16 millions. If the food of the people must be taxed let it be by an excise on all corn when ground at the mill. It would be an objectionable tax, but still a very productive one, and would seriously diminish taxation on other articles; but it is the evil of this, as of all other monopolies, that it oppresses the people with little or no benefit to the revenue."

After showing the fallacy of the assertion that

[illegible] proceeds to show the absurdity of the pretence that labourers have derived any benefit from them; and this testimony derives some value, coming as it does, from a landowner and farmer.

"Then with regard to the agricultural labourers, who are said to flourish by means of the Corn Laws. Are they not notoriously the worst paid class in the community? Is not the price of agricultural labour lower than any other? Is it not in many districts so low as barely to afford food of the coarsest description? Is it not then a mockery to tell those labourers that they benefit by the operation of the cruel law under which they are suffering? I must once more quote from Mr. Baring's speech in the year 1815. His testimony is too valuable to be dispensed with. He says 'The labourers in agriculture, and even the tenantry, have no interest in the question. The prevailing opinion is, that this is the landlord's question and not theirs. To talk of the labourers is quite ridiculous.'

"Some persons maintain that a repeal of the Corn Laws would not benefit the labouring classes generally, because wages rise and fall with the price of food. All experience proves the fallacy of this assertion. There can be little doubt that the price of food is one of the elements which enter into the price of labour, but the latter does not vary with all the fluctuations in the former. In the great fluctuations which have taken place of late years, the labourer has always suffered by a rise of price. His money wages have never risen in proportion. Wages accommodate themselves very slowly to changes in the price of food. Between the years 1803 and 1813, a period of ten years, during which corn was generally dear in England, the poor rates increased three millions and a half. But there is another material element which enters into the price of labour, which seems to have been wholly overlooked by those who assert that wages rise and fall directly with the price of food; labour is to all intents and purposes a marketable commodity, and its price is mainly regulated by the supply of it in the market, as compared with the demand. The price of corn is less in America than in England, and yet wages are higher. In Ireland a labourer may be hired for 6d. a day, whilst in Australia or New Zealand the same quantity of labour would be worth 4s. Why is this? Simply, because there is an excess of labour in the one market, and a want of it in the other. Whatever then tends to increase the demand for labour must have the effect of raising its price. Cheapness of food must produce this effect by increasing the funds from which labour is employed. Suppose 18 million of quarters of wheat to be consumed annually in Great Britain, and the average price in any one year to be 70s. per quarter, the cost of this wheat would be £63,000,000 sterling. Next suppose in another year the average price to be 40s., the cost would then be only £36,000,000. Now here would be a saving of £27,000,000. Would not the consumer, in the latter case, be able to spend more money on articles benefiting the revenue and trade in general; and would he not be able to call into activity labour which under a high price of corn he could not afford to employ? In 1835 and 1836, under a low price of corn, we had a flourishing revenue, and it fell off in 1841 under a high price."

We heartily subscribe to the following remarks on the new Poor Law, which is too much overlooked in the discussion of this question:—

"I must here make one observation on the subject of the Corn Laws, in connexion with the new Poor Law; the latter never ought to have passed without a repeal of the former. The Poor Law compels every able-bodied man to support himself by his own labour. The Corn Law denies him the power of exchanging the produce of that labour for the cheapest food he can find. The two laws are wholly incompatible with each other, and cannot long coexist."

Mr. Leach takes a view of the consequences of the destruction of trade, which it is surprising any sensible landowner can overlook:—

"When the landholder is inclined to indulge in feelings of irritation towards the manufacturer, and to treat him as an enemy, merely because he asks to be placed on an equal footing with himself; when he is told by the principal organ of the supporters of the Corn Laws (and perhaps is inclined to credit the monstrous assertion) that England would be as happy and prosperous as she now is if all the manufacturing towns were overwhelmed by the sea, let him turn his eyes towards those vast hives of busy population, and see the enormous supplies of agricultural produce pouring into them, and then let him seriously ask himself if they are not his best customers, and what would be the value of his property without them? Let him look back and see if the increase in the value of his lands has not kept pace with the progress of manufacturing industry, and then consider if he is likely to be benefited by any laws which tend to cripple and to impede it. One fact the landowner may rest assured of, that his interest is now indissolubly bound up with that of the manufacturer for weal or for wo. It is now no longer an abstract question whether an agricultural or a manufacturing population is likely to be the happiest. We have become the greatest manufacturing and commercial country in the world. We cannot whelm the manufacturers in the sea if we would, and they will not submit to be starved. We must either find extended markets for them abroad, or feed them gratuitously at home. If from the want of markets for the products of our industry this shall cease to be a great manufacturing country, the value of land in England will diminish more rapidly than it has increased. Thousands of acres now in cultivation will revert to breaks and downs, the landlord will lose his rents, and the fundholder his dividends, and misery and famine will stalk over the land. And let not the landowner flatter himself that in the midst of all this national distress he will be permitted quietly to possess his lands even in their deteriorated condition. Under such a state of things the sacred rights of property will be no longer regarded, and he will be swept away in one common ruin with the other classes of the community."

We congratulate our friends at Plymouth on the ability displayed by the gentlemen who have hitherto treated their fellow-townsmen to lectures on the different branches of Free Trade. (We believe the last subject was on the Sugar Monopoly.) We beg to suggest that they will not overlook the effects of [illegible] Plymouth has a deep interest, and of which we know there are many members of the Association well able to treat.

THE LANDOWNERS; WHAT HAVE THEY DONE?

In the fierce contest which is now being waged against that portion of the proprietors of the soil who are struggling to maintain the monopoly in the supply of a nation's bread, every day that passes over us brings to light some new feature in the character of landlords' rule. The most active members of the League were ignorant five years ago of much of what they are now acquainted with, and which it is needful for the whole country to know. They knew that the Corn Law was in principle, and in its working, a law to create a scarcity of food in order that rich men might profit by the oppression of the poor; they knew that this law was hostile to manufacturing and commercial industry, and therefore unjust to all engaged in it; but they were little aware of the terrible consequences which landlord supremacy has brought upon all the industrious classes of the people in every part of the United Kingdom. Five years' inquiry has taught them much: it has laid bare the source of the extreme sufferings of all who labour, whether in manufactures or in agriculture, and it has convinced them, and with them the thinking population of our country, that the evils of landlord legislation are such as to make social order not much longer possible, and to endanger what little of national prosperity it has left yet undestroyed. The "United Kingdom" at this moment exists only in name. One portion of it, containing nearly one-third of its entire population, is seeking to be disunited, and the integrity of the empire, even in name, is only secured by a military force not smaller in amount than that which sufficed for the final overthrow of Napoleon. And at whose door lies the guilt of the fearful pass to which Irish affairs have come? On this point there cannot be two opinions. Irish landlords are the theme of reproach on all sides. It is almost universally admitted that they are the parties on whom the responsibility rests. They have united with their brother landlords in Great Britain in a system of government under which trade and manufactures must necessarily languish, and by which they have cut off the means of employment to the people. They have seen the deadly war of competition for land, the fatal strife for potato ground, become more and more general, and out of this they have seen their rent-rolls gradually swelling in amount. They have owned the soil of Ireland, but they have disowned its unfortunate peasantry. They have hated the national religion of a country of which they are unworthy, and, in hope of extirpating the faith which has refused to yield to them, they have tried to extirpate the people. The scenes of dreadful oppression perpetrated in that unhappy country are such as probably have no parallel on the page of history, and the full amount of the guilt incurred and the sufferings endured will never be unfolded to human observation. The forcible ejectment of thousands of families from their homes, the unroofing of cottages, the demolition of the hovels in which poverty sought a refuge, the consigning of multitudes to beggary, starvation, or crime, and all the horrors which attend this fiendish system of oppression,—all this lies at the door of the landed proprietors of Ireland. It is not that the Irish peasantry comprehend the theory of legislation, or have investigated the subtleties of government, that they are now unanimous in protesting against the injuries heaped upon them,—it is something more real, more deep than this,—it is that injustice has gone beyond the bounds of human endurance, that to them their country affords no shelter, and for their families earth itself has no home but the grave. The two millions of wretched paupers in Ireland attest the inhumanity and the wickedness of the policy which has ruled in that country. Ireland was years ago the "chief difficulty" of Sir Robert Peel. Is it less a difficulty now? The indulgences of landlordism have had full play in Ireland, and the utter prostration of the country is the fitting, the inevitable result. A Government commission to inquire into the "relations" between landlord and tenant is now sitting in Dublin. The landlord Government of this empire professes ignorance of the source of Irish grievances and outrages! They are utterly oblivious of the fact that a proprietary of one faith or of no faith have resolved to persecute, and, if possible, to extirpate the tenantry and the peasantry of a faith they detest! They are ignorant, of what is clear as broad day to all the rest of the world, that in Ireland there is *law* for the rich and no *justice* for the poor! They are unconscious that they have made laws, and now maintain them, under which no trade, no manufactures can flourish in Ireland, and by which the employment of the increasing population of Ireland is cut off, and they are doomed, from the cradle to the grave, to hopeless penury and starvation! Let the commission inquire by all means. Landlords *may* expose the misdeeds of their class, and *may* [illegible] denounce the perpetrators of the wrongs which have driven a kingdom to the verge of rebellion, and if they do, such a tale will be told as will bring a blush of shame upon the cheek of every one who is not lost to every feeling of humanity and every spark of honour. But is the disease we speak of confined to Ireland? Has Wales, industrious, patient Wales, no voice in this general cry? From her mountain tops, from her lowest valleys, there are loud murmurs, and more than murmurs—there is resistance and revenge. The landlords of Wales have imitated their Irish brethren with some success. They have leagued to destroy the iron trade of South Wales along with all other trades of the kingdom; they have rack-rented their tenants, they have thrown upon them the unbearable burden of continually increasing poor's rate, caused by the laws by which they are destroying trade and cutting off the demand for labour; they have, contrary to justice and contrary also to law, taxed them by toll-bars on nearly every mile on every road to every market: and thus the patient animal, able to travel no longer with its ever-increasing load, has not fallen beneath the burden, but risen against its merciless task-masters. And a Government commission has been down in Wales to inquire into that which the whole country was already informed about through the medium of the *Times* reporter. The Welsh complaint is similar to that so prevalent in Ireland. The testimony of the *Times* reporter is as follows, and the commission, if it be honest, will doubtless corroborate it:—

"The main cause, however, of the disturbances is beyond question the abject poverty of the people. The small farmer here breakfasts on oatmeal and water boiled, called 'duffery' or 'flummery,' or on a few mashed potatoes left from the previous night's supper. He dines on potatoes and buttermilk, with sometimes a little white Welsh cheese and barley-bread, and, as an occasional treat, has a salt herring. Fresh meat is never seen on the farmer's table. He sups on mashed potatoes. His butter he never tastes; he sells it to pay his rent. The pigs he feeds are sold to pay his rent. As for beef or mutton, they are quite out of the question—they never form the farmer's food. Oh! is not this 'a muzzling of the ox which treadeth out the corn?' The condition of the labourer from inability in the farmer to give him constant employmant is deplorable. They live entirely on potatoes, and have seldom enough of them, having only one meal a day. Being half-starved, they are constantly upon the parish. They live in mud cottages, with only one room, for sleeping, cooking, and living—different ages and sexes herding together. Their cottages have no windows, but a hole through the mud wall to admit the air and light, into which a bundle of rags or turf is thrust at night to stop it up. The thinly-thatched roofs are seldom drop-dry, and the mud floor becomes consequently damp, and wet, and dirty almost as the road; and, to complete the wretched picture, huddled in a corner are the rags and straw of which their beds are composed."—*Times*, Dec. 2.

Ireland and Wales, then, are speaking in the same tone. What is the language heard in our portion of the empire, in England? The phrase "merry England" is now obsolete; it speaks only of the past, and has no reference to the present. The "agricultural interest," meaning landlord interest, has well-nigh devoured "merry England." The mortgaged proprietors of the soil are now the "agricultural interest;" and their pecuniary embarassments, their marriage settlements, and their thirst for political influence, are the great *wen* which is destroying the fair proportions of this empire. Tenants and labourers are alike forgotten, or exist only to be trodden on and defrauded. And yet they are not wholly forgotten. Tenants proclaim their condition at the rent-day, and some of them get an allowance of 20 per cent., which, not having, they cannot be made to pay.

Some are heard of at the sad gatherings presided over by the auctioneer, when the little they have left is transferred by virtue of a distress warrant into the all-gathering pocket of the landlord; and some are seen brooding in sorrow and despair on the deck of the emigrant ship, as she bears them from the land they tilled, but whose remorseless policy has driven them wanderers and homeless from her shores; and some fall into the rank of labourers, and the union-house is the asylum of their grey hairs. And the labourers are sometimes thought of. At agricultural dinners, the impoverished farmers are enjoined to employ more of them than they have need of, and to pay them higher wages than their exhausted resources will afford; and this is the squire's kind-heartedness to the labourer. The men who spend thousands to make hares and pheasants plump and fat, and for which they drive thousands of human beings to crime and to gaol, these same men strongly advise their suffering and deluded tenants to take especial care of their labourers! But the labourers are thought of at other times. They know nothing of the native Irish tongue, and nothing of the language of the Welsh. But Nature acknowledges not these divisions of her world, and disregards the variations of language and institutions; she speaks alike throughout; and the insubordination which is now manifesting itself in the southern counties of England is the response of the wretched population of those counties to the voice in which Irish and Welsh grievances find utterance. Scotland is not altogether silent. True, she speaks not yet in out-

rage and violence, but she has recently made a great effort to liberate herself from the domination of the land in matters of deep moment to herself and to the world, and she has had some success in the attempt. But from Edinburgh, the capital of her literature, and from Glasgow, the capital of her commerce, there is a warning going forth; the law-made famine may for a moment have been baffled by the beneficence of Providence, and plenteous harvests may have given more food than is most profitable to the traders in scarcity; but the famine brought pestilence in its train, and hot fever now racks the frame of those whom the famine but partially destroyed. Throughout the United Kingdom the complaint is the same. 'Poverty is the plague which is desolating our country, and for this the medical works offer no remedy. The specific in this case is justice, and this is precisely that which a landlord Government seems resolved yet longer to withhold. The poverty does not arise from sterility in the soil,—no curse has come upon us from Heaven; it springs not from decay among the people,—they are industrious as ever, skilful and ingenious as ever; but there is a point of pressure which they cannot support, and to that point they have come. The Imperial Parliament is a landlord Parliament. Its laws are the decrees of landlords. The internal and subordinate government of the country, the county management, the quarter-sessions business, the labours of the magisterial office,—all or nearly all, is in the hands of landlords. And what a discord have they produced! This cannot go on for ever; the very helplessness of these lords of the soil will soon, from the dangers that surround them, implore the aid of the common sense of the country to deliver them from the curses they have sown. They have begotten the Corn Law; they have fondled the misshapen creature, the offspring of blindness and avarice, as though it were the very jewel of their life; it has lived long enough to bring upon them some disasters, and far greater are in its train. There is now an awakening throughout this realm of England which will shake off some mists ere long, and our children's children will point to these days as to the time when their forefathers arose as from a dream, and freed themselves from the "bondage of the land."

MEETINGS.

FREE-TRADE FESTIVAL IN AID OF THE GREAT LEAGUE FUND.

One of those extraordinary meetings which have sprung up in support of the national movement of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and which must ever be associated with the rise, progress, and triumph of this indefatigable body, was held in the Exchange Hall, Nottingham, last Tuesday afternoon. The splendid room was decorated with evergreens, and a platform erected on the southern side for the accommodation of the Chairman and the Deputation from the League. Extracts from the speeches of Sir R. Peel and Sir J. Graham were appropriately introduced amongst the devices. Charles Paget, Esq., of Ruddington, occupied the chair, supported on his right by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Alderman Vickers, Mayor of Nottingham; and on his left by Colonel T. P. Thompson and Mr. R. R. R. Moore. Amongst those present we observed A. Lowe, Esq., of Highfields; the Rev. J. Edwards; Mr. Alderman Heard, Mr. Alderman Rogers, Mr. Alderman Herbert, Mr. Alderman Wilson; Mr. W. Cripps, Mr. A. Wells, Mr. J. Bradley, Mr. L. Hardy, Mr. Biddle, Mr. Wakefield, and Mr. Parkin, members of the Town Council; and Messrs. I. Wilson, W. Enfield, B. Morley, N. Barnsdall, G. Gill, J. Smith, B. Eddison, J. Barnsdall, S. Roberts, sen., S. Hollins, C. Hollins, T. Hopkins, G. Bradley, J. R. Allen, T. Birkin, D. New, T. Keeley, J. Neuburgh, E. Steegmann, J. Shaw, &c. Tea having been concluded,

The CHAIRMAN rose, and was received with loud applause. He said:—I consider that we are now, through the exertions and distinguished position of the deputation,—I may call theirs a distinguished position, for they have secured to themselves great credit by their advocacy of this question,—I consider, I say, that we are much nearer the object of our wishes this evening than when last we assembled for a similar purpose. At that time how great was the ignorance on this subject—how many errors were popularly believed! Then, great numbers of persons believed that the rate of wages depended most materially on the price of corn; indeed, it does depend on the price of corn, for, on comparison, I find that a high price of corn is invariably accompanied with low wages: the corn rises, and the rate of wages lowers. (Hear, hear.) Then, again, it was said that the home trade depends on the price of corn; pay the farmers well, and they will lay out the money with you by which you will create a home trade. But is it so? No; it is the surplus fund of the labouring classes that goes to employ the manufacturers. Indeed, there is scarcely an argument left for the continuance of the Corn Law; I cannot discover even a shred of an argument. Sir Robert Peel says, we must wait awhile; a large capital is invested in the soil, and we must not proceed hastily. Why does Sir Robert ask for time? Does he mean our farm-buildings to go out of condition—our soil to be uncultivated—our drains to be ruined? If not, the exhortation to lay out more capital in farming seems to me very strange. I would say to Sir Robert Peel, that though many of the farmers do not agree with us that the Corn Law should be abolished, and though many more are of opinion there ought not to be a mitigation of that law, yet they all agree in this, that what is to be done, should be done immediately. (Hear, hear.) I know many tenant-farmers; but I do not know one who does not say, "I do not know what the Government mean to do, but they ought to let it be known directly, if they intend to do anything, and not kill us by inches." (Applause.) Then there was the landlord, who has an equal interest in the settlement of this question, and to him its settlement is most important. How is the landlord to know how he might be placed with regard to the value of his property—how he might stand with his tenantry—how he might arrange for a division of wealth amongst his family? Let all of us no longer be flattered by the false hopes, or alarmed by the false fears, to which the conduct of Sir Robert Peel may give rise, but let us know what our condition is to be. (Hear.) Advocates for a fixed duty, indeed, abound; but it is for a duty more than equivalent to the burthens on land, and is, consequently, tainted with monopoly. Therefore, with the strong conviction I feel of the enormous evils inflicted by this monopoly upon all parties,—manufacturing and commercial, labourer, farmer, ay, and landlord too,—I feel it my duty to assist the League in carrying out their great design, rather than stand sullenly aloof without any hope of immediately obtaining any measure which I should think more equitable, reserving to myself the right of asserting our just claims whenever I see a fitting opportunity. (Applause.)

The MAYOR (Mr. Alderman Vickers) on rising to move the first resolution, was greeted with loud and long-continued applause. His Worship said:—Mr. Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen, I am sure I shall best consult your feelings by at once referring to the resolution which I have the honour to propose, and which alludes to the gentlemen of the League in deservedly complimentary language. It is always pleasant to speak in terms of compliment; but I say with confidence, that the exertions of the gentlemen included in the resolution, and their noble advocacy of the principles of Free Trade, will, in the pages of history, redound to their praise and honour. (Applause.) I beg to move,—

"That we cannot too highly value the untiring energy and devotedness of Richard Cobden, Esq., John Bright, Esq., and the other members of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League." (Applause.)

Mr. Alderman HEARD, on rising to second the resolution, was received with great applause. He said:—Mr. Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen, I feel great pleasure in seconding the resolution just proposed, which will, I am persuaded, receive a seconder in the breast of every person in this room. We are here to express our thanks to Mr. Cobden and the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and we cannot do so without feeling that the cause is one with which our interests are closely identified. The largeness and fulness of the subject awaken our anxiety, but the talent, the energy, and the zeal brought to bear upon it, call for our warm acknowledgment. It does appear to me that the resources of a community must affect, in a great degree, the happiness of the people; and when the resources are diminished, the condition of the poor must be rendered worse. I can conceive nothing more beneficial to this country, nothing more beneficial to the world, than that freedom of trade in the necessary articles for the sustentation of human life for which we are contending. (Applause.) It was said by a noble lord, when the Corn Law was under discussion in the House of Peers, that "he believed it to be a conspiracy of the two Houses of Parliament against the people of this country." (Hear, hear.) The diligence of Mr. Cobden and his colleagues is beyond all praise; one day we hear of them being in one part of the country, and another day in some other part, advocating the great principle of freedom of trade. I cordially second the resolution proposed. (Applause.)

The resolution having been put, was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said they would all agree in the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, impressed with the importance of the speedy triumph of Free-Trade principles, pledges itself to follow the noble example of Manchester and other towns, in their laudable effort to effect the repeal of the Corn Laws, and thereby advance both the commercial and agricultural interests."

This resolution was also put, and carried unanimously.

The meeting was then addressed by Colonel Thompson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Moore, and the following sums were subscribed:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Bean	100	0	0
Mr. C. Paget	50	0	0
Vickers and Son ..	30	0	0
Alderman Heard ..	30	0	0
Messrs. I. I. I. Wilson	30	0	0
Mr. Ald. Herbert ..	30	0	0
Mr. Ald. Herbert, Castle-terrace ..	10	10	0
Mr. Nicholson ..	1	0	0
Mr. Brookes	0	10	0
Mr. J. R. Allen .	5	0	0
Mr. T. Shepherd, New Lenton ..	2	10	0
Bradley and Son ..	50	0	0
Mr. T. Hopkins ..	15	0	0
Three Friends, by T. Hopkins	5	0	0
Mr. J. Burton, Carrington	10	0	0
Mr. Hall	1	0	0
Mr. L. Hardy	1	0	0
Keeley and Son ..	5	0	0
Mr. W. Enfield ..	15	0	0
Mr J. Burton, New Basford	1	0	0
Biddle and Birkin	10	0	0
H and C. Hollins	50	0	0
A Lady	1	0	0
Copeland and Son	5	0	0
Mr. Watkinson ..	1	0	0
Tunlay and Co. ..	2	0	0
Mr. D. New	5	0	0
Mr. J. E. Topham..	1	0	0
Barton and Starr ..	5	0	0
Mr. J. Smith	5	0	0
Mr. B. Morley ..	10	0	0
Mr. Ald. Rogers ..	10	0	0
Mr. T. Keeley ..	10	0	0
D. P.	2	0	0
A Friend	5	0	0
Mr. S. Hollins ..	10	0	0
A Friend	5	0	0
A Friend	2	0	0
Mr J. Henson ..	1	0	0
Mr. J Neuburgh ..	5	0	0
A Friend	2	0	0
T. and W. Hill ..	3	0	0
Mr. G. Parkin ..	2	2	0
A thorough Free Trade Family ..	1	0	0
Bailey and Shaw ..	10	0	0
Mr. B. Walker ..	2	0	0
Dickenson & Eames	2	2	0
A Lady	1	0	0
A complete Suffragist	1	0	0
I T.	1	0	0
Miss Johnson ..	1	0	0
Mrs. Cripps	1	0	0
A Lady	1	0	0
Booth and Taylor ..	5	0	0
Mr. J. Cleaver ..	1	0	0

The cards continued to be handed up until half-past ten o'clock, when Mr. Moore announced that the total sum subscribed in the room was £580.

The MAYOR rose and said, he had great pleasure in moving the cordial thanks of the meeting to the chairman. (Applause.) The resolution having been carried unanimously,

Mr. J. BRADLEY said, they had still another duty to perform, that of thanking the gentlemen who had come so far to advocate the good cause; every person in the room would heartily join in a vote of thanks to the deputation from the League, and a vast majority of the people of this country would unite with us. I am a thorough Free-Trader. I have been termed an enthusiast on this question, and until a better cause be found, I will remain an enthusiast still. The present position of the question I consider to be a triumph of principle; and even if we are not successful before long, the aspect of affairs fully justifies the steps we have taken. I believe any permanent improvement in the physical, moral, and intellectual condition of the people of this country depends on the triumph of the principle of Free Trade.

Mr. Alderman WILSON had great pleasure in seconding the motion. The best thing we could leave to our children was that enlarged intercourse with the globe which would ensure an extension of commerce.

Mr. Alderman HERBERT said he had risen with the view of seconding the resolution, in which he cordially concurred.

The CHAIRMAN, having first returned thanks on behalf of himself, said he put the motion with great pleasure.

The vote of thanks to the deputation having passed by acclamation,

Mr. COBDEN acknowledged it on the part of himself and colleagues.

The entire subscription in Nottingham towards the £50,000 fund, was upwards of £800; so that nearly three-fourths of that sum was raised in the room in aid of the £100,000 fund. The subscription is still going on, with every probability of considerably exceeding the amount obtained on the former occasion.

GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN LEICESTER.

(From the *Leicestershire Mercury*.)

On Wednesday evening a meeting was held in the Theatre, Horsefair-street, to take steps to give the inhabitants of this great and rapidly-advancing town an opportunity of contributing their quota to the Great League Fund.

It was announced that the doors would be opened at half-past five, but long before that hour the entrances to the theatre were thronged by parties anxious to obtain admission, and by the time the proceedings commenced, soon after six o'clock, the house was comfortably filled, the principal occupiers of the boxes being elegantly-dressed ladies, and there was also a fair sprinkling of the "fair sex" in the pit. As the business of the meeting advanced, every part of the house, boxes, pit, gallery, and stage, became crowded. Among the gentlemen present (in addition to the deputation from the League, which embraced R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., Col. Thompson, R.R. R. Moore, Esq., and H. Rawson, Esq.,) we observed R. Harris, Esq. (Mayor), E. Dawson, T. Paget, T. Stokes, Esqrs. (these three gentlemen, as our readers are well aware, being extensive landowners); I. Hodson, J., W., and T. Biggs, J. Whetstone, J. Hudson, J. Fielding, S. Stone, T. and A. Burgess, G. Toller, C. B. Robinson, J. F. Hollings, J. Briggs, T. T. Paget, W. Kirby, J. D. Harris, Esqrs., &c. &c.; Dr. Noble; the Revs. J. P. Mursell, J. Goadby, C. Burdett, and G. Legge; Messrs. R. Palmer, J. Moore, J. Collier, Porter, Wheeler, J. Fowkes, B. Fowkes, S. Waters, G. Wykes, C., W., and J. Bedells, D. Shaw, S. Viccars, T. Chapman, T. Thompson, J. Manning, W. Billson, T. Hull, Corah, Bankart, J. Whitmore, T. F. Cooke, E. Gittins, W. Kempson, W. Walker, T. P. Hull, C. Billson, J. Page, J. F. Winks, G. and W. Eaglesfield, Else, H. Gill, &c. &c.

About half-past six, Mr. Cobden, Colonel Thompson, and Mr. R. R. R. Moore, entered the theatre, and were received with enthusiastic cheering from all parts of the house. When this had in some degree subsided,

J. W. NOBLE, Esq., M.B., rose, and proposed that Thomas Paget, Esq., of Humberstone, should take the chair; and, in so doing, said he thought the best recommendation of his fitness for that office was to be found in his past conduct, which was before them. (Cheers.)

WILLIAM BIGGS, Esq., seconded the motion.

Mr. T. F. COOKE said he thought, when the Mayor was in company, it was incumbent upon him to take the chair; and he would therefore move that R. Harris, Esq., preside over the meeting.

The announcement created some slight confusion; when order was restored Dr. NOBLE said it had been thought that some gentleman should preside who was little interested in manufactures; and on that account Mr. Paget was proposed.—The original motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

THOMAS PAGET, Esq., having taken the chair, said:—Ladies and gentlemen, will you allow me to explain, in the first place, the seeming impropriety of my occupying the chair on this important occasion. I quite agree with the gentleman who made the observation that the Mayor of Leicester is the fittest person to occupy this position to-night; but a feeling of delicacy in this case prevented him from so doing. [Here some two or three "gallery gods" began to make a disturbance, evidently preconcerted, but after some little time it was put down, we believe, by one of the parties being ejected.] Being the chief magistrate of this town, and feeling that many might consider this as a meeting for political purposes, which it is not, he felt that he should be improperly placed in the chair, if such a construction were put upon it. (Hear, hear.) He felt, also, that, being one of the greatest and most influential manufacturers in this district, it might be supposed by some that he only occupied the chair to secure his own interest, and from these delicate considerations he had declined the post. (Hear, hear.) It was then determined to apply to me; and I believe that there are few men who are less personally connected with manufactures than myself; my resources being derived for the most part from land. On this account I was selected, on the Mayor's declining from the reasons I have stated, to fill the chair. It is some time since I had the honour to fill this office, and although I had flattered myself that I should not again be required to do so, I could not refuse the favour my friends required of me. (Cheers.) I would now explain to you the object of our meeting to-night. It is to promote the principles of Free Trade upon their broadest basis. It is to endeavour to obtain a repeal, not only of the Corn Laws, but to break up monopolies of every description (cheering), to have Free Trade and free intercourse with all the world, in every article of produce or manufacture; and so satisfied am I of the importance of carrying these principles into effect, that nothing I could do would be considered too much to aid them. (Cheers.) I believe the promotion of the interests of Free Trade would further the interests of all classes: the landlord, the manufacturer, the farmer, and the labourer, would alike be benefited by it. And I believe that it would not only promote the interests of all, but that it would greatly advance the civilization of the whole world. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) I believe, that if the principles of Free Trade were once as firmly established in practice as they are now in theory,—for the head of the Government has himself expressed the opinion, "that we should buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest,"—if these grand principles of Free Trade, for which we have been strug-

not say that I cared not whether good men or bad governed this nation, for good men are always best, but I would say that under any government little harm could be done to the people of England, if they could apply their energies in the best manner to supply the wants of their families (cheers); and taking the whole range of the social system, there is nothing to be compared, in its importance in effecting that object, to this question. ("Hear," and cheers.) We come here, gentlemen, with no political bias, but to consider the question in its broadest views, and to hear the addresses of "foreigners" from Manchester on the subject. I may say, in conclusion, that I am extremely sorry I do not see more of my friends, the farmers, here. (Hear, hear.) I am sorry that this meeting should be principally composed of those who have made up their minds to the repeal of the Corn Laws; for if many of the farmers, who do not understand the question, once saw it in its true light, they would support us. If they had come here to-night they would have seen that we are not seeking this change for our own selfish interests, but that we really and truly think it will benefit all classes of the community. (Cheers.) (A voice, "Three cheers for eternal commerce.")

R. Harris, Esq. (mayor of Leicester), then rose and said:—A resolution has been put into my hands to submit to you, but, before I read it, I will say a few words on the remarks which have already been made to you. I quite agree with the statement made to the meeting by our worthy chairman; and I think the steps I have taken were the best for the situation in which I was placed. It is a question of individual feeling, and, perhaps, I may have erred; but as our object in meeting to-night might have been considered by some as a political one, I thought, by declining the chair, I should give no offence to any person. (Hear, hear.) I will not take up your time further, as the subject is generally understood by the public, but will read the resolution I have had put into my hands.

Thomas Stokes, Esq., briefly seconded the motion, which was put from the chair and carried, seven hands in the gallery only being held up against it.

John Biggs, Esq., proposed the next resolution, and declined making any remarks upon it, expressing his anxiety that the deputation from the League should address the meeting. (Cheers.)

Joseph Fielding, Esq., seconded the resolution.

The Chairman said:—I think it right to inform you, that I am not the only person connected with the landed interest present on this occasion, for there are others much more largely connected with it than I am. There is Mr. Dawson, who is no stranger to you (loud cheers); and who, through good or evil report, has still maintained the cause of the people. (Continued cheering.) Mr. Stokes is also a large landowner; and I have to express to you the regret of Colonel Cheney that an engagement of long standing prevents his attendance this evening. Many of the aristocracy and landowners back us to the utmost of their ability, and this gives assurance that our cause will prosper, and that it is founded in truth and justice. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried, five hands being held up against it, two of the gentlemen in the gallery, in accordance with the usual Chartist practice, holding up both hands.

Mr. Parker then presented the following address, signed by upwards of 4000 working men, to R. Cobden, Esq., and the deputation from the League:—

"To Richard Cobden and John Bright, Esqrs.

"The respectful Address of the undersigned Working Men of Leicester:—

"Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned Working Men of Leicester, hail with pleasure your arrival here to promote the God-like object of the Anti-Corn-Law League; and may your noble and indefatigable exertions be crowned with speedy success. We feel confident they will be so, that your glorious career is almost triumphant, and we think that we now hear in the distance the cry of victory! Victory over that monster monopoly the Corn Laws, which have fettered our commerce, and ground to the dust so many of the operatives and labourers of this country; for we need not tell you that whatever impedes commerce is alike injurious to the whole of our working population. Where the places of interment to be opened, and the graves to give up their dead who have fallen victims to these cruel laws, the most stout-hearted monopolist would be struck with horror, and would flee from a contest which has committed such direful ravages amongst his fellow-creatures. When we look upon the past, it is with sighs and grief for the hopeless lot of those who have gone before us; but when we look forward to the future, hope brightens the prospect, and we see, in the destruction of this relic of the feudal system, a long career of prosperity and happiness in store for our beloved country; and as destitution and crime go hand-in-hand, so will the improvement of the social condition of the people elevate them in moral dignity.

"It is not merely the acquisition of wealth, we are confident, that influences your conduct in the arduous enterprise you have undertaken: it is mainly to promote the comfort and happiness of the working classes of this country; and, having achieved the great object of your exertions, you will, we are persuaded, in your own capacity of legislators, *promote any further ameliorations*, and advocate those rights which may be necessary to fix those blessings upon a permanent basis.

"Receive, Gentlemen, our kindest thanks and our most heart-felt gratitude; and when the efforts of the League shall be crowned with success, and its existence shall become only a matter of history, may you live many years to witness the happiness you have been so instrumental in conferring, and which gives to noble minds a thousand times more felicity than any praises man can bestow."

This address, Mr. P. said, would have been signed by 8000 working men, if it had been properly circulated. After some further remarks, Mr. P. sat down amidst loud applause.

The Chairman rose, and said:—Give me leave, Gentlemen, to introduce to you Mr. Cobden. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Cobden, Colonel Thompson, and Mr. Moore, addressed the meeting with their usual ability; the first and last, however, meeting with continued interruption.

The following subscriptions, exclusive of those of smaller amount, which were very considerable, were then received and announced:—

R. Harris and Sons (double the last)	£200	0	0
(Immense cheering followed this announcement.)			
J. Biggs and Sons	100	0	0
John Baines, London-road	5	0	0
D. Orange and Co.	20	0	0
John Travis, Belgrave-gate	2	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
G. Daniell, bookseller	1	0	0
Joseph Fielding	30	0	0
J. and J. Harvey (double the last)	10	0	0
Baldwin and Whetstone (double)	50	0	0
Stokes and Nephews (double)	50	0	0
A well-wisher	1	1	0
A Lady	1	1	0
A Friend to the Cause	2	0	0
Rev. W. Arnold (of the Established Church)	1	1	0
Dr. Noble	10	0	0
W. Parker, Lower Church-gate	1	0	0
R. Palmer, Belvoir-street	5	0	0
Thomas Viccars	1	0	0
W. S. Darkin (of the *Leicestershire Mercury*)	1	0	0
John Burton (of the *Leicestershire Mercury*)	1	0	0
George Viccars	1	0	0
Luke Gimson, Loughborough (second subscription, and will double it again if wanted)	1	0	0
Whetstone and Gittins	20	0	0
Rev. T. Stevenson	1	0	0
J. Page	1	0	0
Thomas Paget, Esq.	50	0	0
John Perry	1	0	0
S. Viccars	3	0	0
G. Eaglesfield	2	2	0
C. Bedells and Co.	25	0	0
J. Brewin	1	0	0
W. E. Hutchinson	3	3	0
John Biskesley	1	0	0
J. F. Winks	2	0	0
W. Scott, Market-street	1	0	0
Samuel Grundy, Harborough	1	0	0
Thomas Hodges, Redcross-street	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
I. Hodgson, Esq.	20	0	0
Rev. J. Goadby	1	0	0
J. Crossley (who subscribed last year, and will repeat it if required)	1	1	0
A Friend	10	0	0
John Whitmore (double last year's)	6	0	0
F. Shenton, London-road	1	0	0
Rev. G. Legge	5	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
A Friend	10	0	0
Joseph Branston, Humberstone-road	1	1	0
A Free Trader in the Market-place (double last year's)	10	0	0
J. Hunter, Pocklington's-walk	1	0	0
Mrs. Chapman, Stockdale-terrace	1	0	0
T. Chapman, do.	3	0	0
Frederic Groocock	1	0	0
William Latchmore (self and family)	2	0	0
S. Noon, Watt's-causeway	1	0	0
Peter Colston	5	0	0
Thomas White, Neale-street	1	0	0
R. J. Smith	5	0	0
Carter and Son	10	0	0
Nathan Westerman	5	0	0
William Thirlby, Cheapside	1	0	0
W. Kinsman	1	0	0
John Pole	1	1	0
Thomas Jackson	1	1	0
G. Streetley	1	0	0
S. Johnson, Southgate-street	1	0	0
Laurence Staines	1	0	0
J. Roberts, Market-place	1	0	0
J. Markham, broker, Belgrave-gate (formerly a Chartist leader)	1	0	0
Edward Ridley	5	0	0
A real Friend	1	0	0
J. H. Clarke, East-gates	1	0	0
W. Brown, London-road	1	1	0
M. Dowling	1	1	0
W. Weston and Son, Bond street	1	1	0
J. Flower, New-walk	2	0	0
James Kinzett (10s. for self, and 1s. each for eleven children)	1	1	0
James Brampton	1	5	0
James Wright, Goddard's-place	1	0	0
Valentine Harris	1	0	0
Charles Gould	2	0	0
T. W. Palmer, chemist	1	0	0
Anne Freeman	1	0	0
Clement Pretty, Cheapside	1	0	0
Serjeant Wright	1	0	0
H. and T. P. Hull	5	0	0
T. Thompson and Son	3	0	0
J. Holland, Humberstone-gate	1	0	0
Stone and Paget	21	0	0
R. M. Cook, London-road	1	0	0
T. Porter, ditto	1	0	0
T. Sunderland	5	0	0
An American Trader	1	0	0
J. Foxon, Gallowtree-gate	1	0	0
R. W. Gillespie, Highcross-street	1	0	0
Thomas Bradley	1	0	0
F. Groocock (in addition to £1 given to-night)	1	0	0
William Ellgood (double last year's)	1	0	0
William Rowlett	1	0	0
John Gray, shoemaker	1	0	0
C. Spence	2	0	0

Mr. Moore announced the subscription to have reached £800.

Four hearty cheers were now given for Mr. Cobden.

Mr. Cobden moved, and put to the meeting, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried by acclamation.

Additional sums, amounting to £200, were subsequently subscribed, making a total of One Thousand Pounds.

SPLENDID DEMONSTRATION.

Derby, Thursday Night.

The League has had a glorious wind-up of their agitation for 1843. The last of this year's meetings has just been held in our spacious Mechanics' Institute; Mr. Blurton, a large landed proprietor, in the chair. Speeches by Mr. Cobden, M.P., Colonel Thompson, and Mr. Moore; after which a collection in the room amounting to £965. The Messrs. Strutt gave the munificent contribution of £500.

LUTON ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at the George Hotel, Luton, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 12th, for the purpose of forming an association to promote the cause of Free Trade, and to co-operate with the Anti-Corn-Law League. A committee being appointed, R. Vyse, Esq., was elected chairman, and James Waller, Esq., vice-president. In the unavoidable absence of the former, Mr. James Waller took the chair, and having opened the meeting by explaining the views and objects contemplated by the association, called on Mr. C. Lattimore to address the meeting. In compliance with the request, Mr. L. proceeded to explain the origin, nature, and consequences of the Corn Law, engendering and fostering various other monopolies, and being a remnant of that feudal spirit of legislation which prevailed during the darker periods of British history. He also explained the relative connexion between the monopolies of corn, sugar, coffee, and indeed all branches of that Upas-tree. These statements were frequently interrupted by Mr. Thomas Waller, and a sprig of aristocracy who was present. Mr. L. begged Mr. T. Waller to reserve his objections till he had finished, expressing the utmost readiness to listen to his statements, but without success. At length Mr. T. Waller was offered the liberty to reply; when, after some incoherent statements, he supposed that the Free Trade would inundate this country with foreign productions, and swamp the British producer of corn and manufactures; and upon these grounds he objected to the formation of any association, in that town, entertaining Free-Trade views. Mr. L., having been personally alluded to, rose to reply. He trusted, after the personal allusions made to him by Mr. Waller, the chairman would permit him to answer the doubts and insinuations made by Mr. T. Waller. After answering the imaginary alarms about excess of supply of food, clothing, &c. &c., Mr. L. proceeded to say, that a complaint had justly been made, that many persons admired Free Trade in the abstract, like our present Ministers, or to *just that extent* which would not touch their own productions or occupations, and to that class belonged Mr. T. Waller. He would explain what he meant. Mr. Waller, as was well known, was a Free Trader in religious matters, and was a manufacturer of straw hats and bonnets to a considerable extent, which he exported to Florence, Italy, and America. The profits of this trade had enabled him to turn farmer, for he occupied a small quantity of land; whether profit or pleasure was the return from the latter he (Mr. L.) would leave Mr. Waller to explain. But this he would say, that Mr. W. did appear before that meeting in the *unenviable light* of a decent Free Trader abroad, in regard to his *straw manufactures* and in conscientious matters, and of a miserable monopolist at home for the sale of his agricultural produce. (Loud cheers.) He (Mr. L.) would leave this gentleman to explain the apparent inconsistency in his public views and actions as a conscientious dissenter, and wished he might be able to set himself right with the sincere and patriotic members of society. (Immense cheering from all assembled.)

Mr. Willis afterwards addressed the meeting, and having been repeatedly interrupted by the sprig of aristocracy present, who is just now reading with a neighbouring curate (how great his need of wholesome reading!), was called upon to reply, when it turned out that the sum of this gentleman's information and eloquence consisted in the *simple question*, whether Mr. Willis had stated that the *population* of Great Britain annually consumed seven or seventeen million of quarters of corn; and being informed that the latter quantity was nearest to the mark, he expressed himself satisfied, and withdrew.

From all circumstances, it appears that the thriving town of Luton is about to take its proper position in the advocacy of Free Trade. A lecture was given on the following evening by Mr. Falvey, which was also well attended, and a liberal subscription made upon the occasion.

Great Free-Trade Meeting at Accrington.—On the evening of Friday the 22nd inst., an Anti-Corn-Law meeting was held at Accrington, to receive a deputation from the League, consisting of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Moore. Among those present were the Rev. J. Bailey, of Hollin Bank (who took the chair); George Foster, Esq., and James Hindle, Esq., of Sabden; James Helm, Esq., of Padiham, &c. &c. After a short address from the chairman, a vote expressive of confidence in the League, and pledging the meeting to aid in the collection of the great fund, was moved by the Rev. H. Lings, seconded by the Rev. D. Griffiths, and carried unanimously. Long and animated addresses were then delivered by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Moore, after which subscriptions were announced, amounting to nearly £200. Frederick Steiner, Esq., gave £100; Messrs. Cunliffe, Ratcliffe, and Co., £15 15s.; Joseph Barnes, Esq., £15; William Bury, Esq., £10 10s.; William Blythe, Esq., £10. The meeting was held at Messrs. Cunliffe, Ratcliffe, and Co.'s works.

Anti-Corn-Law Meeting at Annan.—On Friday evening last, a large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of the burgh of Annan was held in the Rev. Mr. Dobbie's church, for the purpose of setting on foot a subscription in aid of the great League Fund of £100,000. Most of the principal merchants and tradesmen of the town were present, and the working classes mustered in large numbers. We also observed several farmers from the surrounding district; and a number of respectable ladies graced the meeting with their presence. On the motion of Mr. B. Nelson, James Little, Esq., provost of the burgh, was called to the chair. He said he had great pleasure in presiding over a meeting of his townsmen, called for a purpose so important as that of aiding the Anti-Corn-Law League in its most praiseworthy endeavours to procure for the country the blessings of Free Trade. Last year the League had called upon the people to raise a fund of £50,000 to aid it in carrying on the agitation against the Corn Laws. The money was raised, and had been well expended in the publication of tracts, and the general diffusion of a knowledge of the principles of Free Trade. The League now required to extend its operations—to put down bribery at elections, and to aid the great cause of Free Trade by every practicable and honourable means; and to enable it to accomplish the objects in view, the Council of the League had now called for a fund of £100,000. That was undoubtedly a very large sum; but he did not fear it would be raised—especially after the noble example set in Manchester, where already upwards of £20,000 had been raised, and the spirit exhibited in Glasgow, Leeds, and other places. It was but little that could be done in small places like Annan; but little as its contribution to the fund might be in amount, it would be sufficient to show that the inhabitants were determined, as hitherto, to do their duty. (Applause.) A number of effective speeches were made by different speakers, among whom was Mr. Steel, the talented editor of the *Carlisle Journal*; and resolutions were passed condemnatory of monopolies, and of the Corn Laws as the chief, and approving of the measures pursued by the Anti-Corn-Law League, in order to effect their speedy abolition. A vote of thanks was proposed, and carried with acclamation to Provost Little, for his able conduct in the chair, when the meeting separated.—*Dumfries Standard.*

The Anti-Corn-Law Movement in Hull.—On Wednesday evening, the 20th inst., a very numerous meeting of gentlemen took place in the Reform Regis-

tration Rooms, Parliament-street, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of having a public meeting in Hull in aid of the Great League Fund of £100,000, and of inviting Messrs. Cobden and Bright, an other gentlemen, to attend. The chair was taken by Sir William Lowthropt, and we observed present in the room, Messrs. Alderman Thompson, Alderman Cookman, Alderman Brownlow, Alderman W. Holmes; Councillors Jones, Foster, Bettison, Lovitt, Liddell, Sission, and Watson; the editor of the *Hull Advertiser*; Rev. G. Lee; Dr. Firth; and Messrs. W. Ayre, jun., Jos. Sanderson, E. Brady, R. Liddell, C. Bell, T. Meggitt, M. Bell, B. Bickerton. J. Richardson, J. Jones, jun., W. W. Darling, P. Lowther, Stanforth, T. Wiles, Atkinson, Stubbs, Burns, &c. A long conversation took place as to the best mode of procedure, and all present manifested a very strong feeling in favour of a decided movement in Hull in furtherance of the objects of the Anti-Corn-Law League. It had been ascertained that Messrs. Cobden and Bright could visit Hull on Friday, the 26th January, and it was ultimately resolved that a public meeting be called on that day, with the view of promoting the general principles of Free Trade, and of assisting the Anti-Corn-Law League in the raising of the £100,000 fund; and that Mr. Cobden, Mr. Brigh, Colonel Thompson, and other gentlemen, be invited to attend. It was afterwards resolved that the public meeting should be held at eleven o'clock in the morning, in the Town-hall; and, if practicable, that a second meeting should be held in the evening. The gentlemen above named as being present at the meeting were appointed a committee to carry out the necessary arrangements.—*Hull Advertiser.*

SOUTHAMPTON FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.—A second meeting of the provisional committee was held on Thursday evening, when good progress was made towards the permanent establishment of the association. A sub-committee was appointed to draw up the rules for the government of the association, who will present their report to a general meeting of the subscribing members on next Thursday evening, which meeting will be convened by circular. The registration of members is steadily proceeding, and we have no doubt the association will in a very short period present such an array of numbers as will secure the representation of the borough to two honest Free-Trade members. An aggregate meeting will probably be held in the course of the ensuing month, at which a deputation from the League will be present. Mr. Andrews, has with his well-known public spirit, given the use of his spacious Carriage Bazaar for the purpose, and the members of the association will be admitted in the same manner as at the great League meetings at Covent-garden—by presenting their cards at the doors. We beg to refer to an advertisement in another column for the information of persons desirous of becoming members.—*Hampshire Independent.*

GATESHEAD FREE-TRADE SOCIETY.—At a meeting held on Thursday evening, at Mrs. Calvert's (Mr. Henry Walker in the chair), Mr. G. Crawshay, jun., laid on the table a large assortment of publications which he had received from the League. The meeting resolved that they should be placed in the hands of the Young Men's Society for distribution. Messrs. Cobden and Bright, it was stated, had intimated their intention to be in Newcastle on Monday, January 22, in reply to the invitation of the Free-Traders of that borough. The Free-Trade meeting in Gateshead, to follow, most probably, on Tuesday, the 23rd.—Mr. Crawshay announced that on the 3rd of January he would deliver a lecture on Free Trade, in the long room of the Greyhorse inn.—Some routine business was transacted, and the meeting was adjourned to January 2.—*Gateshead Observer.*

JEDBURGH.—MEETING IN SUPPORT OF THE LEAGUE FUND.—A public meeting was held here on Tuesday evening for the purpose of recommending a public subscription in aid of the Great League Fund. On the motion of Mr. John Selkirk, Mr. William Deans, seedsman, was called to the chair. The Chairman opened the proceedings by reading the report and address, recently issued by the League, giving a statement of the expenditure of the last year's fund, and appealing for an additional sum to complete the agitation on behalf of the total repeal of the Corn Laws. He was followed by Mr. George Balfour, who, in a humorous speech, dwelt on the triumphant progress of the great question. Alluding to the appellation given by the *Times* to the League, of a "*great fact*," he applied the Scottish opinion of facts in general, and supposed that the writer of the *Times* had in view the whole of the Scottish proverb, that "facts were stubborn chields, and winna ding." He concluded by moving a resolution in favour of a subscription, which was seconded with applause. A subscription was shortly commenced, and it is likely a respectable sum will be obtained. The meeting was then addressed by Mr. Mungo Turnbull, operative, who made an admirable speech in favour of the Anti-Corn-Law movement. He quoted the celebrated hint given at the North Lancashire election by Lord Stanley to John Brooks of Manchester, that it was becoming "that people should mind their own business," and applied the saying, as Mr. Brooks has hitherto done, to that meeting. Mr. John Hilson urged upon the electors the necessity of uncompromisingly adhering to the principle of total repeal, and warned the meeting against being led over to any other measure at the next election; for it had been whispered that an individual had an eye upon these burghs who did not support a total repeal. It would not be in the power of the liberal electors to take a man of moderate Free-Trade principles as the best alternative, when they had the promise of the League to bring forward a candidate of thorough opinions where one of the desired principles could not be obtained. The meeting shortly after broke up. The visit of a deputation of the League here, on the 20th of next month, is looked forward to with the greatest interest; and we have no doubt that, if the weather be propitious, a splendid demonstration will take place.

DEWSBURY.—At the Anti-Corn-Law tea party held here on Wednesday evening, Mr. Prentice being present from the Council of the League, and Messrs. Garbett and Luccock from the Leeds Association, a subscription was entered into in aid of the League Fund, and upwards of £100 contributed, being nearly three times the amount of last year's subscription. The proceedings were of the most animated character.

EXETER WORKING MEN'S REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this Association was held at the George Inn, North-street, Exeter, on Wednesday evening last. Mr. T. Besley presided. The business of the evening was commenced by Mr. Pope, who read the third annual report of the committee. After noticing various political topics, the report referred to the great struggle which is now taking place for the abolition of Monopoly, in which the Association had taken a warm interest in aiding, by their humble means, the great cause so nobly embarked in by the Anti-Corn-Law League; and the committee had, at the request of a unanimous meeting, addressed a vote of thanks to its great leader, Mr. Cobden. Mr. Divett, M.P., addressed the meeting, and having noticed that part of the report which referred to the abolition of Monopoly and the exertions of the League, he said—

"Though there were some points on which he did not agree with the League, yet no one was more impressed than he had been with the great importance which the League had been to the country. He might have occasionally objected to some of their proceedings, but, looking at the information which they had spread, and the general discussions they had produced on that great question—at the labour which they had taken to go into every part of the country to enlighten every man as to the real bearings of that question—he could not help thinking and saying, that they were all greatly indebted to them. (Cheers.) Having stated that, he would now state to them most openly and frankly, how far he differed from the League. (Hear, hear.) They fought the battle at the last election as against monopoly, in favour of a fixed duty. That fixed duty was proposed by the Whig Government—proposed, it would appear by the declaration of their leader lately, not in very good faith, when he told them that they could not have maintained it. But he for one believed that, if it had been settled then, it could have been sustained and settled under an eight-shilling fixed duty. (Hear, hear.) *That day was gone by.* (Great cheering.) On that occasion, by one of those extraordinary delusions which take possession of the human mind, the landlords of this country, anxious to overthrow the Whig Government—and he did not quarrel with them for that, for most undoubtedly that Government was at that time worn out—but he quarrelled with them for overthrowing it by false pretences (hear)—by some extraordinary delusion they contrived to persuade the farmers that they were the exclusive friends of the farmers, and that without the Corn Laws the poor unfortunate renting-farmer would be ruined. (Hear, hear.) Of all the most extravagant delusions with which the human mind, since the creation of the world, was ever possessed, the delusion of persuading the renting-farmer that the Corn Laws were of the slightest use whatever to him, was one of the most extraordinay humbugs. (Great cheering.) But, be that as it might—be the Corn Laws necessary or unnecessary—it was from the beginning to the end, finally, a landlord's question, and no one else. They persuaded the farmers that they were going to be ruined if a fixed duty were to take place; the farmers fully believed them, and the result of that election was, that the fixed duty was knocked on the head for a time. Though the result was that they were successful, still they did not maintain the law which they fought to preserve—for the sliding scale they had not preserved as it was; a fixed duty, which he believed would have been for them a great boon, they had lost, and the sliding scale was for ever slipping from their hands. (Hear, hear.) As he had said before, it was now become a question, not whether there should be a sliding scale or a fixed duty of 8s., but it was very rapidly approaching to the question whether there should be a sliding scale or no duty at all. (Tremendous cheering.) He had no hesitation in saying, that if at this moment he was put into a position to be obliged to say whether he would vote for the continuance of a fixed duty or no duty at all, he would at once make his selection in voting for no duty at all. (The whole assembly rose as one man, and gave a most hearty and protracted round of cheering again and again renewed.")

Mr. Divett further expressed himself favourable to "a moderate duty, subject to such conditions as it might be deemed expedient to make in favour of any countries that were willing to admit our produce at a small duty: he would admit their corn at a similar rate or no duty at all."

SCOTLAND.—DEPUTATION FROM THE LEAGUE.—We are gratified to state that Mr. Maule, in the frankest and readiest manner, has agreed to preside at the public meeting that is to be held in the Middle Church here on Friday, the 12th proximo, in order to hear a deputation from the League, consisting of Messrs. Cobden and Bright. Mr. Maule states that he will at all times have special pleasure in co-operating with his constituents to promote the cause of Free Trade, and that, although not a member of the League, all his opinions are in the same direction. It is probable that Lord Kinnaird, Mr. Duncan, M.P. for Dundee, and other gentlemen, will also be present at, and take part in, the meeting. We hope to see a goodly assemblage of our country friends on the occasion, which is specially intended for their information.—*Perthshire Advertiser.*

BURY.—THE LEAGUE FUND.—The committee of the Bury Anti-Corn-Law Association have this week resolved to hold their annual meeting on the 4th of January next. Great preparations are being made. Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. W. J. Fox, and Colonel Thompson, are expected to attend.

MR. RAND'S SPEECH.—The speech of the chairman of the Bradford Anti-Corn-Law meeting at Bradford has caused no small trepidation and alarm in the monopolist press, and they are now bringing down their heavy columns against him to neutralise, if possible, the powerful effect which it is calculated to produce. The *Standard* says the League has "entrapped" Mr. Rand—"for it is a melancholy truth, attested by uniform experience, that there never was, and never can be a party or faction so utterly, and so, to all, transparently wicked, as not to entrap some good men. This is a great stroke of policy of the Author of Evil. The one or two good men thus caught serve him as the ushers to introduce to popular complacence, if not favour, thousands of villains." The D——l, therefore, according to the *Standard*, is entitled to the credit of converting Mr. Rand; and as Mr. Rand himself acknowledges that it was a speech of Lord Stanley's that brought conviction upon his mind, the reader is at liberty to draw his own inferences as to the personality of that much-disputed agency. The *Standard* tries to shake the argument of Mr. Rand, but entirely without effect. The arguments of "the Enemy" are obviously much too strong to be confuted by the rabid organ of the high Tory party.—*Leeds Times.*

THE DEPUTATION OF THE LEAGUE.—Regarding the towns which are to be visited by Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Colonel Thompson, and Mr. R. R. R. Moore, as a deputation from the Council of the League, we believe the following arrangements will be nearly those which will be adopted:—Glasgow on the 10th of January; Edinburgh, 11th; Perth, 12th; Forfar, 13th; Aberdeen, 15th; Dundee, 16th; Montrose, 17th; Cupar Fife, 18th; Leith, 19th; Jedburgh, 20th. In the western districts the arrangement is likely to be: Greenock, 13th; Paisley, 15th; Ayr, 16th, day meeting for farmers; Kilmarnock, 16th, evening meeting; Dumfries, day meeting for farmers, and evening meeting for the inhabitants of the town, on the 17th.

REPRESENTATION OF TYNEMOUTH.—It is reported in North Shields that it is the intention of Henry Mitcalf, Esq., the member for Tynemouth, to resign his seat prior to the meeting of Parliament, physical debility being assigned as the cause of his intended retirement.—*Newcastle Journal.*

REPRESENTATION OF SHEFFIELD.—We learn, from the *Sheffield Independent*, that H. G. Ward, Esq., the member for that borough, who was expected to resign his seat in Parliament at an early period, has abandoned the intention, and has announced, not only that he shall continue to act as the representative of that town, but that he shall pay a visit to his constituents before the opening of the next session, to confer with them on the great questions of the day. We understand that the other member for Sheffield, John Parker, Esq., is also likely to retain his seat.

PROBABLE ELECTIONS AT DOVER AND SUNDERLAND.—It is stated to be certain that Sir J. Reid, the Tory member for Dover, will accept the Chiltern Hundreds immediately after the opening of Parliament; and it is more than probable that a vacancy will be created in the representation of Sunderland, through Lord Howick being called up to the House of Lords, in consequence of the apprehended death of the venerable Earl Grey. We have reason to know that the Anti-Corn-Law League are prepared to contest both places with any candidates of Tory principles who may present themselves. Sunderland is, we believe, perfectly secure; and we have little doubt that in Dover, also, the principles of Free Trade and general reform will achieve another triumph.—*Wesleyan Chronicle.*

RUMOURED RESIGNATION OF SIR JOHN RAE REID.—We are *authorised* to state that the report of the intended resignation by Sir John Rae Reid of his seat in Parliament, for this burgh, is *without foundation.*—*Dover Telegraph.*

THE LATE SALISBURY ELECTION.—The following passage occurs in the last number of the *John Bull*:—"At Salisbury, for instance, Mr. Cobden exercised his nominal vocation of a Corn-Law Repealer, by denouncing the clergy of that place, and concluded his abuse by saying, 'he thought the best thing that could happen would be to see that *huge monster* (pointing to the cathedral) turned into a good factory.' The *Sussex Express*, in which we find this stated, says, 'We have it from undoubted authority.' That we can easily believe. It is neither the first nor the twentieth time that the oratory of the League has been directed against everything but the Corn Laws, and adapted expressly for the purposes of men who desired to precipitate revolution." We have made it our business to inquire into the truth of this improbable story, and find it to be a wicked fabrication, without even the slightest foundation in reality. It is well known that our sentiments on the subject of Free Trade are not in unison with those entertained by Mr. Cobden; but we could not suffer so gross a calumny to pass without a flat contradiction, satisfied, as we are, that such a monstrous sentiment, proceed from whom it might, would be received by every man, woman, and child in Salisbury with a burst of honest, irrepressible indignation.—*Salisbury Herald.*

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.—A gentleman resident near this city, whose name it would be premature just now to disclose, has personally communicated with us this week on the subject of bribery at elections. He says that although disinclined to contribute towards the fund of the Anti-Corn-Law League, he nevertheless feels anxious to further one of the objects of that active body, namely, the prevention of bribery at elections. He also authorizes us to state that if the League (apart from their £100,000 fund) will open a special subscription to be applied exclusively to the promotion of "purity of election," he will lead off the subscription list with a donation of *fifty pounds!* Now this suggestion is worthy the consideration of those concerned. Many gentlemen of the liberal party naturally feel a disinclination to identify themselves altogether with the objects of the Anti-Corn-Law League—some preferring a fixed duty to total repeal. But the question of "purity of election" is one upon which all are united; and were a subscription, such as the one suggested, to be opened, we have little doubt but it would meet with ample encouragement. At all events we have authority to moot the question, and to promise an immediate donation of *fifty pounds*, on a distinct subscription being opened for preventing, detecting, and punishing bribery at parliamentary elections.—*Yorkshireman.*

SUNDERLAND ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Bridge Hotel, on Wednesday evening. It was stated that Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and Colonel Thompson, have appointed the 24th of January as the day on which they will visit this town.—*Sunderland Herald.*

YOUNG MEN'S ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—It is the intention of a number of young men in South Shields to commence an Anti-Corn-Association, on the same principle as those established in Liverpool, Leeds, and other large towns. We wish them success in their good work.

NEWCASTLE FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.—The fortnightly meeting of this society was held on Thursday week, at the Clarendon Hotel, Capt. Weatherley in the chair. A letter was read from Mr. Hickin, the secretary of the League, fixing Monday, the 22nd January next, for the visit of the deputation from that body to Newcastle. A letter was also read from Mr. Cobden, acknowledging the receipt of a memorial from 58 of the merchants and tradesmen of Newcastle, agreeing to visit that town, and recommending a plan for the operations of the association. A finance committee, consisting of three members, was appointed; and it was agreed that an advertisement, announcing the intended visit of the deputation, should be inserted in the local papers. Several additional subscriptions to the League Fund were announced.—*Newcastle Advertiser.*

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — ANTI-CORN-LAW DEMONSTRATION.—The members of the Anti-Corn-Law League of the Ashton district assembled on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of getting up an Anti-Corn-Law demonstration in this town; after some discussion it was resolved, that R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., J. Bright, Esq., M.P., Colonel Thompson, and other gentlemen, should be invited, on their return from Scotland, to a public tea-party, to be held in the New Town-hall. It is expected that the tea-party will take place some time between the 21st and 30th of January.—*Manchester Guardian.*

PROGRESS OF FREE-TRADE PRINCIPLES. — A lecture on the fallacy of protective duties was delivered on Wednesday evening, by Mr. R. G. Rose, jun., of the Lambeth Anti-Corn-Law Association, at the Parthenium Club-house, St. Martin's-lane, under the auspices of the Westminster Anti-Monopoly Association. At the close of the lecture an elderly gentleman, of highly respectable appearance, stepped forward, and stated that prior to this evening he was prejudiced against attending any Free-Trade meeting, but that now, after the able arguments and familiar illustrations of the lecturer, he was convinced that his former opinions were erroneous. He should henceforth advocate Free Trade, and as a proof of his sincerity handed in one guinea for the Great League Fund. (Applause.)

AN ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE ON THE CONTINENT.—An announcement has just been published in the German papers, inviting those many Englishmen residing abroad to join the ranks of the repealers, by sending their contributions, and receiving the publications of the League.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS. A seminary is now being established in the county of Northampton, where the rudiments of agriculture, and of agricultural chemistry, as propounded by Liebig, Playfair, and others, are to be taught, combined with a classical education.

LORD HARDWICKE AND THE CORN LAWS.—We have authority for stating, that the paragraph which appeared in the *Independent Press*, on Saturday, stating that Lord Hardwicke, at his late rent audit, had expressed himself as follows:—"For himself, he, in common with Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Buckingham, was opposed to Free Trade, but he thought that ultimately Free-Trade principles must prevail. But he conceived the result would not be so disastrous as had been anticipated"—is altogether untrue, Lord Hardwicke, unfortunately not having made any remark relative to the Corn Laws which the most inventive genius could have construed into such a declaration.—*Cambridge Advertiser.*

A WORD IN SEASON.—We wonder that, among our intelligent and enterprising manufacturers, no movement has yet taken place to assist the great and important objects of the Anti-Corn-Law League. We did little last year—shall we do nothing this? It says little for a town containing upwards of 4000 inhabitants, depending almost solely on manufactures, that no effort should be made, especially as the question of Free Trade is one immediately connected with our "business and bosoms," and evidently approaching a crisis. Let us throw off our lethargy—let us be "in at the death." Though we may not be able to command success, we may at least deserve it.—*Kelso Chronicle.*

The meeting at Chelmsford for the purpose of establishing an Anti-League Association is stated to have been attended by about 600 highly respectable agriculturists. A meeting, largely attended, has also taken place this week at Bradford, in favour of the Anti-Corn-Law League. At the former we read of *one* individual having subscribed *fifty pounds*, and expressing his hope that "his example would spread like wildfire through the country." It did not, however, appear to spread to any very effective purpose among those present, for we hear of few contributions of aught but "loud applause." At the Bradford meeting, the sum subscribed *in the room* was upwards of *seventeen hundred pounds*. The public will draw their own inference from these plain facts, as to the sincerity of the support afforded in these cases. At the Anti League meeting at Chelmsford, Mr. Baker, of Writtle, had the hardihood to assert that "there were few in this country who had not at least a sufficiency of bread." The indignant exclamations of the meeting at so barefaced an assertion, speedily brought out the qualifying remark, that "In Essex he knew that was the case, and, except when thrown out of work, it was rarely that a labouring man had not a sufficiency of bread." What an admission! what a paradise must Essex be, where a man, by hard and incessant labour may *generally* obtain a "a sufficiency of bread!" And this is a state of things to eulogise—this is one of the "glorious" results of that protection which the Essex farmers so loudly laud. For shame, Mr. Robert Baker! for shame, human nature! Let but the fetters and restrictions which now cripple commerce and agriculture be struck off, and the labourers of England will no longer afford Mr. Robert Baker an opportunity of making a remark, as degrading alike to the humanity as to the intelligence of the age in which we live.—*Sussex Advertiser.*

THE LEAGUE FUND IN BRADFORD.—It will be seen that our League subscription list now amounts to *two thousand one hundred and fourteen pounds.* Well done our town!—*Bradford Observer.*

THE LEAGUE.—The borough of Wakefield has been again inundated with a supply of pamphlets, almanacs, and other interesting publications of the Anti-Corn-Law League. We hope the inhabitants of Wakefield and its neighbourhood will imitate the adjoining towns of Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, and Huddersfield, in their contributions to the £100,000 League Fund.—*York Courant.*

THE LEAGUE, "A GREAT FACT!"—The Anti-Corn-Law League have commenced operations in Sunderland this week in good earnest. On Tuesday the post-office people were alarmed by the arrival of some huge bags by the London mail, which, on being opened, were found to contain between five and six thousand copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, addressed to the inhabitants of Sunderland. The poor letter-carriers were engaged to a late hour on Tuesday evening in delivering the valuable packets, and up to Wednesday noon they had not got through their labours.—*Sheffield Independent.*

PROGRESS OF THE LEAGUE.—No one who has watched the progress of the League in the last two years can fail to have observed how rapid was its advance to that vast moral power and influence which it now possesses. Three or four years ago what was it? An infant—a puny, unpromising thing, fit subject for an after-dinner joke, when fine old Port plays such pranks; and bravely was it sneered and laughed at by those who considered the end of the Corn Law quite as distant as the end of the world. But the Free Traders have had one continued series of successes; they marched from victory to victory, and as they marched their ranks were strengthened daily by large accessions from those of their opponents. The League is no longer contemptible in the eyes of any, though many hate it; it is a "great fact," and one which, we venture to say, will not be got rid of until *all* monopolies are abolished. The fate of the Corn Law was sealed when first the League sprang into existence. The people, who had long suffered from its pernicious effects, only wanted a leader in the warfare in which they were anxious to engage against it; and no sooner was that leader found, than thousands and tens of thousands rallied around him. Did any ask why they opposed Monopoly, this was their answer:—"Because it adds 40 per cent. to the price of bread, and 100 per cent. to the price of tea and sugar; and, moreover, it destroys our markets, cramps the energies of our artisans, impoverishes the farmers, and in the end will ruin every class of the community." The change of opinion which has taken place within the last two or three years, on the subject of the Corn Laws, must convince all parties of the frailness of the tenure under which they are held. In 1841, Lord John Russell's eight-shilling duty was thought a bold proposition by his partisans, and denounced as a mad scheme by his opponents; and had that proposition been adopted, it is probable that the question would have remained at rest, for, at all events, many years. But any the least change in the unjust law was fiercely opposed by the monopolists, notwithstanding the evils which it was shown to have inflicted upon every other class in the kingdom; and what has been the consequence? Those who suffered by it, combined together, in heart, in hand, and in purse, and thus they discovered their own immense strength and power. The eight-shilling duty is now repudiated by them, and they claim and will be content with nothing less than total and immediate repeal. Thus it is that the dogged resistance offered by one class to the just and reasonable claims of another, ends in their own discomfiture and defeat.—*Somerset County Gaz.*

IMPORTANT SPEECH OF SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH AT WADEBRIDGE.

On Friday week the annual meeting of the Wadebridge Farmers' Club was held at the Molesworth Arms Hotel, Wadebridge, when a numerous company of the members and friends of the club dined together. The meeting excited considerable interest in consequence of the present state of political affairs, and the general belief that Sir William Molesworth, who has for a long time past devoted himself entirely to his literary pursuits, would express his opinions on the great question which is now agitating the country; and it will be seen that the members were not disappointed in their expectations. The speech will be read with the greatest interest by all parties, especially by the Free Traders, whose cause it so admirably supports.

Besides the honourable baronet (who was suffering under severe indisposition, arising from cold), there were present the Rev. W. Molesworth, rector of St. Breage; Dr. Black, of London; T. Woolcombe, Esq., and other gentlemen. Sir William Molesworth presided, and Mr. Lakeman, the treasurer of the club, acted as vice-president. After the withdrawal of the cloth,

The CHAIRMAN rose and proposed the "Health of the Queen," which was drunk with three times three, as was also that of "Prince Albert and the rest of the Royal Family."

Mr. POLLARD, of Clapper, a large farmer, next rose, and said, that being one of the oldest farmers present, he begged leave to propose "The health of their worthy President, who was too well known to all of them to require eulogy from him." (Drunk with three times three and one cheer more.)

The CHAIRMAN, on rising, was received with renewed and long-continued cheering. After a few observations, in acknowledgment of the manner in which his health had been drunk, the honourable baronet said:—I have much pleasure in seeing so many of you present to-day, for the purpose of supporting this club, which, in my opinion, is a very useful one; for its object is to encourage and reward agricultural work in this neighbourhood, and to promote and diffuse amongst us knowledge in the art of agriculture. In no branch of human industry have greater discoveries been made of late years than in that of cultivating the soil, and augmenting its fertility. We owe them to the persevering labour of scientific and practical men. By their exertions agriculture—which had been little better than a rude art, composed of mere practices, handed down from father to son, and blindly followed, generation after generation, without rhyme or reason—has been elevated to the dignity of a science; and, like other sciences, it is now founded upon a wide experience, a careful investigation, and a cautious watching of nature and her processes. (Cheers.) These investigations have been carried on by the most eminent thinkers of Europe. To them we are indebted for the science of botany, which, as a science, is almost a creation of the last half century, and which constitutes the foundation of all agricultural knowledge; for botany makes us acquainted with the native habits and natural relations of plants, their mode of propagation and growth, the situation and climate they prefer, and points out to us what kinds we are most likely to raise with success. Besides botany, vegetable chemistry, which is of still later date as a science, is powerfully contributing to the improvement of agriculture; for it has ascertained of what elements plants are composed, and what, consequently, is requisite for their food, and for bringing them to perfection. It has investigated the nature of the soil which is best suited for each genus and species, and points out the manure which is best calculated to stimulate their growth. It has computed the relative values of various plants as food for men or beasts, and thus shows what kinds are most useful and profitable to cultivate. (Cheers.) By the aid of these kindred sciences, agriculture has, as I have already said, become a science in which, each year, important discoveries are made. It is for the intelligent farmer to adopt and apply these discoveries, and he may feel assured that he will reap a rich reward from his industry. (Loud cheers.) I exhort you to avail yourselves of the rich stores of knowledge which are now open to you, and to put in practice the improved modes of cultivation. I am not sufficiently a practical farmer to presume to offer you advice in detail on farming, but I know sufficient to be aware that you are not to be ranked amongst the most skilful agriculturists in England; and that, with regard to the cleanliness of your fields, a due attention to the preservation of manure, and a proper succession of crops, you have much to learn and much to do for your own profit and advantage. I wish to impress this upon your minds, and to ask your most serious attention to it at present, because many of the farmers in England have been slow and negligent in adopting the most obvious improvements; they have been inert—they have placed too much reliance on agriculture being protected—they have hoped too much from foreign competition being excluded. (Hear, hear.) In agriculture, as in every other branch of human industry, protection has been injurious. But whatever may be your opinions as to the propriety of agriculture being protected from foreign competition, of this you may feel assured, that the system of protection is drawing to a close, and that all efforts to prevent its destruction are useless, and will prove unavailing. (Hear, hear.) No man can look round about him in the world and doubt the correctness of this position. Every section of the Liberal party is anxious for Free Trade; Sir Robert Peel and his numerous followers among the Coservatives are ready to give way. Indeed, I know no declaration of Sir Robert Peel which would make it inconsistent for him to propose a repeal of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) The whole of the manufacturing and commercial classes are leagued together for this object, under the guidance of earnest, eloquent, and energetic leaders. The most intelligent of the agricultural classes, with Lord Spencer at their head, are favourable to it; compared with these, the advocates of protection are few in number. You may be certain, therefore, that this change, whether it be for good or for evil, will soon take place. It is your duty in consequence, as wise and prudent men, to be prepared for it. (Hear, hear.) You can best prepare yourselves for it by availing yourselves of the discoveries in agricultural science, and by improving your mode of cultivation. Then, if the change be for evil, you may in part or in whole avert the evil from yourselves; or if, as I most firmly believe, the change will be for good, the benefits you will derive from it will be augmented. (Cheers.) I say I believe that the abolition of protection for agriculture will be beneficial. You know I have always held that opinion, and advocated it when the friends of Free Trade were few in number. (Loud cheers.) After the maturest deliberation and consideration I am still convinced of its correctness. (Hear, hear.) I believe that Free Trade will be productive of good, not only to the community as a whole, but to the agricultural classes and to those who derive their incomes from agriculture. I will briefly state my reasons for holding this opinion, and for wishing a repeal of the Corn Laws. First, it will put an end to the state of vexatious uncertainty which now exists on this subject. At present everything with regard to the Corn Laws, and the price of corn, is uncertain and unsettled. The vaguest and absurdest rumours are afloat; the most exaggerated apprehensions are entertained by some of the agricultural classes. (Hear, hear.) Their minds are more disturbed and agitated by the fear of possible evil, than they would be if the evil they apprehended were in existence, for then they would summon up their energies to meet, combat, and overcome it; whilst now imaginary terrors succeed one another, beset them on every side, and paralyse their efforts. (Cheers.) This state of uncertainty is injurious to the landlord, still more injurious to the tenant. Neither can know how to make a bargain with the other. (Hear, hear.) The landlord does not know what rent he can fairly demand, the farmer cannot tell what he can afford to pay. To the farmer it is of the utmost importance, far beyond every other consideration, to know what the price of his produce will be, for upon that knowledge he must found all his calculations, and determine what rent he can afford to agree for. (Cheers.) To the farmer it is of comparatively little importance whether the price of agricultural produce be permanently high or low; for if it be high, he may be assured that a full equivalent will be demanded from him in the shape of rent; if it be low, he will bargain to pay less to the landlord. It is the interest of the farmer, therefore, that there should be as much certainty as possible with regard to the price of agricultural produce, and that all extraneous

tainty and fluctuation in price. (Cheers.) The farmer, above all others, should desire a permanent settlement of the corn question. Now, be assured, there is only one permanent settlement, and that consists in a total repeal of the Corn Laws. (Hear, hear.) A fixed duty may, perhaps, be first proposed and tried, but this will only be a prolongation of the present state of uncertainty. (Hear, hear.) It will give no satisfaction to the advocates of Free Trade, and to the farmer it will continue to be productive of most of the evils which I have already mentioned. To the owner of land, to the landlord, the question of the effect of a repeal of the Corn Laws on the price of agricultural produce is of much greater importance than to the farmer and tenant. I feel convinced, however, that it would be ultimately and permanently beneficial to him. In saying this, you know I have no interest in deceiving myself, as my fortune is wholly derived from land, and I am as fond of money as my neighbours. (Cheers.) I believe that the landlord will derive three great advantages from a repeal of the Corn Laws, and a complete settlement of the question. First, we shall be relieved from that state of annoying uncertainty which now exists, and which renders it so difficult to make a satisfactory bargain for an estate which is to be let. Of this every landlord must have had ample experience of late, and few there are, I should think, who would not be gladly relieved from it, even at a considerable sacrifice; for it is better to have a smaller and certain income than a nominally larger but uncertain one. (Cheers.) Secondly, the repeal of the Corn Laws will stimulate the farmers to exertion, will induce them to adopt improvements, and to avail themselves of the discoveries of agricultural science. This has always been the case in every branch of industry in which competition has been introduced or extended. Now, if it be important to the farmer that he should be a skilful cultivator of the soil, it is of still more importance to his landlord; for the value of land depends in a great degree on the manner in which it is cultivated. (Hear, hear.) Land of the same quality, and in the same vicinity to markets, bears a very different price in different parts of England, according as the system of cultivation generally pursued is better or worse. Everything, therefore, which tends directly or indirectly to improve cultivation must be beneficial to the landlord. So firm is my belief in the resources of science—so confident am I of the importance and value of the discoveries that have been or are in the act of being made in agriculture—that every other consideration appears to me to be of minor importance to a landlord, compared to that of the introduction of improved modes of cultivation. (Loud cheers.) I cannot, therefore, apprehend any real danger to our interests, but great and permanent advantages, from a measure which, though it will increase competition, will stimulate the farmers to exertion and improvement. (Cheers.) It is evident, for these reasons, that a landlord cannot pursue a wiser or more judicious course of conduct than to attempt to introduce and encourage skilful agriculture on his estates. In saying this, I must allude to the conduct of a noble lady in the west of this county—Lady Basset (loud cheering), who has set an admirable example to us all, by practically showing what constitutes a good system of cultivation. She has conferred a benefit on her county, for which we should all be grateful. (Loud applause.) Lastly, Free Trade will greatly increase the wealth of the manufacturing and commercial classes, and of the community as a whole. Now, I ask, upon what does the value of the land of a country depend? Not, I answer, upon the mere quality of its soil, but upon the wealth, intelligence, and number of its population. (Hear, hear.) A few acres of barren land, in the midst of a mining community, are more valuable and will often fetch a larger price in the market than thousands, nay, millions, of acres of the richest soil which is inhabited by a poor, and scanty population. Now, when I reflect upon the enormous population, the vast wealth, and the extensive trade of this country,—when I consider the stimulus which will be given to that population—the additions which will be made to that commerce and wealth by a system of Free Trade,—when, on the other hand, I look at the narrow extent of the land of England, and the increasing demand for it which must be occasioned by any increase of wealth and population, I laugh at the notion that the landlords of England will be permanently injured by a repeal of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) As much, nay more, perhaps, than any men, are the landlords of England interested in fostering the commerce, augmenting the wealth, and increasing the numbers and wellbeing of the population of this country; for in proportion to that commerce, wealth, and population will be the demand for our land, and in proportion to the demand for our land will be its value in the market, and we shall be rich. (Cheers.) Foolish, therefore, is that policy which, through fear of some trifling immediate loss, would sacrifice these great and important results, which must repay us tenfold. (Hear, hear.) If, then, as I believe a repeal of the Corn Laws and a settlement of this question will be ultimately and permanently beneficial to landlord and tenant, to the owner and cultivator of land, if it will augment the wealth of the manufacturing and commercial classes, can it for one moment be doubted that it will be beneficial to the agricultural labourer? (Hear, hear.) His interest requires that there should be the greatest demand for his labour, so that his wages may be high, and that with these wages he may be able to purchase the greatest quantity of the commodities he may require. Now, improved methods of cultivation and improved wealth in a community will tend to augment the demand for labour, and, on the other hand, Free Trade causes commodities to be supplied as cheaply as possible. In the general benefit, therefore, the agricultural labourer will undoubtedly have his share. (Loud cheers.) The honourable baronet, in conclusion, observed that he felt so much exhausted by the cold that he was labouring under, that he could not continue longer to address them, and proceeded to read the prizes awarded by the judges for the best managed farms; after which he gave the health of "The Successful Competitors." (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. Lakeman, and several other distinguished gentlemen, returned thanks. Immediately after which—

Sir William Molesworth offered his excuses for leaving the meeting so early, through indisposition, and requested Mr. Woolcombe to take his place.

Sir William then left the room, accompanied by his respected uncle, the Rev. William Molesworth, amidst three times three hearty rounds of applause.

after which

W. K. Norway, Esq., proposed the health of the chairman, whose liberality in the support of the club he highly lauded.

Mr. Woolcombe, in reply, stated that, although he was not a landed proprietor, he was most intimately connected with agriculture—his business relating to the management of agricultural property. It was, therefore, his interest and his duty to promote and foster agriculture in every possible way. He had, therefore, watched the progress of events in the agricultural circles in this part of the country with a very considerable interest. He had seen, for many years past, that it was absolutely necessary that the tenant-farmers and occupiers of land should turn over a new leaf; that, if they went on as their fathers did before them, they would not be prepared to meet those great changes in agricultural affairs which he had long seen to be inevitable. He had, therefore, felt it to be his duty to encourage the occupiers of land in every possible way to rely on their own energies, and not to rely on any external sources whatever for their support. He had endeavoured, to the extent of his means, to set before them the importance of this great principle, and if his efforts had in any manner tended to the result that he wished, he was amply repaid. For himself, he observed that if the calamities which some apprehended were hanging over the agriculturists of England were to be realized, there were few who would suffer more than himself.

Mr. Menhenick, a farmer, who spoke in reply to "the health of the unsuccessful candidates," expressed a hope that, in the coming change, the landlords would assist the farmers. The latter knew how to farm their estates, but they could not do it without money. They wished to pay their landlords when called upon, but they trusted that, as times were very hard, the landlords would help them, so that the farmers might be able to meet their burdens. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Hart Key, another farmer, recommended the cultivation of grasses instead of turnips, as they would be found especially valuable in case of there being a Free Trade in corn; for it was his opinion that if foreign corn came in free agriculture would not flourish.

The Chairman said, he had long been of opinion that without the growth of turnips on a farm it was utterly impossible that a farmer could be successful in his engagements, and he had been fortunate enough to see that a considerable degree of importance was now attached to what he thought was of so much importance fourteen or fifteen years ago. He believed that a farmer acting upon a proper alternate system would produce more corn in a period of 21 years than he would do under a system of cropping, and that the yield would be greater, and the value of the crops of course would be greater. In those counties where that system had been carried to the greatest extent, as in the Lothians, the farmers had no apprehensions with regard to the repeal of the protective duties. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

Mr. Davey said, he believed that the farmer in the Lothians paid a corn, and not a fixed, rent. If so, it was their interest for corn to be low, because they would get more on the other produce.

The Chairman said that was a matter of no importance, because the principle, in the letting of the estates, was precisely the same—whether a man made his payments depend on a corn or on a fixed rent, it was the object of both the landlord and the tenant to get as much as they could. The same principle governed all men in making general bargains, as well as in making the individual bargain of taking a farm; and they might depend upon it that, if it had been found to be the interest of the tenant to pay a corn rent, the landlord would have very soon found out that it was for his interest to alter that kind of burden, (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Liddell said, if their landlords would be content to take so many bushels of wheat for their rent, they (the farmers) would not scruple about accepting an alteration in the Corn Laws; but to talk about altering the Corn Laws without making any alteration in the terms on which they had taken their estates, by which they might perhaps be utterly ruined before things found their level, was too much to expect of them. (Cheers.)

Mr. Menhenick said, that, before the farmers could be prepared for the settlement that would result from such a change as that which was now advocated, their capital would be sunk one-third, and their produce also reduced, perhaps, to the same extent in value. How could they be prepared for such a change as that unless their landlords assisted them? (Cheers.)

Dr. Black said, the Corn Laws had not been enacted for the protection of the farmers, but for the benefit of the landlords, to keep up rents, and nothing else. If the Corn Laws were repealed there must be a readjustment of rent (loud cheers), for there were many men paying rents which could not be paid then without an adjustment. But he was satisfied that every right-hearted landlord would come forward, as an honest man ought to do; and he was satisfied that that portion of the landlords who did not come forward to do so, would be compelled by the force of public opinion. The repeal of the Corn Law was inevitable. Nothing could prevent it. It was a mere question of time, and he did not believe that it would be allowed to exist long. It must go, and the adjustment of rents would follow.

Mr. Davey said, that if the observations which had been made by Dr. Black had been made by Sir William Molesworth, they would have given the farmers great encouragement. (Hear, hear.)

Several other farmers addressed the meeting, and from their statements it may be collected that none of them would oppose a repeal of the Corn Laws, provided they could at the same time obtain a readjustment of rents.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A correspondent at Guisborough, to whom the League forwarded some tracts for distribution, made the experiment of giving a few to "the poor poverty-stricken mendicants who are wandering about the country." Such was the eagerness of the public to purchase the Anti-Corn-Law tracts that they met a ready sale at 1d. to 1½d. each. It has been suggested that our friends in those parts of the country, where a difficulty exists in conveying information by means of lectures or associations, would be doing great service by bestowing their charity in the shape of gifts of Anti-Corn-Law tracts. member of the League who will pay the carriage, but they would suggest that they be given away for sale in such small quantities at a time as will ensure their distribution. If care be not taken the tracts may be sold as waste paper; but if judiciously given away great good may be accomplished by finding temporary employment for the poor, and at the same time circulating information far and wide on our all-important subject. We subjoin our correspondent's letter:—

"Guisborough, 12 mo. 20, 1843.

"Respected Friend,—I have received the package of Free-Trade almanacs, &c., which your liberality induced you to forward about a week ago. I have already put some of them in circulation, and will avail myself of every suitable opportunity to distribute the remainder.

"It is only reasonable that you should be informed of the manner in which I dispose of them, and therefore I'll apprize you. Some months since you sent me a "bulky parcel," with similar contents, and I set to work to distribute them to my customers and neighbours, as opportunity offered. After I had done a good deal in this way, I had still a plenteous stock remaining, and a thought struck me that there would be no impropriety in giving them to the poor "poverty-stricken" mendicants who were wandering about the country from want of employment, instead of handing them a trifle in money, as had been my previous practice. I adopted this plan, and presently had quite a run for "the Anti-Corn-Law tracts:" they met a ready sale at 1d. to 1½d. each, and the poor fellows seemed rejoiced to get hold of them. One, whose rags would scarcely cover him, got a very decent suit of clothes with the proceeds; and others fared better than they probably had done for weeks before. Now, although there may be an objectionable feature in this method—for you cannot discriminate between deserving characters and those that are disreputable—still, it is "sowing the seed,"—and, perhaps, the advantages may more than counterbalance the disadvantages—for I think we all know, by experience, that anything of this kind, when purchased even for a trifling sum, is often read with greater avidity than it would be if received as a gift; whilst, at the same time, this plan of disposing of the tracts, no doubt, enabled many a poor fellow to appear in comparative independence, by offering his collection for sale, instead of stooping to the humiliating position of asking alms of his more fortunate countrymen.

"Should you see no formidable objection to the course I have pursued, these hints may possibly be of some avail in circulating information on the all-important subject in which you are so zealously and laudably engaged; and trusting that the goal of triumph will be early attained, and your success encourages the hope,

"I remain, respectfully,

——— "David Baker."

The following letter has been received from the Rev. W. M'Kerrow of Manchester:—

Manchester, Dec. 26, 1843.

Dear Sir,—You are aware that at the commencement of the struggle of "the League," against the unrighteous and pernicious Corn Law, I sometimes appealed to the religious portion of our townsmen more especially, and argued that it was their Christian duty to join you in the efforts which you had begun to make. Having performed my humble part of labour, according to the views which I conscientiously held, I ceased to attend your meetings, and publicly to assist in your course of procedure. I speedily saw, and was delighted to find, that your sentiments and conduct commended themselves to the approbation of almost all men, who were not blinded by selfishness or prejudice, or the miserable spirit of party; and that the assistance of ministers of the gospel, *as such*, had become not so requisite to the progress and success of your cause.

But I have never ceased to contemplate with the highest satisfaction the constant and rapid growth of the opinion, that Free Trade *in every* thing, but more particularly in the *necessaries of life*, is demanded not only by justice and the common welfare of the nation, but likewise by the interests of religion and humanity in general. There is nothing clearer to my mind than this: that the abolition of the unwise and iniquitous restrictions, which have so long existed, will increase employment, diminish poverty, lessen the amount of disease and crime, add to the ability of the philanthropist and Christian to promote education and the knowledge of the Gospel, and extend that commercial intercourse which will turn war to peace to the ends of the earth, and bind together all kindreds of the people in the bonds of mutual dependence and brotherly kindness.

And, being impressed with these convictions, I consider it to be my duty, and I esteem it to be my privilege, to do *what little I can* to aid you in the way that is most requisite at present. You need money to carry on the work of enlightenment—of intellectual and moral agitation; I have every confidence in the integrity and prudence of those by whom the pecuniary contributions of the public are received and applied; and I cannot allow myself to be numbered amongst those who *meanly* hope that they will participate in the benefits resulting from the repeal of the Corn Law, whilst they do nothing to accelerate and secure the triumph of the principles which they hold—give neither time, nor labour, nor money, to that great cause, which is theirs as well as yours—and, indeed, the cause of the world at large. May I, therefore, request you to hand to the treasurer of "the League" the enclosed £5, as my subscription this year in aid of the fund which you are attempting to raise. I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

R. Cobden, Esq., M.P. William M'Kerrow.

Petersfield, Dec. 27, 1843.

Sir,—Agreeably to your wish I have forwarded you

a copy of the registered voters for the borough of Petersfield, for which I paid 1s.

There has been a printed circular, emanating from Col. Wyndham, the member for Sussex, going the round for signatures, to call a meeting at Steyning, in Sussex, in which the landed interest is invited to co-operate in putting down the Anti-Corn-Law League, preparatory to the opening of Parliament; but when I saw it, it had only two signatures attached; and I find many stanch Conservatives refusing to sign; and some farmers even saying, the sooner a Free Trade comes the better, for they were only deceived by the present measure. I endeavoured to get a copy of it, but the parties seemed almost afraid of publicly showing it, or I should have sent it to you. I can assure you the feeling in this borough is evidently advancing rapidly for Free Trade; the only thing we seem to want is a man of public feeling to come forward. Any assistance I can render you I shall be most happy to give, and remain,

Dear Sir, yours respectfully,

HENRY CALVERT.

BOROUGH ELECTORS' MEMORANDA FOR THE YEAR 1844.

The electoral year commences with the 31st of July, and ends with the 30th of July in the following year; persons, therefore, who have not occupied premises that give a qualification before the 30th of July, 1843, will not be entitled to be placed on the register for the following year.

JAN. 1.—Residence within the city or borough, or seven miles thereof, must commence on or before this day

MARCH 25.—Overseers of the poor appointed within 14 days of this date.—No poor's rate should be made during this month, as those rates made before the 6th of April, if not paid before the 20th of July, will cause the ratepayer to lose his vote.

APRIL 6.—Window taxes and poor's rates, payable on this day, must be paid on or before the 20th of July.

JUNE 20.—Notice to electors to pay poor's rates and window taxes on or before the 20th of July to be fixed by overseers on all the church and chapel doors in their parish.

JULY 20.—Poor's rates and window taxes, payable before the 6th of April, must be paid on or before this day.

—— 31.—Electoral year commences; occupation of premises must, therefore, commence on or before this day in order to qualify the occupier to be on the following year's register. Persons entitled in respect of reserved rights must qualify, as though this were the day of election.—Overseers to make out lists of voters.

AUG. 1.—Overseers to fix lists of voters on all the church and chapel doors in their parish, to remain there during 14 days.—Overseers to keep lists of voters at their residence for sale, and also for inspection, without payment of any fee, between the hours of ten and four, for 14 days.

—— 14.—Last day for exhibiting, inspecting, and selling lists of voters.—Barristers appointed in the course of this month.

—— 25.—Last day for persons omitted from the list of voters making their claim to be registered.—Last day for serving objections.

SEPT. 1.—Overseers to fix lists of claims and objections on all the church and chapel doors, to remain there during 14 days.—Lists of claims and objections kept by the overseers between the hours of ten and four for inspection, without payment of any fee, for 14 days.—Lists of claims and objections may be had of the overseers during 14 days.

—— 14.—Last day of exhibiting claims and objections on church and chapel doors, and for purchasing or inspecting them at the house of an overseer.

—— 15.—Revising barristers hold their court some time between this day and the last of October.

OCT. 31.—Last day on which the revising barristers can hold their court.

NOV. 6.—Fourth day after the beginning of Michaelmas term, when appeal cases are heard by the Court of Common Pleas.

DEC. 1.—New register comes in force this day.

OUR TRADE WITH BRAZIL.

Brazil is our best foreign market for cotton manufactures, our exports to it being £1,524,709. For linens she is our third best market; for woollens our fourth best market; and, on the whole, the annual official value of British produce and manufactures taken by her is between £2,500,000 and £3,000,000, making her about the fifth best market for our commodities in the world.

We have been accused of exaggerating the real value of our Brazilian trade. We can only say that we have good authority for what we advanced. In page 48 of the Import Duties Report, Mr. John M'Gregor, assistant secretary to the Board of Trade, in reply to the chairman's question—"Do you know to what extent our manufactures go to the Brazils?"—says, "About five millions' worth annually." Again, Messrs. Moore and Saunders, who resided in Brazil between fourteen and seventeen years, on being asked what they considered to be the real value of British manufactures exported annually to that country, replied, "About five millions." As that amount is more than double what is stated by the parliamentary returns published by the Board of Trade, those gentlemen proved their statement by "a document of the returns of the tariff valuations of goods cleared in the port of Rio de Janeiro alone, for 1837, 1838, and 1839," and which proved the amount of business to exceed the entire official returns. It was taken from the official returns of the Custom-house. It was the tariff valuation of goods cleared at the Custom-house, imported in the port of Rio de Janeiro alone. The annual amount exceeded two millions. A similar report from Pernambuco gave a million more. Besides these two ports there are the following, to which British manufactures are exported direct from England, namely, Rio Grande, Santos, Bahia, Maceio, Parahiba, Ceara, Maranhao, Para. It is, therefore, to be presumed that the whole amount is at least five millions, as those authorities reckoned.

This commerce is one of the most advantageous possible for England, because our exports consist of goods on which the greatest quantity of British labour has been expended. British industry has the full benefit of it all. No raw materials, or half-manufactured products are sent to Brazil by us, to be afterwards used in further stages of manufacture, in competition with our own. We observe, from the *Leeds Mercury*, that our woollen trade with Brazil is likely to suffer a severe check. "Brazil," says our contemporary, "is in arms against our West India protection duties, *and, under any possible concessions from this country, will form a favourable treaty with the German States.*" And how will this affect our woollen trade, a trade in which a million of people and twenty millions of money are engaged? Let our contemporary answer.

"There is no statement of the value of the exports of woollens from the Zollverein, but there is of the weight, and the amount stands thus:—Exports, 1834, taken as raw wool 11,500,775lb.; 1840, 14,358,760lb., an increase of upwards of 20 per cent. What is ours? *nil*; nay, worse, less on the average of 1837 to 1842 than from 1830 to 1837! Nor in this respect is the comparison more favourable to us when we turn to France. The exports from that country, in 1833, were £1,466,520; and in 1840, £2,444,000; and one item of that trade may well startle the woollen manufacturers of Yorkshire. In 1833 France exported to the United States to the extent of £248,280, whilst, in 1840, the value was £505,860. The corresponding exports of Great Britain to the States were, £2,265,407 in 1833; £1,060,721 in 1840."

France and Germany are rapidly increasing their home and foreign consumption of wool. Eighteen millions of pounds of wool *more* were manufactured in Germany in 1840 than in 1834. Who shall say, with these facts before their eyes, that the Germans could not supply Brazil, or that their competition will not soon present itself ominous and dark-looking, threatening to exclude us from markets hitherto almost entirely our own?

Looking on the reverse of this picture, we still deem it highly probable that, under free trade, the value of our exports to the Brazils might be doubled in a few years. At present they take five millions' worth from us annually, although we do not consume any of their produce. It would only require us to consume five millions' worth of their sugar and coffee: and when we reflect that Mr. M'Gregor considers that a judicious reduction of the price would be attended with an increase of revenue of £3,000,000 on sugar, and a million and a half on coffee, we may believe that Brazil would soon raise her exports to Europe to ten millions, seeing that Cuba has raised hers to fifty millions of dollars.

As to the argument of overworking the slaves, we believe that the Brazilians, at present, work them as hard as they can. If the argument for excluding foreign sugar be founded on a supposed moral obligation on our part to discountenance slavery in other countries, at the cost of the suffering of our own population, we shall be prepared to canvass it; but before our opponents are in a position to do so, it will be necessary for them to give up the consumption of cotton, tobacco, and other slave-grown products.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

AGRICULTURE.

DEGRADATION OF THE PEASANTRY.—WHO'S TO BLAME?

The fact that, in the west and south of England, the agricultural labourers are in a condition of grievous destitution, is now admitted. In many counties the daily recurrence of incendiary fires marks their deep moral degradation. The destitution is not new; the Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, or Buckinghamshire peasant has not been suddenly reduced from adequate wages to 7s. a week. The dilapidation of his cottage has been an abiding evil; while his scant accommodation has pressed him more and more fearfully with the constant increase of population. These things were not unknown to those most directly interested, the owners of the soil, but they were overlooked or disregarded; they were assumed to be unalterable and inevitable consequences attached to the state of a labourer in husbandry. A few humble voices have, in various places and at different times, been raised against the system of which a degraded peasantry is an essential ingredient; but, until the inquiries of the League dragged the damning facts into the light of public opinion, every such effort in favour of the agricultural labourer was met with contemptuous sneers or insolent defiance on the part of the landowners.

The time of defiance or denial is now past, and that fearful retribution which ever visits the owners of property and the possessors of power, who neglect the duties of the one and misuse the other, is come upon the dominant class of the community. The incendiary fire denotes that the limit of endurance by the peasant has been reached; for, though probably not one agricultural labourer in a thousand would actually commit the crime, the fact that such crimes are nightly committed without discovery proves, that incendiarism is not regarded by the class with that horror a just view of their own interests would dictate. Every one feels that some remedy is necessary; and all intelligent men see that the only remedy consists in removing the restraints on industry, the first step to which is a total repeal of the Corn Laws.

Yet, how is the subject treated by the landlords? Not very long ago we were accustomed to hear that the Corn Laws were maintained for the benefit of the labourers, but the actual condition of that class has contradicted the assertion; then the tenant-farmers were the persons especially protected by monopoly, but the numerous declarations recently made by tenant-farmers as to the state of their own business have proved that assertion also to be a lie. Still the landowners persist in shutting their eyes to the effect of their favourite system upon the peasantry; they directly or indirectly attribute the low wages which prevail to the greediness of the farmers; and they never admit a suspicion that their own game laws, by accustoming the working men to the commission of crime, form the real source of incendiarism.

Thus Mr. Sheridan, who has so usefully exposed the lamentable state of the Dorsetshire labourers in his speech at Bridport, denounced the "hard-hearted farmers" as the persons on whom the burthen of the wrong rested; and Lord Ashley's only practical suggestion for the remedy of the evils he fully admitted was, the substitution of a payment in "solid money" for petty allowances of 14d. a week. Indeed, scarcely an agricultural meeting occurs at which the *farmers* are not exhorted by the landowners to be liberal to their servants in husbandry, and to give them constant employment. In the Dorsetshire correspondence which has arisen out of Mr. Sheridan's speech, we find the Rev. Samuel Lane expressing his "conviction that the landowners will show an example of liberality to their tenants, *and* INSIST *on such an example being followed by them towards their labourers.*" This is a most mischievous error, if error it be. But, perhaps, the most flagrant instance of landowners' repudiation of their obligations is the attempt of Lord Hardwicke, in his recent address to the labourers of Haddenham, to create an impression that, if the farmers offer too low wages, an appeal lies to the landlord. In consequence of a recent incendiary fire at Haddenham, at which the exertions of the labourers had saved some of the surrounding property belonging to Lord Hardwicke, his lordship issued an address to them, thanking them for those exertions, and reading them a lecture on the wickedness and folly of incendiarism. To the chief propositions contained in that address there is nothing to object, as, for instance, what "crime can be more wicked" than that which "destroys the food of man, and tends to raise the price of that which escapes?" Yet that sentence is an exact description of the Corn Law of which his lordship is an ardent supporter. So much does a monopolist's practice differ from his precept. But we do not remember to have met with sentiments of greater folly or dishonesty than are contained in the following passage:—"Conciliate your employers," says Lord Hardwicke, "*and if they do not perform their duty to you and themselves, address yourselves to the landlords;* and I assure you, you will find us ready to urge our own tenants *to the proper cultivation of their farms, and consequently to the just employment of the labourer.*" Now, this is directly telling the labourers that the farmers are the parties who deprive them of employment, at whose hands they receive all the wretchedness they endure. A more direct instigation to incendiarism it would be difficult to conceive. Now, what is the truth? Why do not the tenant-farmers properly cultivate their farms, and so employ the amount of labour which they might do profitably? The reasons are simple and obvious; and though we have constantly stated them, they cannot be repeated too frequently. First, farmers cannot "properly cultivate their farms" for want of secure and permanent holdings. That a yearly tenant can prudently invest capital in his farm, either in the permanent improvements which give direct employment to the labourers, or even in that high farming—keeping an abundant stock—which, indeed, is in itself a permanent improvement, and of necessity requires much labour, is a proposition so obvious that no farmer will withhold his instant assent from it. Yet various causes render leases of very rare occurrence on the estates of the great landlords of England. The fluctuations in the prices of grain, which are occasioned by the Corn Laws, have made tenants as unwilling to take as landlords are to grant leases; and though practically the yearly tenant is nearly as much tied to the soil, by the difficulty of selling off when prices have fallen, as the leaseholder, he can never make an outlay with safety, for an advance of his rent would be the certain consequence of spirited farming. Then the landlords do not wish to see their tenants too independent; they like that cap-in-hand system, by which a constant reference to the landlord or his steward becomes necessary. They also seek by means of a dependent tenantry to exercise their own political influence. And the majority of them are game-preservers, who maintain for their own amusements a stock of game *upon the produce of their tenants' farms*, which is absolutely prohibitory of good farming. Here we have ample reasons why the farmers of England do not "properly cultivate" their farms, and afford full employment to the labourers. But with whom does it rest to alter such a state of things? Surely not with the farmers? What then can be thought of those landlords who tell the labourers, when in a state of exasperation from suffering—from, on their part, most unmerited suffering—"if your employers do not perform their duty to you and themselves, *address yourselves to the landlords*"? Now, if the labourers are to address the landlords, let them demand such relief as they can, and they alone can afford; let them demand the abolition, at once and for ever, of the Corn Laws and the Game Laws; let them

demand decent cottages on each farm, sufficient in number for the accommodation of the labourers required on the farm; let them demand that the wet lands shall be drained, and the hedge-row timber and useless fences shall be removed; let them demand that 21 years' leases shall be granted to the tenants, with three simple stipulations, viz.—punctual payment of rent; to consume the straw, hay, and roots on the farm; and to fallow-crop one-fourth of the land in each of the last four years. And when landlords have complied with such demands, when they shall have so far "performed their duty to the labourers *and themselves*," then—but not till then—they may *honestly* consider whether they can usefully interfere to fix the rate of wages. Until the landowners of this country have abandoned their monopoly, surrendered their obsolete feudalities, and granted long and rational leases, we trust that whenever the hypocritical exhortations of the lords of the soil to their tenants to "perform their duty to the labourers" are heard, some tenant-farmers will start up and say, "YOU, THE LANDOWNERS, ARE ALONE TO BLAME FOR THE PRESENT DESTITUTE AND DEGRADED CONDITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, BECAUSE YOU HAVE SACRIFICED THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE TENANT-FARMER TO YOUR GREED FOR RENT, YOUR DELIGHT IN SELFISH PLEASURES, AND YOUR LUST OF POLITICAL POWER."

THE MONOPOLISTS' LAST "DODGE."

The only way of abrogating an injurious system, or procuring the repeal of a bad law, in this country, is first to render the system or the law thoroughly known. This is what the exertions of the League are doing with respect to the Corn Laws. Indeed, so completely is the Corn-Law question now understood everywhere, except in the agricultural districts, that nothing now remains but to discuss the subject amongst the farmers. Let that be done for another year, and a free trade in corn will be unanimously demanded by all the industrious classes. It was, therefore, with great pleasure we read a report of the meeting at Chelmsford, at which Mr. Baker, an Essex land-agent, and Mr. Copland, a lawyer, or a near connexion of the lawyers of that name, collected a meeting of farmers to form a society auxiliary to the Anti-Corn-Law League, under the name of the "Essex Agricultural Protection Society." The object of that society was stated to be, to collect subscriptions for the purpose of distributing tracts, and hiring lecturers to prove the *justice* and *utility*—save the mark!—of the Corn Laws. We heartily wish the movers of this scheme joy of their Quixotic undertaking.

We have repeatedly shown that the tenant-farmers of England, above all other classes, are interested in obtaining a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; and their apathy, from their not understanding the question, was the great difficulty with which the advocates of Free Trade had to contend. The Anti-Corn-Law meetings which have been held in the rural districts during the past year have aroused the tenant-farmers to inquiry and discussion of the subject; and the result of such inquiry has very generally led them to believe that, at best, the Corn Laws are useless to them, whatever they may be to the landlords. And not a few renting farmers see plainly that most of the difficulties they have endured for the last thirty years have been aggravated, if they have not been caused, by the landlords' efforts to keep up rents by means of artificial scarcity. Now, this attempt to effect a counter movement in favour of Monopoly forms the best possible evidence of the extent to which Free-Trade knowledge, which is synonymous with Free-Trade opinion, has made way amongst the farmers; for the care with which the movers have masked their real characters proves that poor Sir John Tyrrell and his brother squires are the instigators of the move. Whenever the upholders of a wrong have been driven to their last shifts, by the constant exposure of their particular abuse to the light of public opinion, their last desperate effort has invariably been what they call "fighting their enemies with their own weapons;" thus, when the Anti-Slavery Association had so completely informed the English community upon the subject of colonial slavery, that its existence was everywhere declared a national reproach, the slaveholders engaged a gentleman of considerable ability, now a member of the House of Commons—and a Monopolist—to lecture throughout the country, and to excite a sentiment *in favour* of human bondage and dear sugar! Again, when the exertions of the Catholic Association had virtually carried Catholic emancipation, did we not hear in all directions of Brunswick clubs to agitate *for* penal laws and bigoted religious distinctions? So now,—when all intelligent agriculturists amongst the landlords have declared that Free Trade must benefit agriculture; when every member of the Government, from the Prime Minister to the Paymaster and the Lord in waiting have, with sufficient distinctness, intimated that the days of the Corn Monopoly are numbered,—we have the Monopolists their dodge in the formation of an "Agricultural Protection Society." Why, has not Parliament—King, Lords, and Commons—been for thirty years past the "Agricultural Protection Society" of the kingdom? But what Parliament has not been able to effect, the Essex lawyer and land-agent will try to accomplish!

The proceedings of the Chelmsford meeting were sufficiently characteristic. Mr. Baker and Mr. Copland enunciated those fallacies which have long been exposed and abandoned elsewhere, and which are now to be exposed and refuted before the tenant-farmers. And the only subscription announced was one solitary £50 from Mr. Towers, the holder of a tract of wet clay land, miserably cultivated, and heavily mortgaged. Now read what the *Mark-lane Express*, the chief advocate of the landlords' monopoly, says upon this matter:—

"We observe with regret, that although six hundred tenant-farmers were present at the Essex meeting, there is no mention of subscriptions to raise the sinews of war, save one fifty pounds from Mr. Towers, a landowner. If a fund was raised by subscription, the fact should have been announced; if there were no such subscriptions, we have no confidence in the result. To meet, and talk, and bluster—even if six hundred farmers were to do so in every county in England—and then to retire quietly to their homes, and betake themselves to their usual avocations, would be merely fighting the air."

This is the unkindest cut of all; for it is impossible more aptly to describe all these gatherings than as occasions for Monopolists, or those who would make a gain of pandering to the prejudices of Monopolists, "to meet, and talk and bluster, and then retire quietly to their homes." So much for the character of the move; we shall next week give a few of the arguments (?) used by the two speakers, that our readers, from the sample, may judge of the sack.

TENANT FARMERS ON TENURES.

Notwithstanding all the efforts of landlords and their agents to prevent the consideration of the question of leases being agitated by tenant-farmers, the subject has now taken complete possession of the minds of the industrious agriculturists. They are everywhere loudly exclaiming that the backward state of husbandry is the fault of the landlords more than of the tenants, and so great is the feeling excited upon the subject, that ere long the non-leasing landlord will scarcely get a solvent farmer to occupy his farms. Moreover, farmers begin to see that leases cannot become general until the Corn Laws have been abolished. We know nothing so likely to make farmers Free Traders; for, independently of the chance of downright robbery by a dishonest landowner, the difference between farming with or without a lease is, in ninety-nine cases out of the hundred, the difference between profit and loss. We shall present a few of the recent sayings of tenant-farmers on this subject, which must make landlords tremble for their sinister political influences. At the *Rye* (Sussex) agricultural dinner, Mr. Selmes, of Beckley, said that—

"Sir Robert Peel at Tamworth, and Sir Edward Knatchbull at Faversham, had talked about leases; but he (Mr. Selmes) should say, *settle the Corn Laws first, and then talk about leases, for how was it possible to make a contract under present circumstances?* He should advise farmers for the present to stand still."

This we know to be a very generally received opinion amongst farmers, and the only way to guard against the risk is to contract to pay so many bushels of wheat. This gives the farmer a direct interest in a low price and large produce, while it only calls upon the landlord fairly to embark in the same boat with the tenant. And to this conclusion you must come at last, most worshipful squires.

Mr. H. B. Curteis, a landlord, "thought both the London and local press wrong in casting blame on the landlord for not granting leases, for he was certain it was much better for tenants not to have leases," which, at a subsequent meeting at Hailsham, he *explained* to mean "that he did not think leases desirable for the tenant till the Corn Law question was permanently settled." And this is the received opinion amongst agriculturists: it implies that no large or general improvement in husbandry can take place till the monopoly has been abolished. By-the-by, we may see a little how the wind blows amongst the more discerning squires, from the *explanation* given by Mr. Curteis of his former speech after a few days' reflection.

Mr. Darby, the monopolist member for Sussex, said—

"The observations of Sir Robert Peel and Sir Edward Knatchbull regarding leases, were hazarded in consequence of *the subject having been so much agitated lately*; and I am happy to say, that the confidence which *generally subsists between landlord and tenant renders them unnecessary*, for few landlords would, after allowing a tenant to come in on poor land and expend capital and labour, turn him out, when he ought to receive the reward of his exertions. *I do not deny that, when there may be uncertainty as to parties who may succeed to an estate, a lease is a security*; but the run which has been made against landlords lately is highly improper."

Now, we will undertake to show that in no possible case,—not even with a Spencer or a Ducie as a landlord,—can a tenant farm either safely to himself or fairly to his landlord without a lease. The Rev. Dr. Lamb truly observed, that the practice of withholding leases is comparatively modern. He said—

"It was certainly the *custom of their forefathers* to have them; but, although we had improved in manners and other things, *we had not improved in the relations between man and man.* He, Dr. Lamb, was a friend to leases; *it was the custom of our forefathers, because it gave the tenant security, and when the landlord signed his name to the engagement, it evinced the confidence he had in his tenant.*"

The fact is, the landlords, of late years, have been confiding in the power of distress rather than in the responsibility of their tenants; and they are beginning to reap the fruits of their evil deeds. Mr. Beacham, an auctioneer and land-agent, made the following remarks about leases:

"As regards leases, if a man were taking a farm of one of our old squires, I should not be particular in advising him to stand up for a lease, for there the tenants are generally in safe hands, and would be in most instances *dealt with liberally; but out of ten estates which I now sell, nine of them go into the hands of the* London merchants *or capitalists*, whose first consideration is to get four per cent. for their money, without having what Brothers of the tenant, or whether the land will bear it or not. They are not to be blamed for this, for they do it in ignorance, knowing nothing of agriculture nor the relative position of farmers, and their landlords. Therefore I should say, *if you take of the* squire, *trust him*; but if you hire of the *capitalist*, bind *him*."

The distinction here attempted is altogether illusory. As a rule the *new* landlord is generally the best landlord, simply because he looks to getting the best possible rent, and for that purpose grants fair terms in other respects. This far more than makes up for the semi-feudal liberality of the squire. Though in too many cases the capitalist becoming a landowner adopts all the noxious prejudices of his new order. Thus Alexander Baring, having bought a peerage and land to the extent of £40,000 a year, is suddenly transformed from an enlightened advocate of commercial freedom into a bigoted monopolist. Thus it is that feudal notions have been kept up; for though scarcely two in a hundred of our aristocracy can trace their descent from the Norman depredators of the middle ages, their feudal prejudices are the legitimate progeny of baronial sentiments.

Let us now "be off to the west," and see what the Devonshire yeomen say as to "trusting the squires." At the *Barnstaple and North Devon* Agricultural Association, where lords, grandees, and squires were assembled in great force, Mr. George Langdon, a tenant-farmer, in replying to the toast of the "British yeomanry," said "it had been a long-standing stigma on the farmers of North Devon, that they were a hundred years behind the rest of the country;" and added,—

"Certainly, if the stigma were ever merited (which he hardly believed), it was in a fair way of being completely wiped off; *and if the farmers of this district were not trammelled by extraordinary clauses in their covenants, they would not long remain a jot behind the rest of the country.*"

And he subsequently said—

"That the farmers of this district had remained so long behind, was owing to the circumstance he had adverted to—the restrictive clauses by which they were hampered in their covenants. *If a farmer went to a landlord to take an estate, the landlord sent him to a lawyer, and he proceeded to draw up a lease which might have suited the agriculture of two or three centuries ago, but was wholly unsuitable to the improved systems of husbandry of the present age.* If the farmer wished to try any of the new manures—as guano or nitrate of soda—he could not, for his covenant prescribed the nature and quantity of the manures he should employ. *If landlords wished to cancel the stigma* which had been cast on North Devon, let them abolish the superfluous clauses of the covenants, and *leave the farmers a little more scope for the exercise of their skill and judgment. The best thing the landlords could do was to call in all such antiquated leases and make a bonfire of them, and in their place substitute shorter and more simple leases, which should be for long terms and at corn-rents*; and he would have but two stipulations in them: the one that the *tenant should pay his rent punctually*; and the other that all hay, straw, and roots should be consumed on the farm. He believed that under such leases both the landlord and the tenant would prosper much better than under the present, *which contained as many meshes as a rabbit-net, which could be made use of by a landlord or his lawyer to worry and ruin the tenant.* He hoped his remarks would not be offensive to the landlords present: he felt keenly on the subject, and he had taken the liberty of speaking as he felt." (LOUD AND PROLONGED CHEERING.)

This is right yeomanly service; it shows that the blood of our Saxon ancestors yet flows in the veins of our English yeomen. This is the spirit before which aristocratic prejudice and monopolist insolence will soon succumb.

Mr. Risdon "approved of most of Mr. Langdon's remarks, though he did not think a corn rent good for the tenant, because it was governed by the past and not the present year." That corn rents are chiefly desirable on account of the uncertainties introduced into the corn trade by restrictions, we admit, and that otherwise, money rents would be best for all parties; but *so long as the corn law* lasts there is nothing to prevent the landlord from pillaging his tenant in some years but a corn rent. Mr. Risdon, however, is a land-agent. Another farmer, Mr. Packer, who stated that he farmed without a lease under a very good landlord (Sir Bouchier Wrey), admitted "that he should never wish for a lease, *but for the uncertainty of life.*" That is only the civil way of telling your landlord it is not wise to trust him or any man.

THE LABOURERS OF DORSET AND DEVON

In the *Dorset County Chronicle* we find this admission in reference to the local correspondence which has been going on in Dorsetshire as to the state of the agricultural labourers:—

"That charges of a serious nature have been met by that weakest of all replies, the *tu quoque* argument—and that the manner in which the subject has been treated has led to a general impression out of the county, highly *unfavourable to the landowners and farmers of Dorsetshire.*"

And the same paper says:—

"There are many tracts of land in this and other counties, which, with the present prices of agricultural produce, *cannot be profitably tilled.* In such districts, if the *farmer be unwilling or unable to live upon his capital*, it follows that he will take advantage of the competition in the market of labour, and employ men at the lowest rate of wages at which they will work."

Why is this thrown upon the farmer? Do these "unprofitably tilled" lands pay any *rent?* But perhaps the journalist, like the Parliamentary Committee of 1814, is of opinion that rent is a fixed, immutable charge upon the cultivation of land; whereas, it is—or rather ought to be—only the *surplus, after* the expenses of cultivation, including a fair profit to the farmer, shall have been repaid. Not only are the farmers, who have been induced by the delusive promise of high prices made by the Corn Laws to stipulate to pay too much rent, often compelled, during a period of low prices, to *live* on his capital, but also to *pay his rent out of it.* Under such circumstances they are *compelled* to employ as few men as they can, and at the lowest possible wages. This has been clearly stated by a correspondent of the *Farmer's Gazette*, who says:—

"A great deal of mischief has been done of late, by landlords *petting* the agricultural labourers at the expense of the farmers who employ them. It is all very well for gentlemen to say, 'at this season of the year it is the duty of the farmers to employ as many labourers as they can.' But, Mr. Editor, they may as well say *it is our duty to put our hands into our pockets and give away a shilling to every one who may ask us for assistance. The simple question is—Can we afford to employ the labourers?*"

Again, he says,—

"The farmers feel it their interest, also, to have the agricultural labourer employed, because his being out of work naturally tends to increase the poors' rate. *But, in justice to ourselves, we* cannot *give employment for the mere sake of giving wages to the labourers near us.*"

The following passages from the speech of Lord

Ebrington at the *Barnstaple Agricultural Association* prove, however, that some of the landowners are awakening to a juster sense of their own duties; and they, at the same time, show that the depression of the peasant exists in Devonshire to nearly or quite as great a degree as in Dorsetshire. Lord Ebrington said,—

"He had been reminded of a recent meeting at Sturminster, at which Lord Ashley had noticed the discussion which had been provoked in the county by the report of the Government commissioners with regard to the social state of the agricultural labourers of Dorset. But if, as a man and a Christian, he sympathised in the feelings which Lord Ashley had so well expressed on this deeply interesting topic, he felt yet more as a native of Devonshire, *when he remembered that in the report of the commissioners the counties of Devon and Dorset were classed in the same category, and that the serious and distressing evils which attached to the condition and dwellings of the labourers of Dorset, were shared in a scarcely less degree by the labourers of Devon*; for of both counties just a similar report was given. Many of the cottages were described as having an artificial marsh spread over the heads of the inmates in the huge and overgrown thatch, which, by its continual moisture and rottenness, gave out the most unhealthy exhalations: the walls built against the soil, whence they derived constant dampness, and the water was seen to trickle over them; the floors were often full of holes from which water and filth were never absent; while the size of the cottages was too often so utterly inadequate to the ordinary wants of the family, that the sense of decorum and decency which it was of so much importance both to themselves and to society to preserve, not as substitutes, but as auxiliary to higher principles, was prematurely violated and set at nought, and scenes unavoidably ensued which it was revolting to contemplate. When he looked at all which Lord Ashley had said, and all which both the commissioners and Mr. Sheridan had written, as applicable hardly less to Devonshire than to Dorsetshire *he could not suppress the blush of shame, nor avoid the conviction that the class which had the best claims upon them had been treated with indifference and neglect—that class, indeed, upon the sweat of whose brow they sat depended, and the neglect of whom therefore became the more inexcusable.*"

This is at all events a frank admission of the culpable neglect of the first duty of the class to which Lord Ebrington belongs. He then said:—

"If there were no higher or more solemn motives of duty to appeal to, the dictates of self-interest might be called in to enforce the claims of the peasantry on our considerate attention, for an immoral and a vicious population was a most dangerous population. *No man could ensure himself impunity from the acts of malevolence and wild revenge of which the social debasement and the total neglect of moral culture of the labouring poor were commonly the remote cause*, by inducing a state of mind capable of the worst passions, and insusceptible of the restraint which it is the tendency of domestic comfort and early education to supply."

And the following points directly to the cause of the evil:

"It was a strange phenomenon in the agricultural world *that the greatest deficiency of employment should be observable in those very districts where there was the greatest field for it. Some of the most pauperised districts of the country were precisely those which most stood in need of draining and enclosing.* Was it not much better that, instead of lying idle as a burden on the parish, the half-employed labourer and his family should be permitted to fill up their time by redeeming from comparative waste and sterility a spot of land which nature had sufficiently endowed, and which, under proper culture, which it was man's province to devote to it, would make a grateful return for his toil and care? *Education would never find encouragement unless employment were sufficiently abundant to ensure the labourer enough for his own and his family's wants.* A state of gross ignorance in the youthful population was a certain concomitant of a want of adequate employment in the adult."

Sir Thomas Acland, though admitting the evil, tried to qualify the admission, by stating that "much had been done for the amelioration of the labourer's lot, especially with regard to the dwellings of the poor;" though, after reading Mr. Austin's report, it is difficult to believe that the "amelioration" exists anywhere except in the imagination of Sir Thomas. It is not likely that this gentleman's personal knowledge of the condition of the labourers has extended beyond his own workmen, who, being regularly employed, are of course comparatively well off, or that his experience of their wants and habits has been acquired except at quarter sessions.

But neither the most benevolent sentiments nor the active direct interference by the landlords will effect half so much for the labourers as the owners of the soil can do by letting their farms upon fair terms as to rent and tenure. Thus Mr. Paul, a farmer, at the *Glastonbury* agricultural dinner, said:

"As to the agricultural labourers, about which a great deal had been said in another county, and one to which he belonged, he would fearlessly state that no men were more ready to do good to the labourers than were the farmers; for the farmer knew that, excepting from a kind landlord, he got all he was able to obtain from the labourers; *and if the landlords would come forward and give them a helping hand, they would never find the farmers backward in doing all that could be done to keep up the labourers.* But he would ask them if there were not times when the farmers' crops were not such as they had been expected to be? (*Cheers.*) *But he would say the landlords did not come forward as they ought to do in too many instances.* As to draining, which had been so much recommended, he could say, that *the farmers had been drained too much themselves to allow of their laying out money in draining land.* He would declare the farmers were no behind any men in a desire to assist the labourers, *but the landlords were required to come forward before anything extensive could be done to better the state of the peasantry.*"

This, like all which falls from the tenant-farmer, is practical and practicable; but it presents just that sort of view lords and squires, benevolent or careless, do not like, inasmuch as it shows the less they interfere the better for all the *industrious* classes connected with the land. On this point the following by Mr. Somerville, jun., is much to the purpose:

"Much had been said that evening on behalf of the labouring classes, on which subject he would make one remark—the great object of their society, *next to the breeding of stock*, was the elevation of the labouring poor; but there was *a point connected with this of great importance, which was seldom touched upon. They could not to look so much to what could be done by private charity or by rewards for long service, as to providing work for the labourers.*" (HEAR.)

HINTS FOR AGRICULTURISTS.

A SOLOMON COME TO JUDGMENT! The monopolists are shaking in their shoes, as may be seen from the following petulant remarks made by Mr. Darby, one of the Sussex county members, at the late Hailsham cattle show:

"With respect to the question of the Corn Laws being settled, *and the time arriving when the tenants might safely take leases*, he was certain of this, that the Corn-Law agitation *would not cease till the duty was gone*; and then it would be of no use to take leases or land at all." (Loud cheers.)

Again—

"*Whether the present Corn Laws could be maintained or not, he would not say*; but the way to maintain them was not for the agriculturists to say they could not be maintained." (Hear, hear.)

And moreover that—

"As to making the Corn Laws permanent by a fixed duty, his solemn conviction was that it was a complete chimera, and that the *first day they had a fixed duty, the doom of all duties was sealed.*"

Bravo, Mr. Darby! You ought to be elected honorary member of the League. Farmers will do well to mark these ebullitions of landlord vexation, and be prepared to reject with scorn the *dodge* of a fixed duty. It *is* a perfect chimera to suppose a fixed duty could be permanently maintained. Nevertheless it *will* be attempted, for the purpose of staving off that adjustment which the landlords dread. But forewarned, forearmed; let the tenant-farmers look to it.

PEEL ON LEASES.—Our readers will remember that we marked Sir Robert Peel's admissions at Lichfield and Tamworth, as to the necessity of leases, as having been made in a very qualified sense, and in a manner somewhat suspicious; and the following passage from the letter of a correspondent of the *Examiner* proves the real value of the Premier's own example on this subject:—

"He is no north-country man, but bred and born about four miles from his new farm, which is about the same distance from the landlord's residence. He did not, therefore, ask for a lease because, as the landlord says, they were strangers to each other. *The truth is, the farm has had six tenants in the last twelve years, and is worn down to the stump.* Persons going from Lichfield to Birmingham would not fail to remark it at a place called Wood-end, from the tattered barn-doors and other externals. A reduced rent for many years being inevitable, *the lease securing an advance hereafter was not the tenant's look out.* It is a still greater mistake to suppose the lease was granted after Sir Robert's speech at Lichfield. True, that such is the impression conveyed by his speech at Tamworth, and the *Staffordshire Advertiser's* report of what he said has the word 'since,' in reference to the Lichfield speech; *but the truth is, the speech was made in September and the lease in March.* When Sir Robert is guilty of an anachronism, he has a strong reason for it. In point of fact, the only proposition clearly to be made out of the Lichfield lucubration is, *that the generosity of an English landord is equivalent to a Scotch lease for nineteen years.*"

Hear what the tenant-farmers have said on this "generosity" at nearly every agricultural meeting since the Prime Minister's notorious speeches!!

THE FORCE OF EXAMPLE.—It is difficult to calculate the amount of good which may be affected in maturing the public mind upon questions of commercial policy by the opportune declarations of great and good men like Earl Spencer. For instance, Mr. Curteis, M.P., a fixed-duty man, said at *Hailsham*—

"I originally canvassed the place which I represent, as an advocate for a 10s. fixed duty: and I believe that there are very few farmers who are advocates of a sliding scale, who would not jump at a 10s. fixed duty. (Cries of 'No.') Would you not be satisfied with that? (No.) Then I say, using a common expression, 'I wish you may get it.' (Laughter.) I believe that we should be making exceedingly good terms if we could get that. I assure you I wish with all my heart that we could have a fixed duty of 10s.; but I think the time is gone by for that."

* * * * *

"I am in hopes that we may still go on, and have ample protection; but I must say, that when I see such well known agriculturists as Lord Spencer, a gentleman who first presided over the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the chairman of the Smithfield Cattle Show, one of the first breeders in the kingdom, who carried away the prizes in opposition to one of the first Sussex breeders—when I see such a gentleman as that, a practical farmer, a person who has retired from politics—*when I see such a nobleman coming forward and stating that all his property is pledged in agriculture and that he is convinced we should be better without any Corn Laws at all, it undoubtedly staggers me, and makes me begin to think that all my former feeling on this point has been erroneous.*"

This is just and sensible, and is particularly worthy the attention of agriculturists. We believe, however, such a phenomenon as the advocate of a 10s. duty amongst the farmers has not appeared. Landlords alone indulge in the day-dream of a fixed duty. Farmers are either monopolists or Free-Traders, and they are right. Experience has taught most of them that monopoly is not profit, and they are gradually coming round to be Free-Traders. This is what alarms the landlords.

MORE COMFORT FOR THE MONOPOLISTS.—The following passage from the speech of the Earl of Hardwicke, who, as a lord in waiting, or some such pageant office-holder, is closely connected with the Government, is another of those warnings to set their house in order of which the monopolists have of late had so many:—

"After alluding to the late incendiary fires, he urged upon the farmers the advantage of adopting an improved system of cultivation, by which they might grow a double quantity of corn. He then observed, that there had lately been a great deal of agitation on the subject of the Corn Laws. For himself, he, in common with Sir R. Peel and the Duke of Buckingham, was opposed to Free Trade, but *he thought that ultimately Free Trade principles must prevail. But he conceived the result would not be so disastrous as had been anticipated.*"

Now, Lord Hardwicke has some knowledge of farming, and he therefore does not apprehend such "disastrous results as have been anticipated." There is indeed nobody, except the absolutely bankrupt landlord, who believes that the repeal of the Corn Laws would diminish the value of property; but what the landowners fear is, that to main- tain their rents they emancipate their tenants' social and political dependence.

PROGRESS OF INCENDIARISM.

SUFFOLK.

On the morning of Wednesday week a fire broke out in the farm-buildings of Mr. Nunn, of Wattisfield, situated six miles from Ixworth and three from Bottesdale. It was discovered at four, A.M., and no doubt exists of its being wilfully ignited. The buildings being of so inflammable a nature precluded the possibility of saving any portion of them, or even four fat hogs, which were consequently suffocated. Two stacks were also consumed. Mr. Nunn was *not insured.*

The heavens were again illuminated with a brilliant vermilion light at nine on the evening of Friday, indicating that a destructive fire was raging in the parish of Thurston; this was the farm-buildings and one of the stack-yards belonging to and in the occupation of Mr. Jennings. There was only just sufficient time, after the discovery of the fire, to prevent 12 fat bullocks being incarcerated in the flames, though Mr. Jennings, jun., had been round only a quarter of an hour previously, when all was right. Our informant rode past hundreds of foot people, and the country was drained of all its male population, who appeared to have but one object in view, that of assisting their neighbour. Mr. Jennings, sen., is upwards of 80, and much respected; he walked round the burning buildings, supported by two friends, and was much affected by the scene. The greatest sympathy was manifested towards him by all classes. Upwards of forty horsemen were present, and the same number of vehicles. Many gentlemen and farmers had ridden eight or nine miles. No stock was burnt except the poultry, some of which flew into the branches of the trees, which were afterwards burnt from the trunk, and fell, with the birds, into the flames. Mr. Jennings was insured in the Union office.

The farmers in the neighbourhood are becoming exceedingly alarmed—many of them never retiring till 12, others having a regular nocturnal watch.—*Globe.*

ESSEX.

We regret to find that two fires have occurred within the last few days, from which there is too much ground to conclude that the incendiary has been at his destructive work in our own neighbourhood.

The first broke out on Friday evening last, on the farm premises of Mr. James Speller, near High Roothing, in this county. The discovery was made by policeman Jamieson, 74, who, being near the farm a few minutes before 5, saw an immense sheet of flame suddenly issue from the body of the barn, and immediately after the building and its contents were one body of fire. A messenger was instantly despatched to Dunmow, and the engine, under the direction of Superintendent Redin and his men, speedily proceeded to the spot. On its arrival at the scene of destruction it was in working order in about four minutes, and a plentiful supply of water being at hand, the dwelling-house was saved, but the rest of the buildings were in the end utterly destroyed—partly owing to the mischievous act of some miscreant, for while the engine was working successfully, about 11 o'clock it was suddenly discovered that one of the hose had been cut transversely; subsequently it was found that another had been injured in the same diabolical method. The property consumed consisted of two bays of wheat, two of barley, a considerable quantity of beans, and other corn, all the farming implements on the premises, the brew-house, wash-house, and their contents, and also a sow and nine pigs, and 100 head of poultry. As there is little doubt that the fire was wilfully caused—it being impossible to account for it in any other way—a painful feeling of excitement has naturally been created in the neighbourhood. Mr. S. is an elderly person, highly esteemed by every one as an amiable and most worthy yeoman. His property, we are happy to say, was insured, we believe in the Norwich Union. We since learn that the most active exertions are taking to repress the spirit of mischief which has thus evinced itself in the district. A reward has been offered by the Dunmow Fire-engine Association for information that will lead to the detection of the parties who so wantonly cut the hose of the engine; and a notice has been issued, signed by the Rev. J. P. Chesshyre and J. M. Wilson, Esq., two of the magistrates, calling a public meeting, to consider the best means to be adopted to protect the property of the agriculturists from these destructive attacks.

The second fire occurred during divine service on Sunday afternoon, about a quarter past three o'clock, on the farming premises of W. M. Bird, Esq., of Pratt's, Little Waltham; the alarm was given to Mr. Bird in church, and such was the excitement it occasioned that the congregation rushed out, leaving the service unfinished. An old man named Mott first observed smoke issuing from a hay-stack, and the flames almost instantly communicated with a double-bayed barn and to another hay-stack opposite, and from thence to a wheat-stack and a barley-stack at a short distance, all of which were quickly in a blaze. Messengers were despatched to Chelmsford for the fire-engines, and the Economic, the Sun, and the Essex and Suffolk Equitable were soon on the spot, but before their arrival the barn was burnt to the ground. Efforts had been made by the labouring men present, and they were continued by the firemen, to prevent the fire extending to a range of sheds adjoining another large barn, stabling, &c.; and the wind fortunately favouring their exertions, they succeeded, and thus, probably, saved also the house, which is only a few yards distant. The property consumed consists of the barn, which contained only loose straw and sawn timber; a barley-stack, the produce of 12 acres; a wheat-stack, the produce of 8 acres; a hay-stack containing 10 loads, about 12 loads of tare hay, and a waggon; the whole estimated at about £400, which is covered by insurance in the Essex Equitable. There is little doubt that the fire was the act of an incendiary, and a man named Moore is in custody on suspicion of being a party concerned.—*Essex Herald.*

NORFOLK.

One of those diabolical outrages on the peace of society occurred in Necton on the night of the 15th ult., on the premises of a little occupier of but a few acres of land, and the produce of three acres of wheat, two of barley, and six of hay, were all destroyed. The fiendish spirit of revenge, on the part of a neighbour, who is now in custody, is believed to be the cause of this calamity.—*Norwich Mercury.*

On Friday sennight, in the evening, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Moore, of Repps, near Acle. We understand that Mr. Moore had been putting down a thrashing-machine between two stacks for the purpose of thrashing. A man, since apprehended, was heard to wish the whole consumed, and in the evening the fire took place. The damage is reported not to be very large.—*Ibid.*

INCENDIARY FIRES IN THE PARISH OF LUTON.—The fires we noticed as occurring last week at Lim-

bury and Caddington, have been [illegible] incendiarism still more destructive in its consequences. The scene of this deed is Wigmore Hall, an elevated spot, about three miles from Luton, on the road to Colm[illegible]-green. The farm is the property of Samuel Crawley, Esq., and the tenant is Mr. Daniel Gutteridge, a highly respectable man, who has occupied it for many years. In consequence of the fires before noticed, Mr. Crawley had called on his tenants, and recommended that men should watch all night, agreeing to bear half the expense thus incurred. On the night of Thursday, the 14th instant, Mr. Thomas Gutteridge was watching his father's yard and premises, when shortly before eleven o'clock he perceived fire bursting from a hovel near the road, having a field behind it. He instantly gave an alarm, but there were very few persons near, and the flames spread with destructive rapidity, until every barn, shed, stable, and stye was consumed. The house was saved, and the ricks also escaped, although both were in imminent danger. Two horses refused to yield to all the efforts made to remove them from the stable, and they perished in the flames; a fat pig and nineteen sucking pigs suffered the same fate from the want of assistance to remove them in time. No account can be given of the origin of this calamity, except that it was clearly not accidental. The property is insured in the County Fire Office. It is difficult to describe the anxiety this third fire has spread in the town and neighbourhood. —*Herts Reformer.*

Fire at Sir W. Chaytor's New Mansion.—Early last Saturday morning, as the workmen employed in Sir William Chaytor's new mansion, near Croft, were proceeding to their work, they discovered part of the house filled with smoke, arising from fire that had broken out in a back staircase. With great presence of mind they immediately ascended to the roof, and uncovering part of it, poured down water from the cisterns in sufficient quantity to extinguish the fire before any material damage had been done. It is much to be feared that this fire originated in malice, as no carelessness can be attributed to the workmen, nor was there any flue or chimney near the spot. Some persons residing near the Castle heard the barking of dogs about two o'clock in the morning, when it is supposed the miscreants were engaged in their fiend-like work.—*Durham Chronicle.*

The Honingham Fires.—Two prisoners, who had been several times remanded on suspicion of being the incendiaries, named Wright and Lincoln, have been committed for trial at the assizes.

Bungay.—The proclamation of a reward of £50 for the apprehension and conviction of the parties who attempted to fire Shipmeadow workhouse about a month since, has had its desired effect, and two men, George Pallord and Thomas Barber, have been fully committed for trial at the assizes. Each in his voluntary examination charged the crime upon the other.

An incendiary fire took place at Nursling, near Southampton, on the night of Thursday the 21st inst., by which a cottage, sheds, stack of hay, a horse, two cows, pigs, &c., were destroyed. A fellow has been apprehended on suspicion, and remanded for further examination. The case appears very strong against him.

Market-Rasen.—A few nights ago, some evil-disposed person set fire to a large stack of barley, which was entirely consumed. It was the property of Mr. Robert Johnson, of Binbrook St. Mary's, near Rasen.—*Hull Advertiser.*

Scrivelsby.—We are sorry to state that another incendiary fire was discovered on Thursday morning week, in the farm-yard of Mr. Thos. Rawson, of Scrivelsby, at about twenty minutes to six. After about three hours hard labour the flames were completely extinguished, though not until the two stacks set on fire had been almost wholly consumed or spoiled. The stacks fired were one wheat and one barley, but we have not heard their value. Mr. Rawson is fully insured. We are afraid that we must state malice as the cause of this fire.—*Ibid.*

Wigan.—On Friday se'ennight, about eleven o'clock, a fire was discovered in the out-buildings at Belcony Farm, Pimbo-lane, about two miles from Upholland. All available means were immediately taken to prevent the threatened destruction of the property, but all to little purpose, for the flames spread through the range of building. A barn, stabling, and other out-houses, and grain, valued at about £500, were entirely consumed. The fire was distinctly visible at Wigan, which is six miles distant, about two o'clock in the morning. James Dickinson, the farmer in occupation, can assign no accident or neglect as the cause of the fire; for the buildings had been closed for the night two or three hours previous to the discovery of the flames, and it is, consequently, feared that it may have been the work of an incendiary. From circumstances which have come to the knowledge of the county constabulary, a strong suspicion is entertained, that, if this be the case, the guilty parties reside in the immediate neighbourhood; but no clue has yet been obtained to their apprehension.

Bishop's Stortford.—The late Incendiary Fire at Manuden.—Since the recent conviction at Bishop's Stortford for obstructing the police at the late fire here, and the rumour of further proceedings to be taken by them against other parties implicated in the same occurrence, a spirit for the purpose of intimidation has shown itself in the village, which, if not altogether unknown, was unnoticed, previous to the proceedings against the aforesaid parties, in connexion with the above-mentioned event. On Saturday morning week, a small brown paper parcel was found at the door of Mr. Timothy Bush, a farmer, residing in the village, upon the outside of which there were two matches, and within, enclosed in a printed paper, was a piece of iron and some fine sand; the whole tied up by a piece of waxed string; and again on Sunday, a number of small and ill-made squibs, now in the hands of the police, were found somewhat ostentatiously displayed upon [illegible] parish. In connecting the above events, it is but justice to add, that at the late fire *all* the labourers used their best endeavours to get it under, and it was not until that end was attained, and until the beer was distributed, of which a large quantity appears to have been consumed, that a *few* disgraced themselves in the manner before mentioned.—*Cambridge Advertiser.*

On Monday night a daring act of incendiarism was committed upon Campion's Farm, a short distance from Harlow, in the occupation of Mr. Matthews. Inspector Low and a constable of the constabulary force were in conversation with Mr. Matthews about half-past eleven o'clock, when one of two men, who had been set to watch the premises, shouted that the buildings were on fire. Mr. Matthews instantly despatched a messenger for an engine, which promptly arrived, and, with the aid of a plentiful supply of water, confined the ravages of the flames to the destruction of an out-building about forty feet in length, and some implements of small value. Inspector Low burnt his arm, and had a severe fall from the house, in his exertions to cut off all communication with the flames, which were rapidly approaching it. One of the men on the watch states that he saw a stranger run away from the place whence the flames first issued about eight o'clock, and it is supposed that he left some combustible material, which did not take effect for three hours and a half. The probability is, that the man failed in his first attempt, and repeated it. Mr. Matthews is fully insured.—*Bury Post.*

On Saturday, the 16th, between the hours of six and seven in the morning, a fire was discovered in the stack-yard of Mr. J. Hall, an opulent farmer and corn-dealer, at Eaton Socon, and nine large stacks and hovels, two of which were very large, containing upwards of 100 loads each, fell a sacrifice to the flames. The barns and out-buildings were saved by the vigilance of the gentry and the poorer classes, by whom Mr. Hall was considered a kind and good master. Mr. Hall was fully insured.—*Ibid.*

The following incendiary fires are reported in the *Chelmsford Chronicle*:—On Wednesday Mr. Robert Baker, of Writtle, Essex, had a stack of wheat, the produce of twelve acres, valued at £160, totally consumed.—On the same day the farming premises of Mr. Turner, of the Glebe Farm, Dunmow, consisting of two barns, a stable, cow-house, cart-shed, &c., with a waggon, two carts, six trusses of hay, and other articles, were consumed. The origin of the fire is not known, but it is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.—The *Notts Review* reports a fire having broken out on Sunday night last in a stack of straw, the property of Mr. T. Robinson, of Arnold: the stack was entirely consumed.—On Tuesday morning last a barn, mill-house, and stable, belonging to Mr. Benj. Slack, relieving officer to the Whinchcomb union, Cleeve, were partially destroyed by fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.—On Saturday evening a fire took place in the stack-yard of Messrs. Benton, Barrow-hill, Kent; about £90 worth of property was consumed.

Repeal of the Corn Laws.—A writer in the *Morning Post* voluntarily seeks to be mystified, and uses the *Spectator* as an agent in the process. He quotes the *Bucks Herald*, which assumes that Sir Robert Peel will stand by the present Corn Law without a jot of abatement; and then the self-mystifier says:—"The London *Spectator*, published on the very same day, announces in plain terms that 'the Corn Laws are going to be repealed,' and that it is, therefore, a useless waste of time to argue the question. The task which our contemporary proposes to the 'great masters in political economy' is, to settle how most profitably to turn to account the change which is now certain." Our contemporary inclines to the belief of the country paper; though he assumes that Ministers will not give any positive assurance on the subject. "But if the *Spectator* means to say that the Ministry is going, when Parliament meets, to repeal the Corn Law, or to promise to do so, we believe the *Spectator* to be totally mistaken."—We meant to say no such thing; as our own context fully showed: for, besides presupposing the process of conversion among county electors to be considerably further advanced than it has yet reached, we expressly said, "an immediate legislative settlement of the question need not involve an immediate repeal." In saying, "the Corn Laws are going to be repealed," we spoke of no precise moment—of no particular Ministry. The inevitable event depends on no one Cabinet; and we have no reason to assume that Sir Robert Peel will stay in office till it happens. He may choose to do so—he may choose to be the repealing Minister; but if he do not, some one else will. When a thing must be done, some one is always found to do it. As to "the task," which also helps in the contemporary mystification, there are other points which, the general principle of repeal conceded, remain to be maturely considered. Would the change be most profitable if made gradually—by yearly reductions of duty until the final extinction? if fixed now, to take place hereafter, but all at once? if literally "immediate?" or if accompanied by auxiliary measures, such as repeal of the malt-tax? A bill or a resolution might be passed now, to abrogate the law at some future, but fixed day. We lately heard a landowner and practical agriculturist, deriving all his income from that source, and of the Conservative party in politics, declare that he would gladly compound for the dangerous agitation and injurious uncertainty on the subject, by consenting to total repeal, if three years' grace were allowed. Would that be too much "law" to concede to the fears, and perhaps to the prejudices, of the landowners? These and other similar points might still be advantageously discussed, though the Corn Laws "are going to be repealed."—*Spectator.*

Subscriptions for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1843.

N B.—As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the League of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

	£	s.	d.
Honourable Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P.	50	0	0
William Burrows, Devizes	3	0	0
A Friend, per do. do.	30	0	0
Wm. Crookill, 73, Tickle-street, Manchester	0	2	6
George Jennings, Buckland, near Dover	5	0	0
G. Duncan, Esq, M.P, Dundee, per E. Baxter, Esq.	5	5	0
J. Mason, Chorlton-place, Oxford-road, Manchester	20	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
J. Ollerenshaw, 135, Deansgate, Manchester	0	5	0
Benj. Parry, 139, do., do.	0	5	0
J R.	1	1	0
Thomas Aitken, 58, Bradford-road, Manchester ..	1	0	0
W. L.	1	0	0
R. Pattison, at Wood and Wright's, George-street, Manchester	1	0	0
George Young, 23, Bloom-street, do.	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
A Friend	2	0	0
Robert Rogers, Oxford-street, Manchester	0	5	0
J Ormerod, 3, Old Millgate do. (2nd subscription.)	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Finney, 9, Hodson's-square, do.	1	0	0
C J. Ronchetti, 5, New Cannon-street, do.	0	5	0
John Massey, 31, do. do.	1	0	0
J. R.	5	0	0
T. G., Oldham-street, Manchester	0	10	0
Thos. Gibson, 93, Prussia-street, do.	0	2	6
John Bridge, St Mark's-lane, Cheetham-hill, do. ..	0	6	0
W. Tomlinson, 49, Duke-street, Hulme, do.	0	7	6
Mrs. Tomlinson, 49, do. do.	0	2	6
Hannah Tomlinson, 49, do. do.	0	1	0
Mary Green, 49, do. do.	0	1	0
A Friend, per J. Millen, 18, Park-street, do.	1	0	0
David Nelson, Prestwich, near Bolton	1	1	0
A Private in the Army	1	0	0
J. W. Hayton, Ramsay, Isle of Man	5	0	0
R. Watson, Deansgate, Manchester	0	5	0
Woolfall and Percival, 32, Russell-st., C.-on-M., do.	2	2	0
Mrs. Woolfall, do. do.	1	1	0
Thomas Johnson, 24, York-street, do.	10	0	0
John Leach Holland, Tunnicliffe, near Rochdale ..	10	0	0
B. Heap and Co, Yorkshire-street, do.	30	0	0
Robert Heap, do., do.	30	0	0
Charles Littlewood, Townhead, do.	5	5	0
Mrs. Littlewood's Little Girl, do. do.	1	1	0
John Smith, Healey, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Wood, top of Yorkshire-street, do	2	10	0
Rev W. R. Thorburn, A.M., Hallfold, near do. ..	2	10	0
Thomas Anderton, West-street, Rochdale	1	1	0
James Thompson, tea dealer, Yorkshire-street, do...	5	5	0
Wm. Todd and Brothers, do.	3	0	0
Samuel Bury, Milne-row, near do.	2	2	0
Thomas Livesey, Washington-place, do.	2	2	0
Samuel Wild, Walk, do.	0	5	0
Edward Evans, ship broker, Swansea	0	5	0
John Shawcross, Cheapside, Manchester	20	0	0
Rev. Roger Bass, Austrey Vicarage, Atherstone ..	2	0	0
Abraham Bass, Burton-on-Trent	2	0	0
Wm. Harrington, farmer, do.	1	0	0
Joseph Richardson, do.	1	0	0
James Douglas do.	1	0	0
William Thomas do.	1	0	0
James Ratcliffe, do.	1	0	0
Richard Sale, Heather, Ashby-de la-Zouch	2	0	0
J. N. Hanson, Burton-on-Trent	3	0	0
Samuel Las, 26, Fairfield-street, Manchester	1	0	0
John Hardley, 157, Deansgate, do.	1	0	0
John Hill, Rooks-buildings, Pendleton, do.	0	2	6
Wm. Hartshorne, 48, Edge-street, do.	0	2	6
John Broadfield, 12, Cateaton-street, do.	2	2	0
Messrs. Herman Samson and H. J. Leppoc, Mount-street, Peter-street, do.	10	10	0
F. Logan, Shudehill, do.	0	5	0
John Pilling, Garden street, do., do.	2	2	0
E. H.	1	1	0
Richard Whittington, Withy-grove, Manchester ..	0	5	0
John Tarlay, do. do.	0	5	0
Small Subscription, do. do.	0	0	6
Robt. Blurton, Smallwood Manor, near Uttoxeter ..	1	0	0
William Fielden, Clough Mill, near Todmorden ..	5	0	0
John Marshall, Anchor, near do.	2	0	0
William Brook, do.	2	2	0
R. and J. Taylor, Mount Pleasant, do.	2	2	0
John Smith, North Gate, do.	2	2	0
Abraham Fielden, Thistle Hall, near do.	1	0	0
Thomas Wild, Roomfield-lane, do.	1	0	0
Wm. Dewhurst, Cross-stone, near do.	1	0	0
Small Sums do.	0	1	6
James Fielden, North Gate, do.	1	0	0
Mrs. Smith, do. do.	1	0	0
Small Sums, Rochdale ..	0	1	0
John Tattersall, Boothfield New Church, do. ..	0	2	6
Henry Ashworth, Cloughfold, do. do. ..	1	0	0
Joseph Clegg, do. do. ..	1	0	0
Dionysius Law, Edgeside, do. do. ..	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Platt	10	0	0
Mrs. John Hoyle, Lark Mills, Rochdale	10	10	0
Miss Jane Hoyle, do. do.	1	1	0
Miss Ann Hoyle, do. do.	1	1	0
Miss Mary Hoyle, do. do.	1	1	0
Thomas Hoyle, jun., do. do.	1	1	0
Mrs. Thomas Booth, Larkfield, do.	10	10	0
Miss Ann Booth, do. do.	1	1	0
Rev. W. M'Kerrow, Acomb street, Ducie-street, Oxford-road, Manchester	5	0	0
Richard Evans, Haydock Colliery, near Warrington	20	0	0
Robert Robson, Mill-street, do. ..	1	1	0
Benjamin Cooke, Hope House, do. ..	2	2	0
Thomas Peters, Church-street, do. ..	1	1	0
John Robinson, Latchford, near do. ..	1	0	0
Richard Peers, Town Hill, do. ..	1	1	0
John Peers, do. do. ..	1	1	0
George W. Lartin, Bridge street, do. ..	1	0	0
Rev. R. Massie, Newton, near do. ..	1	1	0
A Friend to the Anti-Corn-Law League do. ..	1	0	0
Edward West, Horse Market-street, do. ..	1	1	0
A Friend, per Edwd. West, do. do. ..	0	10	0
A Friend, per do., do. do. ..	1	0	0
His Son, per do., do. do. ..	1	0	0
Another Son, per do., do. do. ..	1	0	0
H. B. Peacock, Irwell-place, Lower Broughton, Manchester	5	0	0
A Friend	3	0	0
Handel Scholes, Hulme Hall-lane, Newton Heath, Manchester	1	0	0
Thos. Marsden, 22, Oldham-street, do...	0	17	6
John Mayson, New Market-buildings, do.	50	0	0
A. G. Rahu, South-street (Sunderland)	5	0	0
No Customs, no Excise, direct taxation (Sunderland)	1	1	0
John Dennistoun (Sunderland)	1	1	0
E. C. Robson, High-street (Sunderland)	1	1	0
Wm. Toller (Kettering)	1	0	0
Mrs. Munn (Kettering)	0	5	0
Rev. W. Robinson (Kettering)	0	5	0
Mrs. Muddiman (Kettering)	0	5	0
S. Flersheim, 40, York-street, Manchester	20	0	0
A. B.	0	5	0
Wm. Thomas, Glebe Land, Merthyr Tidvil	1	0	0
Edwd. Thomas, Hematite Iron Works, Whitehaven, Cumberland	1	0	[illegible]

	£	s.	d.
A few Friends at the Harewood Arms, Kirkgate, Wakefield	1	0	0
P. R. Morris, Rolle Arms Inn, Budleigh Salterton	1	0	0
W. A. S.	1	1	0
—— Ovenden, 10, Mile End-road	0	5	0
Penny Weekly Subscriptions from the Workmen of Messrs. Maudslay and Fields' factory, Lambeth	3	11	6
S. Gawthorp, 46, Charles-street, Westminster	1	1	0
G. W. Horn, 32, Priory-road, Wandsworth-road	1	1	0
John Downs, Grays, Essex	1	0	0
George Duke, St. Leonard's-on-the-Sea, Sussex	1	0	0
George Pitty, miller, Ashwell, near Baldock, Herts	1	0	0
George E. A. Ellis, 31, Quai de Retz, Lyons, France	1	0	0
W. Billington, Newlay, near Leeds	1	1	0

Dunse, N.B.

	£	s.	d.
Andrew Darling, surgeon	1	0	0
James Thomson	1	0	0
John Waite	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
David Law, grain merchant, Girvan, Ayrshire	1	0	0
Benjamin Roberts, tallow chandler, Oswestry	1	0	0
Joseph Cranstone, Hemel Hempstead, Herts	1	0	0
James Conway, Dolphin Inn, Salisbury	1	0	0

Dundee

	£	s.	d.
John Paton and Son, manufacturers	10	0	0
Friends to Free Trade	1	1	0
A Free Trader	1	0	0
Workmen at J. Paton and Sons' factory	1	2	6
Workmen at Killersbrae factory	1	1	0
Alexander Bain	0	10	6
George Hunter	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Charles Rooke, Westwood House, near Colchester	10	0	0
W. E. Snow, 26, Tredegar-square	1	0	0
Samuel Wentworth, sen., Wandsworth	1	0	0
Charles Higginbotham, Thames Ditton	1	0	0
Bryan Corcoran, 36, Mark-lane, per Wm. Tait	1	0	0
Chas. Nightingale, 22, Park Village East, Regent's Park	1	0	0
D. Bowman, 3, Tottenham-court-road	1	0	0
Wm. Nightingale, 29, Old Compton-street	1	0	0
—— James, Avery-road	0	2	6
Henry Draper, 3, Fenton-street, Leeds	1	0	0
Robert Craig, 98, Briggate, Leeds	1	0	0
N. K., Bradford	0	1	0
R. Swinburne, Troutbeck-bridge, near Kendal	1	0	0
Geo. E. Coles, Ashley Vale, Bristol	0	2	6
Henry Zachary, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	1	0	0
John Daikers, 13, Prospect-place, Kingsland-road	0	2	6
Samuel D. Ditchell, Bristol	1	0	0
W. H. Thayer, Glasgow	1	0	0
Wm King, 2, George's-place, Hoxton Old Town	0	2	6
John Chapman, Oglebrook, near Stroud	0	3	6
Wm. Matthew, merchant, Cupar, Fife	1	0	0
City road Anti-Corn-Law Association, per the secretary, J. H. Const	3	0	0
Thomas Hall, 82, Leadenhall-street	0	2	6
James Hall, do.	0	2	6
Henry Ives, The Globe, Crutched-friars	0	2	6
James Emery, Middle Turnstile	0	2	6
Jas. Walsh, 11, Belinda-terrace, Canonbury-square	1	0	0
Baynes Birch, 66, Fetter-lane	1	1	0
Richard Dotson, Poyle, Colnbrook, Bucks	1	0	0
W. H. Girle, 5, St. John-st., Edinburgh, per C. Fox	1	1	0
Charles Fox, 67, Paternoster-row	1	1	0
R. Armitage, 290, Strand	1	1	0
Samuel Thomas, 16, Cumberland-street	0	2	6
Wm. Moore, 15, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square	0	2	6
Small Sums	6	0	0

Liverpool, Third Remittance.

	£	s.	d.
James Pentland, 68, Eldon-place	1	1	0
Joshua Fisher, 5, Falkner-terrace	1	0	0
Reay and Robinson, 87, Church-street	1	1	0
Nathaniel Wield, 21, St. James'-place	1	1	0
James H Boyle, 16, Exchange-buildings	1	1	0
Geo. Summers, 118, Bold-street	1	1	0
Joseph Mayer, 56, Lord street	2	2	0
A Friend, per John T Crook	10	0	0
Wilson Forster, 15, North John-street	1	0	0
Thomas Lewis, 61, St. James's-street	0	10	0
F. F. Chinn, 4, Lower Castle-street	2	0	0
John M'Neill, 25, Cambridge-street	1	1	0
Robert Lawton, 24, Stanley-street	0	2	6
John Richardson, 2, Temple-lane	1	10	0
W. S. and Co.	0	5	0
Peter Williams, 5, Price-street	1	0	0
John Cropper, jun., Dingle Bank, Toxteth-pk.	25	0	0
An Enemy to the Sliding Scale	5	0	0
Richard Morley, 3, Liver-street	1	10	0
Thomas Siddington, 37, Hurst-street	0	2	6
John Boyd, 29, Cazneau-street, in addition to £1 before	0	1	0
George Holt and Co., India-buildings	100	0	0
Edward Fox, 28, Norton-street	0	2	0
A Complete Suffragist	1	0	0
X. Y. Z.	0	10	0
William Turner, 20, Islington	1	1	0
John Ewart, 102, Gill street	0	10	0
George Smith, 21, Old Haymarket	1	0	0
David Little, Club Moor, West Derby, near	2	0	0
R. F. Beeston, 58, Clement's-street	0	5	0
Braga and Co., 14, Drury-lane	5	0	0
R A. Macfie, 83, Upper Parliament-street	2	2	0
J. B.	1	0	0
Mrs. Coglan, Rock-ferry, Cheshire	2	0	0
Joseph Guest, 54, Stanley street	0	2	6
J. Conway and Co., St. George's-crescent	2	0	0
A Friend	0	10	0
Wm. Lewthwaite, 50, Upper Stanhope-street	1	0	0
Richard Worthington, 83, Upper Stanhope-st.	0	2	6
Peter M'Ardle, Duke's-place	1	0	0
W. P. Bayliffe, 14, Exchange Chambers	1	0	0
E. K. Bayliffe, 14, do.	0	10	0
Joseph Pannell, 51, Byrom-street	1	1	0
James Brancker, 133, Duke-street	25	0	0
J. Baron, Oldhall-street	10	0	0
G. G. Unsworth, 15, Gloucester-pl., Low-hill	1	0	0
John Millar, Brunswick-quay, Brunswick-dk.	1	0	0
Richard Sheil and Co., 31, King-street	50	0	0
W. B. Jones, 47, Dale-street	1	1	0
John Stockdale, 2, Blackstock-street	10	0	0
William Garside, Ormskirk, Lancashire	0	10	0

Halifax, Second Remittance.

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Bentley	10	0	0
Barnabas Walton	10	0	0
David Binns, £2, and £3 more to take the scales of Sir R. Peel's eyes	5	0	0
Oates, Ingham, and Sons	5	0	0
William Denton	5	0	0
James Dickinson	2	0	0
John Edwards	2	0	0
Henry Schorfield, at Miss Spencer's, Bull-green	2	2	0
Broadbent and Watson	2	0	0
A Friend	2	0	0
A Friend, per B. Walton	2	0	0
A few Working Men, Foes to all Monopoly	1	0	0
Joseph Vickerman	1	0	0
A Friend	1	1	0
A Friend	1	1	0
A Father for his Family	1	1	0
Joseph Wilson, Old Market	1	0	0
Isaac Jowett, Cross-hills	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
"One who likes to help those who seem to help themselves"	1	0	0
James Lofthouse	1	1	0
Jonathan Jowett, at J. Whiteley and Son's	1	0	0
James Tasker, Old Bank	1	0	0
"Another for my Good Wife"	1	0	0
"Brookfoot Crane"	1	0	0
George Wilcocks, Gerard-street	1	1	0

Paisley, Fourth Remittance.

	£	s.	d.
William Hamilton, Lounsdale, by	2	2	0
William Boyd and Son, George-street	2	2	0
Baillie Murray	1	1	0
Robert Brown, town-chamberlain	1	1	0
John Brown, grocer, Queen-street	1	1	0
Rev. Archibald Baird	1	1	0
Jn. Barr, manufacturer, Wardrop-street	1	1	0
Matthew Slater, starcher, New-town	1	1	0
Thomas Mason, coal merchant, New-town	1	1	0
James Thomson, Williamsburgh, by	1	1	0
James M'Arthur, Camphill	1	1	0
Andrew Warnock, Townhead	1	1	0
Alexander Wilson, grocer, George-street	1	1	0
Dr. Craig, High-street	1	1	0
Andrew Mack, hatter, High-street	1	1	0
Robert Patrick, do., do.	1	1	0
J. and A. Robertson, grain mts., Townhead	1	1	0
Robert Greenlees, 24, Friday-street, London	1	1	0
J S. Brown, Town's Hospital	1	1	0
Rev. John Bremner	1	1	0
John M'Kechnie, grocer, Causeyside	1	1	0
John M'Neil, dyer	1	1	0
Andrew White, 6, Causeyside	1	1	0
W. S., a Chartist, per Hugh M'Farlane	1	1	0
William Martin, Causeyside	1	1	0
Baillie Paton (second subscription)	1	1	0
Rt. Kerr, Merchieston Castle, near Edinburgh	1	13	0
Andrew Thomson, Causeyside	1	0	0
Rev. William Nisbet	0	10	6
C. H., per Hugh M'Farlane	0	10	6
James Hutchison, plasterer, St. James's	0	10	0
David Ritchie, New-town	0	10	6
J. G Patrick, at Mr. Harvey's, Saucel (second subscription)	0	10	6
William Cross, gilder, New-town	0	5	0
Joseph Wilson, grocer, Saucel	0	5	0
John Brown, flesher, New-town	0	5	0
T. S., per Hugh M'Farlane	0	5	0
Matthew Wallace, Sneddon	0	5	0
William Muir, grocer, High-street	0	5	0
James Fulton, grocer, Cross	0	5	0
James Crawford, turner, Old-bridge	0	5	0
H. C., per M. Whitehill	0	5	0
George Caldwell, stationer	0	5	0

Huddersfield, Second Remittance.

	£	s.	d.
B. Crosland, at D. Haigh and Brothers'	2	0	0
Jonathan Dyson, Brook's-yard	1	0	0
Jonathan Shaw, Oak Well, Golcar, near	3	6	8
Joseph Shaw, Westwood-house, do.	3	6	8
Eli Shaw, Low Westwood, do.	3	6	8
John Brierley, Crosland-moor, near	1	0	0
Joseph Shaw, Swan-lane, Lockwood	1	0	0
John Smith Moldgreen, near	2	0	0
Isaac Armitage, Busker, near	1	0	0
Bery Crosland, Finney-bridge, near	2	2	0
Joseph Walker, Moldgreen, near	0	5	0
Rachel Walker, do.	0	2	0
Titus Schofield (At Messrs. Starkey, Brothers., Long-royd-bridge, near)	1	0	0
Joseph Sykes (At Messrs. Starkey, Brothers., Long-royd-bridge, near)	1	0	0
Richard Moody (At Messrs. Starkey, Brothers., Long-royd-bridge, near)	1	0	0
Jonathan Booth (At Messrs. Starkey, Brothers., Long-royd-bridge, near)	1	0	0
—— Willett	5	0	0
—— Willett, Whitchurch, Salop	1	0	0
Mr.	1	0	0
J. Hirst Walker, timber merchant	1	0	0
Mrs. J. Hirst Walker	1	0	0
George Shaw, Rosemary-lane	1	1	0
Miss Crowther, Kirkgate	0	5	0
M. Roy, Professor of the French Language, Market-street	2	2	0
D. Bradshaw and Co., New-street	5	0	0
A Corn-Law Repealer	10	0	0
George Crosland, jun., Lindley, near	1	0	0
Rev. S. Smith, South Parade	1	0	0
D. Boscorch, 28, Market-street	2	2	0
J. H. Waddington, West-gate	1	0	0
—— Wilkins, Market-street	1	1	0
John Frost, 28, Market street	2	2	0
Robert Aram, Manchester-street	1	1	0
Henry Scarlett, Water-gate	1	0	0
Fleetwood Milnes	0	1	0
John Peak	0	1	0
Richard Horsfall	0	1	0
James Keating	0	1	0
L. Cummins	0	1	0
P. Dunn	0	1	0
Small Sums, by Mrs. Dewhirst, Aspley	1	0	6
Mrs Joshua Kaye, Moldgreen, near	0	5	0
John Sheard, do.	0	2	6
Mrs. Firth, Colne-terrace	0	2	6
Thomas Blakey, Moldgreen, near	0	2	6
Y. J.	0	5	0
Small Sums	0	4	0

Holmfirth, near Huddersfield, Second Remittance.

	£	s.	d.
John MacClellan, tea dealer	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mr. Pickford, Cross Pipes	5	5	0
S. and J Armitage, Shepley, near	2	0	0
Joseph Field, Skelmanthorp, near	2	0	0
Thomas Field, do.	2	0	0
Wm. Pickford, Cross Pipes	1	0	0
Thomas Dowse, Skelmanthorp, near	1	0	0
Joseph Firth, Shepley	0	5	0
Jonas Batley, Shelley	0	1	0
Anti-Monopolist	0	1	0
Joseph Broadbent, Shepley	0	1	0
John Ellis, High Flatts	0	1	0
Two Friends, do.	0	10	0
Jonathan Jubb, do.	0	1	0
Joshua Shaw, Cumberworth	0	1	0
Wm. Hardy, Shepley	0	1	0
Mrs. Pickford, Cross Pipes	0	1	0
James Holmes, jun., Larches	1	0	0
Lot Allen, Thongsbridge	0	1	0
George Woodhouse, do.	0	1	0
Charles Hinchliff, Hepworth	0	2	6
Joseph Waterhouse, Victoria Inn	0	2	6
Jonas Charlesworth Nabb	0	2	0
Thomas Bennett Law, Bottom	0	5	0
Adam Hirst, Oxlee	0	2	6
John Battye, Moor Cock Inn	0	3	6
George Heywood, Thurstonland	0	1	0
Joseph Knutton, Mytholm Bridge	0	2	6
Wm. England, do.	0	1	0
John Lockwood, clothier, Fulstone	0	2	6
J. and D Brook, Upperthong	5	5	0
Jonathan Sandford, Dyson's Mill	2	0	0
Wm. Lockwood, Spring Villa	1	0	0
John Hixon	1	0	0
Richard Battye, drysalter, Newtown	1	0	0
Ely Dearnally, Netherthong, Thongsbridge	0	10	0
George Wimpenny, do., do	0	2	6
Jonathan Roebuck, Cross-roads	0	10	0
Joseph Harpin, Burnlee	0	10	0
Ely Wimpenny, Mount-pleasant	6	0	0
Joseph Mellor, jun., Bridge Mill	2	2	0
J. T. Battye and Joseph Whiteley, Broadhead Green Owlers	1	0	0
E. Whiteley and Jas. Beardsell, jun., Holme	1	0	0
George Haigh and Charles Crosland, Holme	1	0	0
Messrs. Beardsell, Holme	25	0	0
Messrs. Mellors, Thongsbridge	10	10	0
Wm. Shaw, Hepworth	5	0	0
Job Littlewood, do.	0	2	6
Wm. Morley, White Horse, Jackson Bridge	0	2	6

Bradford, Yorkshire.

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Farrar, Kirkgate	2	2	0
Manoah Rhodes, West-gate	2	0	0
Joshua Haley, Broad Stones	2	0	0
Henry Wilson, West-gate	1	1	0
E. H. Parrott, Broad Stones	1	0	0
Robert Patterson, Kirkgate	1	0	0
Elijah Haley, Bridge-street	1	0	0
Joseph Woodhead, jun., Stirling-street, Manchester-road, Horton, near	1	0	0
Henry Farrar, 8, Kirkgate	1	0	0
William Clough, Harris-street	1	0	0
B. and T. Illingworth, Southgate	1	0	0
Benj. Tetley, Leeds-road; James Ibbotson, Bowling-green; Joseph Wright, Bridge-street; Joshua Sharp, near the Gas Works	1	0	0
R. Waddilove	0	5	0
Charles Haley	0	5	0
A Good Wife	0	5	0
A Lady, per H. Farrar	1	0	0
J. Bottomley	1	8	0

Leeds.

	£	s.	d.
William Hinnings, Pudsey, near	1	1	0
Thomas Walker, Springfield Mount	10	0	0
Put under the Treasurer's door, and addressed "For the League Fund"	0	0	6
Sam. Crabtree, 16, George and Dragon-yard, Briggate	1	1	0
Michael Richardson, Albion-square	1	0	0
William Richardson, do	0	10	0
Joshua Bower, glass works, Hunslet, near	10	0	0
Richard Gardener, Bridge	2	2	0
Thomas S. Dickinson, Guildford-street	2	0	0
William North, 25, Camp-road	1	1	0
Benjamin Goodman, 19, Brunswick-place	1	11	6
Joseph Lambert, Cookridge-street	5	0	0
Thomas Dawson, 12, Warwick-place	2	2	0
C. M. Brown, 12, Kirkgate	1	0	0
William Whitehead, 29, Park-row	1	0	0
R. C. Hay, Bond-street	1	0	0
Edwin Heycock, Wellington-street	5	0	0
P. W. Passavant, 32, do.	5	0	0
James Emmott, 1, Gower-street	1	1	0
Robert Oldman, Albion-square	2	0	0
Benjamin Smallpage, 7, Upperhead-row	1	0	0
Samuel Ogle, Briggate	1	1	0
Walter Stead, Woodhouse-lane	10	0	0
Gill and Bishop, 187, Park-lane	25	0	0
James Hargreave, Boar-lane, West-bar	5	0	0
Nathaniel Booth, do.	1	1	0
James Richardson, solicitor, Albion-street	2	0	0
D. G. B., Oxford-street	1	1	0
Jonas Brown and Sons, Holbeck, near	5	0	0
James Hick, 2, Swinegate	1	0	0
R. Hughes, Meadow-lane	0	2	6
Put under the Treasurer's door	0	2	6
Joseph Gill, Headingley	5	0	0
———, 3, Albion-street	3	0	0
John Greaves, Brunswick-street	5	0	0
Thomas Gamble, Lisbon-street	1	1	0
William Dennison, whitesmith, West-street	2	2	0
S. Mason, 20, Queen-square	1	0	0
J. Maude, 14, Greek-street	3	0	0
Thomas Illingworth	0	2	6
George Broadbent, Vicar-lane	1	1	0
John Ramsden, dyer, East-street	5	0	0
E. Morgan, Wheeler-street	1	0	0
John Wainman, Garden-street	1	1	0
R. W. and J. Garside, Garden-street	1	1	0
George Barrett, Churwell, near	5	0	0
John Foster, 4, Hope-street	1	0	0
Jonathan Wooler, 14, Victoria-road	1	0	0
Joseph Warwick, 9, Merrion-street	1	0	0
John Asquith, Bagbie	1	0	0
J. K.	1	0	0
A Determined Enemy to Monopoly, Armley, near	0	2	6
John Wilson, Bramley, near	2	10	0
Joseph Wood, do.	1	1	0
Samuel Warburton, Hunslet	1	1	0
Richard Heaps, do.	1	1	0
John Rhodes, Queen's-square	5	0	0
S. and J. Whitham, Kirkstall	10	0	0
Joseph Brown, Hunslet, near	5	0	0
John Sutcliff, Wellington-street	0	5	0
J. Stenson, Richmond-street	1	1	0
John Whitehead, Greek-street	1	1	0
J. Darby, Trafalgar street	1	1	0
Joseph Rowling, School-close	10	0	0
Joseph Turton, Upper Accommodation-st.	1	0	0
Wm. Sandford, Green Mount-ter., Holbeck	1	0	0
James Combe, 3, Beech-grove	1	0	0
William Hall, Victoria-road	1	0	0
Joseph Gilpin, Burmantofts	1	1	0
—— Haigh, 3, Park-buildings	1	1	0
Samuel Croft, Water-lane	1	1	0
B. Jackson, Ellerby-lane	0	10	0
Zebedee Swain, Meadow-lane	0	10	0
John Schofield, Knostrop	0	5	0
John Combe, Beech-grove	0	5	0
Thomas Anderson, 1, Ellerby-lane	0	5	0
One whose means, reduced by the Corn Law, prevent him sending more than £1	1	0	0
Mark Ball, High-street	1	0	0
John Goodison, York-road	1	0	0
T. Plint, 12, Greek-street	1	0	0
James Taylor, Victoria-road	1	0	0
Thomas Flowitt, Black Horse, Mabgate	1	0	0
Luccock, Lupton, and Co., Park-lane	30	0	0
William Lupton and Co., North-street	100	0	0
George Hammond, Bank	20	0	0
John Shepard, Firm of Wilks, Jennings, and Shepard, Bishopgate-street	20	0	0
David Crowther, Churwell, near	20	0	0
John Haigh and Co., Cookridge-street	20	0	0
Isaiah Dixon and Sons	10	0	0
William Hornby, Lady-lane	10	10	0
Charles Watson, Queen-street	10	0	0
Lobley and Co., flax spinners	10	0	0
A Friend, per Wilkinson and Co.	10	0	0
Croisdales, Brothers, Bank	10	10	0
J. and H. Horsfall Park-lane	5	0	0
C. J. Armistead, Springfield-mount	5	5	0
John Wharton, Wharton's Hotel, Park-lane	5	0	0
An Advocate of Free Trade, Hyde-terrace	5	0	0
D. C., per Wilkinson and Co	5	0	0
Isaac Dodgshun and Co., Basinghall-street	5	0	0
Frederick Hobson, *Times* Office	5	5	0
James Leibriech, 3, Park-place	5	5	0
C. L.	2	2	0
Joseph Raper, Holbeck, near	5	0	0
Henry Robinson, Bridge	5	0	0
Rev. C. Wicksteed, Blenheim-square	5	0	0
James Hotham, 5, Bridge-end	10	0	0
John Wood, 70, Cobourg street	5	0	0
John Lievsey, 10, Springfield-place	2	2	0
F. Boscovitz, woolstapler	2	2	0
T. Hurtley, Bridge	2	2	0
Thomas Stevens, Sussex Tavern, Bank	2	0	0
James Vickerman, Burley-street	2	2	0
R. Kilvington, do.	2	2	0
William Lupton, 24, Bedford-place	2	2	0
John Bilbrough, Gildersome, near	2	0	0
Alfred Bilbrough, do.	2	2	0
William Avens, Lisbon-street	2	2	0
T. and W. Nettleton, 47, Basinghall-street	2	2	0
James Bilbrough, Gildersome, near	2	2	0
Samuel Topham, West-bar	2	0	0
T. W. Scarf, Albion-street	2	0	0
William Haworth, do.	2	0	0
William Whitfield, Boar-lane	1	1	0
Thomas Braim, joiner, Park-lane	1	10	0
Thomas Chadwick, Bridge-street	1	10	0
Joseph Longley, Morley Lodge, near	1	0	0

Thomas Harvey, Bridge		1	0
E. X.		1	0
Samuel Stead, Holbeck-lane		1	1
R Bissington, Briggate		1	1
R. Parkinson, Basinghall-street		1	0
Wurtzburg and Co., Bond-street		1	0
John Land, Briggate		1	0
Mark Thompson, Paradise, Hunslet, near		1	1
Robert Pool, Briggate		1	1
Isaac Smith Bakes, Meadow-lane		1	0
J. Morris, at Birchall and Sons', Park-lane		1	0
John Pawson, Queen's-square		1	0
X. Y.		1	1
William Thistlethwaite, Swinegate		1	1
William Gladwin, 6, Scott-street, Woodhouse		1	0
Lord and Brooks' Workmen, per Thomas Jennings, 4, Ellerby-lane		1	2
William Whitehead, Duncan-street		1	0
J. Kershaw, 2, St. Peter's-hill		1	0
Wm. Shackleton, New Wortley		1	0
J. Buckton, *Times* Office		1	5
G. Mason, 82, Wellington-street		1	1
C Marston, 20, Duncan-street		1	1
Mrs. Marston, do.		1	1
Thomas Boddy, North-street		1	1
Wm. Watson, jun., Templar-street		1	0
Anonymous		1	0
G. Foster, 5, Providence-row		1	1
Saml. Garlick		1	1
Robert Campbell, 27, Caroline-street		1	1
Samuel Hutton, Meadow-lane		1	1
Joseph Bray, St. Paul-street		1	6
Wm. Robinson, Isle of Cinder		1	1
John Watson, Holbeck Lodge		1	1
A Friend	Leeds.	1	0
A Free-Trader, Briggate		0	8
R. Machill, Newsome-yard, Briggate		0	2
J. Whiting, 5, Bridge		0	10
Wm. Storey, 66, Nile-street		0	2
Wm. Stott, Mill-hill		0	2
Thos. Briggs, 11, Oxford-row		0	2
Joseph Walton, Swinegate		0	2
T. F. Tomny, *Mercury* Office		0	5
Frederick Fryer		0	2
R. H. Brockstone, White Horse		0	5
John Walker, Hinley Cot, Rawden		1	1
Jonathan Shackleton, Holbeck		4	0
John Thopham, Cloth Hall-street		1	1
Joseph Hirst, 12, Eldon-terrace		10	0
Thos Beilby, Croft House, Pateley Bridge		1	0
Joseph Armistead, Water Lodge		5	0
Brown and Co., Marshall-street, Holbeck		5	0
Jonas Brown, 10, Green Mount-terrace, Holbeck		1	0
Joshua Kaye, Water-hall		10	0
John Broadhead, Bridge-end		4	0
Briggs and Co., Water-lane		2	0
The Workmen of Messrs. Garsed and Co., flaxspinners, per Wm. Baynes, Lilac Cottage		1	0
Roger Shackleton, Wortley		1	0
E. Atkinson, Trafalgar-street		1	10
C. Copley, Leathley-lane, Hunslet		0	2
William Baynes, Lilac Cottage		0	5
W. A. Oates, Dyer-street		1	1
Thomas Laycock, St. James's-street		3	3
R. and B. Wilson, Bramley, near		5	0
A Friend, Armley		0	2
A Friend, per Wilkinson and Co.		2	2
T. B.		1	0

ERRATA.

In LEAGUE 12, *for* G. B., £1, *read* Geo. Bentham, Market-place, Manchester, £1.

In LEAGUE 13, *for* John Spencer, 10, Mosley-street, Manchester, £20, *read* A Friend, £20.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. B."—An aristocracy and an oligarchy are very different things; the upholders of the Corn Laws are but a section or faction of the aristocracy to which the late election gave a preponderance of political power. The appeal against the abuse of that power is not to the packed House of the Oligarchy, but to the constituencies which have intrusted its members with the means of legislative abuse.

"A Constant Reader."—Mr. Oastler is too insignificant to be written up by friends or by enemies; the attack of such a man with the heavy artillery of our correspondent is too

"Like an ocean into tempest toss'd,
To waft a feather or to drown a fly."

"J. G. L."—"The sea of slavedom" is not for our navigation.

"P, Tory."—We wish all success to those who desire to state fairly the grounds on which they support monopoly.

"D. M."—Free Trade exhibits its blessings, and monopoly deals out its curses in such multitudinous forms, that it would be difficult to find a motto for the LEAGUE sufficiently comprehensive of its objects.

"An Approving Friend" will see that his suggestions are approved.

"A Friend to Free Trade" is thanked.

"A Dundee Subscriber."—The poor man's mite to forward a good cause will be as cheerfully received by the League as the donation of the wealthy.

"T. L. of Glasgow."—Mr. Ferrand's tales of wonder have been satisfactorily refuted by the parties concerned. The question is now between Mr. Ferrand and the public; he has publicly pledged himself to substantiate his charges, and if he fails to redeem that pledge he must evermore wear the brand of a self-convicted calumniator.

"N. G." is thanked.

"An Old Free Trader" next week.

"R. B."—The cases are perfectly parallel, but the point is scarcely worth a notice.

"A Merchant."—The matter is under consideration.

The following morceau has been sent us by "A Leaguer:"—"Agricultural Chemistry in favour of the Importation of Foreign Grain.—The *Berwick Warder*, one of the most rabid provincial upholders of the absurd doctrine of the Monopolists—that one portion of God's earth can be benefited by shutting itself out from all participation in the good things He has bestowed on neighbouring regions—in its last publication thus amusingly demolishes its own arguments:—'The farmers, it is alleged, incline the ear to the charmer on another footing. They remember, it seems, the tariff panic in regard to the importation of cattle as a false alarm! Well, and suppose, as we ourselves from the first foretold, that the skin-and-bone anatomies of continental Europe could not compete with the roast beef of Old England, is the same cause of impunity to the British farmer to hold good in the case of Free Trade in Corn? Why, instead of being inferior to our British-grown grain, the corn crops of the Continent are alike from the capabilities of the soil and the favouring influences of climate, far superior to ours, at least for purposes of consumption. Ask the agricultural chemist, and he will recommend the mixture of a little of the hard grain of foreign countries with the softer produce of our own, to enhance the nutritive properties of flour or of meal. The argument with regard to the effect of importation would be with respect to *corn* just precisely the reverse, therefore, of that with respect to *cattle*.'" Because Science recommends a mixture of foreign grain, Legislation ought *not* to permit it!!!

"Fifensis."—Reckless calumny is the last resource of a defeated party; and we only view such paragraphs as that in the *Fifeshire Journal* as certain signs of the speedy triumph of the cause of Free Trade.

"N. S." sends the following:—

"Slander had long a servant sought
To do its dirty errand;
But could find none till Knaresborough brought
Its member, Busfield Ferrand."

laws imposed by the Normans as a badge of slavery on the English people. The instance he gives is not the only one which goes far to prove that there are persons in whose eyes the preservation of a pheasantry is far more important than that of a peasantry.

"J. K."—Mr. Cobden is so fortunate, that his name admits neither of rhyme nor pun.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. in penny postage stamps, or by Post-office order, to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE

The COUNCIL of the LEAGUE having been informed that some parties are now canvassing for subscriptions professedly on their behalf,—NOTICE is hereby given that no Persons whatever are *at the present time* authorised to collect subscriptions for the Great League Fund in London or its suburbs;—and those parties who may be solicited for contributions are requested to give the individuals making the application into custody.

By order of the Council,
GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.

League Offices, 67, Fleet-street.
28th Dec., 1843.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, *Saturday Morning, December* 30, 1843.

Mr. Ferrand's career of personal slander has received a wholesome check at Rochdale, at his own meeting, from his own friends and party, and at the hands of those who were in sympathy with him as to the object for which the meeting was called. Endowed as he is "with front of brass and tongue of asp," he quailed under, and will not soon forget, the storm of withering reprobation and scorn which drove him from the Rochdale Theatre. But Mr. Ferrand must not think, even in this or any other dust ("devil's dust" though it may be) of his own raising, to escape from his public pledge to prove on the League the entertaining of a deliberate proposal for suborning assassination. To that, he has distinctly committed himself. The charge is written and published under his signature. One of the members of the League, "at a private meeting of their body in Manchester, declared that he was prepared to subscribe to a fund for the purpose of procuring the assassination of Sir Robert Peel." These are Mr. Ferrand's *verba ipsissima*, with his name appended to them in the *Times* of Tuesday last. There is no ambiguity in the case; no jocular expression of buying Peel a halter; no cumulative gossip, like the story of the three black crows; no talk of other people upon other matters, such as Mr. Abel Heywood has mentioned in extenuation, can fairly extricate Mr. Ferrand. He says he is "fully prepared to prove," and fully he must prove, his allegation, or the deep and damning brand of LIAR and SLANDERER is upon his forehead to his dying day. He will bear the burning mark unobliterated to his grave.

Every member of the League has a right to demand his proofs of Mr. Ferrand. We are not the associates of assassins, or of their suborners. Who is the member that has disgraced us by his co-operation? Mr. Ferrand's tongue has been a "chartered libertine" because his assertions soon demonstrated of themselves the degree of faith to which they were entitled. This last is assuredly the most incredible of all; and on that account it might be thought the least worthy of notice, were it not that the charge, if unsupported, is of all others the most flagitious.

If Mr. Ferrand believes his own story, what must he think of himself? He is bottling up his evidence for "a committee of the House of Commons." Meanwhile, the avowed suborner (in purpose) of assassination, if such a monster there be, walks abroad at large, like human beings with a moral sense. The policeman who seized Macnaghten did not wait for a committee of the House of Commons. Nor does any man who hates crime and has proof against a criminal. Mr. Ferrand says he does. But words are wasted on such transparent humbug.

The Chartists and working people of Rochdale have set an example, not only to their own classes, but to the landed aristocracy, in disclaiming help that could only disgrace their cause. It would be something for the decency of Monopoly to do the like. The utter recklessness of personal imputation which has been evinced would not have been tolerated in any one who was not supposed to be thereby creating a diversion in favour of a powerful sinister interest. The discredit is in some measure reflected on those who, if it succeeds, gain by it at the public expense. The most corrupt ruler upon record called for water and washed his hands.

THE LONGEST DAY AND THE SHORTEST DAY.—On the morning of the longest day in the present year many ponds of water in the eastern part of the kingdom were covered with ice; on the morning of the shortest day the thermometer stood at 50, or nearly 24 degrees higher; and primroses are now in full blossom in many places. The Rev. Dr. Godfrey, Grosvenor-place, has crocusses in an advanced state.—*Bath Journal.*

REVIEW.

Memoirs of Admiral the Right Honourable Earl St. Vincent, G.C.B., &c. By J. S. Tucker, Esq. London: Bentley.

Rarely has a more valuable contribution to our naval history appeared than the biography contained in these volumes; Mr. Tucker's literary merits are not, indeed, of the highest order, but he is still a writer far above mediocrity, and, what is of much greater importance, he is a man of unswerving integrity, whose first and whose last object is simple truth. In some respects he appears before us under a disadvantage, for the mass of interesting documents he has inserted overshadow the merits of his original matter; indeed, we know of no modern collection of correspondence more delightful in itself, or more valuable in its relations to the history of the country, than the letters collected in these two volumes.

It is not our purpose to review the services of a hero whose career began in the days of Wolfe and ended in those of Wellington, and on whose political career no stain appears, except his unfortunate advocacy of the slave trade,—a subject on which his opinions were formed in early life, and based on a very limited acquaintance with the social state of the West Indies. But even on this subject his error was in a great measure redeemed by his manly assertion of the right of the British flag to confer freedom on the captive, and strike away the fetters of bondage. The circumstance occurred when the Alarm, to the command of which he had been appointed, lay in the bay of Genoa.

"On Sunday afternoon, the day after her arrival, two Turkish slaves, in enjoyment of their only comfort, the holy day's rest from labour, sauntered from their galley near the Mole. Espying the Alarm's boat, they jumped into her stern sheets, enfolded themselves within the British colours, and then exclaimed 'We are free!' Hearing that, the Genoese officer on duty there ordered them to be forcibly taken from their refuge; and they were dragged out, though one of them in his struggles tore away a piece of the boat's pendant, and then were re-committed to the chains of bondage. But when his officer reported all this to Captain Jervis, he at once decided that it was an insult to the British flag, and an outrageous enforcement of slavery, which he could by no means pass over; and that for each injury a distinct reparation being due, it should be made respectively.

"'Accordingly,' to use his own language, 'I demanded of the Doge and senate, that both the slaves should be brought on board, with the part of the torn pendant which the slave carried off with him, the officer of the guard punished, and an apology made on the quarter-deck of the Alarm, under the king's colours, for the outrage offered to the British nation.'

"On the following Tuesday this was literally complied with; the offending officer came degraded, and formally made his apology, on the frigate's quarter-deck, before all her officers and ship's company; and the slaves also were brought on board, the one bringing with him the piece of the torn colours, to which he clung for protection, and were restored to freedom. 'After all this was done,' continued their liberator, 'I asked the slave who had wrapped the pendant round his body, what were his sensations when the guard tore him from the pendant-staff. His reply was, 'that he felt no dread, for he knew that the touch of the royal colours gave him freedom.'"

"But it would seem that the British Admiralty of that day did not encourage such a vigorous support of freedom, and of the honour of the national flag; for a short time after, Captain Jervis thus addressed his brother: 'I had an opportunity of carrying the British flag, in relation to two Turkish slaves, as high as Blake had ever done, for which I am *publicly* censured, though I hope we have too much virtue left for me not to be justified in *private*.'"

The censure which this spirited action met was not the only proof which Jervis received that a new system of policy guided the councils of George III.; that the attachment which he had manifested to the Revolution, and to the family which it had placed on the English throne, was not likely to advance his interests, because the Third of the House of Hanover had adopted the principles of the House of Stuart. But Jervis never flinched from the cause to which he was not less attached by early education than by mature conviction. The brief sketch of his Parliamentary career in the House of Commons, after his services had been rewarded by knighthood, is highly creditable to the consistency of his character:—

"In the general election of 1790 Sir John was returned for Wycombe; and at the opening of the session he voted with the Opposition, in favour of the Address, on the termination of the Nootka Sound affair, speaking shortly in support of it. In all the subsequent divisions of importance he voted with the Whigs; he supported Mr. Whitbread's motion against the armament against Russia; he voted with Mr. Grey for reform of Parliament; and he signed the Declaration of the friends of the people; being one of that small but undaunted band of patriots in the House who, in those most unfavourable times, gallantly struggled for freedom and for peace. His votes, therefore, were also against England's interference with France, in the arrangement of her internal affairs. But when the efforts of his party were ineffectual against Mr. Pitt's influence and Mr. Burke's oratory, when war was decided upon, he, in 1793, quitted Parliament, to render more effectual services to his country, and those for which, as from her officer, she had a higher claim."

The rigid discipline which Sir John Jervis established when he had attained the rank of admiral has been often made the theme of ridicule and censure. But those who know the secret history of the period are well aware that no milder code could

have checked the abuses which a spirit of aristocratic favouritism, and a system of making Parliamentary influence instead of merit the grounds for promotion, had introduced into the navy. It was then not unusual for an admiral to find himself treated almost as an inferior by some titled midshipman, or by any of his officers who had influence with the board. An iron rule of discipline, applied to all, could alone check this corrupt insubordination, the effect of which was most dangerous in its example to the crews. Indeed it was the opinion of Sir John Jervis, and many others, that the spirit of mutiny which, at a critical period, menaced the safety of the British empire, might, in many cases, be traced to the insubordinate and factious example of the officers. It was during his command in the Mediterranean that Sir John Jervis first became distinguished by the severity of his discipline; one of his edicts is too amusing to be omitted:—

"There being reason to apprehend that a number of women have been clandestinely brought from England in several ships, more particularly so in those which have arrived in the Mediterranean in the last and the present year, the respective captains are required by the admiral to admonish those ladies upon the waste of water, and other disorders committed by them, and to make known to all, that on the first proof of water being obtained for washing from the scuttle-butt or otherwise, under false pretences, in any ship, every woman in the fleet who has not been admitted under the authority of the Admiralty or the Commander-in-Chief, will be shipped for England by the first convoy, and the officers are strictly enjoined to watch vigilantly their behaviour, and to see that no waste or improper consumption of water happen in future.

"J. Jervis."

The great victory off Cape St. Vincent, from which Jervis took the title of the earldom deservedly bestowed upon him, is very ably described in these volumes; it is too long to be extracted, but we must make room for one characteristic anecdote:—

"About this time, and while the Victory was in the thickest of the fight, the smoke not permitting the Commander-in-Chief to see all the ships of his squadron as distinctly as he wished, he went to the poop to obtain a clearer sight of the battle. While he was there, coolly surveying them, a marine close by him was struck by a cannon-shot, which smashed his head, and Sir John was literally covered from hat to knees by the man's brains and blood. Seeing him in that state, and fearing he was wounded, Captain Grey ran up, making the most earnest inquiries: 'I am not at all hurt,' replied the admiral, calmly; and at the same time wiping his mouth, into which a quantity of blood had flown; 'but do, George, try if you can get me an orange.' A youthful aide-de-camp soon brought one from the cockpit, and Sir John rinsed his mouth with the utmost composure."

It is, however, as a naval reformer rather than as a naval hero that Earl St. Vincent is best entitled to the gratitude of his country. His view of the nature of the evils to be redressed is briefly but nervously stated in the following letter to Lord Spencer:—

"Ville de Paris, off Rota, July 26, 1797.

"My Lord,—I am not surprised that the proposition I had the honour to submit to your lordship should appear extravagant. You may rest assured that the civil branch of the navy is *rotten to the very core*. The mounds of the military have been broken down by the baneful example of a few men of fashion, whom it would answer no purpose to name, although I fear they continue in error; the latter may be easily restored by a tight and steady hand; but I agree with your lordship that the former, upheld as it is by powerful borough influences, and the habits and prejudices of an old corrupt country, will require much time, caution, and judgment, to get the better of; yet I do not despair of its accomplishment if your lordship is supported.

"I have the honour to be, St. Vincent."

Some notion of the extent to which abuses prevailed may be formed from the following letter addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury:—

"H. M. S. Ville de Paris, before Brest, July 3, 1800.

"My Lord,—The drunkenness and profligacy arising out of a total dereliction of discipline, in some few of the ships of the squadron I have lately been placed at the head of, have contributed to keep alive the alarming disposition to mutiny, which shook the foundation of the empire three years ago; and it is painful to reflect, that the licentious conversation of the Ward-room Officers (and, I fear, of some in higher stations) has occasioned much of the mischief: but there is no offence of so dangerous a tendency as the selling of spirituous liquors to the people, whose daily allowance keeps them in an inflamed state.

"Mr. — —, late chaplain of the — —, having been detected in the practice of it during the command of my predecessor, and let off without trial by court-martial, and having been guilty of petty larceny (as I am credibly informed) when chaplain of the — — under the command of Captain (now Rear-Admiral ——, I feel it my indispensable duty to lay the enclosed copies of correspondence and reports before your Grace, that this unworthy member of the Church may not meet with encouragement. I have the honour to be, with the highest respect and veneration, your Grace's most obedient humble servant,

"St. Vincent."

When the Addington Administration was formed, Earl St. Vincent was placed at the head of the Admiralty, though he was known to differ from his colleagues, and from the King himself, on the great question of Catholic Emancipation. The account which he gives of his interview with the King on this occasion is highly creditable to his memory:—

"That having expressed his grief, and thanks to his Majesty for his condescension and favour, and having entreated that his Majesty would allow him to express his opinion freely upon a subject which he was most desirous to mention, and to which the King very readily assented, he said, 'that he should make but a bad return for all the honours and favours which his Majesty had most graciously bestowed upon him, and very ill discharge his duty, if he did not frankly and honestly tell his Majesty, that having served nearly half a century with the Roman Catholics, and seen them tried in all situations, it was his decided and conscientious opinion, that they were entitled to be placed upon the same footing in every respect as his Majesty's Protestant subjects,—that he had been informed that the retiring Ministry had resigned upon that question, and that he could not accept office, under such circumstances, without first stating to his Majesty, that upon his honour and upon his allegiance, he entirely agreed with them in opinion; that having now discharged this duty to his Majesty and to himself, he would also add, that his life and his utmost services were at his Majesty's disposal, and that he was ready to return to the fleet, or to serve his Majesty on shore, or to retire into private life, as his Majesty might think proper to command,'—that the King listened very attentively to all he said, and when he had finished, that his Majesty replied:—'Lord St. Vincent, you have in this instance, as you have in every other, behaved like an honest, honourable man;—upon the question of Catholic emancipation my mind is made up, from which I *never* will depart; and therefore, as it is not likely that it will be a matter agitated or discussed between us, I can see no reason why you should not take the Admiralty, where I very much wish to see you, and to place the navy entirely in your hands.'"

The great reforms which Earl St. Vincent effected are matters of history; but his testimony to the amount of evils which remained uncorrected, given to George III. in person, is less known than it deserves to be:—

"Almost immediately after the flag was struck for the last time, the King commanded the presence of his great admiral at a private audience. After homage had been paid to Majesty, George III. expressed deep regrets that his officer would not continue in command of his Channel Fleet; to which Lord St. Vincent replied, 'Sire, my life ever has been, and ever will be, at your Majesty's disposal, but I am the guardian of my own honour, and I could not place it in the hands of your Majesty's present Ministers.' The King at first appeared rather displeased; but then in the most gracious manner said, 'Well, Lord St. Vincent, you have now quitted active service, as you say, for ever,—tell me, do you think the naval service is better or worse than when you first entered it?'

"Lord St. Vincent: 'Very much worse, may it please your Majesty.'

"The King, very quickly: 'How so? how so?'

"Lord St. Vincent: 'Sire, I have always thought that a sprinkling of nobility was very desirable in the navy, as it gives some sort of consequence to the service; but at present the navy is so overrun by the younger branches of nobility, and the sons of members of Parliament, and they so swallow up all the patronage, and so choke the channel to promotion, that the son of an old officer, however meritorious *both* their services may have been, has little or no chance of getting on.'

"The King: 'Pray who was serving captain of the fleet under your lordship?'

"Lord St. Vincent: 'Rear-Admiral Osborne, Sire, the son of an old officer.'

"The King: 'Osborne, Osborne! I think there are more than one of that name admirals.'

"Lord St. Vincent: 'Yes, Sire, there are three brothers all admirals.'

"The King: 'That's pretty well for democracy, I think.'

"Lord St. Vincent: 'Sire, the father of those officers served twenty years as first-lieutenant, with my dear friend Admiral Barrington, who had never sufficient interest to get him beyond the rank of commander. He was of necessity obliged to send all his sons to sea, and, to my own knowledge, they never had anything more than their pay to live on; nevertheless, they always appeared as gentlemen; they were self-educated, and they got on in the service upon the strength of their own merits alone; and, Sire, I hope your Majesty will pardon me for saying I would rather promote the son of an old deserving officer than of any noble in the land.'

"The King mused for a minute or two, and then said, 'I think you're right, Lord St. Vincent, quite right.'

"Lord St. Vincent then gave to his King a particular account of the efficiency and discipline in which he had left his fleet, into all of which the King entered with great interest, and with the whole description of which his Majesty expressed the very high satisfaction and approbation, which he must have enjoyed. 'His Majesty,' repeated Lord St. Vincent, 'behaved in the most gracious and kind manner possible.'

"And now let our sailors say; than in such fearless counsel to his King—whose foible it was to court the aristocracy—was it possible for an old officer to more gracefully retire? or, departing, could he bequeath a more precious legacy to 'the service,' which he always used to say, 'was nearest to his heart?'"

We shall not follow Earl St. Vincent through his political career: it would require us to go through the history of the Castlereagh and Liverpool Administration, and discuss a succession of calamities and blunders which the accidents of the elements alone prevented from consummating the ruin of the British empire. But on one point, most interesting to the League, we quote the sentiments of this benefactor of his country, requesting particular attention to the passages marked in italics:—

"On a question which at present attracts considerable public attention, the food of the poor in the free trade in corn, Lord St. Vincent thus indicated his opinion in letters to his secretary in 1815.

"'If you have an interview with Lord Grenville, or Mr. Thomas Grenville, inform one or both of them that I reprobate any alteration in the Corn Laws, and that I hope that the measures (increased duty) agitating in the House of Commons, will be manfully resisted. *I am for removing all restrictions both on import and export, and for letting the article take its own level.*' A few days after:—

"'I thank you kindly for explaining to Lord Grenville my detestation of the Corn Bill, which took place before I knew his lordship's opinion upon this subject; and a more disgraceful measure to both Houses of Parliament *of the public good to the sordid interests of the members of the two Houses.*'"

We shall not attempt to pass a formal eulogy on Earl St. Vincent: his character has taken its permanent place in the records of honourable fame. But we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of quoting a testimony, above all suspicion of partiality, that of Napoleon Buonaparte, in his conversation with Captain Bowen at St. Helena:—

"It was Napoleon's custom to question every naval officer who was presented to him concerning their services. When Captain Bowen was interrogated, a part of the conversation was—

"*Buonaparte:* 'With whom have you principally served?'

"*Capt. Bowen:* 'I have been chiefly patronised by Lord St. Vincent.'

"*Buonaparte:* 'He is a brave man and a very good sailor; the greatest the English ever had, for he kept his fleet in better order. Did he not command off Cadiz when I went to Egypt? and did he not send Lord Nelson after me?'

"*Capt. Bowen:* 'Yes, he did.'

"*Buonaparte:* 'Were you with him in the battle off Cape St. Vincent?'

"*Capt. Bowen:* 'No.'

"*Buonaparte:* 'Where does Lord St. Vincent live?'

"*Capt. Bowen:* 'In Essex, about sixteen miles from London.'

"*Buonaparte:* 'When you return, if you go to see Lord St. Vincent, make him my compliments;—the compliments of an old soldier to a good old English sailor.'"

The Life and Literary Remains of Charles Reece Pemberton, with Remarks on his Character and Genius by W. J. Fox. Edited by John Fowler, Secretary to the Sheffield Mechanics' Institution. London, C. Fox.

"Christianity owes more to its unchronicled martyrs and to its unregistered saints than to all who have found their way into the calendar since the second century." The old monkish historian who first enunciated this pregnant truth followed it up by another aphorism equal in simplicity and superior in importance. "It is easier," said he, "to die for the truth than to live for it." Charles Pemberton belonged to the more difficult category of the martyrology, and for it he was content, in the words of Ægidius de Columna, the worthy monk already quoted, "to die a daily death." Sacrifices are daily made for humanity of which mankind is content to remain in ignorance, and means of progress won for our race by those of whom we lose sight in the first step forward. There is not a more humiliating chapter in the history of human opinion than that which treats of the objects of public gratitude and the grounds of public fame. In all our school histories of England King John appears as the beneficent author of Magna Charta, so that in mature years we find it difficult to believe that this was an advantage gained from royal profligacy, reduced to imbecility by its own excesses, and that our gratitude is not due to the reluctant monarch, but to the unnamed soldiers who forced an alarmed despot to recognise the principles of justice rather than meet the stern behests of merited vengeance. The names of Earl Grey and Lord John Russell are associated with the Reform Bill, but there are others whose memories rest "in cold obstruction" to whom the success of that measure is scarcely less indebted than to its nominal authors—men as unknown to their generation as the seven thousand "who bowed not the knee to Baal" were to the prophet Elijah. To those who have despaired of their race—and their name is Legion,—to those who have made the sterility of their efforts to benefit their fellow-countrymen an excuse for passing over to the camp of monopoly and bigotry—a class small in numbers but great in influence,—we point out Charles Reece Pemberton as an instance of one who clung to the cause of his brotherhood even when the prospects of humanity were at the darkest—a man whom failure never daunted and whom neglect never discouraged.

"What the judgment of man has rejected as worthless parables Allah will exhibit as precious stones in paradise," is a saying attributed to Mohammed, on the authority of Abrí Horeira in the "Mishcát al Masabíh." The prophet of Mecca shrewdly estimated the value of men, and his appreciation of the "martyrs who lived," such as Pemberton was, is one of those traits in his character which most powerfully exhibit his moral greatness.

In the volume of Pemberton's "Remains" there is not a passage which we would point out as predestined to immortality; but there are many of which the influence must be eternal. Truth once spoken cannot die; its faintest whispers are caught by distant echoes, and, though late, they will reverberate to the ears of the attentive. An eminent philosopher of the present day has shown us the probability that motion is never lost, but that every impulse given to the atmosphere by action or by word extends itself in successive waves through the immensity of the etherial regions until imagination is unable to follow its trace. We have often derived comfort from this philosophic conception, which inspires the hope that the labours of such men as Pemberton are not lost to the universe, and may suggest the possibility of his generous impulses

being brought by some mysterious agency back to the sphere of humanity in a distant age. "The Autobiography of Pel. Verjuice," in which Pemberton gave the history not only of his outer but his inner life, is "full of instruction to the initiated," but in many places "needs interpretation to the multitude." His dramas, though incomplete, exhibit great powers of conception, but are rather deficient in contrivance. This, however, is not a volume to be criticised. Pemberton was not a man to be measured by standard and rule: he claims our sympathies, not our judgment; and deserves to be enshrined in our secret affections, not raised on a pedestal for public admiration.

Voices of the Night, and other Poems. By H. W. Longfellow, Esq., Professor of the French and Spanish Languages, Harvard University, United States. London: Clarke and Co.

We rejoice to see that the publishers of the "Helicon," which promises to be one of the most interesting collections of fugitive poetry, have resolved on including the American poets in their series. They could not have found a better leader in the company of Transatlantic bards than Professor Longfellow. Few in any age have been more eminently gifted with the eye to observe and the heart to feel. Each of his descriptions is a perfect picture, which vividly presents itself to the fancy; and there is a moral tone pervading every picture, which interests the best affections and charms the purest feelings. Earnestness of purpose is the great characteristic of Longfellow's lyrics; he writes under a deep sense of responsibility, exhibiting everywhere a consciousness that his rich gifts have been conferred upon him for the purpose of promoting "glory to God in the highest, on earth, peace, good-will towards men." It is to the exalted ideas he has formed of the poet's vocation that the scantiness of his productions must be attributed; but while we grieve that one who writes so well should write so seldom, we feel that the concentrated beauty of one of Longfellow's odes is infinitely superior to the diluted prettiness of whole reams of modern poetry.

The intense earnestness of these odes is greatly increased by the use of images derived from ordinary subjects, the application of which comes upon the soul with a startling effect. A beautiful instance of this peculiarity occurs in the "Psalm of Life:"—

"Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
'Dust thou art, to dust returnest,'
Was not spoken of the soul.

"Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.

"Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, *like muffled drums, are beating*
Funeral marches to the grave."

In the same psalm we have a still more lively image of a similar character:—

"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footsteps on the sands of time;

"Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again."

The spirit of Christian heroism is worthily depicted in a short lyric, entitled the "Light of Stars," from which we extract the concluding stanzas:—

"The star of the unconquered will,
He rises in my breast,
Serene, and resolute, and still,
And calm, and self-possessed.

"And thou, too, whosoe'er thou art,
That readest this brief psalm,
As one by one thy hopes depart,
Be resolute and calm.

"O fear not in a world like this,
And thou shalt know ere long—
Know how sublime a thing it is
To suffer and be strong."

A bolder note is struck in the "Ode on the Consecration of Pulaski's Banner;" but as this has found a place in most collections of modern poetry, we turn to the less known stanzas on the burial of the Chief of the Minnisinks, which opens with the following exquisite picture of the scenery of an American forest:—

"On sunny slope and beechen swell,
The shadowed light of evening fell;
And, where the maple's leaf was brown,
With soft and silent lapse came down
The glory, that the wood receives,
At sunset, in its brazen leaves.

"Far upward in the mellow light
Rose the blue hills. One cloud of white,
Around a far uplifted cone,
In the warm blush of evening shone;
An image of the silver lakes,
By which the Indian's soul awakes."

There is great force in the description of the horse brought to be slain as a sacrifice on the grave of the Minnisink:—

"Stripped of his proud and martial dress,
Uncurbed, unreined, and riderless,
With darting eye and nostril spread,
And heavy and impatient tread,
He came; and oft that eye so proud
Asked for his rider in the crowd."

The stern spirit of the ancient Norse ballads is powerfully revived in the singular poem, entitled "The Skeleton in Armour." It would seem as if the mightiest of the ancient Skalds had risen from his grave to describe the training of one of those pirate-lords, whose daring defied the might of Charlemagne and the wisdom of Alfred:—

"Far in the Northern land,
By the wide Baltic's strand,
I, with my childish hand,
Tamed the ger-falcon;
And with my skates fast bound,
Skimmed the half-frozen Sound,
That the poor whimpering hound
Trembled to walk on.

"Oft to his frozen lair
Tracked I the grisly bear,
While from my path the hare
Fled like a shadow;
Oft through the forest dark
Followed the were-wolf's bark,
Until the soaring lark
Sang from the meadow.

"But when I older grew,
Joining a corsair's crew,
O'er the dark sea I flew
With the marauders.
Wild was the life we led;
Many the souls that sped,
Many the hearts that bled,
By our stern orders.

"Many a wassail bout
Wore the long winter out;
Often our midnight shout
Set the cocks crowing,
As we the Berserk's tale
Measured in cups of ale,
Draining the oaken pail,
Filled to o'erflowing."

"The Village Blacksmith" must be quoted entire; it is a picture of real life drawn by a master-hand, and the moral with which it concludes comes home to every man's bosom. We have marked one stanza in italics; it came upon us like a dream of early years, or one of those strains of music heard in childhood, the remembrance of which has been half effaced, and yet has lingeringly haunted the imagination until the unexpected repetition of the measure restores the perfection of memory:—

"Under a spreading chestnut tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

"His hair is crisp, and black, and long,
His face is like the tan;
His brow is wet with honest sweat,
He earns whate'er he can,
And looks the whole world in the face,
For he owes not any man.

"Week in, week out, from morn till night,
You can hear his bellows blow;
You can hear him swing his heavy sledge,
With measured beat and slow,
Like a sexton ringing the village bell,
When the evening sun is low.

"*And children coming home from school*
Look in at the open door;
They love to see the flaming forge,
And hear the bellows roar,
And catch the burning sparks that fly
Like chaff from a threshing floor.

"He goes on Sunday to the church,
And sits among his boys;
He hears the parson pray and preach,
He hears his daughter's voice,
Singing in the village choir,
And it makes his heart rejoice.

"It sounds to him like her mother's voice,
Singing in Paradise!
He needs must think of her once more,
How in the grave she lies;
And with his hard, rough hand he wipes
A tear out of his eyes.

"Toiling—rejoicing—sorrowing,
Onward through life he goes;
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

"Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou hast taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortunes must be wrought;
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought!"

Our last extract shall be from "The Goblet of Life;" it is founded on the old Roman custom of giving gladiators draughts mingled with the bitter juice of fennel as a means of increasing their strength and courage:—

"Then in Life's goblet freely press,
The leaves that give it bitterness,
Nor prize the coloured waters less,
For in thy darkness and distress
New light and strength they give!

"And he who has not learned to know,
How false its sparkling bubbles show,
How bitter are the drops of wo,
With which its brim may overflow,
He has not learned to live.

The prayer of Ajax was for light;
Through all that dark and desperate fight,
The blackness of that noonday night,
He asked but the return of sight,
To see his foeman's face.

"Let our unceasing, earnest prayer
Be, too, for light—for strength to bear
Our portion of the weight of care,
That crushes into dumb despair
One half the human race.

"O suffering, sad humanity!
O ye afflicted ones, who lie
Steeped to the lips in misery,
Longing, and yet afraid to die,
Patient, though sorely tried!

"I pledge you in this cup of grief,
Where floats the fennel's bitter leaf!
The Battle of our Life is brief,
The alarm—the struggle—the relief—
Then sleep we side by side."

The length of our quotations from this tiny volume will sufficiently show how highly we estimate its value, not merely for its sublime poetry, but for its high moral tone and ennobling purpose. We need only add, that the volume is neatly printed, issued in an ornamental cover of a novel and elegant character, and sold for a shilling! We have not seen any other numbers of Clarke's "Helicon," but the one before us is every way creditable to the purchasers; and we trust that we shall soon receive from them further specimens of the American muse, particularly those that are as yet but little known in England, though deserving to hold a high rank in our common literature. We may mention as examples, "Whittier's Ballads:" the "Odes of Pierrepoint and Halleck;" and, above all, Dana's "Buccaneer," the worthy rival of Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner."

We are Free. Scena. The Poetry by Robert Nicoll; the Music composed, and dedicated to Miss Eliza Ashurst, by Herr Staudigl. London: Cramer.

The music of this song bears the character of the lyric to which it is appended. It is bold, rapid, and inspiriting, in the highest degree. As poured forth in the deep yet melodious tones, and with the consummate skill, taste, and power, of the composer, the effect must be magnificent. Such a reminiscence of Herr Staudigl makes the time seem longer that we are doomed to wait for his return.

This song is published by Miss Ashurst for the benefit of the widowed mother of the poet. The tribute is a graceful one, and will we hope prove productive. The spirit of Scottish song chose Nicoll for the successor of Burns. He fulfilled this, his best mission, with his whole soul. But poets live not by their lays. His mind and frame were prematurely worn out by the pressure of unremitting intellectual toil; that toil having been ever dedicated to the cause of freedom. May the sale of this song evince to his affectionate parent that there are many who sympathize in the kindly purpose with which it has been given to the world, and who cherish and honour the memory of her poet-son.

Rural Felicity.—The plough-boy and cow-boy offices, for a short period respectively filled by myself, have many hardships to endure. He must start from his master's yard long before break of day, in all weathers, to bring up the herd, and in winter will have to wade through snow knee-deep; and having taken them afield again at night, gets his measured meal; after which, wet and weary, he retires to his couch, and in the morning will have to put on probably frozen shoes and stockings. If he goes to plough, should the season be wet or frosty, clods of earth will accumulate about his feet, so that he scarcely knows how to pull one leg after another; and if he is troubled with chilblains, his sufferings are dreadful. I have often thought how grateful mothers ought to be whose little ones are not thus compelled to enter upon the early initiation of a laborious life.—*Autobiography of Samuel Westcott Tilke.*

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Dec 23	Mon. Dec 25	Tues. Dec. 26	Wed. Dec. 27	Thurs Dec. 28	Fri. Dec. 29
Bank Stock.....	183½	Holiday.	183	181½	181	183½
3 per Ct. Red. Ann	96¾		97¼	97	97½	97
3½ per Ct, Ann. 1818	102½		102¼	102¼	102¾	102¾
L. An. Ex. Jn. 1860	12 11-16		12 11-16	12 11-16	12	12 11-16
Cons. for Opg . . .	96½		96½	96½	96¾	96¾
Exchequer Bills..	60 58 pm		61 pm.	59 61 pm	62 60 pm	64 pm.
S. Sea Ann. ..	—		—	—	97½	—
Ind. Bds. und. 1000	78 6 pm.		76 8 pm	78 7 pm.	77 pm.	77 pm.
India Stock.....	—		—	—	270	—
Belgian	—		103¾	—	—	—
Brazilian 5 per Ct.	—		73¾	73½	73	—
Chilian 6 p. Ct. ..	—		—	—	99½	
Dutch 5 per Cent.	99½		99¾	99¾	99½	99¾
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	56½		56½	55¾	56	56
Danish	—		—	—	86½	—
Mexican, 1837....	31½		31½	32	31½	31¾
Portuguese, conv.	43½		44½	44¾	44½	—
Russian 5 per Ct.	—		116½	116½	116	117
Spanish 3 per Ct.	30		30½	30½	31½	31¾
Columb 6 p. Cent.	—		—	—	—	—
Austrian,.....	—		—	—	—	—
Peruvian	—		—	—	—	—
French 3 p. Cent.	—		—	—	—	—

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Wednesday, Dec. 27.—Monday being Christmas day there was no market held here, and the supplies of Grain from Essex and Kent were therefore on sale to day. Neither the quantity of Wheat, nor the attendance of the buyers, was so

large as is usual on a Monday. Both English and Foreign [illegible] of the Kentish Wheat being in bad condition, remained unsold at the close of the market. There was no alteration in Barley or Peas. New Beans were rather cheaper. A considerable quantity of Irish Oats had arrived since Friday, and a few English and Scotch. The demand was not active, but the business done was at last week's rates. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

MARK-LANE, Friday, Dec. 29.—The supplies of all Grain since last market day are very moderate. There is very little English Wheat here; the demand for Foreign is slow, but former rates are maintained. Barley is scarce, and for fine qualities full prices are obtained. The Oat trade is just the same as on Wednesday. The duty on Wheat rose to 20s. yesterday. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 23rd to the 29th of December, 1843, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	3920	—	900
Barley	6190	420	—
Oats	2480	10470	190

Flour 3810 sacks.

A WEEKLY REPORT of the NUMBER of QUARTERS, and the AVERAGE PRICE of CORN and GRAIN, sold in the several Counties of England and Wales (comprising the Two Hundred and Ninety Towns named in the Act of the 5th Vic., cap. 14), which governs Duty.

WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 23, 1843.

	Wheat. Qrs. sold.	Wheat. Aver price	Barley. Qrs. sold.	Barley. Aver price	Oats. Qrs. sold.	Oats. Aver price	Beans. Qrs. sold.	Beans. Aver price
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Weekly Averages	114,850	50 3	132,516	32 2	44,893	18 7	10,807	30 10
Aggregate Averages	..	50 11		32 0		18 9		31 10
Duty	..	20 0		6 0		8 0		10 6

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

W. FULLER, Cotton-street, Poplar, coal merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

A. WELLS, Wickford, Essex, surgeon. [Lambert, Raymond-buildings, Gray's-inn.

J. DOBSON, Old Gravel-lane, Ratcliffe-highway, ship carpenter. [Hughes and Co., Bucklersbury.

T. HANCOCK, Canterbury, coachsmith. [Richardson and Talbot, Bedford-row; Sankey and Sladden, Canterbury.

W. CHAMBERLAIN, Peckham, Surrey, linen draper. [Sole, Aldermanbury.

T. MORRIS, Mortimer-road, De Beauvoir-square, Hackney, builder. [Trott, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street.

R. THOMPSON, Strood, Kent, draper. [Catlin, Ely-place, Holborn.

C. WEBB, Oxford, apothecary. [Cook and Sanders, New Inn, Strand.

W. BERKELEY, Narrow-street, Limehouse, coal merchant. [Jordeson, St. Mary-at-Hill.

J. HOLDEN, Mornington-crescent, Hampstead-road, builder. [Jones, Church-court

R. EVERSHED, Pulborough, Sussex, timber merchant. [Hill and Heald, Throgmorton-street.

J. JENKINS, Symond's-street, Chelsea, cowkeeper. [Dickinson St Martin's-place, Charing cross.

G. HICKINBOTHAM, Burbage, Leicestershire, baker. [Jarvis, Hinckley; Reece, Birmingham.

J. NEWTON, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, locksmith. [Smallwood, Birmingham.

M. HALL, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, farmer. [Jarvis, Hinckley; Reece, Birmingham.

J. CORNISH, Bridport, Dorsetshire, painter. [Brace, Surrey-street, Strand; Stogdon, Exeter.

W. PRINGLE, Morpeth, Northumberland, carrier. [Busby, Alnwick; Cox and Stone, Poultry.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 19. E. Miles, Bridge House-place, Newington-causeway, ironmonger—Jan. 19. F. Nutter, Paul-street, Finsbury-square, brewer—Jan. 19 J. Scott, Brick-hill-lane, Upper Thames-street, merchant—Jan. 19. W. Mayhew, Crutched-friars, wine merchant—Jan. 19. K. F. H. M'Kenzie, King's Arms-yard, Coleman-street, merchant—Jan. 16. G. F. Widnall, Edgware-road, stationer—Jan. 16 E. H. Foster, Hathern, Leicester, tanner—Jan. 16. W. Grayling, Jun., Green-bank, Wapping, tallow-chandler—Jan. 16. N. W. Corp, Yarmouth, merchant—Jan. 16. C. Hawkins, Tottenham-court-road, draper—Feb. 2. W. Scott, Earl's Heaton, Yorkshire, blanket-manufacturer—Feb 14. J. Ellis, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, brushmaker—Jan 18. J. Swann and J. Kelly, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, bricklayers—Jan. 16. J. Herring and W. Herring, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants—Jan. 17. A. and W. Allen, South Shields, drapers—Jan. 18. J. Harrington and W. Pattinson, Woodbank, Cumberland, calico printers—Jan. 18. T. Barker and R. Ainsworth, Warrington, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Jan. 18. I. Bell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and J. Davison, Marton, Yorkshire, earthenware manufacturers.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan 16. J. G. Poett, University-street, St. Pancras, surgeon—Jan. 16. G. T. Whittington, Great St. Helen's, merchant—Jan. 16. J. Pierce, Dean-street, Soho, licensed victualler—Jan. 16. J. Cowherd, Hugill, Westmoreland, miller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. JAMIESON, Greenock, surgeon—J. MARTIN, Dundee, manufacturer—W. WILSON, Dundee, merchant—D. SWAN, Leith, underwriter.

FRIDAY, DEC. 29.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

J. PHILLIPS, Pinners' hall-court, City, tailor.

D. COLLINS, Bennett's place, Bethnal-green, machine-maker.

BANKRUPTS.

T. W. VINE, Peerless-row, City-road, builder. [Watson and Broughton, Falcon-square.

W. C. CARTER, Ashford, Kent, druggist. [Manning, Craven-street, Strand.

J. WOLLAND and W. WOLLAND, Exeter, turners. [Stogdon, Exeter; Keddell, Baker, and Grant, Lime street.

C. POWELL, Coventry, watch manufacturer. [Royle, Coventry.

S. COOK, Dudley, draper. [Bourne and Wainwright, Dudley.

T. REDSHAW, Bourn, Lincolnshire, saddler. [Thompson, Stamford; Gem, Son, and Docker, Birmingham.

E. PUGHE, Everton, Lancashire, tailor. [Hime, Liverpool; Cursiter, Poulton, and Chester, Staple Inn.

W. THOMPSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant. [Watson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Shield and Co., Queen-street, Cheapside.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar for the Week ending Dec 26, 1843, is 33s. 7½d. per cwt., exclusive of the Duties of Customs paid or payable thereon on the Importation thereof into Great Britain.

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Sold by Mr. Lowden, Chemist, 205, Fleet-street, London, in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.; also by one or more respectable Medicine Vendors in each town in the United Kingdom.

Just published, 12mo., price 3s.,

A BRIEF MEMOIR of SIR CLEMENT WEARG, Knt., sometime Solicitor-General to King George the First, and M.P. for Helston. By GEORGE DUKE, Esq., of Gray's-inn, Barrister-at-Law. Owen Richards, Law Bookseller and Publisher, 191, Fleet-street.

One vol., octavo, price 14s.,

THE INFLUENCE of ARISTOCRACIES on the REVOLUTIONS of NATIONS, considered in relation to the present circumstances of the British Empire. By J. J. MACINTYRE. This work has been critically noticed by the following:—The Colonial Magazine, Metropolitan Magazine, Polytechnic Journal, North of England Magazine, Argus, Patriot, Philanthropist, Nonconformist, Naval and Military Gazette, General Advertiser, Liverpool Chronicle, Dublin World, and the Edinburgh Scotsman; all of which have spoken very favourably as to the merits of the work. Fisher, Son, and Co., Newgate-street, London.

NEWSPAPERS AT HALF-PRICE.—The Times Morning Chronicle, and Advertiser, on Credit per quarter, 16s., if paid for in advance, 14s. The Sun, Standard, and Globe, at 13s. per quarter. These are sent from London the day after they are published.—Address to G. POLLARD, 17, Duke-street, West Smithfield, London.

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TESTIMONIAL.

"Metropolitan Police-office, Whitehall-place, February 23, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The Commissioners of Police beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that one suit has been in the use of a constable whose beat is situate on Blackheath. He reports, that frequently during the month of January he was out in six hours' successive rain, and that, on the night of the 8th instant, it rained the whole nine hours he was on duty; and that when he took off his great coat, in the presence of the serjeant at the station, it was as dry inside as when he put it on.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient servant,
"C. ROWAN."

N.B. Every garment, &c., bearing their stamp, is warranted thoroughly waterproof.

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Assurances at other ages are effected on equally favourable terms, and thus the assured has an immediate bonus instead of a chance dependent upon longevity and the profits of an office. In cases of assurance for a limited number of years, the advantage offered by this Company is still greater, no part of the profits of a bonus office being ever allotted to such assurances. Prospectuses, containing tables framed to meet the circumstances of all who desire to provide for themselves or those who may survive them, by assurance either of fixed sums or annuities, may be had at the office as above, or of the agents. JOHN RENDLE, Secretary.

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This Institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to Policy-holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies.

Assurances may either be effected by parties on their own lives, or by parties interested therein on the lives of others.

The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a Property in Reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who, by the payment of £45 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company, can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of Eight Shillings weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience—he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

A Table of Decreasing Rates of Premium on a novel and remarkable plan; the Policy-holder having the option of discontinuing the payment of all further premiums after Twenty, Fifteen, Ten, and even Five years; and the Policy still remaining in force—in the first case for the full amount originally assured; and in either of the three other cases, for a portion of the same according to a fixed and equitable scale endorsed upon the Policy.

Increasing Rates of Premium on a new and remarkable plan, for securing Loans or Debts; a less immediate payment being required on a Policy for the whole term of Life than in any other Office.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.

All claims payable within one Month after proof of death.

Medical attendants remunerated in all cases for their reports.

Extract from Increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Annual Premiums payable during 1st Five Years.	2nd Five Years.	3rd Five Years.	4th Five Years.	Remainder of life.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 1	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 1	2 4 4	2 14 6	3 7 3	4 3 4
50	2 16 7	3 9 4	4 5 5	5 6 3	6 13 7

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained at the Office.

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

A Board of Directors attend daily at two o'clock for the despatch of business.

THE NEW LIGHT.—A GREAT NOVELTY.—The patent CAMPHINE LAMP gives a light of surpassing power, coolness, and purity, without any kind of grease or dirt, smoke or smell. The lamp is simply and beautifully constructed, and can be fitted to any description of lamp, pedestal, or gas fitting. It is not easily put out of condition. The Camphine (also a patent) is 4s. per gallon, and is so pure that if spilt on any article of dress or furniture will not leave either mark or stain, while it consumes so slowly that, at the cost of three farthings for two hours, it gives a light equal to twelve mould candles, without any attention. It will be found far less expensive than any, and incomparably superior to all existing lights. To be seen burning at Rippon and Burton's (sole wholesale and retail agents for English's Patent Camphine), 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street.

CABINET FURNITURE, CARPETS, and UPHOLSTERY.—THOMAS PAUL and CO. inform the nobility and gentlemen furnishing, that their CABINET STOCK comprises every kind of furniture, calculated for any description of residence, from the cottage to the mansion, and will be found 50 per cent. cheaper than at any other house in London. Independently of the great saving, every article is manufactured of the most seasoned and sound materials, so that parties furnishing (even for a foreign climate) are secure either from complaint or defective wear. References of many years' standing, together with the most ample warranty given where required. Their stock of Brussels carpets consists of a splendid variety, commencing at the extraordinarily low price of 2s. 3d. per yard, and those of new and elegant designs from 3s. per yard.—THOMAS PAUL and CO., cabinetmakers, upholsterers, and carpet manufacturers, opposite the Mansion House, City.

A CUP OF COFFEE IN ONE MINUTE!

DUNN'S ESSENCE OF COFFEE, warranted to keep good in any climate.—This Essence of the finest Mocha Coffee, improved by a process the result of thirty years' experience, contains all the fragrant and exhilarating properties of the Coffee in the highest perfection. It is admirably adapted to persons travelling, Officers in the Army and Navy, and Families visiting watering-places.

Manufactured by D. DUNN, Pentonville, London, Manufacturer of Chocolate Powder, Essence of Ginger, and other Spices, Herbs, &c.

Sold in Bottles from 1s. to 4s. each; and may be ordered of any respectable Grocer in the United Kingdom.

DIRECTIONS.—Put about a teaspoonful of the Essence into a coffee-cup, add sugar and cream or milk, then fill it up with boiling water, and a cup of Coffee, of superior flavour, is instantly made.

PATRONIZED AND SANCTIONED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT, THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND THE SEVERAL COURTS OF EUROPE.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, for the Growth and for Preserving and Beautifying the Human Hair. Price 3s. 6d.—7s. Family Bottles (equal to 4 small) 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s.

CAUTION.—SPURIOUS COMPOSITIONS are frequently offered for sale under a FICTITIOUS name or the word "GENUINE." It is therefore imperative on purchasers to see that the words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" are on the Wrapper of each bottle, and on the back of the wrapper nearly 1500 times, containing 29,028 letters. All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS. The principle on which "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" is prepared, is confined solely to the knowledge and practice of A. ROWLAND and SON, who are still at an immense expense in completing its preparation, and the amalgamation of its PURELY VEGETABLE MATERIALS renders abortive any attempt to discover its component parts.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR, for Improving and Beautifying the Skin and Complexion. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, renders the Teeth beautifully White and preserves the Gums. Price 2s. 9d. per box, duty included.

CAUTION.—It is imperative on purchasers to see that the word "ROWLAND'S" is on the Wrapper of each article. For the protection of the Public from fraud and imposition, the Honourable Commissioners of Her Majesty's Stamps have authorized the Proprietors' Signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus, A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, Hatton-garden, which is affixed to the Kalydor and Odonto. Sold by them and by Chemists and Perfumers.

*** All others are SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!!!

A BRONZE SCROLL FENDER for 15s.—RIPPON and BURTON are now offering the most extensive assortment of FENDERS in London, embracing every possible variety, at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Iron fenders, 3 feet long, from 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, 3 feet, from 6s.; 3 feet 6, 7s.; 4 feet, 8s.; rich scroll fenders bronzed, from 15s.; or with steel rod and moulding, from 21s.; polished steel and ormolu mounted fenders at proportionate prices. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; ditto steel ditto, from 3s. 6d.; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. 6d.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE ONLY SAFE AND HEALTHY STOVES.

THE PATENT CHUNK and VESTA STOVES are the only ones recommended by the faculty for the bedrooms of invalids, and other places where a genial warmth is requisite. They are without doors, from which, in Arnott's (whether improved or not) and all others, the impure gases escape; consequently, the evils attendant upon such escapes, as headache, dizziness, &c., as well as fatal explosions, cannot occur in the use of them. These stoves having stood the test of five years, during which time upwards of five thousand have been fixed in chapels, shops, halls, forcing pits, nurseries, &c., they are most confidently offered to the public. They have been found to combine, in an extraordinary degree, great simplicity of use and certainty of action, with perfect safety, at an almost incredible small cost for fuel (coke or cinders). Chunk, 60s. each; Vesta, 80s. each.

THE PYRIDON STOVE (also a patent) has most of the advantages of the Chunk and Vesta, with the extremely novel one of showing the fire (as in a register stove) in one moment; it is eminently a ventilating stove, and will be found invaluable where any prejudice exists against a close stove: price 60s. Full particulars, with engravings and testimonials, post free.

RIPPON and BURTON, Proprietors

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The material RIPPON and BURTON offer to the public has for the last eight years been found equal to silver in appearance and sweetness, and superior to it in durability. Of the prices of tea-sets, waiters, candlesticks, and all articles hitherto made in silver, a detailed catalogue, with engravings, will be sent (gratis) post-free.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Threaded Pattern.	VICTORIA Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	28s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	24s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Established 1819.—Catalogues gratis.

LOSS OF TEETH SUPPLIED WITHOUT SPRINGS, CLASPS, or WIRES, LOOSE TEETH FASTENED, and FILLING DECAYED TEETH with MINERAL MARMORATUM.

Mons. Le DRAY and SON, Surgeon Dentists, 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD STREET, continue to restore DECAYED TEETH with their celebrated MINERAL MARMORATUM, applied without pain, heat, or pressure, preventing and curing the toothache, and rendering the operation of extraction unnecessary. Incorrodible, artificial, or natural teeth fixed, from one to a complete set, without extracting the roots, or giving any pain, at the following Paris charges:—

A Single Tooth £0 10 0
A Set 5 5 0

Arranged on the most approved principles, and restoring perfect articulation and mastication. At home from 10 till 6.—N.B. Removed from 69, NEWMAN-STREET, to 42, BERNERS-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

GOWLAND'S LOTION.—This elegant preparation, an original formula of the late Dr. Gowland, for all Impurities of the Skin, continues to maintain a repute commensurate with its specific properties of speedily eradicating every species of Eruptive Malady, Discoloration, &c., and of preserving and enhancing the beauty of the Complexion by a congenial action upon the skin as perfectly innocent as it is agreeable and efficacious. "Robert Shaw, London," is in white letters on the government stamp, without which it is not genuine.

Prices 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d., quarts 8s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Medicine Vendors.

BIOUKRENE, or FOUNTAIN of LIFE.—This invaluable Medicine proves efficacious in removing all Scrofulous and Scorbutic Diseases. It attacks the cause of all eruptions on the skin; it purifies and nourishes the blood, invigorates the digestive organs, and effects an entire cure of Scrofula and Scurvy in all the forms which these diseases assume.

This medicine is free from those mineral preparations which cannot be taken without injury to the constitution. Its action on the system is remarkably mild and gentle, and will not interfere with the patient's ordinary pursuits.

*** See a pamphlet entitled "Health and Comfort to the afflicted," which may be had, gratis, of Mr. William Bailey, North-street, Wolverhampton, and also by all other venders of Bioukrene; which is sold by Sutton and Co., Bow Churchyard; Edwards, St. Paul's Churchyard; Hannay and Co., Oxford-street; and by all Druggists and Medicine Venders.

Bottles, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.

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